

Public Document Pack



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

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Tuesday 4 December 2018

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel

The **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **10.00 am** on **Wednesday 12 December 2018**.

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".

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 Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel members are:-

Member

Councillor Rob Walker (Chair)

Councillor Bill Armer

Councillor Martyn Bolt

Councillor Judith Hughes

Councillor Richard Murgatroyd

Councillor Harpreet Uppal

Mark Mercer (Co-Optee)

Andrew Bird (Co-Optee)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 18

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 October, 31 October and 7 November 2018.

2: Interests

19 - 20

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.

3: Admission of the Public

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.

4: Rough Sleeping Update: Winter 2018/19

21 - 26

The Panel will be presented with an update on rough sleeping, including changes to the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) and application proposals for Rough Sleeping Strategy funding.

Contact: Stephen Cale, Operations Manager, Housing Solutions Service, Tel: 01484 221000

5: Draft Greenspace Strategy

27 - 32

The Panel will consider the proposed approach to the draft Greenspace Strategy.

Contact: Rob Dalby, Greenspace Operational Manager, Tel: 01484 221000

6: Work Programme 2018/19

33 - 36

The Panel will review its work programme for 2018/19 and consider its forward agenda plan.

Contact: Carol Tague, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer Tel: 01484-221000

7: Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 17 January 2019 at 1400.

Contact: Carol Tague, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer. Tel: 01484 221000.

Contact Officer: Carol Tague

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

Wednesday 10th October 2018

Present: Councillor Rob Walker (Chair)
Councillor Judith Hughes
Councillor Richard Murgatroyd
Councillor Harpreet Uppal

Co-optees Mark Mercer
Andrew Bird

Apologies: Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Martyn Bolt

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 7 September 2018.

Matters Arising:-

- A copy of the slide pack used in the recent Kirklees Economic Strategy refresh evidence session be forwarded to members of the Panel.
- A meeting with Housing officers and Councillors Armer and Hughes regarding the Open Age Policy and Local Letting Framework had taken place and a further meeting was to be scheduled.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 7 September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

2 Interests

Councillor Murgatroyd declared a personal interest in Item 4 (Update on Social Value / Local Wealth Building / Inclusive Growth) as he was Chair of the Solidarity Economy Network which was a community wealth building project.

3 Admission of the Public

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

4 Update on Social Value / Local wealth Building / Inclusive Growth

The Panel received an update on the work being undertaken on social value and local wealth building, and links to inclusive growth, in line with the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy.

In introducing the item, David Bundy, Corporate Policy Officer advised that Cabinet had asked for a refresh of the Council's social value policy, with local spend being seen as an important means to delivering social value outcomes locally. The Centre

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2018

for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) had been commissioned to provide support. This work had now concluded and a draft report produced.

Tom Lloyd Goodwin, Associate Director, Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) informed Members that CLES were a leading independent member research organisation, committed to progressive economics for people and place.

The Panel were advised that parts of the Kirklees district were within the most deprived areas in the country and the Council was committed to boosting and improving social and economic opportunity to create an inclusive economy.

CLES' work had focused primarily on procurement and spend within the Council. Benchmarking had been accompanied by an analysis of the supply chain and gaps and potential opportunities identified. An analysis of the Council's suppliers and activity of other anchor institutions within the borough had also been undertaken and a number of number of detailed recommendations made.

The key areas of the Panel's discussion and responses to questions are summarised below:-

- Work with anchor institutions was welcomed, but it was also important to develop vehicles to encourage the growth of mutuals and cooperatives within the locality.
- It was vital to encourage alternative forms of supply, as the risk of relying on one major supplier could leave the economy in a non-resilient place if they withdrew.
- The co-production and co-commissioning of services had been referenced in CLES' report with recommendations as to how to move this forward.
- Social care was seen as a key service area and whilst budget constraints were recognised, there was a responsibility on commissioners to consider wider social value, such as good staff terms and conditions as well as cost and efficiency, when tendering and commissioning of services.
- Whilst funding for community groups had been reduced, funding was available through groups such as Power to Change. Opportunities could also be explored for groups within the sector to work together and provide peer to peer support.
- A report would be presented to Cabinet on 5 November 2018, and pending approval, plans would be put in place to shape the work programme and take the recommendations forward. Members were reassured that the recommendations within the report were ambitious and contained practical steps to deliver change.
- CLES' initial benchmarking had provided figures for spend at a regional and local level which would enable further analysis as to influencable spend.
- Brining anchor institutions together was key in accelerating progress and there was a willingness amongst partners, including private sector firms, to engage, share experience and drive forward. An example of this was the recent Picture of Kirklees event attended by partners in the business sector, NHS, schools, colleges and the University.
- It was important to ensure that Members were engaged and provided with updates as to activities, particularly at a neighbourhood level.
- Consideration should be given as to how best to engage small micro- business sector and involve them in this work.

RESOLVED -

- (1) The Panel noted the report and thanked David Bundy, Corporate Policy Officer and Tom Lloyd Goodwin, Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) for their contribution to the meeting.
- (2) That an update be brought to a meeting of the Panel early in the new year, alongside an update on the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy.

5 Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan

The Panel received an update on the progress and further development of the Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan. Councillor Peter McBride, Cabinet Member for Economy, Sue Weston, Strategic Partnership Lead (Business and Skills) and Alan Seaman, Theme Lead Place and Inward Investment, were in attendance.

In introducing the item, Councillor McBride, highlighted opportunities presented by large scale projects in housing, rail investment and highway improvements. It was important to ensure that the skills and employment opportunities these projects offered were available to local people and that colleges provided the courses that were relevant to industry need, in order to meet demand.

It was noted that Kirklees was one of the largest manufacturing areas in the country and there was a constant demand to train and upskill staff. Workforce demand, the importance of the care sector and the vast range of skill requirements was also highlighted within the Plan, as was the need to help people get back into work.

