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**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**

Julie Muscroft

The Democracy Service
Civic Centre 3
High Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2TG

Tel: 01484 221000

Please ask for: Penny Bunker

Email: penny.bunker@kirklees.gov.uk

Friday 5 April 2019

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **10.00 am** on **Monday 15 April 2019**.

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view via the Council's website.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Muscroft', on a light-colored background.

Julie Muscroft

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee members are:-

Member

Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner (Chair)

Councillor Gulfam Asif

Councillor Cahal Burke

Councillor Elizabeth Smaje

Councillor Rob Walker

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

	Pages
1: Minutes of Previous Meeting	1 - 10
<p>To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 March 2019</p> <p>Contact: Penny Bunker – Governance and Democratic Engagement Manager</p> <hr/>	
2: Interests	11 - 12
<p>The Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interests.</p> <hr/>	
3: Admission of the Public	
<p>Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.</p> <hr/>	
4: Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Annual Review of Progress against the Action Plan	13 - 44
<p>To consider the updated Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and comment on the progress made implementing the attached action plan and the targeting of resources.</p> <p>Contact: Tom Ghee, Flood Manager, Investment and Infrastructure</p> <hr/>	

5: Scrutiny Lead Member End of Year Reports

45 - 58

To receive the final reports of Scrutiny Lead Members for the 2018/19 municipal year.

Contacts: Penny Bunker, Governance and Democratic Engagement Manager 01484 221000

6: Date of next meeting 2019/20 municipal year

To note that the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for Monday 10 June 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

Contact: Penny Bunker, Governance & Democratic Engagement Manager. Tel: 01484 221000.

Contact Officer: Penny Bunker

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Monday 4th March 2019

Present: Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner (Chair)
Councillor Gulfam Asif
Councillor Cahal Burke
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Rob Walker

In attendance: Councillor Shabir Pandor – Leader of the Council
Rachel Spencer–Henshall - Strategic Director, Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health
Angela Blake – Service Director, Economy and Skills
Andy Simcox – Head of Policy, Strategic Partnerships and Transformation
Penny Bunker – Governance and Democratic Engagement Manager

50 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 January 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

51 Interests

No interests were declared.

52 Admission of the Public

It was agreed that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

53 Leader of the Council update on priorities for 2018/19

Councillor Shabir Pandor, Leader of the Council attended the meeting to provide an update on the progress made in delivering the priorities identified earlier in the municipal year.

The Scrutiny Committee noted the following updates:

- Devolution
 - o Discussions were ongoing concerning the One Yorkshire deal following a meeting last week. The Council was still committed to the idea of One Yorkshire and was looking at interim arrangements with aspirations to secure longer term arrangements for Yorkshire.
- Inclusion and diversity
 - o Councillor Pandor emphasised that the inclusion and diversity work was starting to expand the focus from looking inwards to look at what

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 4 March 2019

other citizens were doing. Work was ongoing to ensure that the Council was benchmarking itself and focussing on areas of under representation. Proposals to develop internships for under represented groups were being developed. Further area of focus was around the resettlement of migrants and refugees.

- Inclusive growth
 - o Councillor Pandor updated on the CLES strategy which had resulted in a spend of over £100m pounds aimed to increase to £135m being spent with local suppliers, thereby creating additional jobs within the local economy. The Council was investing more in co-operative and social enterprise in part as a poverty reduction measure.

- Capital investment
 - o Councillor Pandor outlined the £126m which includes £6m of investment in town centre regeneration in both Dewsbury and Huddersfield. Public realm work of up to £750,000 in Dewsbury and £2.5m worth of investment had been identified in Huddersfield. Master plans for town centre regeneration were being developed with a view to being launched after the local elections. In addition £0.5m had been approved for other district centres.

The Committee noted that the approval of the Local Plan was part of delivering 31,000 new homes in the district. The intention was that up to 10,000 of these homes would be delivered in the next 5 years with approximately 1000 being built on council land.

Councillor Pandor reported that a new leisure centre facility in the Spen Valley would be provided at a cost of £13 million pounds.

Looking forward, Councillor Pandor indicated there would be a report to full council on the Waste Strategy with recycling rates requiring improvement. The Council also needed a clear direction regarding food waste which is expected to increase by 50% by 2025. Interim arrangements were being put in place to introduce a garden waste scheme over the summer period, with over 1,000 subscriptions having been received since it was launched.

In reporting on the recently agreed budget, Councillor Pandor emphasised that following several years of budget reductions and protection of reserves, this year the Cabinet had proposed a budget that invested in young people and the regeneration of local areas. An additional £45m had been put into capital expenditure to support investment in town centres and other projects. Finally, an additional £400,000 had been allocated towards work to address domestic abuse and support victims. Councillor Pandor was pleased to report that £210m had been approved for work across the Place Directorate, such as road repairs.

The Committee thanked Councillor Pandor for his update and continued to seek clarification on the devolution model and what was still required to secure agreement. Councillor Pandor agreed that the issue had been ongoing and that the Council were fully committed to the proposal of One Yorkshire. Leaders from

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 4 March 2019

Barnsley and Doncaster currently participating in the Sheffield South Yorkshire deal, indicated that they would move to a whole Yorkshire devolution deal once it had been agreed. Sheffield and Rotherham intended to stay in the South Yorkshire devolution deal.

Councillor Burke referred back to Councillor Pandor's previous attendance at the Scrutiny Committee at which requests had been made to set up more formal arrangements concerning the distribution of section 106 funding. Councillor Pandor agreed to provide details on progress in this area.

Councillor Smaje asked for an update on how deprivation was being tackled. Councillor Pandor cited some of the work being undertaken as part of CLES and the inclusion and diversity work together with investment in the local economy. Councillor Pandor agreed to provide a fuller response following the committee meeting. Councillor Walker highlighted the success of the Inclusive Growth programme which was integral to the delivery of the Council's Economic Strategy.

Councillor Pandor continued to outline the work that was being undertaken to increase local spend by 10%, this included promotion of the good employer charter to ensure that employees felt valued which would have a subsequent effect on productivity. Work was taking place with public sector organisations, universities and colleges, and large employers in the district to create a model of good practice for employment and standards to encourage others to follow suit. A report on good employers would be considered by the Local Enterprise Partnership Board which included private sector members, to help to shape the way forward.

In concluding the discussion the management committee focussed on Youth Services and the increase in gun and knife crimes in Kirklees. Councillor Pandor emphasised that this was a national problem and that additional budget for youth provision had been included in the recent budget. Cabinet was considering how to invest in young people to support those at risk of becoming isolated and those at high risk, including gangs and criminal behaviour. Councillor Pandor agreed to come back early in the new municipal year to provide an update on proposals for youth provision.

RESOLVED -

- 1) The Committee thanked Councillor Pandor for providing an update on the progress of his strategic priorities for the 2018/19 municipal year.
- 2) That Councillor Pandor provide further information on the items identified in the meeting including;
 - Formal arrangements for the allocation of section 106 funding
 - Examples of measures in place and work to reduce poverty across the borough
- 3) That Cllr Pandor be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to provide an update on youth provision arrangements following the allocation of additional funding.

- 4) To consider including an update on migration and resettlement work as part of the Scrutiny work programme for 2019/20.

54 An update on Effective Regional Working

The Management Committee welcomed Angela Blake, newly appointed Service Director for Economy and Skills to the meeting and considered an update on effective regional working.

The presentation sought to address the following key questions in relation to Kirklees regional work:

- Where have Kirklees and its residents benefited?
- What have we contributed?
- How can we improve our working together?
- Is the KMC representation at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority appropriate?
- What are our 'asks' of the Combined Authority?
- What does the next 2 years look like in terms of regional working?

Angela Blake advised the Committee that Kirklees residents had benefitted from approximately £140m of funding and investment. Major regeneration schemes had been slow to spend but overall the future looked bright. It was noted that complex transport schemes took time to develop including feasibility and consultation work. Reduced staffing had led to a reduction in the resources available to progress work in some areas. However, Ms Blake was pleased to report that early spend on feasibility work was now complete and there were much better and more robust processes in place including governance and risk mitigation.

The Council were involved in projects such as the achievement of Enterprise Zone status, energy strategy, and digital infrastructure. In respect of the digital infrastructure the Council had secured 42% from the second contract. The presentation continued to indicate that Kirklees had been very successful in securing business grants for SMEs.

In summarising Kirklees Council's contribution to regional working Ms Blake identified a collaborative working approach and working as a reliable and critical friend. The Council continued to have representation on boards and at key meetings.

When summarising how the council could continue to improve how it worked across the region Ms Blake identified the need to ensure that the Combined Authority had a better understanding of Kirklees' priorities and ambitions. It was felt that better quality and more timely reports were required as part of improved communication and information sharing. It was also suggested that we could look at better sharing of resources and more innovation.

The Committee noted that whilst Kirklees representation at the Combined Authority was much improved in terms of Councillors, the officer structures were less clear and it was important to ensure that the right people were attending. The

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 4 March 2019

presentation suggested that further transparency of decision making and wider information sharing was appropriate. Officers continued to look at how the wider body of Councillors across Kirklees and across West Yorkshire was informed on the work of the Combined Authority.

