

# Public Document Pack



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

**Julie Muscroft**

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Wednesday 13 March 2019

## 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 **2.00 pm** on **Thursday 21 March 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".

**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

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	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1: Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>	1 - 4
<p>To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 14 February 2019.</p> <hr/>	
<b>2: Interests</b>	5 - 6
<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/>	
<b>3: Admission of the Public</b>	
<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/>	
<b>4: Housing Strategy Implementation</b>	7 - 20
<p>The Panel will receive a report which provides an update in respect of implementation of the Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018-23, which was approved by Council on 12th September 2018. The 'Year One Action Plan' is attached at Appendix 1 and includes a summary of the progress against each of the 11 prioritised actions.</p> <p>Contact: Helen Geldart, Head of Housing Services, Tel: 01484 221000</p> <hr/>	
<b>5: Air Quality Strategy</b>	21 - 38
<p>The Panel will receive a report which advises on the progress made, and approach being adopted, in respect of the preparation of Kirklees Council's Five Year Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Contact: Martin Wood, Operational Manager and Lucy Wearmouth, Health Improvement Practitioner Advanced, Tel: 01484 221000</p> <hr/>	

## **6: Review of 2018/19 Work Programme**

39 - 50

The Panel will review its activity during 2018/19, determining those items from the Work Programme to be carried forward into 2019/20 and giving consideration to any additional items it would wish to propose for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20.

Contact: Sheila Dykes, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer Tel: 01484 221000

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

**Thursday 14th February 2019**

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

In attendance: Councillor Peter McBride – Cabinet Member, Economy  
Councillor Graham Turner – Cabinet Member, Corporate  
Sue Weston – Strategic Partnership Lead, Business and Skills  
Jess Newbould – Economic Resilience Project Officer

#### **1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 17 January 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising:-

- In respect of the Brexit preparations update that had been requested at the last meeting; in light of the continuing uncertainty at national level and the tight timescale it was agreed that an update would be brought to a future meeting.
- In terms of Huddersfield and Dewsbury Town Centres; it was anticipated that the Masterplan would be published within the next few weeks and it was considered that this would be a good issue for the Panel to discuss at its first meeting (as a single item agenda) in the new municipal year. The structure and content of further meetings would then be given further consideration and shared with Members of the Panel for comment. This was a very important issue and it was essential that local communities, local businesses and the third sector were engaged in the development of the plans.
- The visit to Barnsley Market had been very interesting and informative. It was noted that there were a number of differences between Barnsley and Kirklees which affected the approach that could be taken. Large scale regeneration investment was proposed in Kirklees but this would be spread more widely across the district. The Cabinet Member for Economy added that there would be an opportunity for interested parties to make a meaningful contribution to the plans for development before final decisions were taken.

**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 Digital Strategy**

The Panel received a report which outlined the background and context of the digital landscape across Kirklees and presented a draft Kirklees Digital Plan (Appendix 2) for consideration. The report also set out the local, regional and national strategies that supported Kirklees' digital ambitions and current local, regional and national investment schemes/funding programmes.

In presenting the report Sue Weston - Strategic Partnership Lead, Business and Skills and Jess Newbould – Economic Resilience Project Officer highlighted the following points:

- The importance of digital connectivity for inclusion, productivity and economic growth and the ever increasing demand for digital skills and high quality, fast and reliable digital networks and infrastructure.
- Digital infrastructure would be included as a strong priority within the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy.
- The existing coverage and take-up of broadband provision for Kirklees residents and plans for the future. These included potential funding to target 'harder to reach' areas through the Superfast West Yorkshire and York Programme and investment by City Fibre which would increase coverage for Gigabit/FTTP (Fibre To The Premise/'full fibre') services and hopefully stimulate other investment.
- Investment into WiFi and 5G was also necessary.
- There was a need to address digital exclusion and to increase digital literacy and wage earning potential so that residents could afford access to the network.
- The draft Digital Plan aimed to stimulate affordable, accessible, appropriate digital infrastructure and skills development; it supported the priorities in the Economic Strategy and contributed to a number of the Corporate Key Shared Outcomes whilst also indirectly supporting others.
- The four priorities in the Plan covered:
  - Leadership and Collaboration
  - Stimulating investment
  - Extending the network
  - Demand Stimulation.

Councillor Peter McBride, Cabinet Member for Economy, highlighted the investment already being made into Huddersfield which would mean that its internet connections would be amongst the fastest in the world within two years; the plan was then to widen this to Dewsbury and other areas. Alongside the Network Rail Transpennine Fibre Project, investment into rail and road networks and the Local Plan this would make the district very attractive to business.

## Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 14 February 2019

Key points from the Panel's discussion and responses to questions were as follows:

- There were a small number of 'not spots' in the district where there was no superfast broadband connectivity (not all of which were rural areas). Work was being undertaken to address these in a number of ways including through the Superfast West Yorkshire Programme, although some of the funding through Defra was specifically for rural areas. Efforts were also being made to try and encourage investment by suppliers but there could be issues in respect of commercial viability.
- There were a number of initiatives that were being promoted, such as the Openreach Community Fibre Partnership programme and the Better Broadband Scheme. Some schemes would give opportunities for local businesses and residents within a community to aggregate Gigabit Broadband Vouchers, to assist in reaching a point where connection might be affordable. This could be a good opportunity to address the problem of poor connectivity and the Council should continue to raise awareness of these schemes and support local people in gaining better access to superfast broadband.
- The Government strongly supported the co-operative model; an example being the Tameside Digital Infrastructure Co-operative, as a good way of extending superfast broadband.
- By 2021 almost every home and business within 9 wards would have 'full fibre' connectivity.
- In terms of a 'Digital Innovation Zone'; work was being undertaken with the University in respect of how their connectivity, analytics and data could be utilised. Further information on this initiative would be shared with Members.
- Discussion was taking place with Network Rail about potential 'meet me' points along the route of the Transpennine Fibre Project; with three potential locations one in North Kirklees, one in South Kirklees and one in Huddersfield. Links into a resilient fibre spine through the district would be hugely beneficial.
- Ensuring that there was a strong emphasis within the plan on the development of skills and entrepreneurship, with an eye on the longer term economic benefit, was a key issue. People with the necessary skills would be crucial in order to take advantage of the gigabit capacity and improved infrastructure to develop business and increase and retain wealth in the district. There could be an increase in jobs and more highly skilled jobs but also the potential for automation and thus a need for re-training/re-skilling.
- The stated percentage of local adults who did not have, or did not use, the 5 basic digital skills was noted. Exclusion could be a particular problem for elderly people or those with a learning disability; so many services were now accessed online.
- To date, 73 small to medium local businesses had formally engaged with the Digital Enterprise Scheme, amounting to a value of approximately £266,000. In addition, many other businesses had benefitted from mentoring, workshops and masterclasses.
- It was important that the wider strategic/regional context and the potential for working alongside partners was considered. It was hoped that there would be representation from Kirklees at the Leeds Digital Festival and the Great Northern Conference to highlight the work the Council was doing and to connect at a regional level.

## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 14 February 2019**

Cllr McBride noted that the need for re-skilling had been recognised as a key issue, alongside the need to ensure that young people had the necessary skills to access future employment opportunities, and a working party had been established, with links to industry, to plan for this.

Councillor Turner said that:

- Public libraries had IT access points and staff/volunteers who could assist people in using them. The ambition was to develop community hubs in the future and he undertook to take back the points made in respect of the need for provision to assist local people in achieving the 5 basic digital skills.
- There could be huge potential for the use of innovations such as voice activated technology, in the area of health and social care for example, but the infrastructure needed to be in place first.

### **RESOLVED - The Panel:-**

- Thanked the Cabinet Member for Economy, Cabinet Member for Corporate, Sue Weston, Strategic Lead for Business and Skills and Jess Newbould, Economic Resilience Project Officer, Investment and Regeneration, for attending the meeting;
- 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 Digital Plan.

### **5 Work Programme 2018/19**

The work programme for 2018/19 was agreed.