The following presentation outlined the context, impact and measurements, priorities, ambitions and actions, alignment and delivery of the local approach, to run alongside the regional plan.

Work on co-producing the Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan had commenced with a Skills Summit held in February 2018. A post 16 Strategic Needs Assessment had been used as part of the information gathering and the data sets used for this were also being used as part of the refresh of the Kirklees Economy Strategy (KES), which demonstrated the alignment between the two.

The Plan was seen as a living document with partners. It provided a strategy for the long term which would contribute to the delivery of shared outcomes. Leadership and collaboration was key and it was critical to strengthen work with partners and businesses.

The high level plan was in place and work was ongoing with partners to develop a more detailed delivery plan, with a target date for completion for by December 2018.

The key areas of the Panel's discussion and responses to questions are summarised below:-

- The importance of collaboration was acknowledged and the Council would seek to work with the economic partnership, once in place, to engage with and understand the needs of businesses.

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- The success of the Plan would be measured through the corporate performance monitoring system. The indicator 'disposable income per household' would monitor the impact on all residents who were both in an out of work.
- Work was taking place at a regional level to consider the impact of automation on the workforce.
- A partnership was emerging with the Federation of Small Businesses, Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce, University of Huddersfield and Kirklees College to work strategically and join up offers of support.
- The Rail and Road Partnership led by the West Leeds Alliance had both political leadership and private sector engagement. This joint approach had worked well in encouraging partners to come together and was being used as a model for health, construction and creative and digital.
- One proposal for a sustainable model of business engagement, was to have a cluster of representatives from larger private sector businesses and reach a wider set of businesses through thematic discussions that business leaders could buy into.
- Whilst a demand led approach was difficult given that the authority could not control variables in a complex organic economy, it could act as an influencer.
- A Labour Charter had been developed following the Skills Summit in February 2018 and contained a set of generic asks of business eg pay a living wage, take on an apprentice etc. This also linked to CLES' work around understanding supply chains and looking at anchor private sector businesses.
- Trade Union engagement had taken place on the careers learning pilot undertaken in the Leeds City Region,
- A Place Based Tool had recently been shared across the Council which enabled engagement with citizens, including businesses. A pilot had taken place in Golcar and it was hoped to use this learning to inform future work.
- A paper on apprenticeships was in draft and due for completion shortly.
- The challenge of engaging small businesses was acknowledged. It was important to articulate the business benefits such as recruitment, low productivity, efficiency and cost saving.
- A copy of the slides presented at the Summit would be shared with Members further to the meeting.

RESOLVED - The Panel noted the report and information presented and thanked Sue Weston, Strategic Partnership Lead – Business and Skills and Alan Seaman, Theme Lead Place and Inward Investment for attending the meeting.

6 Work Programme 2018/19

The Panel considered a copy of the current work programme for 2018/19.

It was agreed that an additional meeting of the Panel be arranged to consider the Social Housing Green Paper's consultation in relation to fire safety and the following items be scheduled for the new year:-

- An update on the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy and Social Value and Inclusive Growth (January 2019)
- Housing Strategy Implementation

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2018

RESOLVED -

(1) An additional meeting of the Panel to be arranged for 31 October 2018 to consider the Social Housing Green Paper's consultation in relation to fire safety.

(2) That the work programme be received and updated, and presented to the meeting of the Panel on 7 November 2018.

- 7**
- Date of Next Meeting**
RESOLVED - That an additional meeting of the Panel would be arranged for 31 October 2018 at 1300, to be followed by the scheduled meeting on 7 November 2018 at 1000 am. Both meetings would take place in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Huddersfield.

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Contact Officer: Carol Tague

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

Wednesday 31st October 2018

Present: Councillor Rob Walker (Chair)
Councillor Bill Armer

In attendance: Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner

Observers: Councillor Judith Hughes

Apologies: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Richard Murgatroyd
Councillor Harpreet Uppal
Mark Mercer (Co-Optee)
Andrew Bird (Co-Optee)

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

In welcoming attendees, the Chair explained that the meeting was an additional meeting that had been arranged in response to both the Hackitt Review and the Green Paper issued by the Government Social Housing Green Paper: A new deal for social housing. Unfortunately this late addition to the work programme had affected Members' ability to attend and a number of apologies had been received.

It was also noted that given her role as Chair of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Councillor Judith Hughes would attend the meeting as an observer, but would not take part in the discussion.

As a number of Panel members who attended the previous meeting were not present, it was agreed to defer consideration of the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 10 October 2018 to the next meeting.

RESOLVED - Consideration of the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 10 October 2018 be deferred until the next meeting.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

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

4 Green Paper - A New Deal for Social Housing Consultation and the Hackitt Review

The Panel received a report regarding the drafting of the Council's response to the Social Housing Green Paper: A new deal for social housing which related to recommendations arising from the Hackitt Review. The report outlined the context,

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 31 October 2018

work required and undertaken in response to the Hackitt Report, as well as plans envisaged going forward.

Councillor Cathy Scott, Cabinet Member for Housing and Democracy, Naz Parker, Service Director for Housing, Helen Geldart, Head of Housing Services and Heidi Thompson, Director of Property, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH) were in attendance.

In introducing the item, Councillor Scott, referred to the Government commissioned review undertaken by Dame Judith Hackitt following the Grenfell disaster in June 2017. The subsequent report, Building a Safer Future: Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety – The Hackitt Review, identified a system built on ignorance and indifference, lack of clarity around roles, responsibility and accountability for fire safety and an inadequate oversight of regulatory enforcement.

With regards to responsibility and accountability, Councillor Scott clarified that the Council was the duty holder and could not pass this responsibility to KNH, who were the building safety manager.