In identifying what was seen as the Kirklees 'asks' the following areas were identified:

- Improved governance and decision making
- Improved strategic connections across work areas and who is responsible for what
- Simplified structures particularly on the officer side
- Line WYCA priorities with national agendas
- Work to access other funding/investment sources

The Committee noted that over the next 2 years the council intended to focus on delivery, particularly in delivering our ambitions and being more proactive in selling Kirklees both regionally and nationally. The Council aimed to take advantage of future investment opportunities and to improve collaboration with neighbours. The Council intended to work with West Yorkshire Combined Authority to increase the focus on town centre regeneration as well as address the challenges and opportunities of place based working.

In addition the Council wanted to make the most of emerging cultural opportunities and the advantages of proposed rail investment. As indicated by the Leader of the Council there would be ongoing involvement in the devolution agenda and Kirklees would continue to emphasise the value it brings and have a clear offer to promote to the Leeds city region.

The Management Committee thanked Ms Blake for her informative presentation and continued to explore how Kirklees could maximise its involvement at a regional level and ensure that Kirklees was in a place to continue to secure benefits by being a proactive council at a regional level. Ms Blake agreed that there was a need to be very clear about what the council's priorities were over the next 5-10 years. The council did not just want to chase funding but wanted to be very clear about what its 2-3 key priorities were and through improved visibility and ambition, deliver an action plan arising from a clear economic strategy.

There followed a discussion on how more Councillors could have a better understanding and influence work at a regional level. This should be complemented by greater visibility of the work of the LEP so that the wider Council can keep in touch with what is happening.

Councillor Walker asked specific questions regarding West Yorkshire work on reducing emissions and how this needed to be looked at as a whole rather than separate authorities. Ms Blake agreed to provide further information on the position of this work. The discussion continued to look at investment zones, clear air zone and impacts on Kirklees residents who are employed within the Leeds area.

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The Committee discussed the council's role on Transport for the North and how we ensured that we were getting Kirklees priorities on the agenda and influencing the agenda. Ms Blake agreed that we need to prioritise strengthening the council's relationship with Transport for the North. Ms Blake offered to provide a quarterly update on regional issues to the scrutiny committee in the new municipal year.

RESOLVED -

- 1) That Angela Blake be thanked for attending the Committee meeting and for her informative presentation.
- 2) That the Management Committee consider the option of quarterly updates on regional working as part of developing the Scrutiny work programme for 2019/20.

55 Transformation Programme Overview

The Committee welcomed Rachel Spencer-Henshall and Andy Simcox to the meeting to provide an update on the Transformation Programme.

In introduction it was noted that the Council had had a Transformation Programme to provide targeted support to achieve outcomes since 2017/18. In the first 15 months of the programme focus had been on addressing the council's budget challenge. Since July 2018 the learning from activities had been used to inform an adjustment in the focus of transformation.

Following an assessment of the impact of transformation activities in summer 2018, it was felt that moving forward the focus of transformation resources should be allocated to the areas of highest priority which bring most value. Transformation support needed to work with managers and those leading change who would be responsible for ongoing service provision.

Engagement with senior officers, Councillors and partners took place throughout the summer and autumn of 2018 to confirm the need to adjust the focus of transformation activities for the remainder of 18/19 and into the 2019/20 financial year.

It was noted that moving forward transformation resources would be focussed on areas that affect the whole organisation rather than those that are directorate specific or highly savings driven. It meant that the challenges being faced could not be achieved by one team or service or the organisation alone but would require more project and programme management skills to achieve the desired impact.

The Committee noted that the following areas of priority had been identified for the allocation of transformation resources:

- 1) Organisation design
 - o work to consider the future shape of the organisation which will include engagement activities with staff, Councillors and citizens where appropriate
- 2) Development of place-based working

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- The Council is committed to working with communities and delivering services that recognise the diversity of the different places across Kirklees and their needs: moving resources into local areas, working across partnerships to address needs earlier. Transformation resources are needed to help support coordination and to deliver change.
- 3) Strengthening enabling services
 - This work involved improvement of individual functions or objectives, such as digital by design, business intelligence and the implementation of the council's people strategy. Working this strand will ensure that there are strong connections between functions to help the council run effectively, underpinned by improved efficient processes, systems and ways of working.
- 4) High needs, placements, waste
 - These areas represent areas where the council is experiencing significant budget pressures and there needs to be a system-wide approach to help define the problems and be creative in identifying potential solutions.
- 5) Adult social care, children's improvement
 - The majority of activities within existing programmes in these areas are now moving beyond transformation into 'business as usual'. Transformation resources are gradually being withdrawn.

Moving forward the council understood that it did not possess the skills required to support and challenge change projects and would be looking to partners across the district who have complementary skills. In some cases, for example specialist skills, the council would have to look to procure the services of external suppliers for shorter interventions.

The Management Committee thanked Ms Spencer-Henshall and Mr Simcox for the update report and the clarity regarding the future focus of transformation work. Councillor Smaje suggested it would be helpful for future reports to include timescales or milestones to understand how work was progressing. There followed a discussion on how engagement activities might work as part of organisational change.

Councillor Asif suggested that we needed to ensure that future reports included examples and that the language used was accessible to citizens of Kirklees. The Committee needed to understand the current position, where we are going, and how are we going to measure success.

Rachel Spencer-Henshall agreed that engagement was one of the challenges including how early to engage and how we engage. It was agreed that language could be amended to make it more accessible and milestones included within future reporting.

There followed a discussion on how Councillors would be informed and involved and how much input there would be from partners. In response Rachel Spencer-Henshall indicated that the Partnership Executive had been involved in discussions and a picture of Kirklees event was held in the autumn of 2018. Initial conversations

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 4 March 2019

were taking place with partners such as the Clinical Commissioning Group where there were areas in common, for example the Healthy Child programme. Partners such as the University held data and intelligence which could be useful as part of longer term aims in developing the district strategy and corporate planning. Ms Spencer-Henshall indicated that a member engagement event had been held but was under subscribed. It was suggested that officers might look for expressions of interest from Councillors who were interested in being involved in specific areas of work. The Committee supported the more issue specific approach to member engagement. There followed a discussion on broader community engagement issues and at what point it was appropriate to take discussions into communities and how those discussions might take place.

Councillor Smaje identified that the high needs work would be something that the Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel would be looking at and it would be helpful if the work included timescales.

The Committee discussed the importance of trying to avoid different service areas overlapping and the need for better coordination. Ms Spencer-Henshall gave a brief explanation of the Place Standards Tool that was being adopted by the Council and would be coordinated centrally to ensure a consistent approach and to pick up potential duplication.

RESOLVED -

- 1) The Committee welcomed the update and thanked Rachel Spencer- Henshall and Andy Simcox for attending.
- 2) The Committee supported the outlined approach to refining how transformation support is targeted.
- 3) That the Committee consider a further progress report in the 2019/20 municipal year, including key milestones and timescales where appropriate.

56

Appointment of Scrutiny Co-optees

Following a recent recruitment exercise the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee was asked to formally appoint an additional number of voluntary Co-optees so that they could undertake development activities in preparation for allocation to scrutiny panels in the 2019/20 municipal year.

The Management Committee noted that five applications had been received to become voluntary scrutiny co-optees and agreed to the appointment of the following members of the public: Chris Friend, David Flint, Eilidh Ogden, Nathan Paul and Toni Bromley. All of the appointments were subject to the signing of the Code of Conduct, completion of an induction programme and a successful probationary period. A further report would be submitted to the scrutiny committee at the start of the municipal year to propose the distribution of the co-optees across scrutiny panels.

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RESOLVED - That pending completion of a successful probation period and appropriate training, the following people be appointed as Scrutiny Voluntary Co-optees for a period of up to 4 years:

- Chris Friend
- David Flint
- Eilidh Ogden
- Nathan Paul
- Toni Bromley

57 **Forward Agenda Plan / Date of next meeting /Committee meeting dates 2019/20**

The Committee noted the agenda for the remaining meeting of the municipal year which would be held on 15 April 2019. The Committee agreed that in respect of considering the lead member reports the discussion should be very focussed in order to maximise time for other agenda items.

In addition the Committee considered proposed meeting dates for the Management Committee in 2019/20 municipal year.

RESOLVED -

- 1) The Committee noted that the final meeting of the municipal year would be held on Monday 15 April at 10.00 a.m.
- 2) It was agreed that consideration of the Lead Member reports would be very focussed to maximise the discussion time for other agenda items.
- 3) That the following dates are agreed for meetings of the OSMC in 2019/20:
 - 10 June 2019
 - 22 July
 - 9 September
 - 4 November
 - 13 January 2020
 - 9 March
 - 6 April

Meetings to start at 10.00am.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee			
Name of Councillor			
Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

- (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
- (b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.



Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management
Date: 15 April 2019
Title of report: Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - Annual Review of Progress against the Action Plan

Purpose of report

To consider annual progress against the action plan of the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy), approved by Cabinet on 15 January 2013 and updated in November 2016 and February 2019

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	N/A
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	N/A
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	N/A
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	
Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	N/A
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Peter McBride

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

1. Summary

The Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, has a legal duty to produce, implement and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. Progress against the Strategy's actions has been monitored by the Councils Scrutiny and Overview process since 2013, through an annual report. Many of the initial actions have been addressed and are now embedded into routine business and the opportunity has been taken for the 2019 review to focus on a smaller number of priority actions, presented in a new format which is more focused on what needs to be done, how it will be done and what has been done.

Members views on the Strategy and, in particular, the associated Progress and Implementation Plan, will be helpful in directing resources towards the right priorities.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

The Strategy has recently been refreshed to provide an up to date evidence base to support the measures identified in the action plan. Actions completed since the 2013 Strategy, and now embedded in routine processes, have been removed from the current Strategy, which now focuses on delivering 11 revised actions (See Appendix A for a summary of the Strategy). The rationale behind this and details of progress against the action plan are outlined in a new “**Progress and Implementation Plan**” included in Appendix B, which summarises the work carried out in support of the Action Plan. The 2019/20 Plan summarises work carried out and progress made since the 2013 Strategy. It is intended that future annual plans will be more concise, reporting on the previous 12 month period.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Working with People**

It's clear from area flood studies carried out in the last 5 years that many flood mitigation measures are unaffordable and that individual property owners are best-placed to manage the risk to their property themselves. The Council is committed to working with such owners through an extensive, long-term, community engagement programme to improve their understanding and awareness of local flood risk.

3.2 **Working with Partners**

The council has established constructive relationships with the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water to maximise the benefits from complementary work programmes.

3.3 **Place Based Working**

Area flood studies carried out over the last 5 years have been prioritised on the level of flood risk. We now have a good understanding of the source and extent of flood risk in these areas and bespoke community engagement plans for each area will be developed.

3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**

No impact.

3.5 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

The actions identified to deliver the strategy will be delivered within existing council budgets supported by external grants where possible.

4. **Consultees and their opinions**
No opinions have been sought.
5. **Next steps and timelines**
To continue to progress the measures in the action plan and to consider the views expressed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**
Members are asked to note the progress of the actions in the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**
Cllr McBride: I fully endorse the strategy which features helping residents to take effective precautions and via Planning reducing likelihood of run off problems. Additionally, measures taken upstream by the Combined Authority will in the long term reduce the risk
8. **Contact officer**
Tom Ghee, Flood Manager, Investment and Infrastructure
Email: tom.ghee@kirklees.gov.uk
Tel: 01484 221000
9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
Original Strategy <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/flooding-and-drainage/pdf/FloodRiskStrategy.pdf>
10. **Service Director responsible**
Naz Parkar, Service Director for Growth and Housing
Email: Naz.parkar@kirklees.gov.uk
Tel: 01484 221000

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2019

A Summary of the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

A summary of the strategy which defines the Councils approach to the management of flood risk from local sources with proposals for measures and actions which will help to manage the risk

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

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Use of the Information in the Report

As Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Kirklees Council has a duty to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management. The local strategy will complement and support the national strategy, published by the Environment Agency, which outlines a national framework for flood and coastal risk management, balancing the needs of communities, the economy and the environment. The LLFA must specify objectives to manage flood risk and suggest measures to achieve those objectives. The LLFA has a responsibility to consider the flood risk management functions that it may exercise to reduce risk.

In support of the aim of a general reduction of flood risk across the district, the Council will prioritise investigations and works identified in this Strategy to the best of its abilities, based on perceived and evidenced risk and within limited resources.

The indications of flood risk in the report are high level and based on incomplete information. A level of subjectivity has been used in assessing relative flood risk and the results will be used to prioritise future, more robust, investigations and assessments which will, hopefully, lead to reliable measures of risk. Consequently, it is not appropriate to apply the information and recommendations in this report at a local, property level.

The Council's initial Strategy was published in February 2013, updated in 2016, and good progress has been made on many of the actions identified in the associated action plan. This revision to the Strategy reflects the improved evidence base that has developed over the last 5 years, resulting in a greater understanding of the location and extent of flood risk across the district. Reduced local government budgets, recent changes to planning legislation and a national move towards a catchment-based approach to flood risk management require reprioritisation of the actions in the original Strategy.

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1 Introduction

The risk of flooding in England is predicted to increase due to climate change and new development in areas at risk. It is not possible to prevent all flooding but there are actions that can be taken to manage these risks and reduce the impacts on communities. This flood management strategy for Kirklees aims to use a variety of techniques, measures and initiatives to provide a co-ordinated mitigation plan that balances the needs of communities, the economy and the environment.

The Scale and Type of Flood Risk in Kirklees

Characteristics of the Area

Kirklees is a unitary council in West Yorkshire bounded by Calderdale, Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield, Barnsley, Derbyshire and Oldham. In terms of size, it is the 11th largest district council out of 348 (Population of around 400,000) and 3rd largest metropolitan council in area (400km²). The main population centres are Huddersfield (125,000), Dewsbury (57,000) and Batley (45,000), with a further 10, or so, small towns (5-20,000). Around 40% of the area is heavily urbanised with 60% rural in character, of which half is in the Pennine hills. ¹

With respect to water resources, Kirklees has 27 large reservoirs in the Pennines, operated by the local Water and Sewerage Company, Yorkshire Water, with the associated emergency planning aspects managed by the Environment Agency. There are approximately 100km of enmained river, managed by the Environment Agency, and unrecorded, but substantial, lengths of culverted and open minor watercourses. The main rivers in the district are the rivers Colne and Calder flowing to the river Aire, which drains around 85% of the area, and the river Dearne flowing to the river Don, draining the remaining 15%. Average annual rainfall figures for the district range from 1800mm at the Pennine headwaters to 800mm in Huddersfield, compared with an average across England of 950mm.²

Flooding Characteristics

Fluvial Flooding from Designated Main Rivers

Kirklees is dominated by 2 main river systems, the River Calder to the North of the district and the River Dearne to the South, both rivers having their headwaters in the Pennines and both ultimately flowing to the Humber estuary.

In the upper reaches of the **Calder's** tributaries, valleys are generally narrow and steep-sided and consequently, flood zones are narrow. Existing development is mostly housing, commercial or small areas of light industry.

In the downstream catchment between Huddersfield and Dewsbury, the floodplain broadens and land-use includes large areas of heavy industry and housing within the high flood risk zone. Substantial lengths of main river tributaries to the River Calder, such as Grimescar Dyke, Batley Beck and Chickenley Beck are culverted through urban areas

¹ Kirklees Council, *Factsheets 2010*,
<http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/community/statistics/factsheets/factsheets.shtml>

² Environment Agency, *Calder Catchment Flood Management Plan July 2010*, page 54

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The upper reaches of the **Dearne** above Clayton West are fairly steep and respond quickly to rainfall. The industrial textile heritage of the area, resulting in recent residential conversions of riverside mills, and the general high density of residential development in the valley bottom leave a sizeable part of the local community at risk of flooding.

The Environment Agency has responsibility for managing the flood risk from main rivers.

Minor Watercourse Flooding

Many thousand km's of minor watercourses drain surface water across the district. The condition and capacity of the open watercourses has not historically been recorded and only limited information is available on the sections which have been culverted.

Surface Water Flooding

Surface water flooding is generally more prevalent in the hillier, rural, less developed south side of the district. The settlements along the Dearne, Holme, Colne and Woodsome Valleys are concentrated along the rivers and suffer the consequences of rapid surface water runoff from the uplands and fields on the steep valley sides.

The large settlements to the centre and north of the district, Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley, have significant networks of public sewers, owned and maintained by Yorkshire Water, with less evidence of smaller culverted watercourses remaining in those areas.

Groundwater Flooding

Groundwater flooding occurs as a result of water rising to the surface from underlying ground or abnormal springs, usually as a result of sustained increased rainfall raising natural groundwater levels. In Kirklees, it is very unusual to see groundwater breaking through the surface of the ground but the high number of basements in older properties in Kirklees, a product of its industrial heritage, means that groundwater flooding to "below ground" rooms is increasingly common.

Sewer Flooding

Yorkshire Water owns much of the combined and surface water sewers in the region. There are some known sewer related flooding issues within the Kirklees area. However, overall sewer performance is satisfactory.

The interactions between different sources of flooding

The general public, understandably, care little where the floodwater comes from but the LLFA has a responsibility to determine, where possible, which risk management authority is responsible. Where there are complicated interactions of different sources, the LLFA will take a lead to ensure that investigation, assessment and appropriate mitigation measures are carried out.

Public Perception of Flood Risk

Households and businesses which have suffered from disruptive and damaging flooding generally understand the risks involved but many still rely on the various agencies and organisations to manage future risks. Agencies, particularly the LLFAs, have a role to play but an important outcome from this strategy will be a programme of awareness-raising with affected property owners to give them the knowledge and tools to take measures to protect themselves.

The Size of Flood Risk in the District

Presenting a simple indication of the risk from flooding in the district is difficult. The risk comes from many sources and there are many methods of calculating predicted risk. A variety of studies and calculations have been made in the past 5 years which contribute to an understanding of the size of the flood risk in Kirklees.