### **6 Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Panel would take place at 2.00pm on Thursday 21 March 2019.



<b>KIRKLEES COUNCIL</b>  <b>COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC</b> <b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> 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 & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 21 March 2019**

**Title of report: Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018-23 Action Plan - Update**

**Purpose of report**

To provide for information and discussion an update on progress against high level actions outlined in the Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018-23 Year One Action Plan which was approved by Council on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

<b>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?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	<b>Karl Battersby – Economy &amp; Infrastructure 5.3.19</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)?</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr Cathy Scott – Housing &amp; Democracy</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: N/A**

**Public or private: Public**

**GDPR has been considered when preparing this report and there are no implications**

## 1. **Summary**

- 1.1 The Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018 – 2023 was approved by Council on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.
- 1.2 The Strategy sets out the Council's key issues, challenges, and ambitions for housing and housing services in Kirklees over a 5 year period and supports the Kirklees shared outcomes.
- 1.3 The strategy focusses on three priorities. These are, addressing housing need, improving housing quality and enabling housing growth. The Housing Strategy is available via the following link:  
<http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/housing/pdf/kirklees-housing-strategy.pdf>
- 1.4 A high level Year One Action Plan is included in the Strategy which prioritises actions and identifies the outcomes to be achieved. The Action Plan and a summary of progress against each of the 11 prioritised actions is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

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

- 2.1 The report is for information and discussion.
- 2.2 The Economy & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel has over the last 12-18 months considered and contributed to the development of the Council's Housing Strategy and the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

## 3. **Implications for the Council**

### 3.1 **Working with People**

The Strategy is centred on working with people who have a housing need or are affected by homelessness. The focus is on supporting people's overall health and wellbeing and enabling people to live more independently, for longer, in a suitable home of their own.

### 3.2 **Working with Partners**

A collaborative partnership approach has been taken in developing the Strategy. Our partners including colleagues from across the Council and Health Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing, Pinnacle PSG, Housing Associations, housing developers and investors, private landlords, the third sector and our housing forums all have their part to play in shaping and delivering the Housing Strategy Action Plan.

### 3.3 **Place Based Working**

The Strategy recognises that Kirklees is a diverse place with a diverse community and that in addressing issues of housing need, homelessness/rough sleeping and housing growth that a place based approach is needed.

### 3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**

There are positive implications for children and young people in improving the quality standards of housing that families live in, and for vulnerable young people who need specialist and supported accommodation in order to achieve and maintain settled and successful independent living.

- 3.5 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**  
No implications from this report.
4. **Consultees and their opinions**  
Not applicable
5. **Next steps and timelines**  
The Overview and Scrutiny Panel for Economy and Neighbourhoods takes account of the information presented and considers the next steps it wishes to take.
6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**  
The Scrutiny Panel notes progress made against the actions in the Housing Strategy Year One Action Plan. Comments are noted and shared with the Portfolio Holder, Housing and Democracy.
7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**  
Not applicable.
8. **Contact officer**  
Helen Geldart, Head of Housing Services  
[helen.geldart@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:helen.geldart@kirklees.gov.uk)  
01484 221000 (Ext 77935)
9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
- 9.1 The draft Housing Strategy 2018-23 was considered by the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=572&MId=5687&Ver=4>
- 9.2 The Kirklees Housing Strategy was approved by Council on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=5647>
- 9.3 The Housing Strategy 2018-23 is published on the Kirklees website:  
<http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/housing/pdf/kirklees-housing-strategy.pdf>
10. **Service Director responsible**  
Naz Parkar, Growth and Housing.

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Priority One: Housing Need					
Action	What will we do?	Outcome	Metric	Target	Lead partners
1	Implement and embed our statutory duties as set out in the Homelessness Reduction Act	<p><b>More people are prevented from becoming homeless or are supported to find an alternative suitable home</b></p> <p><i>Corporate outcomes</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives</i></p>	Number of people for whom homelessness is prevented or relieved	2018/2019 legislation to be used as the new baseline with annual targets being set from 2019-2020	Kirklees Council
Progress on action 1	<p><u>February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Housing Solutions Service successfully implemented all requirements of the Homelessness Reduction Act on 3 April 2018.</li> <li>All people who are either homeless or threatened with homelessness are provided with a Personal Housing Plan and supported to secure a suitable and affordable home. Further work is ongoing to embed the restorative practice approach.</li> <li>Referral mechanisms are in place to receive referrals from the prescribed organisation covered by the ‘Public Body Duty to Refer’ section of the Act.</li> <li>A programme of working with partners to help them understand what threatened with homelessness looks like is ongoing, to ensure early intervention and prevention work is embedded.</li> </ul>				
2	Review and refresh the Housing Allocations Policy	<p><b>More people are prevented from becoming homeless or supported to find an alternative suitable home</b></p>	Housing Policies and Strategies are up to date	N/A	Kirklees Council,

	and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy	<p><i>Corporate outcome</i>  <i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives</i></p>			Kirklees Homelessness Forum
<b>Progress on action 2</b>	<p><u>February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is progressing through the governance process and is due for approval at Cabinet and Council in March 2019.</li> <li>The Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy has been developed as a result of good joint working with internal colleagues and partners from the Kirklees Homelessness Forum. Engagement with people with a lived experience of homelessness has also taken place to inform the Strategy. This engagement will be further used to shape and influence the Strategy Action Plan.</li> <li>Progress is ongoing on the reviewing elements of the Housing Allocations Policy, draft proposals are to be further consider in spring 2019. A more fundamental review of the way homes are allocated is being debated nationally; the outcomes will be considered to establish if any are relevant to Kirklees.</li> <li>The Housing Allocations Policy was amended to reflect new duties under the Homelessness Reduction Act, the impact of these changes will be reviewed in spring 2019.</li> </ul>				
<b>3</b>	Consider and as appropriate develop and trial a “Housing First” approach with people who are homeless and have multiple and complex needs and where traditional approaches to resolving their homelessness have not been successful	<p><b>People with multiple and complex needs who are at the extreme end of homelessness are off the streets and in a stable, independent home with intensive and personalised support</b>  <i>The Council is able to meet the needs of our most vulnerable members of the community</i></p> <p><i>Corporate outcome</i></p>	Number of people at risk of or sleeping rough with multiple / complex needs / chaotic lifestyles achieve and retain settled accommodation	Increase in the numbers of people in this target group who achieve and retain settled accommodation	Kirklees Council, Kirklees Homelessness Forum, support providers, Homeless Link



		<p><i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives</i></p>			
<p><b>Progress on action 3</b></p>	<p><u>February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor amendments were made to the 2018/19 SWEP protocol (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) for rough sleepers. This is a continuous learning process and information/ issues from this are likely to inform any Housing First approaches.</li> <li>• The commitment to using Housing First principles is clearly set out in the draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Prevention Strategy and will be developed via the Strategy Action Plan.</li> <li>• Following a successful bid to the government Life Chances Fund a new Kirklees Integrated Support Service is being commissioned which from summer 2019 will start to provide support based on Housing First principles to those people where more traditional forms of housing and support has been unsuccessful.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p>Work with identified specialist partner(s) to develop and deliver bespoke accommodation, including for older people and people with learning disabilities and / or very challenging behaviours. This provision will facilitate discharge from specialist hospital and residential settings such as the Mencap scheme at Castle Hall</p>	<p><b>Older and other vulnerable groups of people with a need for specialist or supported housing are living safely and independently in their own home</b></p> <p><u>Corporate outcome</u>  <i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives</i></p>	<p>Numbers of new / remodelled specialist and supported housing in Kirklees.</p>	<p>tbc</p>	<p>Kirklees Council, delivery partners</p>

<b>Progress on action 4</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing work with colleagues in Commissioning Partnerships, Childrens Services, Regeneration and Planning to jointly explore the scope to influence and shape provision of specialist and supported accommodation through site planning.</li> <li>Working in partnership with Connect Housing to ensure development of 18 units of accommodation for people with learning disabilities.</li> <li>Successful bid to the NHS Transforming Care fund for the partnership development of very specialist and bespoke housing for individuals with profound learning disabilities who are currently living in hospital / residential settings out of the Kirklees area and who will be enabled, via this provision, to return home to Kirklees.</li> </ul>				
<b>Priority Two: Housing Quality</b>					
<b>Action</b>	<b>What will we do?</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>
<b>5</b>	Run a design competition for the development of a council owned site to look at Modern Methods of Construction and environmental standards and meeting the changing needs and circumstances of households	<b>An agreed model of flexible and innovative design which could be rolled out across the District</b>  <i>Corporate outcome</i> <i>People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment</i>		n/a	Kirklees Council, Homes England, Huddersfield University
<b>Progress on action 5</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An inception meeting was held with representatives from the University to discuss principles and ideas.</li> <li>The Waterfront site was accepted as part of the Homes England Accelerated Construction bid, which includes the requirement to develop the site at an accelerated pace, and incorporate Modern Methods of Construction. This has overtaken the timetable for the original design competition, but the objectives are being included in the Accelerated Construction process to achieve the same outcomes.</li> </ul>				