That Panel noted that the Social Housing Green Paper, published in response to the Hackitt Report in August 2018 had 5 key chapters, namely:-

- Ensuring homes are safe and decent
- Effective resolution of complaints
- Empowering residents and strengthening the Regulator
- Tackling stigma and celebrating thriving communities
- Expanding supply and supporting home ownership

The Green Paper also stressed the importance of building a culture of accountability and strengthening the voice of the tenant.

It was noted that the Council broadly welcomed the report, in particular the review of the Decent Homes Standard, giving tenants a greater redress in having their concerns heard and acted on, and the reform of the Housing Revenue Account.

In conclusion, Councillor Scott highlighted the significant amount of work undertaken by KNH since the Grenfell disaster to ensure tenant safety, as well as their proactive approach to tenant communication.

Officers present referred to the Social Housing Green Paper consultation which was linked to the 5 aforementioned chapters and gave a broad overview of each.

It was noted that a key finding from the Hackitt Report was the need for effective resolution of complaints. As part of this, the Government was seeking to empower residents by strengthening the role of the new social housing regulator and this role and remit over Councils as landlords, was part of the current consultation. In response, it was noted that the Council already regulated the housing sector as part of its' statutory obligations, but were willing to explore what role a national government regulator might play.

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Attention was drawn to the Hackitt Report's recommendations regarding changes needed to ensure building safety in the occupation and maintenance phase of a buildings life. It was noted that there were currently 23,000 homes, managed by KNH, within that phase.

The partnership work with KNH and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue was highlighted, as was ongoing work to ensure that tenants had a voice and the alignment of KNH's draft Fire Safety Management Plan with the Council's Fire Safety Policy.

The key areas of the Panel's discussion and responses to questions are summarised below:-

- The Panel welcomed the Council's positive and proactive response to both the Grenfell tragedy and Hackitt report and were reassured that both the Council and KNH had moved quickly to assure that residents were safe.
- Kirklees had 4 tower blocks above 10 storey and a fire risk assessment had been undertaken on each block to ensure there was no aluminium composite material (ACM) material in place.
- The Council was satisfied with the safety of the 4 tower blocks within its' ownership and had sought assurance that public buildings in the ownership of other public sector bodies were also safe and fire risk managed. Members were informed that all buildings above 10 storey were compliant, with the exception of 1. Negotiations were ongoing with that private sector owner as to what was required and enforcement powers would be used if necessary.
- There had been an increase in budget to KNH to address the issues mapped out. Provision had also been made in the 5 year capital plan to ensure that there was a buffer for any compliance issues that might arise as a result of in-year surveys.
- In response to debate as to whether sprinkler systems in high rise blocks enhanced resident safety, Councillor Scott confirmed that provision for the implementation of sprinkler systems had been built into the budget and was being considered. Councillor Scott also referred to the secondment of a fire safety officer to the Council for a period of 2 years from the Fire and Rescue Service, as an example of the partnership working that was taking place.
- Members noted a summary of the work undertaken in response to the Hackitt Report. This included a full review of fire risk assessments and the development of a new fire safety policy, which would be revisited once the Government's full response to the Hackitt recommendations had been published.
- With regards to student accommodation, Members were assured that the Council was doing as much as the legislation and policy environment enabled within the planning function. The Council had previously made representations to Government as to the potential risk of housing developers

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using private building inspectors and this had been identified as an issue by Dame Hackitt. This issue would also be raised as part of the Council's response to the Green Paper consultation.

- The importance of the tenants' voice was highlighted and Members were informed of the Tenants' Involvement Strategy and a range of communication and engagement strategies, in addition to digital platforms, including face to face contact wherever possible.
- If Government adopted the proposed recommendations, it was likely that if a complaint was not resolved through the complaints process, tenants would have redress not only through the Ombudsman, but also the Regulator. A negative finding from the Regulator would impact on the landlord rating, particularly in terms of governance and consumer standard.
- With regards to the potential to involve tenants in the Working Group referred to in the report, it was confirmed that the Group had been established and the remit was being scoped. It was noted that as part of the Tenants' Involvement Strategy, KNH were recruiting to a new Tenant Panel, which would be part of the new governance arrangements. Once established, it was intended to seek the Panel's involvement with the Working Group in shaping the new system. Consideration was also being given to the role of partners such as the Fire Service in the Group.
- With regards to other housing providers, it was noted that whilst the Council had an influencing role, they did not have powers to dictate their response to the Hackitt Report and the Social Housing Green Paper. However, there was a strong regulator within the sector and the Council would continue to work in partnership with providers on this agenda. Moving forward, the Council would examine housing association regulatory judgements and a risk based approach would be taken if a downgrade or governance issue was related to fire safety.
- Issues in relation to stigma and the perception of social housing were acknowledged, as was the media's role in this. The importance of the look and feel of neighbourhoods and ensuring that people felt safe was key in challenging that perception.

It was noted that as part of the new Asset management Strategy, KNH were working with services across the Council to enhance communities and ensure that people were part of the solution. Members noted that KNH had introduced daily safety checks on high risk properties following the Grenfell tragedy and these had continued. This included clearing obstructions and fly tipping and had seen a real enhancement of area.

- With regards to housing allocation policy, it was clarified that allocation was based on need and income was not considered.
- It was acknowledged that changes would arise from both the Hackitt Report and the Social Housing Green Paper and these were viewed as positive for

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 31 October 2018

the tenant. The Hackitt Report was clear that the Council as property owner and landlord was accountable for tenant safety. Governance and maintenance operations would need to be reviewed, as would reporting and complaints systems. The Council would continue to be proactive in moving forward beyond compliance and to invest in quality and safety.