Comparison across other Councils/LLFAs

Kirklees ranks **55th out of 150** LLFAs in England, in terms of general flood risk.

Excluding larger Counties and London Boroughs, **Kirklees ranks 7th behind Hull, Birmingham, Brighton, Doncaster, Leeds and Leicester.**

Number of properties at risk from flooding

If a rainfall event with a 1% chance of happening in any year occurred in Kirklees the number of properties at risk of flooding are:

3,000 from river flooding, and

9,000 from other local sources (surface water, minor streams and groundwater)

Many properties are at risk from collapse or blockage of underground drainage systems but it isn't easy to quantify the risk or number. Improving our understanding of drainage asset condition will allow us to prepare works programmes to manage this risk.

What will the Strategy do?

The Strategy will explain how the Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, will determine the location and size of flood risk, develop a co-ordinated, resourced and diverse action plan to mitigate the risk, presenting the objectives and measures in an understandable and accessible way.

The general principles of the Strategy are that:

- Flooding will always occur. It is uneconomic to totally prevent it and flood management will always be a balance of preventing flooding and managing the consequences of flooding.
- Flood risk management will be a compromise between managing today's problems and reducing the risk from future, larger, catastrophic flooding.
- More and better information on drainage systems and flood risk will result in more effective schemes and initiatives.
- Various authorities have flood risk management responsibilities but, ultimately, householders and businesses are best placed to protect their own properties.
- New developments offer the best opportunity to reverse the mistakes made by previous generations in building developments in high flood risk locations.
- The Strategy will pay due regard to the local, natural environment maximising opportunities for enhancement.

2 Responsibilities

Roles, Responsibilities and Functions

The Risk Management Authorities (RMA's) in the district have a variety of roles, responsibilities and functions to be exercised, including the following:

The Environment Agency

- Strategic overview of all forms of flooding
- Risk-based management of flooding from “main rivers”
- Regulation of the safety of higher-risk reservoirs

The Water Company

- A duty to effectually drain their area
- A duty to register all reservoirs with a capacity greater than 10,000m³ with the Environment Agency
- An agreement with Ofwat to maintain a register of properties at risk from hydraulic overloading in the public sewerage system (DG5 register).

The Lead Local Flood Authority

Powers and duties described below

The Highway Authority

Duties described below

In addition to the role of RMA's, individual landowners owning land adjacent to watercourses, known as **riparian owners**, have important rights and responsibilities relating to flood risk management from natural watercourses. They have

- A right to receive flow in its natural quantity and quality. Water may only be abstracted from a watercourse with the formal approval of the Environment Agency.
- A right to protect their land and property from flooding and erosion.
- A responsibility to allow water to flow through their land without obstruction, diversion or pollution.
- A responsibility to receive flood flows through their land
- A responsibility to keep the watercourse bed and banks free of litter and debris.

The Powers and Duties of Kirklees Council

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 identified Kirklees Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority for the district.

The Council's powers and duties relating to the management of local flood risk are:

As Lead Local Flood Authority

- A duty to produce a local flood risk management strategy
- A duty to co-operate with other risk management authorities

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

- A power to arrange for a flood risk management function to be transferred to another risk management authority
- A power to request information in connection with its flood management functions from another person
- A duty to investigate flooding
- A duty to maintain a register of drainage assets/ features
- A power to designate features that affect flood risk
- A power to formally consent works within Ordinary Watercourses
- A duty to promote and manage Sustainable Drainage

As a Category 1 Responder (Emergency Planning)

- A duty to put in place emergency plans

As Highway Authority

- A duty to maintain the public highway network (excluding motorways)
- A duty to adopt and maintain SuDS draining new roads

As Planning Authority

- A responsibility to consider flood risk in Local Plans
- A responsibility to consider flood risk when assessing applications for development, taking advice from the LLFA as Statutory Consultee for Surface Water Drainage

As a Riparian Owner

- A duty to pass on flow in a watercourse without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the rights of others
- A duty to accept flow
- A duty to maintain the bed and banks of the watercourse

3 The Objectives for Managing Local Flood Risk

Objectives will be strategic in nature but it is important that the process, measures and actions to achieve the outcomes are pragmatic, deliverable and supported by both partners and stakeholders.

The Strategy sets out objectives which delivers statutory requirements and supports complementary objectives from other plans and strategies.

The Objectives of the Strategy

The Strategy needs to provide a clear vision as to how local flood risk will be managed by the Council and its partners. Some objectives and measures identified in the 2013 Strategy, particularly those around establishing new policies, processes and programmes, have been implemented and whilst still relevant to the overall Strategy, will not be the focus of the revised action plan.

The objectives are:

- Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk within the LLFA
- Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk amongst partners and stakeholders **(Actioned through the 2013 Strategy)**
- Ensure that local communities understand their responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management
- Maximise the benefits from partnership working with flood risk partners and our stakeholders **(Actioned)**
- Actively manage flood risk associated with new development proposals **(Actioned)**
- Take a sustainable approach to FRM, balancing economic, environmental and social benefits from policies and programmes **(Actioned)**
- Improve/ maintain the capacity of existing drainage systems by targeted maintenance
- Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets
- Influence planning policies in Local Plans to take account of flood risk **(Actioned)**
- Maximise opportunities to reduce surface water run-off from the upper catchments
- Identify projects and programmes which are affordable, maximising capital funding from external sources
- Ensure local FRM knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

The objectives still to be delivered have been summarised and rephrased in the following tables:

3.1.1 Revised Objective 1 - Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk within the LLFA

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
1.1	Assessment of high flood risk locations	<p>Description: <i>Continue to use and refine the prioritisation tool to identify areas for detailed investigation and to inform the future programme of works to manage flood risk.</i></p> <p><i>The Council will develop a structured programme of investigations and flood studies to improve its understanding of location and severity of local flood risk.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>The assessment will provide the evidence base to deliver measure 6.1.</i></p>	Ongoing	Council Revenue/ Local Levy	Partial
1.2	Improve skills and knowledge of FRM officers	<p>Description: <i>Continue to expand the expertise in the team, encouraging and facilitating a wider skill-base and utilising external consultants for specialist areas of work.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>A multi-skilled team will be developed to maximise knowledge transfer within the team and provide a flexible resource.</i></p>	Ongoing	Council Revenue	✓

3.1.2 Revised Objective 2 - Ensure that local communities understand their responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
2.1	Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection/ resilience etc	<p>Description: <i>Develop a comprehensive, district-wide engagement and information-sharing programme. The information and advice offered will be bespoke to each flood risk area, improving the understanding of drainage systems which may impact on communities at risk of flooding.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>Providing the information and tools to encourage "self-help" will help communities to protect themselves from future flooding.</i></p>	Ongoing – multi-year programme (2018-21)	Council Revenue	✓
2.2	Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes	<p>Description: <i>Encourage information exchange with local residents, ward members and businesses to extend our knowledge of drainage systems and flooding locations.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>Will encourage ownership of issues and solutions and taps into local knowledge.</i></p>	See 2.1	Council Revenue	✓

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

3.1.3 Revised Objective 3 - Improve and/or maintain the capacity of existing drainage systems by targeted maintenance

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
3.1	Identify highest risk open and culverted watercourses, highway drains and other drainage/flood features	<p>Description: The Council has a statutory duty to maintain highway drains but only a riparian responsibility to keep watercourses within its ownership clear of obstructions. Some watercourses create a high flood risk for nearby communities and would benefit from a structured and targeted improvement programme. The council will carry out a comprehensive survey of all known, non-Environment Agency or Water Company drainage assets to determine those lengths of watercourse and drains which offer a significant flood risk.</p> <p>Benefits: The action will provide condition information for the Councils Drainage Asset Register and contribute to the programme in Measure 6.1.</p>	March 2020	Council Revenue/ Local Levy	Partial
3.2	Develop an affordable cyclical and reactive maintenance regime based on risk	<p>Description: Maintenance budgets are limited and will be targeted at those areas where the risk of flooding is highest. The extent of flood risk and the asset type, condition and vulnerability to temporary blockage will influence the type and frequency of maintenance required. Cyclical maintenance plans will be developed for trash grilles protecting council-owned culverts, highway gullies and open watercourses where regular clearance would be beneficial in protecting downstream properties.</p> <p>Benefits: Maintenance budgets will be optimised to prioritise maintenance in areas of highest risk.</p>	March 2020	Council Revenue	✓

3.1.4 Revised Objective 4 - Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
4.1	Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	<p>Description: The vast majority of watercourses are in private, rather than council ownership. Whilst riparian owners have a responsibility to keep watercourses free of obstruction they need advice and encouragement to carry this out effectively. The opportunity will be taken during the Community Engagement programme to offer advice to riparian owners. A database of higher-risk private assets, with details of the risk and suggested maintenance regimes, will be compiled and shared with owners.</p> <p>Benefits: Improved understanding of the sources of local flood risk.</p>	Oct 2019	Council Revenue	✓