6	Develop a “Quality Places” Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which helps to set out the Kirklees Standard and influences the quality of new housing development.	<p><b>The quality of housing development in Kirklees is driven up through a new framework</b></p> <p><i>Corporate outcome</i>  <i>People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment</i></p>	Number of new homes that conform to the SPD requirements	n/a	Kirklees Council
<b>Progress on action 6</b>	<p><i>February 2019</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal project team set up to scope the content of the SPD.</li> <li>• Initial evidence gathering has started.</li> <li>• Working towards public consultation in summer 2019.</li> </ul>				
7	Improve the private rented sector through a framework of engagement and targeted enforcement where necessary, to drive up standards of stock and tenancy management practices, and use the Better Homes scheme for improving energy efficiency of private sector homes	<p><b>More homes in the private rented sector are meeting the Kirklees Quality Standard ( for the private rented sector) and are managed and maintained accordingly</b></p> <p><b>More people living in healthy, safe, and dry homes that are affordable to keep warm.</b></p> <p><i>Corporate outcome</i>  <i>People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment</i></p>	<p>Number of successful interventions with private sector landlords</p> <p>Number of homes receiving energy efficiency measures via Better Homes</p>	<p>300 interventions where a category 1 hazard has been eliminated or the risk significantly minimised</p> <p>2018/19 – Target of 75 homes to be improved</p>	<p>Kirklees Council</p> <p>Kirklees Council, Better Homes Partnership</p>

		<i>People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible</i>	(using Better Homes reporting)		
		<i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i>			
<b>Progress on action 7</b>	<p><u>February 2019</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New housing enforcement legislation was introduced to give local authorities the power to impose a civil penalty as an alternative to prosecution for certain housing offences. Cabinet approval was gained (2<sup>nd</sup> October 18) on the Civil Penalty Policy (Housing and Planning Act 2016) and agreement to introduce civil penalties as an alternative to offences under the Housing Act 2004.</li> <li>• Successful bid to the 'Rogue Landlord Enforcement Grant' fund. This funding is to be used before the end of March 2019 and will target Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) in Birkby Bay Hall, Hillhouse and Ravensthorpe (Sackville Street and Huddersfield Road).</li> <li>• The funding will use a coordinated approach to tackle overcrowding and poor standards in private rented accommodation above and below commercial premises. Robust action against rogue landlords will be taken in order to improve the standards of these properties. Support to vulnerable tenants will also be provided.</li> </ul>				
<b>8</b>	Improve existing council owned homes through implementing the Kirklees Quality standards (for social housing)	<p><b>More council owned homes are meeting the Kirklees Quality Standard ( for social housing) and are managed and maintained accordingly</b></p> <p><i>Corporate outcome</i>  <i>People in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment</i></p> <p><i>People in Kirklees feel safe and are safe/protected from harm</i></p>	Number of council owned homes reaching the Kirklees Quality standard	750 council owned homes (per annum)	KNH

		<i>People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible</i>			
<b>Progress on action 8</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KNH continue to repair and maintain the Council's housing stock and have commenced implementing the new agreed investment programme approach which invests in improving homes and neighbourhoods. This includes profiling the delivery of works and implementing a proactive asset management approach in council owned homes.</li> <li>KNH also continue to programme and deliver works to council homes to ensure that the Council is compliant in the areas of fire, asbestos and legionella.</li> <li>Lettable standards for council owned homes are being reviewed in line with the Council's aspiration for the people of Kirklees. Consultation is currently being undertaken with tenants in order to confirm what is important from their point of view.</li> </ul>				
<b>Priority Three: Growth</b>					
<b>Action</b>	<b>What will we do?</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Metric</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Lead partners</b>
<b>9</b>	Continue to ensure that there is a supply of housing sites ready to be delivered and help to support early delivery on all sites with planning permission	<b>10,000 homes across all tenures by 2023</b>  <i>Corporate outcome</i> <i>Kirklees has sustainable economic growth for communities and business</i>	Number of new homes built which are meeting the Housing Delivery Test	10,000 cross tenure new homes by 2023	Kirklees Council
<b>Progress on action 9</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of the Local Plan on 27th February 2019 provides sufficient housing capacity for 31,140 new homes between 2013 and 2031.</li> <li>38 Kirklees owned sites promoted through the Local Plan and secured for housing development.</li> </ul>				

- Soothill site - £4.5m of Accelerated Construction funding secured to facilitate development, outline planning permission is in place (currently in the process of being renewed), overall the site will deliver c.360 units, progress being made on procurement of a developer – market engagement has taken place, procurement strategy currently being developed. A Cabinet report will be produced seeking approval for this project.
- Waterfront - £1.4m of Accelerated Construction funding secured to facilitate development, will deliver c. 150 units, progress being made in procurement of developer – market engagement has taken place, procurement strategy currently being developed. A Cabinet report will be produced seeking approval for this project.
- Bradley Park Phase 1 – planning application made for first phase of development on land already allocated – for 105 units.  
  
Bradley Park wider strategic allocation – soft market testing has been undertaken with developers to inform procurement strategy to deliver the wider strategic site.
- Dewsbury Riverside – major strategic allocation, will deliver c.4000 units – Council has worked with developer to put in place masterplan – which will be taken to Cabinet in March, early phases have planning permission so are development ready.
- Kenmore Drive – outline planning permission in place, discussions are advanced with a registered provider about the provision of an extra care scheme. A Cabinet report will be produced seeking approval for this project.
- Potential Joint Venture – sites are being looked at – initial sites would deliver c.168 units. Outline planning permission is actively being pursued, alongside site investigations. A Cabinet report will be produced seeking approval for this project.
- Council house construction – led by KNH - 8 houses nearing completion at Golcar, a further 10 properties (bungalows) currently planned for development at Fernside Avenue.
- Stalled sites work and housing brokerage are ongoing activities exploring reasons for lack of delivery on some sites and seeking to work with the landowners/developers to find solutions.
- In relation to the Big Build programme a report recommending using Council Tax Data to monitor developments on a monthly / quarterly basis in between formal annual monitoring.

10	Explore the desirability of institutional investment on sale and leaseback models as an investment pot for new affordable housing and if appropriate, to attract that institutional investment	<b>10,000 homes across all tenures by 2023</b>  <i>Corporate outcome</i> <i>Kirklees has sustainable economic growth for communities and business</i>	Number of new homes built which are meeting the Housing Delivery Test	10,000 cross tenure new homes by 2023	Kirklees Council, institutional investor
<b>Progress on action 10</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This model was identified as possible form of investment when the Housing Strategy was being developed. However, subsequent national changes (including those in the Social Housing Green Paper) have resulted in this position being reviewed, and mean that this model is less likely to be utilised. It remains an option for the Council, however in this wider context it has not been pursued in detail at this time.</li> </ul>				
11	Deliver a programme of land disposals to enable the delivery of the Council's strategic ambition for more affordable and specialist housing, mainstream mixed tenure housing and Right to Buy receipts programme	<b>1,000 homes across all tenures built on council owned land ( 10% of total delivery above)</b>  <i>Corporate outcome</i> <i>Kirklees has sustainable economic growth for communities and business</i>	New homes built on Council-owned land	1,000 cross tenure new homes on council owned land by 2023	Kirklees Council
<b>Progress on action 11</b>	<u>February 2019</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall programme of the "Big Build" launched in September 2018, promoting the opportunities available in Kirklees through land disposals. High profile event securing significant developer interest, which is now being followed up through promoting opportunities to developers, and regular newsletter is planned, first issue of which is being finalised.</li> <li>Land at Mayman Lane, Batley – will be disposed of to deliver 6 units of supported accommodation for clients with severe learning disabilities, bringing with it NHS investment of £1.7m.</li> </ul>				

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small affordable housing sites – disposal of 8 sites to a registered provider consortium currently being progressed to delivered c.160 affordable homes.</li><li>• All of the projects outlined under action 9 above will also contribute to the programme of land disposals and / or housing delivery.</li></ul> |
|--|---|



**Name of meeting: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 21 March 2019**

**Title of report: Air Quality**

**Purpose of report**

To advise and inform the E&N Scrutiny Panel of the progress and approach of the preparation of Kirklees Council's Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan.