The Panel expressed their thanks to the Cabinet Member and officers present for their contribution and welcomed the work that had been carried out to date and acknowledged the scale of the work ahead.

The Panel were keen to follow the progress of the Working Group, which had been established to work through the detailed implications of the Review and to prepare associated action plans. Other potential areas for future consideration included:-

- the success of the Council in involving residents in the management and monitoring of social housing stock;
- the ability to provide more social housing and manage effectively; and
- an examination of neighbourhood working and how the Council could manage and improve neighbourhoods and work with residents to tackle their concerns.

RESOLVED -

- 1) The Panel thanked the Cabinet Member for Housing and Democracy, Service Director for Housing, Head of Housing Services and Director of Property, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing, for attending the meeting.
- 2) The Panel welcomed the work that had been carried out in response to the Hackitt Report and requested that an update on the progress of the Working Group, established to work through the Hackitt Report's detailed implications, be brought to a future meeting.

5 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED - That the next meeting of the Panel will take place at 10.00am on Wednesday 7 November 2018, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Huddersfield.

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Contact Officer: Carol Tague

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

Wednesday 7th November 2018

Present: Councillor Rob Walker (Chair)
Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Judith Hughes
Councillor Richard Murgatroyd
Councillor Harpreet Uppal

Co-optees Mark Mercer
Andrew Bird

1 Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Admission of the Public

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

3 The Future of Town Centres in Kirklees

The Panel received a report which provided an overview of the challenges facing the district's town centres and the programmes in place to address these challenges.

Simon Taylor, Head of Development Management, Adele Poppleton, Head of Culture and Vibrancy and Peter Thompson, Economic Resilience Project Manager were in attendance for this item and delivered a presentation which set out information in relation to:-

- Town centre health – national context
- Huddersfield Master Plan
- Current projects in Huddersfield and Dewsbury Town Centres
- Quality, offer and perceptions

The key areas of the Panel's discussion and responses to questions are summarised below:-

- The Panel highlighted the importance of strategic aims and measurable objectives and recommended that the desired outcomes in relation to town centres and how these related to the overall economic strategy for the district, be made clear within the refreshed Kirklees Economic Strategy.

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- The objectives set out in the Dewsbury Town Centre's Strategic Development Framework included increasing activity in the Town, increasing attractiveness and improving accessibility.
- The Council received income from council tax as well as business rates and it was hoped to encourage more residential development in the town centre.
- The importance of attracting a diverse population mix, including young professionals, in increasing the vibrancy of an area was highlighted, as was the need for the right cultural offer and night time economy to enable this. The need for the Town's offer to address changes in shopping habits and consumer demand was also acknowledged.
- The recent Royal Society for Public Health report - *Health on the High Street: Running on Empty* and links to deprivation therein were noted. The Panel were informed that consideration was being given to policy development to control certain activities, such as hot food takeaway provision, as part of the Local Plan process.
- Engagement had taken place with business groups, stakeholders and the University as a first step in developing the action plan for the Town. An area action plan would be developed through the Local Plan process and would focus on engagement in more detail. The Panel were informed that a long and in depth consultation process had been undertaken in developing the Dewsbury plan.
- The need to attract inward investment in developing a successful vibrant town centre was acknowledged and it was suggested that incentives be provided to encourage small scale enterprises and entrepreneurs to come and work in the Town centre.
- Successful vibrant town centres across the country had developed through organic growth and it was important to dissect how this had happened. A success factor in a number of small local centres was community ownership and communities being active in shaping the local offer. Rather than being prescriptive, the role of the Council was to be an enabler, encourage entrepreneurial spirit and reduce red tape wherever possible. The Temporary Contemporary initiative at Queensgate Market, which was an exhibition space developed in conjunction with market traders and the University of Huddersfield, was cited as an example of this.
- Whilst Members welcomed major investment opportunities such as the trans-Pennine upgrade, station gateway and A62 Smart Corridor, the importance of accessibility and traffic planning in developing the town centre offer was highlighted. Congestion at home football fixtures was cited as an example of traffic impacting on shopping footfall and people entering the town.

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- The opportunities presented by the canal which connected the whole of Kirklees, both in terms of transportation and the potential to develop a unique edge of town centre feature, was acknowledged. It was also noted that work was ongoing to provide better cycling links within the Town.
- A number of measures were noted in regards to making the night time economy more attractive to a broader range of people. The Safer Huddersfield Night Time Economy Group had been established in response to a number of issues that had been reported in the press which had impacted on people's perception of the Town. Partnership working was ongoing with the police, businesses and voluntary sector as was work with partners to move towards achieving purple flag status in relation to the night time economy.

The diversity and spread of the night time offer was also being considered through the masterplan and people's perception of safety through public realm schemes.

- The strength of Huddersfield's existing night time offer, which included a theatre, concert hall and diverse restaurant offer was highlighted, and the need to brand and market this more effectively acknowledged. This would in turn improve people's perception of the town centre.
- With regards to the Scrutiny Panel recommendations from 2015, it was acknowledged that not all recommendations had been fully progressed. Whilst an action plan and vision had been developed for Dewsbury town centre and shared with partners, the journey had only just started in Huddersfield. It was noted that resources and personnel changes had impacted on progress, but the Panel were assured that there would be a re-focus on the recommendations.
- It was acknowledged that Kirklees had a very diverse population and it was important to listen to what people wanted. A piece of work was ongoing in relation to data intelligence to evaluate whether the measurements currently used provided the required information to inform decisions.
- It was recognised that the future of the Town Centre could not be determined by the Council alone and it was important to work in partnership with local businesses. The Panel were informed that the Huddersfield Town Partnership was leading on developing a Huddersfield Business Improvement District (BID). If agreed, a levy would be applied on top of business rates and the businesses would determine how the additional monies would be spent. It was noted that this had been very successful in some areas, but others had seen it as an additional tax burden on small businesses.