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

4.2	Develop technical advice for owners to guide them in preparing local maintenance plans	<p>Description: <i>Improving knowledge of the location and condition of private drainage assets, acquired through Measures 4.1, will allow the Council to suggest appropriate proactive maintenance measures to reduce the risk of flooding to themselves and adjacent landowners. Maintenance plans will manage and maintain both the efficient flow of water in the watercourse and a healthy and attractive bio diverse environment in all water bodies in private ownership.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>Reductions in the levels of local flood risk through improved maintenance and greater awareness.</i></p>	Oct 2019	Council Revenue	✓
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3.1.5 Revised Objective 5 - Maximise opportunities to reduce surface water run-off from the upper catchments

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
5.1	Develop proposals to engage with landowners to embrace land management techniques and initiatives which help to reduce the rate of surface water run-off	<p>Description: <i>The south-western side of the district lies in the foothills of the South Pennines, with substantial parts of the upper catchments for the rivers Colne and Dearne. Much of the Colne catchment is managed to provide a regular water supply to several large reservoirs, operated by Yorkshire Water, but significant areas provide opportunities through different land management practices to retain rainwater where it falls, delaying its entry to, or reducing the rate it enters, the river system. The council will work with landowners and partners to develop specific proposals.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>Retention of rainfall in open land will help to reduce the risk from watercourses causing flooding downstream during periods of extreme rainfall.</i></p>	Ongoing	Council Revenue/ Local Levy/ Other funding	Partial

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

3.1.6 Revised Objective 6 - Identify projects and programmes which are affordable, maximising capital funding from external sources

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
6.1	Develop and deliver a pragmatic programme of schemes and initiatives which are likely to be funded through the National Programme or Local Levy	<p>Description: <i>The strategy describes a suite of measures which can be taken to manage local flood risk. Some measures are more affordable than others with larger capital improvement schemes offering the greatest challenges for funding. The council's immediate priorities, using the outputs from the work carried out under Measure 1.1, are to establish an evidence base for the location and the extent of the risk of local flooding, quantify the size and potential effect of the risk and then identify costed options for appropriate and affordable mitigation measures. The process is iterative, identifying priority areas for high level and then detailed assessment, which may then lead to local initiatives.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>The process will make best use of limited resources to identify those projects which are most likely to attract external funding</i></p>	March 2020	Council Revenue (Develop), Local Levy/ FDGiA (Deliver)	Partial

3.1.7 Revised Objective 7 - Ensure local FRM knowledge is aligned with the Councils emergency planning procedures

Measure	Actions Proposed	Description and Benefits of Carrying out the Measure	Timescales	Funding	
				Source	In Place
7.1	Embed the LFRMS into response and recovery plans and use developing knowledge on flood risk to "tune" emergency procedures	<p>Description: <i>The Corporate Safety and Resilience team have responsibility for the council's management of flood incidents affecting Kirklees communities. Any action required to manage the incident and its aftermath is co-ordinated through the council's Major Incident Plan. The new responsibilities outlined in the LFRMS will create an improving evidence base to target where council resources may be best deployed if a severe area-wide flooding event occurs. Post-flooding feedback will add to the information held by the Flood Management team to provide an ever-improving record of local flood risk. The Council has adopted an operational flood policy and plan which provides a "24/7" response to support communities in advance of extreme rainfall events.</i></p> <p>Benefits: <i>The Council will use information from previous and future flood events to refine how best to use our resources to support communities to reduce the impact of such floods</i></p>	Oct 2019	Council Revenue	✓

4 Proposals, Timescales and Funding to Implement the Measures

Affordability and Funding of the Measures

The Government commits significant funding every year to flood management activities across the country. Funding for investigation, co-ordination and local management of flood risk issues has been allocated to LLFA's with a long term commitment to support this foundation work. Capital funding for mitigation works (such as flood defences, property resilience schemes, flood storage etc) is generally allocated on the basis of risk and, inevitably, areas where high density populations co-exist with high risk from river flooding tend to attract much of the available funding.

Delivery of the Measures

Each measure outlined in Section 3 has been developed into a set of activities, policies and procedures which are described in more detail in the full Strategy document. Funding is critical to the delivery of the strategy and whilst the Council has a legal responsibility to deliver many of the actions required to deliver the measures, the funding made available to do so is limited.

5 What is the Flood Risk in Kirklees?

It is imperative that the Strategy explains in simple terms the source and size of flood risk in Kirklees. An increasing amount of evidence is available to explain the general levels of risk from a variety of sources, some of which are managed by the Council and some by others.

The calculation of future flood risk is complex and approximate. Improved hydraulic modelling techniques are providing greater certainty on where flood risk is highest, with detailed accurate information available on flood extent, depth of water and speed of flow. Less certain is the location and severity of future rainfall events and the longer term impact that climate change may have on them. There is certainty that flooding will occur but less certainty on where and when. However, based on the hydraulic studies carried out over the last 10 years, it is reasonable to assume that **a minimum of 8,000 - 12,000 residential properties in Kirklees are at risk of flooding from a rainfall event with a 1% annual chance of occurring.** Other infrastructure such as commercial premises, roads, bridges and public utility buildings would also be affected. **With a conservative estimate of £25,000 recovery/repair costs per property, such a rainfall event could cost the local economy in excess of £300million. Associated economic, social and environmental costs would be substantially more.** In reality, the more realistic scenario is that a severe rainfall event would affect only part of the district. **However, an event affecting 10% of the district could still cause £30million of damage to housing infrastructure.**

The broad geographical areas of concern are listed in the following section.

Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Summary)

Areas at Risk from Future Flooding (Fluvial and Surface Water)

Recent work using a Prioritisation Tool, which considers risk from all sources, has identified the following geographical areas as highest priority:

Flood Risk Area	Homes at Risk (1% AEP)			Businesses at Risk (1% AEP)		
	SW	Fluvial	Total	SW	Fluvial	Total
Mirfield	325	53	378	34	47	81
Cleckheaton	240	213	453	74	50	124
Liversedge	190	177	367	62	74	136
Dewsbury	396	0	396	167	0	167
Central Huddersfield	170	64	234	108	126	234
Ravensthorpe	150	188	338	21	34	55
North East Huddersfield	48	506	554	33	126	159
Heckmondwike	373	0	373	39	2	41
Batley	219	40	259	99	3	102
Marsden	308	28	336	41	13	54
Milnsbridge and Golcar	269	6	275	72	34	106
Holmfirth	142	11	153	53	25	78
Dalton and Waterloo	225	126	351	10	13	23
Clayton West	56	6	62	27	26	53
Berry Brow and Primrose Hill	95	47	142	32	49	81

6 How and When will we Review the Strategy?

The revised Strategy will provide the framework for the Council's delivery of its flood risk management responsibilities for the next 5 year period. It is a "living document" which will develop as new information, expertise and resources influence the delivery of the measures outlined in the strategy. The strategy and action plan will provide a framework for the work programme in the council's flood management team and progress against the action plan assessed by members through an annual report to the Councils **Overview and Scrutiny Panel**. The report will take the form of a **Progress and Implementation Plan** evidencing progress on the Strategy with reference to operational activities and works programmes.

7 A Sustainable Approach – Balancing Social, Economic and Environmental Needs

The focus on the Kirklees LFRMS is to reduce flood risk from local sources where it threatens private property and public infrastructure. The Council is also committed to maximising opportunities to carry out sustainable flood risk reduction in ways which complement national and council environmental priorities, are affordable and recognise social demographic differences across the district, delivering flood risk reduction across all its vulnerable communities.

8 Consistency with the National Strategy

Recent legislation implies strong partnership working as a prerequisite in delivering more effective flood risk management. The National Strategy sets out the Environment Agency's priorities and it is vital that the Kirklees LFRMS supports those aspirations with complementary measures. Section 5 of the strategy references the main policies and measures suggested in the National Strategy ensuring that they are included within the general objectives for the Local Strategy.

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Progress and Implementation Plan 2018/19 – April 2019

The “Annual Progress and Implementation Plan”

Progress against the 32 actions in the 2013 Strategy have been reported annually through the Councils Overview and Scrutiny process using a “traffic light system”. A substantial amount of work has been carried out over the last few years which has improved both the Councils evidence base and the local infrastructure to help manage local flood risk. Much of this work has not been reported through the annual review and it is appropriate to begin to highlight progress made with such initiatives. It is proposed therefore to change the approach from rigid reporting against the action plan to summarising the work carried out in the previous year, with reference to the action plan. The new annual reporting mechanism will be through an ‘**Annual Progress and Implementation Plan**’. The plan will provide more specific details on

- current understanding of the location and extent of local flood risk
- progress against the Local Strategy objectives
- a record of works and studies carried out previously which are relevant to the Local Strategy objectives
- priorities for the forthcoming year

The plan should give a clearer appreciation of what the council needs to do, how it intends to do it and what it has actually done.

1. Latest Analysis of the Location and Size of Flood Risk in Kirklees (on a ward basis)

Note: Numerous datasets are available which provide information on flood risk. The datasets are updated regularly as new hydraulic models are produced and are based on high-level assumptions which may under or over-estimate flood risk in some locations. However, the table gives an overview of our current assessment of the numbers of properties at risk from rainfall events that have a 1% chance of occurring in any given year (1% AEP). The actual risk to individual properties can only be determined through detailed local flood studies. A significant number of additional properties are at risk from flooding from blocked or collapsed underground drainage systems, particularly in urban areas.