<b>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?</b>	<b>not applicable</b>  <b>If yes give the reason why.</b> For Scrutiny
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	<b>not applicable</b>  <b>If yes also give date it was registered</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>not applicable</b>  <b>If no give the reason why not</b> Report is for scrutiny call in
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Karl Battersby</b> <b>Rachel Spencer-Henshall</b>
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Councillor Naheed Mather</b> <b>Councillor Mussarat Khan</b>

**Electoral wards affected: ALL**

**Ward councillors consulted:**

**Public or private: Public**

**No personal information contained in report.**

## 1. Summary

Air Quality is a term given to problems associated with pollution emissions to the atmosphere which have a harmful effect on human health and wellbeing. In general terms the pollutants of concern are Nitrogen Dioxides (NO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub>) and fine Particulates (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>), amongst others such as Sulphur Dioxide, Ammonia, Ozone, Carbon Monoxide and Volatile Organic Compounds (not methane).

Air Quality in this context does not refer to the emissions of 'Greenhouse Gases' such as Carbon Dioxide or Methane, amongst others. Greenhouse Gases cause climate change over the longer term and are a chronic problem, however, Pollutants which lead to poor Air Quality cause harm to people exposed to harmful levels now and is an acute problem.

The sources of these emissions are from human activity and the main causes are Road Transport, Industrial Emissions, Energy Production, Agriculture, Non-Road Transport & Domestic Heating.

The health effects caused by poor air quality are asthma, respiratory illnesses, heart disease and shorter life expectancy. People who are elderly, have long term conditions, children and pregnant women are most at risk.

Actions to reduce pollution emissions and improve air quality need to be taken by national governments however, some actions need to be at a local level as Local Authorities and their Partners can influence some of the sources of pollution (local road transportation, some industrial emissions, domestic solid fuel burning. It is the Local Authorities responsibility to measure the levels of Air Pollution under the Environment Act 1995. The World Health Organisation set limits for pollutant levels, which are used by national governments in legislation.

Kirklees Council monitors Air Quality at around 80 sites across the district. Over the past 10 years Officers have identified 10 individual sites where pollution levels have been breached. As a result the Local Authority is duty bound to declare these areas as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), which then requires the Authority to produce an Action Plan setting out the measures the Authority will take to reduce emissions and improve Air Quality in those areas and more generally in the district. The Action Plan is a statutory document required by law and is submitted to the Government for review and acceptance.

Kirklees Council declared 7 new Air Quality Management Areas in 2017 and intends to declare 1 new AQMA in 2019 Officers are currently producing a new Five Year Action Plan for Kirklees which is due to submission to Government for April 2019. Kirklees had 2 Action Plans associated with the 2 AQMAs declared in 2008 and 2009.

Local Authorities are also required by law to submit an annual report to Government setting out the previous year's monitoring activity, report on progress of any Action Plan which is in place and its intention to declare or remove any Air Quality Management Areas. This is the Annual Status Report (ASR) and is a statutory document.

Given the local and national interest in Air Quality and the immediate problems facing human health and wellbeing - Kirklees Council Members requested at Full Council that the Authority had an Air Quality Strategy. It is not a legal requirement to have a Strategy. The Air Quality Strategy will sit alongside the Action Plan setting out in general terms the problems faced by Kirklees and it's residents and business, the actions the Authority has already taken on improving and monitoring Air Quality, actions it is currently taking, future plans as well as what the public can do to improve Air Quality. The detailed improvement measures will be in

the Action Plan, detailed information on monitoring will be reported in the Annual Status Reports.

The production of the Strategy and Action Plan has been a collaborative process led by Environmental Health and Public Health Officers involving almost all departments of the Authority and Council Partners.

For more detailed information on Air Quality, Pollutants and Health Effects please refer to the presentation linked to this report.

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

This report and the presentation aim to set the scene regarding Air Quality, the national and local Policy, Kirklees Council's approach to complying with its legal duties and the future plans of Kirklees Council in tackling Air Quality in the District for the consideration of the Scrutiny Panel.

## **3. Implications for the Council**

### **3.1 Working with People**

For improvements to be made of pollution emissions we will have to work with members of the public and business as poor air quality is caused by human activity, such as light private vehicles as well as commercial light and heavy goods vehicles driving on the road, industrial emissions or how we choose to heat our homes. There is very limited legislative tools available to the local authority – so the Council will have to influence and change behaviour of the public at large using soft measures and leading by example.

The Strategy and Action Plan has working with people at its core. The delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan will involve a number of measures within the working with people strand of the Council's overall Corporate Plan. Some of this will be informing and bringing people along with us, however, some will require enforcement activity where people are not doing as they are required – such as pollution incidents and where the law is broken.

At the current stage of production of the Strategy and Action plan no consultation has occurred – however – formal consultation of the document is necessary and will occur before submission to Government and/or adoption by the Council. Up to now the Action Plan and Strategy has focused on the technical aspects of the documents and identifying what measures, including working with people are feasible.

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

Working with Partners is essential in improving Air Quality as actions the Council can take is will not improve Air Pollution enough to have a positive impact on health outcomes.

In developing the Strategy and Action Plan officers have engaged with a number of partners, both within and outside of the Council. Meetings and engagement sessions have been conducted to examine and explore what internal and external partners can do to improve air quality.

Internal Partners:

- Public Health
- Planning
- Strategic Transportation
- Investment and Regeneration (Carbon Reduction)

- Highways
- Fleet Management
- People Services
- Communications
- Procurement
- Property Services
- Ward Members in affected Wards

The main external partners:

- West Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Highways England
- NHS and Health Partners
- Huddersfield University
- Our neighbouring local authorities

We will be engaging directly with Local Business Organisations as part of the formal consultation process of the action plan.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

Having a Place Based Working approach is necessary for delivery of the Action Plan and Strategy as measures that are appropriate in one location will not be appropriate in another. Officers have examined each area and assessed what is the most appropriate action(s) in that area – we are not just taking broad bush district wide measures.

The Action Plan is broken down into the individual areas in which AQMAs exist as well as district wide measures. The section which looks at the individual AQMA takes into account the local environment and what is appropriate for that area.

### **3.4 Improving outcomes for children**

As Children are one of the affected groups of poor air quality – any improvements in Air Quality will improve the Outcomes for Children.

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

There are Legal implications for the Council if it does not agree and submit the Action Plan to Government on time. There is no legal requirement for a Strategy. As the UK as a whole is not complying with European Directives on Ambient Air – there is a possibility that the EU may fine the UK for non-compliance. UK national Government have advised in the past that it would pass on these fines to Local Authorities who are not complying with their obligations.

Internal Human Recourses measures are included in the Action Plan – as activity of the Council's Officers going about the Council's business causes pollution emissions. However, these measures are not anticipated to cause and Human Resources issues and collaboration with People Services is part of the Action Plan preparation.

Financial Implications for the Council – measures to tackle AQ cost money to implement – whether this is capital investment in changes in infrastructure such as new road lay outs or improved traffic signals, investment in monitoring and measurement equipment. Soft measures to influence behaviour change is resource intensive – such as officer time/materials etc. The Action Plan has been written in a way which obligates the Council to spend resources on actions which have already have budget commitments. However,

these committed measures will not go far enough to tackle the problem. The Action Plan may also contain financially uncommitted measures which the Council will take if the resources are available – such as through a new budget commitment or external funding such as a grant award. Once the Action Plan is accepted – detailed proposals will be brought forward for consideration within the Councils' normal decision making and governance procedures.

#### **4. Consultees and their opinions**

Ward Councillors have had the opportunity to engage in the process and a number of meetings on a ward by ward basis have already occurred. The outcome of the Ward level discussions have fed into the actions within the Action Plan where relevant and possible.

There will be a formal consultation of both the Action Plan and Strategy as required by the Environment Act 1995.

#### **5. Next steps and timelines**

This report and associated presentation is submitted to Scrutiny for their consideration.

During March to May the Action Plan and Strategy will be going through the Council's decision making and governance procedures for submission to Government.

#### **6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

N/A

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

Portfolio Holder has been briefed and agrees with the report to be submitted to Scrutiny in this format.