It was anticipated that those paying business rates within a defined area, would be balloted in June 2019, to determine if they would be prepared to pay the aforementioned levy.

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It was clarified that the BID business plan was not a council document and the process was led by the businesses involved. The Council was represented by Councillors Mather and Stewart-Turner on the Huddersfield BID Steering Group.

The Panel agreed that a working group would be established to look at both the Huddersfield BID and wider partnership working in more detail. With regards to the ballot, the Panel noted that there was one vote per property and a concern was raised that someone who owned multiple properties could sway the vote. It was further noted that the Council had the power of veto. It was agreed that these issues would be considered as part of the working group.

It was not currently planned to develop a Dewsbury BID given the conditions in terms of scale and existing partnership arrangements. Dewsbury was smaller than Huddersfield and rates were lower, which would in turn generate less revenue through a levy.

- The Panel were informed that the Winter Festival would return to St Georges Square in December. With regards to suggestions as to the establishment of a regular food pop-up market, it was noted that consideration was being given through the master-planning work, to evaluate whether the infrastructure, such as access to power, was in place to allow pop-ups to happen. The Council was also keen to minimise red tape wherever possible.
- The Panel welcomed the work that was being undertaken in Dewsbury Town Centre and it was agreed that the scope of the aforementioned working group would be expanded to look at the work in Dewsbury in more detail, given that it was at a more advanced stage than that in Huddersfield Town Centre.
- The role of artists in regenerating an area was highlighted. Whilst North Kirklees and Dewsbury did not currently have a concentration of artists, it was hoped that the work of Creative Scene would help build a critical mass of artists in that area.
- Members were reassured that the Council was working with partners to explore potential opportunities arising from the recent decision of Channel 4 establish their headquarters in Leeds.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Head of Development Management, Head of Culture and Vibrancy and Economic Resilience Project Manager be thanked for attending the meeting;
2. The Panel recommend that the desired outcomes in relation to town centres and how these relate to the overall economic strategy for the district, be made clear within the refreshed Kirklees Economic Strategy; and
3. A working group be established to examine:-
 - a. partnership working in developing the town centre offer;
 - b. work with the Town Centre Partnership in relation to the Huddersfield Business Improvement District (BID); and
 - c. work on Dewsbury Town Centre development.

Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 7 November 2018

4 Work Programme 2018/19

The Panel considered a copy of the current programme for 2018/19.

It was agreed that the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Consultation would be added to the work programme for the Panel's meeting on 17 January 2019. It was noted that the consultation was a statutory process and the Strategy would be scheduled for Cabinet and Council in the new year.

In addition to this, the Panel requested an update on the housing and rough sleeping provision for the forthcoming winter period at the next meeting. Reference was also made the review of Council guidelines and report of the consortium of voluntary groups.

With regards to the Council's working group which was undertaking a review of the Open Age Policy and Local Letting Framework, Councillor Hughes reported that it was intended to arrange an open session for elected Members to take them through the application process.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Consultation Strategy be added to the work programme for consideration at the Panel's meeting on 17 January 2019;
2. The Panel be provided with an update on the housing and rough sleeping provision for the forthcoming winter period at the next meeting; and
3. Further to the aforementioned addition, the work programme was agreed.

5 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Panel would take place at 1000 am on Wednesday 12 December 2018, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Huddersfield.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Standards 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: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel
Date: 12 December 2018
Title of report: Rough Sleeping Update: Winter 2018/19

Purpose of report To provide an update, for information and discussion, on the Rough Sleeping situation including changes to our Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) and our application proposals for Rough Sleeping Strategy funding.

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?	Not Applicable .
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Not Applicable
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not applicable
Date signed off by Strategic Director & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Karl Battersby, Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure, 4/12/18
Cabinet member portfolio	Councillor Cathy Scott

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Have you considered GDPR?

No information, which would identify any individual person, is included within this report.

1. Summary

- 1.1 Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) – Outlining the amendments to the Council’s SWEP process which are intended to improve the emergency provision to rough sleepers while facilitating better support and monitoring.
- 1.2 Rough Sleeping – Outlining the latest estimated numbers of rough sleepers within the Kirklees Council area together with an update on partnership working
- 1.3 Rough Sleeping Strategy (RSS) Funding Opportunities – Outlining progress on Kirklees Council’s bids for the Government’s RSS Funding

2 Information required to take a decision

2.1 Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP)

Background

- Our Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) is activated when the temperatures are forecast to fall to zero degrees or below for three consecutive nights. Additionally, SWEP can also be activated or prolonged where weather is particularly adverse so some flexibility. Our SWEP provision is intended to minimise the risk of death or severe ill health by providing an additional safety net of an emergency bed for those at risk of sleeping rough in extremely cold conditions

Issues

- Intensive local social media publicity regarding rough sleeping and periods of cold weather throughout winter 2017/18 led to some adverse publicity about the Council’s SWEP provision.
- Our SWEP partner, Clare House homelessness hostel experienced some friction between hostel and SWEP customers especially in the mornings.
- Limited and inconsistent follow up advice and support for those provided with an emergency bed under SWEP

Improvements

- To improve the SWEP provision for winter 2018/19 and amend the Guidance and associated documentation accordingly
- Clearer client communications around behaviour, expectations and consequences associated with SWEP provision (verbal & written)
- Dedicated ‘out of hours’ SWEP referral telephone line
- Breakfast voucher for the Mission Café for each person accommodated under SWEP.
- Alternative SWEP accommodation (where higher risks)
- Additional/replacement SWEP related kit (i.e. beds/bedding/toiletries)
- Housing Solutions Officer on site at the Huddersfield Mission to offer individual bespoke advice and facilitate appropriate support.
- More robust monitoring to include follow up outcomes in addition to SWEP accommodation take up
- To explore more creative outreach/follow up support

RSS Funding

- The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) are making funding available to local authorities. The 'Rough Sleeping Cold Weather Fund' is intended to help provide swift, bespoke interventions to rough sleepers in their area as well as enhancement of existing services. Expected to be up to a maximum of £10,000 for Kirklees Council. This is likely to fund the improvements proposed above.
- This funding is for the immediate cold weather period although further resources will be made available for 2019/20 linked to the MHCLG Rough Sleeper Strategy.