Although many properties will be at risk from both river and surface water flooding, it is possible that flooding from each source could happen during different rainfall events. The “Total” numbers at the right hand side of the table provide an indication of the maximum number of properties at risk but, inevitably, includes some double-counting of properties.

	Fluvial (river) risk		Surface Water risk		Total at risk from both Sources	
	Homes	Businesses	Homes	Businesses	Homes	Businesses
Almondbury	130	6	251	13	381	19
Ashbrow	72	11	198	38	270	49
Batley East	9	54	237	94	246	148
Batley West	0	6	198	49	198	55
Birstall and Birkenshaw	31	2	242	47	273	49
Cleckheaton	236	30	249	73	485	103
Colne Valley	88	28	462	84	550	112
Crosland Moor and Netherton	1	4	229	39	230	43
Dalton	651	172	347	81	998	253
Denby Dale	6	11	197	36	203	47
Dewsbury East	3	73	242	129	245	202
Dewsbury South	2	7	181	34	183	41
Dewsbury West	69	77	343	33	412	110
Golcar	16	27	336	68	352	95
Greenhead	22	9	425	58	447	67
Heckmondwike	52	18	279	35	331	53
Holme Valley North	130	61	341	55	471	116
Holme Valley South	42	38	304	73	346	111
Kirkburton	30	11	192	30	232	41
Lindley	0	0	197	10	197	10
Liversedge and Gomersal	122	26	251	28	373	54
Mirfield	58	38	407	24	465	62
Newsome	164	91	193	115	357	206
Totals	1934	800	6301	1246	8235	2046

2. Progress against the Actions Delivering the Objectives in the 2019 Strategy

Note: The outstanding measures from the 2013 Strategy form the basis of the action plan in the updated 2019 Strategy and are outlined below:

Ref.	Measure	How will we measure success?	Timescale for the Action	Progress from February 2018	Planned Activities up to March 2020
1.1	Assessment of High Flood Risk Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the assessment of the highest risk locations Have a clear understanding of the type and size of flood risk at each location 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments at Birstall, Heckmondwike and Dalton have been completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments at Marsden and Milnsbridge are in progress Assessment at the last remaining high priority area (Mirfield) to be completed Recommended works from all area assessments to be collated into work packages that can be put forward for EA funding
1.2	Improve Skills and Knowledge of FRM Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a multi-skilled team Encourage knowledge transfer from technical consultants 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduate engineer working in the team External technical consultant providing support on planning advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programme in place for graduate engineer Summer placement offered to local undergraduate
2.1	Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection/ resilience etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify programme of community engagement Produce information templates Complete programme of community engagement 	Ongoing (2018-21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 year programme for member engagement and highest priority residential communities in place Information templates agreed Ward and community pilot areas completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver programme, refining the process following member/public feedback Extend engagement to selected businesses at highest risk of flooding, if resources allow
2.2	Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an engagement programme which encourages information exchange (assets and flood incidents) with residents 	See above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information templates encourage residents to share information with the council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with local members/residents and businesses
3.1	Identify highest risk open and culverted watercourses, highway drains and other drainage/flood features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a prioritisation process to rank watercourses and other drainage systems/assets Develop a program of condition surveys on high priority assets Compile a list of highest risk council-maintained drainage systems 	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA-funded culvert improvement project into year 3 of 5 Ad hoc capacity improvement recommendations arising from area flood risk studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and populate a highway drainage asset spreadsheet which records and ranks the highest risk assets, directing improvement budgets to the areas of highest need Develop an assessment process which highlights surface water drainage systems which are under capacity Bid for EA funding to address surface water flood risk

3.2	Develop an affordable cyclical and reactive maintenance regime based on risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document the inspection/ maintenance regime for trash grilles • Document the cleansing process for road gullies including performance management • Document an affordable inspection/ maintenance process for significant highway culverts 	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trash grille maintenance regime in place • Gully cleansing regime documented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gully telemetry process to be in place, collecting condition information • Establish a periodic low-cost inspection regime for higher priority culverts
4.1	Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document a process to record and risk-assess significant private drainage assets • Compile a list of highest risk privately-maintained drainage systems 	Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No progress made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a process to record private drainage assets
4.2	Develop technical advice for owners to guide them in preparing local maintenance plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop standard maintenance recommendations and a template for the plan • Distribute maintenance plans to asset owners identified in Item 2.1 	Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance advice developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to be embedded within community engagement programme
5.1	Develop proposals to engage with landowners to embrace land management techniques and initiatives which help to reduce the rate of surface water run-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support council and regional initiatives to implement NFM measures • Identify local landowners in higher priority areas and offer encouragement/advice and support to help them to reduce surface water run-off. 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council is a key regional player in developing plans to manage surface water at source in the undeveloped upper catchments eg Wessenden NFM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop longer term plans to engage with smaller landowners to share advice on implementing low-cost, high-impact NFM measures • The regional Aire and Calder NFM project will deliver a method to identify the key landowners where NFM interventions will have the greatest impact
6.1	Develop and deliver a pragmatic programme of schemes and initiatives which are likely to be funded through the National Programme or Local Levy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate the outputs of the studies carried out in Item 1.1 into an affordable long-term works programme • Deliver the programme, optimising the use of council budgets to attract external funding 	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the high-priority area flood risk studies have been completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the remaining high-priority flood risk studies • Develop the identified works in the studies into a project(s) that can be submitted through the EA funding process
7.1	Embed the LFRMS into response and recovery plans and use developing knowledge on flood risk to “tune” emergency procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Operational Flood Plan to reflect highest risk locations requiring most support 	Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan has been in place for 18 months but has yet to be tested in “real” conditions, plan to be tested in a practice event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the information from Area flood risk studies to update the priority locations identified in the Plan

3. Summary of Flood Management Initiatives carried out to support the original Strategy (2013-2018)

Many of the actions outlined in the 2013 Strategy involved establishing new council procedures to investigate flood events, introduce more robust data collection processes and to establish the LLFA as the main point of contact for the management of local flood risk.

A number of other actions in the 2013 Strategy involved improving the council's understanding of the location and size of local flood risk and developing a programme of mitigation measures to manage the risk. Some progress has been made on these actions through a variety of studies and works which have provided information and drainage infrastructure improvements. Some projects have been opportunistic, resolving immediate issues and others have formed part of a broader programme to better understand local flood risk. The latter is part of an iterative process to, ultimately, provide interventions at a local level in an informed and prioritised way.

The initiatives carried out in the last 5 years are detailed below:

Initiative	Date Completed	Purpose	Cost (£,000's)	Funded by (Council or External)	Benefits
Mill Ponds Surveys	Feb 2014	To understand the flood risk from "orphaned", raised mill ponds	90	FDGiA	Record of condition of mill ponds. Raised maintenance awareness with owners. Informed council planning policy to condition maintenance plans for mill ponds associated with development sites
Trash Grille Replacement	Apr 2015	Risk Assessment of all grilles. Works to improve capacity of around 50 grilles	300	FDGiA/ Council	Improved capacity of grilles to reduce flood risk and to reduce maintenance burden
Ox Field Beck	Apr 2015	Improvement works to an ordinary watercourse passing under a disused railway viaduct	60	FDGiA/ Council	Removal of silt and debris in river bed. Rebuilding river wall. Removal of silt/vegetation downstream. Reduces risk to adjacent business and residential properties.
Radulf Gardens	Apr 2015	Improvement works to river through new development to reduce flood risk	100	FDGiA/ Council	Removal of debris and silt in river bed and vegetation on banks has improved the flow under a bridge, reducing flood risk from the river
New Mill Road	Apr 2015	To assess flood risk from River Holme	20	Local Levy	Affordable and deliverable scheme not possible
Liversedge flood study	Mar 2015	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	20	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Blackhouse Dike study	Apr 2015	To identify risk from the dike	140	FDGiA	Recommendations passed to EA as river manager
Cooper Bridge drainage masterplan	May 2015	To test a masterplanning approach for the development area	30	Local Levy	Options provided to encourage a strategic SuDS solution for the area
Cleckheaton SWMP	Jun 2015	To produce a surface water management plan for the area	75	Local Levy	SWMP produced
Howley Beck	Mar 2016	To assess flood risk near the beck.	100	Local Levy	Higher risk locations identified
Clayton W/Scissett Flood Study	Apr 2016	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	30	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Meltham Flood Study	Apr 2016	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	20	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Holmfirth Flood Risk Study	Apr 2016	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	20	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Marsden NFM Study	July 2016	Pilot project to identify NFM opportunities	20	Local Levy	Options identified