#### **8. Contact officer**

##### **MARTIN WOOD**

Operational Manager  
Public Protection Service  
Environment Services  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

##### **LUCY WEARMOUTH**

Public Health Manager – Wider Factors  
Public Health  
Directorate of Public Health & Corporate Strategy

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

Draft Air Quality Strategy  
Air Quality Scrutiny Presentation

#### **10. Service Director responsible**

Karl Battersby – Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure  
Rachel Spenser-Henshall – Strategic Director of Public Health and Corporate Strategy

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## **Kirklees Council Air Quality Strategy 2019**

- It is the Vision of Kirklees Council to ensure that children have the best start in life, people are as well as possible for as long as possible and experience a high quality, clean, sustainable and green environment.
- Kirklees Council will consider the impact Air Quality in all decision making and make decisions which improve air quality
- Kirklees Council is committed to supporting the increase in active travel (walking, cycling and public transport) in order to improve air quality and the health and wellbeing of the public
- Kirklees Council will work to accelerate the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles and reduce emissions from all vehicles

### **Forward by portfolio holders Cllr Mather and Cllr Khan**

Clean air is one of the most basic requirements of a healthy environment. We need clean air in order to thrive – physically, mentally, socially and economically. Global, national and local directives, strategies and policies have led to massive improvements in air quality over the past 65 years. However, there is much more that we need to do – as a council, with our partners and as individuals. This Strategy is intended to be an overview of the background, current situation and future direction of the Council in terms of Air Quality

Within Kirklees we have 10 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's). These are 'hot spot' areas where pollution concentrations exceed health related limits. However, there are no safe levels of air pollution and we need to improve air quality across the district. Tackling the causes of air quality are complex – but there are things we can all do; improving the infrastructure of our roads, reducing congestion, improving the quality of our fleet vehicles to reduce emissions, working with business to control industrial emissions, educating the public on solid fuel use and supporting people to walk and cycle more. By working together across the council, with our partners, communities and individual residents we will continue to improve air quality for everyone.

We are passionate about improving air quality for the people who live, work and visit Kirklees. This strategy demonstrates our commitment to improving air quality and will outline the specific areas where we can all affect change for the benefit of Kirklees.

## INTRODUCTION TO KIRKLEES

Kirklees Council is a Metropolitan District Council in West Yorkshire. The district is made up of one large town, Huddersfield, with a number of smaller towns such as Dewsbury, Batley, Mirfield, Cleckheaton and Holmfirth as well as a number of larger and smaller villages. The total population is approximately 440,000 and is a mix of dense urban and spatially populated rural areas.

There are a number of transportation links crossing the district linking up our towns and villages, as well connecting our population to the surround towns and cities of Manchester, Leeds, Wakefield, Halifax, and Bradford. The District is bounded on two sides by the Strategic Road Network - the M62 passing through the Northern boundary of the area and the M1 to the East.

The landscape of the district is characterised by deep valleys containing the Calder, Colne, Holme and Spen rivers and transportation routes are contained within these valleys where there is limited space for highway capacity. Transportation routes concentrate around bridges across these rivers again limiting capacity.

The district is historically industrialised centered on the textile industry. The textile industry has been in decline over the past number of decades, however, some textile industry still exists and there is a sizable engineering industry present as well as some chemical industry, cement batching and production is centred on the South Dewsbury locality.

Domestic heating was predominantly reliant on solid fuel burning within the district up until the mid-20th century. Since that time there has been a shift towards gas central heating being the primary way to heat properties. Furthermore, Kirklees urban areas have been Smoke Control Areas since the 1950's and this was expanded to the rural areas in the 1990's. As such the whole of the Kirklees District is a Smoke Control Area.



## THE WIDER DETERMINANTS OF CLEAN AIR

The ability to experience clean air is complex and dependent on a broad range of factors. This can be described as the wider determinants of health, and is shown below:



Individuals, families and communities should be enabled to live so that they are supported to make choices which improve air quality. This is affected by a range of things – for example, how our houses and communities are designed and planned, how the physical infrastructure supports people to walk and cycle, having access to local parks and green space to enjoy and a public transport network which is affordable and accessible.

## THE IMPACT OF POOR AIR QUALITY

Clean air is fundamental to healthy living and a safe environment. Whilst air quality has improved over recent decades, there are still areas of Kirklees where air pollution is having a significant effect on human health.

Exposure to high levels of air pollution has both short and long-term effects on health. Air pollution is the ninth leading risk factor for premature death and disability in both England and Yorkshire and Humber. This ranks air pollution above many other preventable mortality indicators, such as road deaths, excess winter deaths and communicable diseases.

Short-term exposure is associated with exacerbation of asthma, effects on lung function, increases in hospital admissions and reduced life expectancy. Long-term exposure to air pollution reduces life expectancy by increasing deaths from lung, heart and circulatory conditions. Whilst the short and long-term effects of air pollution are interrelated, at a population level the effects of long-term exposure to air pollution are much greater.

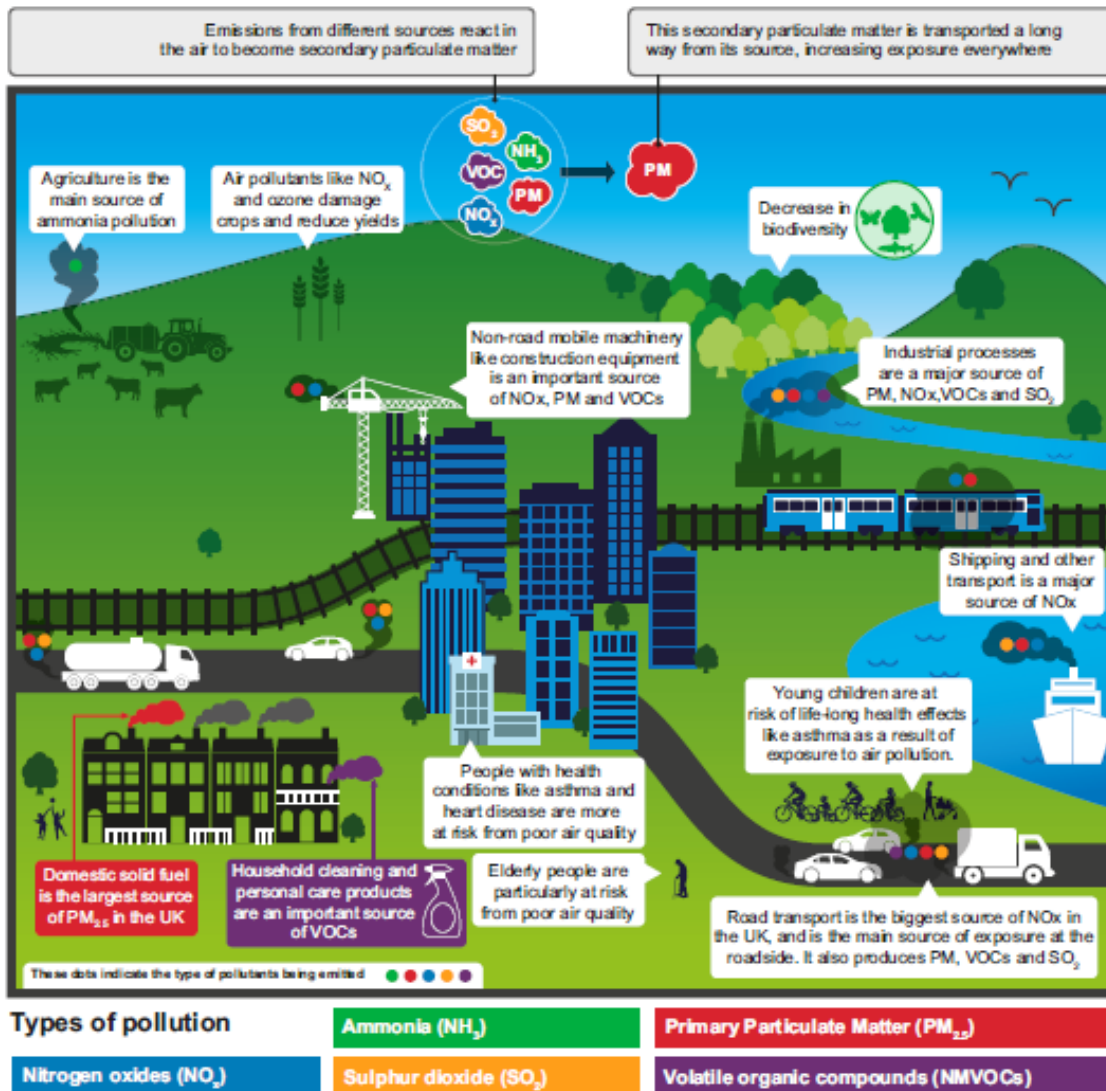
Our physical infrastructure and broader behaviours can also have an impact on air quality. Spatial planning, access to open and green space and the accessibility and confidence to walk and cycle all play a role in determining air quality.