2.2 Rough Sleeping Update

Rough Sleeper Numbers

- The most recent rough sleeper estimate exercise was carried out in November when 13 people were verified as sleeping out. This is a 63% increase on the November 2017 figure.

Year	Number of Rough Sleepers
2010	5
2011	11
2012	9
2013	4
2014	4
2015	6
2016	5
2017	8

- The National rough sleeper figures for 2018 will not be published by MHCLG until January 2019. There was a 15% increase nationally between 2016 and 2017 while since 2010 rough sleeping estimates saw an increase of 169%

Rough Sleeping Intelligence

- Within the Kirklees area, it should be noted that, in addition to the increase in rough sleeping and homelessness generally, the sharing of intelligence among organisations has improved greatly in recent years.
- In previous years, Housing Officers met once a year with key partners to agree the rough sleeper figure. During 2018, the number of key colleagues, partners and homelessness organisations contributing to intelligence sharing has increased. The quality of the intelligence among homelessness partners and those undertaking street outreach work is excellent. There are now Quarterly meetings held to discuss those individuals at risk, those actually sleeping rough and those taking up subsequent accommodation and support.
- During 2018, Homelessness Forum partners have prepared a useful guidance document and networking opportunity for organisations, charities and volunteer groups undertaking street outreach across Kirklees. This is scheduled for launch later this year.
- A common view of street homelessness is that it is solely a problem of lack of accommodation. Health problems including substance abuse and complex factors are often the precipitant of homelessness or barriers to prevent people

from acquiring and/or sustaining appropriate accommodation. Such issues can lead to social isolation, a reluctance to engage, inability to sustain a tenancy and difficulty managing household budgets. To illustrate this, of the 13 individuals verified as actually sleeping out for this year's snapshot:-

- 7 have held, or had an offer of, a Council tenancy, supported accommodation or temporary accommodation in the previous year but lost it due to abandonment or chronic non-engagement (54%)
- 4 had some accommodation on the night of the snapshot but slept rough (31%)
- 2 have had little contact with Housing Solutions Service (15%)

RSS Funding

- Housing Solutions Service have submitted a funding application to the MHCLG to support them with a Rapid Rehousing Pathway (RRP) for rough sleepers.
- The proposal is to fund dedicated Navigators within Housing Solutions to target those people where there is a cycle of rough sleeping and who keep returning to a life on the streets. Through intensive work on an individual basis, the Navigator will better understand and tackle the underlying reasons and barriers faced by each individual. These are likely to include substance misuse, alcohol dependency and poor mental health.
- Additionally, the Navigators will work to identify and support women who are within the 'hidden' homeless and are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. These are often women with multiple complex needs who are reluctant to come forward when they are at risk of homelessness. We are aware that a number of women may sleep during the day, in very insecure and unsafe situations, and work at night. They may resort to 'sofa surfing' and/or sex work. Our Navigators would work closely with women and domestic abuse services to ensure interventions are earlier, effective and empowering for this group of women.
- MHCLG are expected to confirm successful bids imminently.

3 Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

- The SWEP improvements and the Rapid Rehousing Pathway proposal are intended to create a more collaborative relationship with individual rough sleepers. Establishing rapport and setting clear, realistic expectations will help individuals begin to take responsibility for the success of their own support and future sustainable accommodation.

3.2 Working with Partners

- The SWEP improvements and the Rapid Rehousing Pathway proposal will build further upon the existing rough sleeping partnerships outlined above. Extending our SWEP offer brings together the strengths and experience of Home Group, managing the single homelessness hostel, and the Huddersfield Mission who provide a supportive and socially inclusive environment for this vulnerable group.

3.3 Place Based Working

- Extending the range of partners and homelessness organisations sharing rough sleeping information have, and will continue to have, the benefit of capturing intelligence and information from across the Kirklees area. While rough sleeping is more visible within the town centres, we are increasingly aware and engage with those living out in parks, fields and outlying areas.

3.4 **Improving Outcomes for Children**

- While these services are aimed at single adults, improvements in the lives of those who may be parents may impact favourably on their relationship with their absent children

3.5 **Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

- Success with the funding application and ability to claim back SWEP expenses will help alleviate General Fund spend

4. **Consultees and their opinions**

- Home Group and The Huddersfield Mission have co-operated with the revised SWEP process
- Partners contributing to the rough sleeper intelligence meetings include Housing Solutions Service, Police, Huddersfield Mission, CHART, Home Group (Clare House), Simon on the Streets, Fusion Housing, Safer Kirklees, Police, Choices, One Big Family, Commissioning – Housing Related Support.

5. **Next steps**

- 1) Re-issue SWEP Guidance and distribute as per SWEP circulation list for Winter 2018/19
- 2) Submission to MHCLG of Rough Sleeper figure for Kirklees Council
- 3) Report progress on Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) funding applications

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

Scrutiny Panel members comment on and note the information in the report.

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

The portfolio holder is supportive of the bids made to secure additional funding to support this area of work and welcomes the proposed changes to the SWEP arrangements.