Dewsbury Asset Survey	July 2016	To assess adequacy of current river defences	80	FDGiA	Completed and additional SW risk assessment of area completed
Defra pathfinder – small schemes	Nov 2016	Pilot project to look at aggregating small schemes into a single scheme	95	Defra	Report completed with recommendations
Flood Risk Prioritisation Tool	Dec 2016	Data analysis work to identify higher risk locations	100	Council	Prioritised list of locations produced
Property Clusters 2	Apr 2017	Using pathfinder model	100	Local Levy	Mitigation measures identified
Batley SWMP	Aug 2017	To produce a surface water management plan for the area	110	Local Levy	SWMP produced
Central Huddersfield	Apr 2017	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	30	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Dearne Valley	Aug 2017	To identify NFM measures in the upper catchment	20	Local Levy	Report completed
Honley Flood Risk Study	Oct 2017	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	20	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Mirfield/ Ravensthorpe	Dec 2017	To assess viability of flood mitigation measures	25	Local Levy	Report completed
Birstall Viability Study	Apr 2018	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	15	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
A62 Leeds Rd (River Colne) Feasibility Study	May 2018	To assess viability of flood mitigation measures	200	FDGiA/ Council	Options report produced and passed to the EA for further scheme development
Heckmondwike Viability Study	Jul 2018	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	20	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Dalton/ Waterloo Viability Study	Sep 2018	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	15	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Challenge Fund – Drainage Resilience	Ongoing	Highway drainage improvement at high risk locations	600	DfT	Drainage capacity improvement works
Culverts Project	Ongoing	Surveys and repairs to various culverts	1500	FDGiA/ Council	Original culvert capacity reinstated
Marsden Viability Study	Ongoing	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	15	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed
Milnsbridge Viability Study	Ongoing	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	15	Local Levy	Broad assessment of risk in the area completed

The programme of local, area studies is almost complete. Some early studies were opportunistic but most have been initiated by the Prioritisation tool. The location and size of flood risk is now better understood and a programme of mitigation measures can now be developed to address the locations at highest risk with greatest impact.

In broad terms, the risk of flooding from fluvial sources (the main river network, including the Colne, Holme, Calder, Spen, Dearne and Batley Beck) is such that major flood defence schemes to reduce the risk to property are likely to be unaffordable. Whilst a substantial number of residential properties in the district are at risk from river flooding, and a significant amount of historic industrial buildings lie adjacent to the river, the funding formula for the national Flood Grant in Aid programme is such that it won't generate significant amounts of grant funding to make such schemes affordable.

The focus for the 5 year period of this LFRMS will be to address surface water flood risk, including refining the LLFA's role as a Statutory Consultee to Planning, identifying opportunities for Natural Flood Management and developing a programme of works which mitigate surface water risk from residential property which could be funded from FDGiA/Local Levy programmes.

4. Priorities for 2019/20

Much of the groundwork to establish information, assessment and performance management processes has been completed and future work will concentrate on making best use of our greater knowledge base. Local priorities have moved towards establishing programmes of capacity improvement and targeted maintenance of drainage assets, developing the role of Statutory Consultee to Planning and maximising external funding to support the Council's limited budgets. National priorities and policies for flood risk management are developing with an emphasis on managing flooding at source (natural flood management), ensuring that new developments minimise flood risk and that current climate change predictions are factored into hydraulic assessments. The main priorities for 2019/20 are therefore:

- Complete the high-level area flood risk assessment programme to help understand the location and size of flood risk in our highest risk areas
- Investigate the potential for drainage capacity improvement to address surface water flood risk, optimising the effectiveness of the Council's own operational activities in both improvement and maintenance programmes
- Continue with our engagement/information-sharing programme with local ward members and at-risk communities
- Support the planning department with technical advice on surface water drainage for new development sites
- Support regional initiatives around developing discussions with major landowners on land management practices which minimise surface water run-off

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Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Liz Smaje - Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update : From 2 January 2019 – 29 March 2019

Panel Highlights

Lead member briefings with:

- Chief Officer Greater Huddersfield and North Kirklees CCGs
- Strategic Director for Adults and Health
- Service Director - Community Plus and Integration

Panel Meetings:

- Panel meeting 15 January 2019. One item meeting that focused on issues related to Foetal Alcohol Syndrome and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.
- Panel meeting 12 February 2019. Items discussed included: Kirklees Community Services Review; and Update on Ambulatory Emergency Care Services at Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Trust.
- Panel meeting 12 March 2019. Items discussed included: Kirklees Integrated Wellness Model update; Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board - Peer Challenge; and Review of 2018/19 Work Programme.

Outcomes:

Following the discussion on Foetal Alcohol Syndrome the Panel wrote to the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership requesting that consideration be given to establishing a regional protocol and diagnostic pathway for children with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The Panel received a positive response and work is taking place in implementing the Panel's request.

The Panel's focus on the closure of the Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) Unit has resulted in an agreement to establish a joint scrutiny working party with Wakefield Council. This joint work will include a visit to Pinderfields Hospital early in the new municipal year to visit the AEC unit and other relevant supporting services.

The Panel has provided constructive feedback and recommendations on the Kirklees Integrated Wellness Model. The recommendations have been aimed at ensuring there is service user input into the development of the model and clearer interaction with mental health services.

Looking Ahead

At the meeting scheduled for 9 April 2019 representatives from the Care Quality Commission will be in attendance to outline the activity and scope of work that has taken place across the Kirklees district and provide an overview of the results of the inspections.

End of Year Highlights

The Panel's work programme has once again covered a wide breadth of issues and involved input from a range of people and organisations across the health and social care sector.

There have been many issues that the Panel have scrutinised throughout the year which have resulted in suggestions and recommendations that have helped to improve the quality of services to patients and users of NHS commissioned services and Adult Social Care.

Detailed below are two examples of the type of work that has been carried out by the Panel.

1. Adult Care Offer Consultation

At its July 2018 meeting the Panel received an update on the consultation, developments to date and the proposed next steps of the process. The Panel provided construction feedback to adult services on the consultation on the Adult Care Offer that included: seeking reassurance that the new model would not create further delays to assessments and that carers as well as service users would be supported through the process; requesting that steps were taken to increase the numbers of services users that are consulted; and wanting to see proposals that included details of improvements to the system that would provide easier access to support and advice.

To help provide the Panel with an opportunity to have further input into the emerging Adult Care policies a workshop was arranged in September 2018. The session enabled panel members to comment on and put forward suggestions on key adult care policies that included: The Resource Allocation System; The Support Planning Tool; and the Direct Payments Policy.

2. Foetal Alcohol Syndrome and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

The Panel received a request by a member of the public to review the provision of support in Kirklees for children with Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

At its January meeting the Panel invited the member of public to attend the discussions on the issue which included input from local commissioners, Kirklees Council, the lead investigator of a UK and Ireland study of FAS and a retired paediatrician who had expertise in this area.

The member of the public presented a deputation to the Panel which included a number of proposed solutions. The discussions were extremely constructive and resulted in a number of recommendations from the Panel that included endorsing the solutions presented by the member of public.

A key outcome from the meeting has been an agreement by the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership to establishing a regional protocol and diagnostic pathway for children with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The issue will be carried forward for inclusion in the 2019/20 Work Programme to assess progress of the regional work.

Comments

In addition to the activity of the Standing Panel work continues with the Calderdale and Kirklees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (JHSC) and the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC).

Key issues that will be covered in the coming months will include consideration of the Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust Strategic Outline Case and the NHSE proposals on proposed changes to specialist vascular services for adults in West Yorkshire.

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Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Cahal Burke

Panel: Children's Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update: January to April 2019

Panel Highlights

The Children's Scrutiny Panel has considered the following key areas during the period January to April 2019:-

- SENDACT – The Parent's Perspective (findings report and recommendations)
- Virtual School
- Kirklees Annual Educational Quality and Standards Report 2017-18
- Schools as Community Hubs
- CSE, Safeguarding and Licensing

Outcomes:

The Panel approved the draft findings report and revised recommendations of the SENDACT report – the Parent's Perspective and agreed that the report and recommendations be forwarded to the parents and carers who contributed to the work of the Panel for their information and agreed that progress updates be provided to the Panel in the 2019/20 municipal year. The report was approved by Cabinet on the 19th March 2019.

Members welcomed the report on the role of the virtual school in Kirklees and its statutory duties and agreed that the information had raised the Panel's awareness of the Virtual School and recognised the positive and continuous improvements being made to achieve better educational outcomes for looked after children.

Members requested further information on the educational attainment challenges ahead, attendance, isolations and exclusions.

Concerns were raised by the Panel that engagement with elected members by some of the Community Hubs in Kirklees had not always been satisfactory or effective and Councillors had on occasion not been invited to events and meetings. A commitment was given that Community Hubs would be clearly briefed on the essential engagement with Councillors.

Panel Meetings

14th January 2019

- EHE Update
- CAMHS Transformation Plan and Autism waiting list update

25th February 2019

- Introduction to Mel Meggs, Director of Children Services
- Number of Children in care
- Virtual School

- Kirklees Annual Educational Quality and Standards Report 2017-18
- Schools as Community Hubs

18th March 2019

- CSE, Safeguarding and Licensing

1st April 2019

- Number of Children in Care
- Learning Support Strategy
- Early Support Partnership (Informal meeting)

Work Programme Highlight

Members considered a joint presentation from Senior Officers from the Children's Services, Licensing and West Yorkshire Police outlining that due to emerging concerns for young people, Kirklees and the West Yorkshire Police had changed their approach to contextual safeguarding which was to understand and respond to young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families. The presentation also included an update on the current and future role and priorities for the Risk and Vulnerability Team and a report by the Licensing Team in connection to CSE and Safeguarding, taxi drivers and raising awareness within communities and in particular, the night-time economy. A report will be considered in the near future by the Licensing and Safety Committee recommending that refresher training (including safeguarding) for taxi drivers becomes mandatory every 3 years.