#### **WHAT IS IN AIR POLLUTION?**

When we talk about air pollution in the UK we are generally talking about pollutants in the air we breathe which cause ill health in humans and are put into the air by human activity.

The most prominent air pollutants are Nitrogen Dioxide and Small Particulates (PM10, PM2.5 etc). The main sources of pollution are road transport, industrial emissions, domestic heating and agriculture.

### The sources of air pollutants and their effects



More information can be found on the web pages of the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) [uk-air.defra.gov.uk](http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk)

## LOCAL CONTEXT

This document should be read in conjunction with other Policies, Strategies, Action Plans, and Annual Status Reports available on the Council's Website under the [Air Quality](#) section.

The most significant linked documents are:

- **Kirklees Council Corporate Plan 2018/20**  
*Containing the objectives of the Council including the shared outcomes. The Clean and Green Shared Outcome contains a commitment to improve Air Quality*
- **Kirklees Council's Five Year Air Quality Action Plan 2019** (in development)  
*This document is the Council's 5 year strategy for reducing pollutants district wide and within the AQMA's*
- **Kirklees Council Annual Status Report (current year 2018)**  
*This document is the Council's annual return to DEFRA outlining current pollution conditions within the district and improvement actions taken within the reporting year*
- **West Yorkshire Low Emission Strategy**  
*This document is a regionally adopted strategic document aimed to reduce emissions*
- **Kirklees Council Local Plan (in draft)**  
*This is the councils development control plan for the next 20 years*
- **Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Plan 2018 – 2023**  
*The plan brings together partners to focus on the people who live in Kirklees (adults and children) and how, working collectively, the health and wellbeing of the whole population can be improved.*
- **Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment – Air Quality**  
*A summary of the intelligence and evidence around Air Quality at a local level, the health impacts, vulnerable groups, assets and future considerations.*
- **NICE guidance – Air pollution: Outdoor air quality and health.**  
*This guideline covers road-traffic-related air pollution and its links to ill health. It aims to improve air quality and so prevent a range of health conditions and deaths.*

## NATIONAL CONTEXT

As a District Council, Kirklees Council is bound by the **Environment Act 1995** and has a number of duties:

- To monitor the quality of the air in its district
- To report the results of monitoring to the Government annually
- To declare 'Air Quality Management Areas' (AQMA) when monitoring shows that the Government's Air Quality Objectives are not being met
- To produce 'Action Plans' to show how Air Quality will be improved when AQMAs are declared



The Air Quality Objectives are the pollution limits set by Government contained within **The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010** and contain the maximum allowed concentration of air pollutants before action is needed.

Other legislation such as the **Clean Air Act 1993** deals with industrial and domestic smoke emissions from chimneys and 'dark smoke' from open burning on industrial sites. As of 2018 this legislation is currently being reviewed by Government as it is inadequate in dealing with the problems associated with these sources of air pollution.

Part III of the **Environmental Protection Act 1990** enables the Council to deal with smoke which is a nuisance or prejudicial to health, for example from bonfires. The Act does not prohibit burning in the open, however, provides a procedure to deal with the nuisance effects of the smoke.

The **Environmental Permitting Act 1999** and its regulations control emissions to air from a number of prescribed industrial processes. Depending on the process, the Local Authority or the Environment Agency issue permits for these activities and control emissions via conditions and limits.

The **Town and County Planning Act 1990**. Regulations and guidance make air quality a material planning consideration.

#### **PICTURE OF AIR QUALITY IN KIRKLEES**

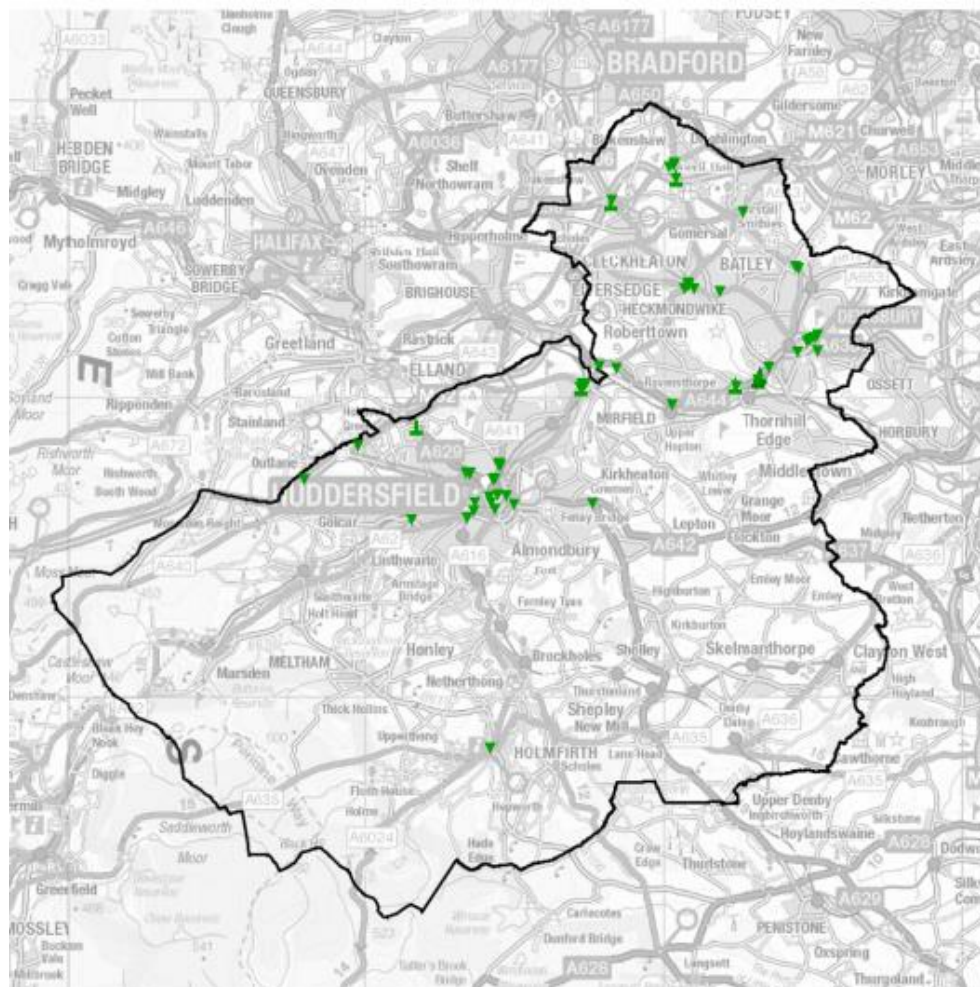
Poor air quality affects everyone but the health effects of air pollution are distributed unequally across the population. In general, levels of air pollution tend to be worse in more deprived communities because they are more likely to be close to busy polluted roads. Analysis by the Environment Agency into environmental quality and social deprivation looked at the social distribution of wards with the highest pollutant concentrations. This found that more than half of the most exposed 5% of the population lived in the 20% most deprived wards.

Children, older people, and people with chronic health problems are most at risk of the effects of air pollution. Where these groups live in more deprived communities located close to busy roads, the risk of health problems caused by exposure to air pollution will be further increased.

## Monitoring

Kirklees Council currently monitors air pollution continuously at two road side locations. These air stations monitor for a range of pollutant, including Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulates and report this in real time i.e. every second. The number of real time monitors in Kirklees has decreased since 2008 due to the cost of maintaining and running these monitors.

In addition to this Kirklees Council has over 80 diffusion tubes which measure the average concentration of Nitrogen Oxides over a month. Diffusion Tubes are a cost effective way of measuring air pollution. These tubes are strategically located around the district at locations with heavy or relatively heavy road congestion. The number of diffusion tube locations has increased over recent years to reflect the need to monitor more widely across the district. Kirklees Council review their monitoring network on an annual basis and allocate resources where we anticipate pollutant levels may be elevated by using professional experience and modelling software.