8. **Contact officer**

Stephen Cale, Operations Manager, Housing Solutions Service

9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

None

10. **Service Director responsible**

Naz Parkar, Director for Growth & Housing

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Name of meeting: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel
Date: 12 December 2018
Title of report: Draft Greenspace Strategy

Purpose of report

To brief Members and gain guidance on the structure, content and intent of an outline draft of the greenspace delivery plan / strategy showing how the service activity and changes links into the wider corporate priorities and looks to support other areas both internally and externally as the manager of our spaces.

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 signed off by Service Director Finance? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Karl Battersby, Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure 30/11/18
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Naheed Mather – Communities and Environment

Electoral wards affected: All
Ward councillors consulted: None
Public or private: Public

Draft Greenspace Delivery Strategy

Introduction

The narrative below forms the intention of the greenspace delivery strategy, to demonstrate the links between the councils priorities and aspirations and the operational delivery of these. It also sets out the clear intention that the greenspaces service is part of a wider delivery mechanism, and will do all it can to support other areas programmes as its spaces are both a valuable asset in themselves, but also form the back drop and stage for other activities.

The delivery strategy itself is intended to be quite brief, with the main supporting actions as set out in the points below held in appendices that can be subject to review and revision on a more frequent basis as the projects are delivered.

This brevity is not intended to minimise the importance of the area or the need to deliver the content, rather it is meant to ensure that the salient points are clearly enunciated, and that the importance of co-vised and delivered work with partners and stakeholders is clear.

The paper itself is intended as a discussion document to ensure that officers are on the right course with it, both in intention, form and content, and that before significant investment in creating and formatting is invested there is the opportunity for review and changes to be made.

Background

- The Local plan has a vision for Kirklees in 2031 which includes green spaces and states that:

“The local character and distinctiveness of Kirklees and its places will be retained. The natural environment will be maintained and enhanced through high quality, inclusive design and safe environments, opportunities for play and sport, the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure, tree and woodland protection, opportunities for local food growing and the enhancement of biodiversity.”

- Part of Kirklees offer– quality of life, attracting visitors and enhancing resident’s lives
- The relevant Strategic Objectives of the Local Plan are to:
 - Protect and improve green infrastructure to support health and well-being, giving residents access to good quality open spaces, sport and recreation opportunities, and to support habitats, allowing wildlife to flourish;
 - Protect and enhance the characteristics of the built, natural and historic environment, and local distinctiveness which contribute to the character of Kirklees, including the South Pennine Moors, Moorland fringe and the area’s industrial heritage.

Priorities

1. **Healthy People** - Improved quality and function of green spaces to enhance their attractiveness to residents and provide more opportunities for increased sport, recreation and physical activity to support the health and the mental well-being of local communities.

Examples of headline outcomes and actions:

- Maintain existing Green Flag Award status and identify further opportunities
- Seek quality improvements to existing green spaces as part of new housing developments where off-site public open space provision is appropriate
- Allotment provision and improvement
- Amenity and play area improvements (links to the Play Strategy)
- Tackling inequalities in partnership with Public health and communities
- Promote smoking cessation

2. **Quality Places** - Provide new and maintain existing green spaces and green infrastructure to support future housing and economic growth and help create quality places, including the regeneration of our town centres and villages.

Examples of headline outcomes and actions:

- Future development to contribute to new or improved green spaces to help address deficiencies in the amount and quality of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities.
- Introduce and increase street trees, particularly along main transport corridors.
- Knowledge driven changes to maintenance regimes
- Measuring quality (natural capital)
- Support Biodiversity networks
- Incorporate innovative design principals into green spaces
- Ongoing management of designated areas (Local wildlife sites, sites of special scientific interest, etc.)

3. **Safe, Accessible & Connected Green Spaces** - Improve existing green space to be safer and more accessible with sustainable connecting links (walking and cycling routes) to the wider green infrastructure network and our towns and villages and employment areas.

Examples of headline outcomes and actions:

- Improve connectivity between green spaces and places through new/improved walking and cycling routes (See Walking and Cycling Strategy)
- Accessibility; affordability, community access, barriers, intelligence-led etc
- Community Cohesion; better understanding of the community demand and existing 'offer'
- Enhancing school space and their capacity to influence behaviour
- Places for People (more info required on this)

4. Deliver Differently - Deliver new and improved green spaces differently to ensure efficient use of resources, support biodiversity and encourage communities to take ownership of green spaces where they live and their maintenance.

Examples of headline outcomes and actions:

- Encourage co-location of facilities so that a range of different types of facilities can be located next to each other (examples?)
- Adopt a sustainable and community led approach to the way public open spaces area managed and maintained
- Focus on Destination Play Areas rather than small play areas sites
- Local clubs to have greater maintenance responsibility
- Priority for natural play and through-age range facilities
- Encourage/support a growth in volunteering
- Financially viable
- Better collaboration with neighbouring landowners
- it sets out both how we will manage our land (both in-house and in conjunction with communities) and how we will encourage people to engage with the natural world and address barriers to this

The delivery priorities of our partners that Greenspaces can support are: Including, internal, external and third sector partners.

To be completed

- Public Health -
- Communities -
- Natural Kirklees -
- National Trust -

In order to deliver these the following work streams have been identified within the service – the details of these are within appendixes to this document.

1. Changes to grounds maintenance delivery and standards
 - Management for bio-diversity
 - Redesigning grass pitch sport offer
 - Enabling the work force to deliver in a more trust based flexible system
2. Rationalisation of the depot portfolio
3. Redirection of green arising from waste steams to biofuel production
4. The reforestation of areas to meet the white rose forest requirements
5. Integration of other services requirements within the greenspace delivery to meet overall council objectives

6. Integration of volunteer and third party activity within the delivery model
7. Robust recruitment and succession plan
8. Introduction of the playable spaces strategy
9. Placing local concerns and elected members within the core of the implementation and ongoing delivery programme.