The Director of Children Services advised the Panel that a response on the Dr Peel Review was expected towards the end of April and assured the Panel that Scrutiny would be engaged as part of the work plan.

Members agreed that it was reassuring to see the joint work taking place to share good practice and requested that the Panel be kept informed and engaged so that they could continue to contribute to the future work on CSE, Safeguarding and Licensing.

Monitoring Work

- The Elective Home Education (EHE) ad-hoc panel is ongoing and work will progress in the near future to gather evidence from a number of other witnesses including a leading elective home education expert, other local authorities in the area to consider their offer for elective home educators, parents of those local authorities mentioned above to explore their experiences and if possible Head Teachers forums (primary, secondary and special schools);
- Regular progress updates on the SENDACT recommendations will be provided to the Panel during the 2019/20 municipal year.

Looking Ahead

- Members of the Panel put forward some key areas for focus by the Panel in 2019/20 and Cllr Burke will meet with the Director of Children's Services and Cabinet Members for Children and Learning to discuss the Panel's future work programme and potential areas for consideration.
- It was also agreed that visits to services and teams would be arranged to enable the Panel to get a better understanding of key areas of the Children's Service for the children of Kirklees.
- Regular Performance reports had been provided to the Panel which have been considered in the Informal meetings. Further discussions will take place between Cllr Burke and the Director of Children's Services to discuss the future presentation of the

information and how the Panel can hold the service to account and actively challenge any areas of concern.

Comments

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Panel members and the Governance Officers for their work, commitment and support throughout the year.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Rob Walker

Panel: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update: January – March 2019

Panel Highlights

Lead member briefings with:

- Cabinet Member for Corporate, Cabinet Member for Economy, Strategic Partnership Lead – Business and Skills, regarding the Digital Strategy
- Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment, Operational Manager, Health Improvement Practitioner Advanced regarding Air Quality
- Head of Housing Services regarding Housing Strategy Implementation update
- Cabinet Member for Economy, Service Director for Housing, Head of Development Management, Head of Culture and Vibrancy regarding Town Centres

Two members of the Panel joined the Council's working group undertaking a review of the Open Age Policy and Local Letting Framework. The findings of the work and recommendations of the Working Group were reported to the Panel meeting. Members supported the findings and agreed that the recommendations be forwarded for the Cabinet Member to consider the next steps.

Panel Meetings:

- 17 January 2019
 - Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Consultation
 - Refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy (including social value and local wealth building)
 - Waste Minimisation
- 14 February 2019 – Digital Strategy
- 21 March 2019
 - Air Quality
 - Housing Strategy Implementation update

Visits:-

30 January 2019 - Barnsley Market

26 March 2019 – Clare House, Huddersfield; a provider of supported accommodation for homeless people.

Outcomes:

In considering the draft Digital Kirklees Digital Plan, the Panel welcomed the work that was ongoing and asked that reference to developing and utilising digital capacity to build businesses, encourage entrepreneurship and retain wealth in the district be strengthened in the plan.

Members welcomed the progress made, to date, in terms of the implementation of the Housing Strategy and identified a number of issues it would wish to look at in more detail in the future. This included the potential for the development of the green economy in Kirklees by using the existing knowledge of relevant construction skills within the district and how bus service provision links in with the Local Plan, the planning system, new development and air quality issues.

It was also agreed that the issue of Air Quality should be retained on the Panel's Work Programme as an important subject that touched on many areas of work within the Panel's remit.

Monitoring Work

Monitoring implementation of the Council's Housing Strategy 2018-23.

Looking Ahead

The Panel is looking forward to a busy Work programme for the year ahead covering a wide range of topics within the Panel's remit that cut across and link a number of the Council's key strategies and contribute to the Council's corporate shared outcomes.

Work Programme Highlights

The Panel has focused on a number of interlinked strategies, including the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy and the work being undertaken on social value, local wealth building and inclusive growth, the Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan and an overview of the challenges facing the district's town centres and the programmes in place to address those challenges. It has also considered the high profile issue of Air Quality alongside monitoring the implementation of the Council's Housing Strategy.

Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Gulfam Asif Panel: Corporate Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update : From January to April 2019

Panel Highlights

Further to previous discussions of the progress being made in relation to the procurement strand of the Council's Transformation Programme, which had assisted the Panel in deciding where to focus its interest, an interactive Procurement Workshop was held on 1st March 2019. This had been very useful in increasing knowledge of the role and approach to procurement and Members found the opportunity to talk to the Category Managers, in particular, to be very helpful.

A Training Session by the Local Government Association and the Centre for Public Scrutiny on Commercialisation scheduled for 27th March unfortunately had to be postponed due to circumstances outside the Panel's control. Work is underway to ensure that this is included within the calendar for the Panel early in 2019/20 with attendance being extended to include as many Members of Council as possible.

The Panel has had an increased focus on the scrutiny of corporate finance this year which have been the catalyst for several constructive discussions.

On 12th April, the Panel will consider a full agenda of items:

- An update on the Health and Wellbeing strand of the Kirklees People Strategy, which was launched in November 2017, and how staff are being supported to be healthy and well in the workplace. This follows on from the update which focussed on the 'Development' strand, to the Panel meeting in October 2018.
- Councillor Graham Turner, the Cabinet Member for Corporate has been invited to attend the meeting to provide an update on the progress made on his priorities for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, which were outlined to the Panel at the meeting held on 31st August 2019.
- The Panel will also receive a report in respect of the key highlights from the Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19, as reported to Cabinet on 19th March 2019, and other key financial management updates.
- Finally the Panel will receive a further update in respect of procurement; including activities in relation to social value/ local wealth building and the implementation of the new procurement operating model.

Lead Member Briefings

7/3/19 – Catch up with Rachel Spencer-Henshall and pre-briefing for the 12th April meeting. Revised approach introduced whereby early briefing held and then draft reports provided for the Lead Member prior to despatch.

Recommendations Issued

- The Panel will be asked to comment and provide feedback on the social value and procurement measures.
- Comments and suggestions are invited from the Panel on how the offer and model of delivery of the Employee Healthcare Unit might be further improved.
- Potential aspects of corporate finance to be identified for further exploration/scrutiny through 2019-20.

Looking ahead

The Panel will be receiving a training session from the LGA on Commercialisation in the new Municipal Year and will open this up to other Members.

Work Programme Highlights

Panel Member attendance is good and participation within the meetings is productive.

Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Chair of Scrutiny: Cllr Julie Stewart Turner

Panel: OSMC

Period of Update : From Dec 2019

to April 2019

Panel Highlights

(Include examples of pre decision work, scrutiny getting out and about, etc)

I took part in workshops on 17th and 21st January with potential Voluntary Co-optees, and all had good perspectives, and experience to offer us. Thank you to Rob who joined in on 17th January.

Penny and I had a meeting with Vicar of Lindley about statutory co-optees for Children's Panel, and she has pledged to help find suitable representatives to join the panel in the new municipal year.

I attended a JHSC in February, my last one. It seems that there is still a long journey ahead, and the panel will need new representatives to continue the work in the new municipal year.

Penny and I had a briefing with Leader and Chief Exec on 18 February , where we discussed the current Joint Health Scrutiny activity, the OSMC recommendations to Cabinet and the appointment of new voluntary co-optees.

I've attended Corporate Governance & Audit, in my role as Chair of Scrutiny.

Penny and I had a briefing with Officers regarding Supporting Communities

Penny and I had a briefing with Officers about WYCA Skills Commission

I was frustrated that we didn't get to provide an update to Full Council in March, the third time this year we planned to, and Council ran out of time. I circulated what I wanted to say to all Councillors via email, and I've had some surprisingly positive responses.

Outcomes:

(Summarise the value scrutiny has added by looking at the issue(s) and any recommendations)

New team of co-optees, with valuable experience, to support all panels.

Support to find a Diocesan representative for Children's Panel

The new work stream for Supporting Communities is in the early stages of development, and Scrutiny has the chance to be involved early, and offer constructive challenge.

The WYCA Skills Commission work is at its first stage of gathering evidence, and Scrutiny will have the chance to track the work, and to support Officers to influence the work for the benefit of Kirklees Citizens.

Monitoring Work

(If monitoring previous recommendations please identify what difference Scrutiny has made)

Looking Ahead

(What are the next issues the Panel plans to look at?)

I have my final briefing with the Chief Executive on 10th April.

General comments

I'm disappointed to hear some briefings have been cancelled, and want to remind Lead Members that it is their responsibility to organise them, and attend them.

Thank you to the Officers who support the Overview & Scrutiny process, they put in a lot of time and effort, and are very professional in all they do.