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### Pollution Hot Spots / Air Quality Management Areas

In Kirklees, certain geographical areas are of concern due to high levels of air pollution. Historical measuring of Air Quality is reported in the Council’s Annual Status Reports issued to, reviewed by and accepted by Government each year. These are summaries of the year’s monitoring results and proposed actions by the local authority. If the pollution limits are breached in a location then this is a hot spot and an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) must be declared. Kirklees has 10 AQMA’s:

- Bradley AQMA (2008) Nitrogen Dioxide
- Scout Hill AQMA (2009) Particulates
- Ainley Top, Huddersfield Nitrogen Dioxide
- Birkenshaw, Bradford Nitrogen Dioxide
- Eastborough, Dewsbury Nitrogen Dioxide
- Edgerton, Huddersfield Nitrogen Dioxide
- Liversedge Nitrogen Dioxide
- Outlane, Huddersfield Nitrogen Dioxide
- Huddersfield Town Centre Nitrogen Dioxide
- Thornton Lodge, Huddersfield (to be declared in 2018) Nitrogen Dioxide

The full details of the AQMAs can be found at <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/crime-and-safety/air-pollution.aspx>.

### WHAT ARE WE ALREADY DOING?

- **Planning Policy and Development Management** - Kirklees Council’s Air Quality officers helped develop Kirklees Council’s Draft Local Plan. Environmental Health also provide influence and input to new development proposals - proposals are assessed both on their exposure to air pollution and their impact on air quality.
- **ECOSTars** - Kirklees Council is leading on the ECOSTars freight recognition scheme, a West Yorkshire project in pursuance of WYLES. The project aims to cut emissions from heavy goods vehicles by fleet renewal, better driving and awareness.
- **West Yorkshire Strategic Electric Taxi Charge Point Project** – an Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) funded project which aims to deliver up to 88 dual taxi and public Electric Vehicles charge points throughout West Yorkshire – approximately 17 will be located in Kirklees.

- **West Yorkshire Clean Bus Project** – Kirklees is a partner in a West Yorkshire, Clean Bus Technology Fund funded project to improve emissions from buses throughout the region.
- **Bradley Traffic Light Rationalisation project**  
An award winning project by Kirklees Urban Traffic Management and Control to add technology to existing traffic lights to improve the efficiency of the system and reduce pollution.
- **Kirklees Walking and Cycling Strategic Framework** – The framework outlines a range of outcomes and action areas which will work to ensure that Kirklees is recognised as a great place to walk and cycle, inspiring more people to walk and cycle more often as a mode of transport, for work, leisure or for sport.  
**Kirklees Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)** – Kirklees Council wants to provide an infrastructure which will enable walking and cycling to be as easy as possible by developing the infrastructure of its streets, roads and highways.

#### WHAT ELSE DO WE STILL NEED TO DO?

Kirklees Council recognises that there are significant challenges facing the local authority to protect the health of its residents and improve air quality.

By law once a local authority declares an AQMA it must publish an action plan showing how the pollution in that area will be reduced below legal limits. Kirklees Council is developing a new Five Year Action Plan which will cover all AQMAs.

A partnership approach is required both internally in the Authority and with external partner organisations and businesses. Key internal partners such as Public Health, Transportation Planners, Highways, Development Management are critical in reducing emissions. External partners such as NHS Organisations, local Universities all have their part to play.

Kirklees Council will aim to:

- Ensure that Air Quality is a consideration in all relevant council **decision making** and policy development.
- Complete its **Action Plan** required by law – this action plan will not only meet the minimum legislative requirements, but be an ambitious plan identifying project which may be possible if funding is available – this can be used as a shopping list of project as and when funding becomes available.
- **Increase Resources** - Kirklees Council will aim to increase the number of FTE Air Quality Officers so capacity is present to meet the ongoing challenges. Capital funds is required to improve monitoring and fund project work.
- **Increase Monitoring** - Kirklees Council will review its monitoring network with a focus on increase its particulate monitoring.



- **Modal Shift** - Kirklees Council will aim to enable more people to use active travel in all parts of life.
- **Electric Vehicle Policy** - Kirklees Council will develop a strategy for the uptake of Electric Vehicles, through education, charging location and fleet change.
- **Improve Partnership working** – better partnership working between internal departments of the Council to imbed Air Quality in the planning and delivery of all aspects of Local Authority work. Develop and maintain good relationships with external organisations in Kirklees, particularly anchor institutions and local business.
- **Urban Traffic Management and Control** – build on the award winning and successful UTMC project at Bradley AQMA, where funding allows, to improve the technology on other UTMC junctions, prioritising AQMAs, to reduce emissions at junctions by improving flow, limit stop/start and heavy breaking and acceleration. This will also have economic benefits by reducing journey times.
- **Implement the WYLES** - Kirklees Council was successful in a Government funding bid to fund a Project Officer to deliver the WYLES throughout the region.
- **Identify and bid for external funding** – there are a number of Government funding opportunities - Kirklees Council – will identify and bid for appropriate opportunities.
- **Deliver the Electric Taxi Charge Point Network** - Kirklees Council will work with regional partners in the delivery of this project with the aim of increasing the number of electric vehicle and reduce emissions
- **EcoStars** – Continue to project manage this initiative on behalf of West Yorkshire authorities.
- **Improve Regional Working** - Kirklees Council through the WYLES delivery group will aim to improve the coordination of the regional authorities on Air Quality.
- **West Yorkshire Transport Fund + Highways development**  
Air Quality will be considered at all stages of highway development projects. The aim of new project development will be to improve air quality
- **Kirklees Council Local Plan** the draft Local Plan includes Policies to protect the Public from Air Pollution. These Policies will be implemented in full and ensure that new development does not increase emissions and where possible improves reduces them. The development of Supplementary Planning Documents will include additional specific measure to improve Air Quality
- **Domestic Fuel** Kirklees will work with the Public to improve emissions from domestic heating, development of projects for district heating, education and enforcement to ensure that solid fuel use is in accordance with the law, and current best practice and gas boilers are maintained.
- **Government Consultations** – Kirklees will keep up the pressure on National Government to implement Policies which tackle Air Pollution on a National Scale and provide funding for local projects

## WHAT CAN THE PUBLIC DO TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY?

The council wants to ensure that individuals and communities are enabled to make decisions which improve air quality. Whilst the council is working to ensure that this happens, there are also a range of measures that the Public can do to help to improve air quality.

Kirklees Council recognises that sometimes people have limited choices other than to use their car, for example to travel long distances or where public transport is not possible.

- **Walking.** Walking short journeys instead of using the car is a good way to reduce car emissions and improve health. There are a range of walking opportunities available in Kirklees. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Cycling.** There are a range of cycling opportunities available in Kirklees. For more information click [here](#).
- **Public Transport.** Using public transport instead of the car is one way to improve air quality. You can find your best journey options [here](#).
- **Reduce the use of your car.** Kirklees has a car share scheme, find out more [here](#).
- **Go electric.** If possible, driving an efficient low polluting vehicle e.g. electric/hybrid can help improve air quality.
- **Forget the garden bonfire – do not have bonfires at all.** Compost all garden waste and recycle rubbish rather than burn it. Find out more about how to get rid of garden waste [here](#).
- **Boilers.** Ensure that boilers are serviced regularly and kept in good working order. If a boiler needs replacing then purchase one that has a low NOx emission rating. Make your house more energy efficient so that you need to use your boiler less to heat your home. Find out more information [here](#).
- **Burn smokeless fuel and use the most efficient stove possible such as an EcoStove**

**Name of meeting: Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 21 March 2019**

**Title of report: Review of 2018/19 – Work Programme**

**Purpose of report**

To review the Panel's work programme for 2018/19 and identify areas of work that have been completed; those that need to be carried forward to next year; those that need to be monitored; and to consult on potential areas for scrutiny during 2019/20.