Next Steps

- To advise if the format and intent of the strategy is acceptable, and to suggest any areas that need either removing, expanding or including.
- To make changes and complete document working with partners
- Take Strategy to Cabinet to decide if adopted.

Contact officer

Rob Dalby, Greenspace Operational Manager
(01484) 221000, Rob.dalby@kirklees.gov.uk

Strategic/Service Director responsible

Karl Battersby, Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure
(01484) 221000, karl.battersby@kirklees.gov.uk

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ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL – PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

MEMBERS: Councillors Rob Walker (Lead Member), Bill Armer, Martyn Bolt, Judith Hughes, Richard Murgatroyd and Harpreet Uppal
Andrew Bird and Mark Mercer (Co-optees)

SUPPORT: Carol Tague, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer

POTENTIAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN THE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving the Kirklees Draft Housing Strategy to include highlighting areas of the strategy that have been influenced by discussions with the Panel during 2017/18 municipal year. • Consideration to be given to monitoring progress of the Strategy and the approach and time line for this work. • Receiving a presentation on the proposed changes to the Kirklees Housing Allocations Policy to include the planned approach to delivering the policy. • Areas of focus on Allocations Policy to be agreed following the initial discussions. 	<p><u>Panel Meeting 19 July 2018</u></p> <p>The Panel received the draft Kirklees Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2018/2023 and an update on the work that is being undertaken on the Housing Allocations Policy. The Panel agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To look at the implications for the local authority following the publication of the Hackitt report (see Item 9 of the work programme). • Cllrs Hughes and Armer would join the Council working group undertaking a review of the Open Age Policy and Local Lettings Framework. <p><u>Panel Meeting 10 October 2018</u></p> <p>As part of discussion on the work programme it was agreed that an update on Housing Strategy Implementation be scheduled in the new year.</p>

POTENTIAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN THE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
Economic Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking at the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy. This is an overarching strategy that will help inform the development of the town centre master plans and the Panel will need to consider its approach to reviewing and helping to inform the Strategy. The Panel may also wish to include a focus on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Inclusive Growth Strategy as part of this area of work. 	<p><u>Panel Meeting 5 September 2018</u></p> <p>The Panel received an update on the work that was taking place to refresh the Kirklees Economic Strategy.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that a further report on the draft refreshed KES be brought to the meeting of the Panel on 10 October 2018, as part of wider discussions on inclusive growth, social value and the Skills Strategy.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 10 October 2018</u></p> <p>The Panel received an update on the work being undertaken on social value and local wealth building, and links to inclusive growth, in line with the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that an update on the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy and Social Value and Inclusive Growth be brought back to the Panel in January 2019.</p>
Skills Strategy	<p>Work on refreshing the Kirklees Skills Strategy and Plan is progressing and will include contribution from key partners in Kirklees. Potential areas of consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the Council continue to develop and refine its own Skills Strategy or look to use the Leeds City Region (LCR) Strategy and focus on local delivery of this wider plan? Reviewing the LCR Strategy and assessing how it will influence and shape local policy. The Council's approach to developing a local workforce that will have the right skills and qualifications to exploit planned investment across the district and neighbouring Towns and Cities. 	<p><u>Panel Meeting 10 October 2018</u></p> <p>Members received an update and noted the progress and further development of the Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan.</p>

POTENTIAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN THE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
Towns and Communities in Kirklees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider and assess the plans being developed for Dewsbury and Huddersfield Town Centres. • To assess the objectives of the plans to include the aspirations/vision for the towns, public realm and infrastructure. • To consider the approach being taken to developing and consulting on the master plans and looking at the role of scrutiny in this process. • Consideration may also need to be given to the wider context of other town centres and villages across Kirklees to include looking at key challenges and opportunities that could influence this agenda. 	<p><u>Panel Meeting 7 November 2018</u></p> <p>The Panel received a report which provided an overview of the challenges facing the district's town centres and the programmes in place to address these challenges.</p> <p>The Panel recommended that the desired outcomes in relation to town centres and how these relate to the overall economic strategy for the district, be made clear within the refreshed Kirklees Economic Strategy and agreed that a working group be established to examine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • partnership working in developing the town centre offer; • work with the Town Centre Partnership in relation to the Huddersfield Business Improvement District (BID); and • work on Dewsbury Town Centre development
Green Space		Scheduled for 12 December 2018
Digital Strategy		Scheduled for 14 February 2019
Waste Minimisation	<p>Areas could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving an initial presentation to understand the current position of waste minimisation in Kirklees which would help to provide a benchmark/starting point for the Panel. • A more detailed look at the waste and recycling elements of this agenda. • Considering what is being done to change the behaviour of the local population to avoiding and reducing waste. 	Scheduled for 17 January 2019 and provisionally scheduled for 14 February 2019

POTENTIAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN THE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
Air Quality		Provisionally Scheduled for 21 March 2019
Review of the Hackitt Report	To look at and monitor the implications for the Council following the publication of the Hackitt report 'Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety'.	<p><u>Panel Meeting 31 October 2018</u></p> <p>The Panel received a report regarding the drafting of the Council's response to the Social Housing Green Paper: A new deal for social housing which related to recommendations arising from the Hackitt Review. The report outlined the context, work required and undertaken in response to the Hackitt Report, as well as plans envisaged going forward.</p> <p>The Panel welcomed the work that had been carried out in response to the Hackitt Report and requested that an update on the progress of the Working Group, established to work through the Hackitt Report's detailed implications, be brought to a future meeting.</p> <p>Other potential areas for future consideration included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the success of the Council in involving residents in the management and monitoring of social housing stock; • the ability to provide more social housing and manage effectively; and • an examination of neighbourhood working and how the Council could manage and improve neighbourhoods and work with residents to tackle their concerns.