<b>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?</b>	<b>N/A – Report produced for information only</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	<b>No</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Date signed off by <a href="#">Strategic Director</a> &amp; name</b>	
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?</b>	<b>No – The report has been produced for information only.</b>
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?</b>	
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Communities &amp; Environment Corporate Economy Health &amp; Social Care Housing &amp; Democracy</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: N/A**

**Public or private: Public**

## 1. **Summary**

- 1.1 In July, at the start of the 2018/19 municipal year, the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel met to determine its work programme for the year. The Panel followed an approach that is designed to help members prioritise and ensure measurable outcomes for scrutiny work.
- 1.2 The Panel is asked to reflect on the work it has undertaken, identify where work has been completed and highlight those projects that remain ongoing; continue to be a priority; and need to be carried forward to next year. In order to help members of the Panel to do this, a straightforward flowchart with key questions has been developed and is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.3 A copy of the Panel's work programme, containing details of the work undertaken, is also attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 1.4 Members are asked to look at each item on their work programme and use the flowchart to help determine the next steps.
- 1.5 **Looking Forward to 2019/20**
- 1.6 In addition to identifying issues to be carried forward from the current work programme panel members are also asked to identify any additional issues that they consider to be of a strategic priority and would wish to propose for inclusion in the scrutiny work programme for 2019/20.
- 1.7 In order to assist the shortlisting and prioritising process undertaken by scrutiny, it is important that members also identify the remit of the proposed issue, the value that scrutiny would add by being involved, and why this should be a priority for scrutiny over the next 12 months.

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

N/A

## 3. **Implications for the Council**

### 3.1 **Working with People**

N/A

### 3.2 **Working with Partners**

N/A

### 3.3 **Place Based Working**

N/A

### 3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**

N/A

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

N/A

## 4. **Consultees and their opinions**

N/A

5. **Next steps and timelines**

Following the Panel's discussion, the identified issues will be taken forward for inclusion within a Work Programme Long List. Following an initial overview by the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee the Panel will receive a shortlist of potential work programme issues and will then go on to fully scope individual projects to ensure focused pieces of work with clear outcomes.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

1. That the Panel review its work programme and identify where work has been completed and highlight those projects that remain ongoing and need to be carried forward to next year.
2. That the Panel identify any additional issues of a strategic priority that it wishes to propose for inclusion in the scrutiny work programme for 2019/20 together with details of the remit of the proposed issue, the value that scrutiny would add by being involved, and why this should be a priority for scrutiny over the next 12 months.

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

N/A

8. **Contact officer**

Sheila Dykes, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer,  
Tel: 01484 221000 Email: [sheila.dykes@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:sheila.dykes@kirklees.gov.uk)

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

N/A

10. **Service Director responsible**

Julie Muscroft Service Director: Legal, Governance & Commissioning

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## REVIEWING THE PANEL'S WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2018/19

For each issue on the Panel's work programme:

**Has the Panel/Lead Member looked at this issue during the course of the year?**

In June, the Panel anticipated that this issue was a sufficient priority to be included in their work programme for 2018/19. Has there been an opportunity to undertake any work on this?

YES

NO

**Has work been completed?**

- Has a final report and recommendations been produced, if appropriate?
- Has it been identified that there is no further work to be undertaken on this issue?

YES

NO

**Are there any recommendations that need to be monitored?**

- Is the Panel responsible for monitoring the recommendations of a specific project?
- Is a final report awaiting submission to Cabinet and likely to need follow up work?

YES

NO

**INCLUDE IN  
WORK  
PROGRAMME  
2019/20 LONG  
LIST FOR  
PRIORITISATION**

**CONCLUDED –  
DON'T TAKE  
FORWARD**

**Does the Panel know what work still needs to be done?**

- Is there a project plan detailing the work that is outstanding?
- Is this an ongoing strategy or policy development issue requiring ongoing scrutiny involvement?
- Has consideration been given to the timescale for undertaking this work?

YES

NO

**INCLUDE IN  
WORK  
PROGRAMME  
2019/20 LONG  
LIST FOR  
PRIORITISATION**

**IDENTIFY  
AREAS  
NEEDING  
COMPLETION**

**Is it still a priority for the Panel?**

- Potential work programme issues are scored against a number of criteria to help identify high priorities:
  - Is it a Cabinet or Council priority?
  - Does it relate to a poorly performing performance indicator?
  - Is it an issue of significant local concern?
  - What is the impact of scrutiny not doing this work?
  - Can anything change as a result of scrutiny doing this work?
- Does this issue still score as a high priority?

YES

NO

**INCLUDE IN  
WORK  
PROGRAMME  
2019/20 LONG  
LIST FOR  
PRIORITISATION**

**DON'T TAKE  
FORWARD**

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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
<b>Economic Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking at the refresh of the Kirklees Economic Strategy.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 5 September 2018</u> The Panel received an update on the work that was taking place to refresh the Kirklees Economic Strategy (KES). 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> 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 KES. The Panel agreed that an update on the refresh of the KES and Social Value and Inclusive Growth be brought back to the Panel in January 2019.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 17 January 2019</u> The Panel received an update on the refresh of the KES and the final Local Wealth Building Report by the Centre for Economic Strategies. The work undertaken and progress made was noted and it was requested that an update be brought back to the Panel following implementation.</p>

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

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Skills Strategy</b></p>	<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"> <li>• 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?</li> <li>• Reviewing the LCR Strategy and assessing how it will influence and shape local policy.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 10 October 2018</u> Members received an update and noted the progress and further development of the Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan.</p>
<p><b>Towns and Communities in Kirklees</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To consider and assess the plans being developed for Dewsbury and Huddersfield Town Centres.</li> <li>• To assess the objectives of the plans to include the aspirations/vision for the towns, public realm and infrastructure.</li> <li>• To consider the approach being taken to developing and consulting on the master plans and looking at the role of scrutiny in this process.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 7 November 2018</u> 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"> <li>• partnership working in developing the town centre offer;</li> <li>• work with the Town Centre Partnership in relation to the Huddersfield Business Improvement District (BID); and</li> <li>• work on Dewsbury Town Centre development.</li> </ul>

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

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<b>Towns and Communities in Kirklees (continued)</b>		<p><u>Panel Meeting 14 February 2019</u>                      It was anticipated that a meeting of the Panel would be arranged early in the new municipal year to focus on the Town Centre Masterplan, to be followed by an informal session with wider involvement.</p>
<b>Green Space</b>	To consider the proposed approach to the draft Greenspace Strategy.	<p><u>Panel Meeting 12 December 2018</u>                      The Panel received a report which set out the proposed approach to the draft Greenspace Strategy.</p>
<b>Digital Strategy</b>	To consider and provide input into the draft Digital Plan	<p><u>Panel Meeting 14 February 2019</u>                      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 Digital Plan.</p>
<b>Waste Minimisation</b>	Areas could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• A more detailed look at the waste and recycling elements of this agenda.</li> <li>• Considering what is being done to change the behaviour of the local population to avoiding and reducing waste.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 17 January 2019</u>                      Further to a presentation given at Council on 16 January 2019, the Panel received a presentation in relation to waste and recycling and noted the work that was being undertaken.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b>		Scheduled for 21 March 2019

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

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<p><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Consideration to be given to monitoring progress of the Strategy and the approach and time line for this work.</li> <li>• Receiving a presentation on the proposed changes to the Kirklees Housing Allocations Policy to include the planned approach to delivering the policy.</li> <li>• Areas of focus on Allocations Policy to be agreed following the initial discussions.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 19 July 2018</u>                      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"> <li>• To look at the implications for the local authority following the publication of the Hackitt report.</li> <li>• Cllrs Hughes and Armer would join the Council working group undertaking a review of the Open Age Policy and Local Lettings Framework.</li> </ul> <p><u>Panel Meeting 10 October 2018</u>                      As part of discussion on the work programme it was agreed that an update on Housing Strategy Implementation be scheduled in the new year. This has been arranged for 21 March 2019.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 12 December 2018</u>                      The Panel received a report which provided an update on the Rough Sleeping situation including changes to the Council's Severe Weather Emergency Protocol and application proposals for Rough Sleeping Strategy funding. The Panel acknowledged the work being undertaken by the Council and partners to tackle homelessness.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 17 January 2019</u>                      The Panel received a report which outlined progress in developing the Kirklees Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, as well as a draft version of the Strategy prior to consideration by Council on 20 March 2019.</p>

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

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<b>Housing (continued)</b>		<p>The Panel noted the work undertaken to tackle the issues raised; and recommended that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the wording in relation to the Housing First model be updated in the draft Kirklees Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy to outline the current position; and</li> <li>• that statistics in relation to the uptake of the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol provision be included with the documentation to Council on 20 March 2019.</li> </ul>
<b>Review of the Hackitt Report</b>	<p>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>	<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. Other potential areas for future consideration included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the success of the Council in involving residents in the management and monitoring of social housing stock;</li> <li>• the ability to provide more social housing and manage effectively; and</li> <li>• an examination of neighbourhood working and how the Council could manage and improve neighbourhoods and work with residents to tackle their concerns.</li> </ul>

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