

# Public Document Pack



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Wednesday 6 November 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 14 November 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 Harpreet Uppal (Chair)

Councillor Martyn Bolt

Councillor Richard Eastwood

Councillor Yusra Hussain

Councillor Richard Murgatroyd

Councillor John Taylor

Andrew Bird (Co-Optee)

Chris Friend (Co-Optee)

Eilidh Ogden (Co-Optee)

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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Pages

**1: Membership of the Committee/Apologies**

This is where Councillors who are attending as substitutes will say for whom they are attending.

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**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 8

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 as a correct record.

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**3: Interests**

9 - 10

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.

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**4: 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.

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**5: Deputations/Petitions**

The Panel will receive any petitions and hear any deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also hand in a petition at the meeting but that petition should relate to something on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of presenting a deputation.

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**6: Tenant Involvement and Engagement**

11 - 20

The report will update the Scrutiny Panel in relation to the implementation of 'Get Involved', Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing's Tenant Involvement Strategy.

Contact Officer: Michelle Anderson-Dore, Head of Partnerships  
Tel: 07815 495324

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**7: Playable Spaces Strategy**

21 - 36

The report will provide an overview and update in relation to the Playable Spaces programme.

Contact Officer: Rob Dalby – Greenspace Operational Manager  
Tel: 01484 221000

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**8: Work Programme 2019/20**

37 - 42

The Panel will consider its Work Programme for 2019/20.

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

**Thursday 10th October 2019**

Present: Councillor Harpreet Uppal (Chair)  
Councillor Martyn Bolt  
Councillor Richard Murgatroyd  
Councillor John Taylor  
Councillor Yusra Hussain

Co-optees Andrew Bird  
Chris Friend  
Eilidh Ogden

In attendance: Councillor Naheed Mather – Cabinet Member, Greener Kirklees  
Councillor Cathy Scott – Cabinet Member, Housing and Democracy  
Councillor Rob Walker – Cabinet Member, Culture and Environment  
Wendy Blakeley – Head of Public Protection  
Rob Dalby – Greenspace Operational Manager  
Helen Geldart – Head of Housing Services  
Donna Harkins – Rough Sleeper Team Manager  
Karen Oates – Commissioning Manager (Access to Housing)  
Naz Parkar – Service Director for Housing  
Moirra Scarff – Parks Development Officer  
Martin Wood – Operational Manager, Economy and Infrastructure

Observers: Heather Peacock  
Richard Stow

Apologies: Councillor Richard Eastwood

**1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 19 September 2019 be agreed as a correct record.

**2 Admission of the Public**

That all items be considered in public session.

**3 Deputations/Petitions**

A deputation was received from Kirklees Climate Emergency – Trees, Moorland and Rewilding Sub Group, with Save Greenhead Trees which welcomed the production of a Council Trees Policy but stressed the importance of dates and targets for further tree planting. The Council was asked for a commitment to urban planting and protection of existing trees.

## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2019**

The Panel agreed to bring forward the item in relation to the Trees and Woodland Policy on the agenda and the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment provided a response.

### **4 Public Question Time**

No public questions were received.

### **5 Air Quality Action Plan**

A report was submitted which provided an update in relation to the development of the Council's Five Year Air Quality Action Plan.

Wendy Blakeley, Head of Public Protection and Martin Wood, Operational Manager; Economy and Infrastructure presented the draft action plan to the Panel. They explained that the Council was required, by the Government, to submit an annual report on air quality and this had to comply with a prescribed format. The action plan was a living document and had resulted from a collaborative process engaging with many partners, including local Councillors, throughout. The plan, containing over 100 actions, would be taken forward through close working alongside Councillors and the public; it covered the whole district not just those areas identified as being of concern. There was a strong link with work on the climate emergency and the team were working very closely with colleagues in that area.

Martin gave an overview covering; the definition of air quality; the primary causes and sources of pollution; how it is measured/monitored; the Council's approach; current actions; and examples of the positive outcomes that could be achieved.

Martin and Wendy responded to questions and comments as follows:

- A mobile air quality monitor was to be acquired, which would collect data on a second by second basis. This would mean that evidence could be collated to illustrate the impact of issues, such as idling vehicles outside schools, at different times of the day. The potential solutions to this matter would differ from school to school and they would be considered on an individual basis.
- In relation to concern about the resources necessary to achieve all the ambitions within the plan, it was explained that there had been an increase in the number of officers dedicated to air quality but stressed that the implementation of many of the actions were not the responsibility of this team but cut across the whole authority and its partners. The air quality team would take a lead and aim to ensure that these issues remained high up the agenda.
- In terms of the planning system, it was believed that there had been a fundamental shift in the right direction and having the action plan/strategy would help ensure that decisions were made differently in the future.
- A comment by one of the co-opted members in relation to a prohibition on solid fuel stoves and the issue of fuel poverty was taken on board.
- The approach in terms of taxis and licensed vehicles combined the use of both regulation and persuasion; this was being considered in conjunction with the other West Yorkshire authorities.

## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2019**

- Kirklees would not meet the Government's criteria for the introduction of a full charging clean air zone. Consideration could be given to the implementation of a voluntary clean air zone however there were a number of associated pros and cons.
- The action plan contained a commitment to increase the level of monitoring and to communicate more widely about the areas where air quality was good as well as where it was an issue.

Members raised issues in respect of:

- Integration with the Council's other strategies, such as the economic strategy and planning policy.
- The mechanisms that would be used to achieve the ambitions in the plan, such as better quality and cleaner buses.
- Enforcement in relation to idling vehicles.
- The use of natural measures to help air quality.
- The integration/expansion of the necessary infrastructure and bus services, including as part of new developments, to facilitate walking, safe cycling and use of public transport.
- Provision of electric bikes for Council use.

It was noted that the action plan contained a wide array of actions and that individual topic areas could be brought back to the Panel for scrutiny in more depth.

The Cabinet Member acknowledged the significant work undertaken by officers in developing the action plan.

### **RESOLVED –**

(1) That the Kirklees Five Year Air Quality Action Plan be welcomed and the significant amount of work undertaken by officers in developing this document be acknowledged.

(2) That it be noted that the actions and responsibilities within the action plan lie with the whole of the Council and its partners.

(3) That the following areas of interest be noted as those which the Panel may wish to give more detailed consideration in the future:

- Which measures have proven effective and which provide good value for money.
- Addressing the issue of vehicles with idling engines particularly outside schools.
- How the planning system can be used/will address issues in relation to infrastructure to encourage sustainable transport/active travel.
- Improving infrastructure to encourage travel by public transport/cycling and walking.
- Encouraging/ facilitating better options for travel to school to reduce use of private cars.

**6 Trees and Woodland Policy**

A report was submitted in relation to a proposed Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy. The report also provided an update on the approach being taken to the White Rose Forest scheme.

In presenting the report, Rob Dalby, the Greenspace Operational Manager highlighted the following points:

- The policy contained 3 principle documents; the overarching policy statement, a guidance document and a risk management framework. The aims of which were the proactive enhancement and effective protection and management of the district's trees and woodland, including risk management and dealing with conflict and complaints.
- Robust engagement would take place in respect of any proposed removal of street trees; the primary reason for removal of which was public safety. If a tree had to be removed it would be replaced wherever possible.
- In terms of woodland management, a number of options were under consideration including; in-house delivery, social enterprise, commercial outsourcing and community transfer.
- Account would be taken of climate change adaptation and threats, such as the existing one to ash trees.
- Further to consideration at the Scrutiny Panel, there would be an internal review of the proposed policy and consultation with stakeholders and partners prior to submission to Cabinet.
- The aims of the White Rose Forest project and Kirklees' approach, working closely with third party landowners and in partnership with other organisations.
- In order to meet the canopy cover target the majority of the trees would need to be planted within the next 10 years.
- Two officers were to be appointed to focus entirely on delivery of White Rose Forest objectives.
- The Strategic Director was currently considering how Council owned land was used.

The Cabinet Members for Culture and Environment, Councillor Rob Walker, and Greener Kirklees, Councillor Naheed Mather, were in attendance and commented that:

- There would be instances where it was necessary to remove trees but there was a strong commitment to replace wherever possible.
- It was important that, if trees were removed to facilitate new development, serious consideration was given to replacement planting. Planning officers were involved with the White Rose Forest group and there was much greater awareness of the opportunities that could be taken to increase planting.
- Consideration was being given to the best use of Council land; this included recognition of the potential benefits of planting in terms of flood management and bio diversity.
- A lot of valuable work was being undertaken by community groups, parish councils and schools.



## Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2019

- The Leader of Council had expressed a commitment to embed the climate change agenda across the Council. Funding was needed at a national level and a partnership approach would be necessary in order to achieve the Council's ambitions.

In response to points raised;

- Rob Dalby said that the scale of the challenge was recognised but this was considered to be an exciting opportunity to pursue social enterprise and work with a wide range of individuals/ organisations/charities and schools. He undertook to discuss, with planning colleagues, the role of that service both in protecting existing trees and encouraging new planting, and the potential for the creation of supplementary planning advice in relation to woodland and tree management.
- Councillor Walker undertook to look into the potential impact of the Cooper Bridge bypass scheme on existing woodland.

In welcoming the document, questions were raised about the resources needed to achieve the ambitions. Rob explained that the finance to undertake tree planting was generally generated from grant funding; the Council would also be working alongside a number of delivery partners. A significant proportion of the planting would involve third party land and consideration would need to be given to the management and support of delivery for this. There would be decisions to be made about the best use of Council owned land as there would be a number of considerations such as the implications for income generation and carbon offset benefits.

Rob was asked to review the wording of the guidance document in relation to the paragraph on street trees.

Members commented that:

- Consideration should be given to engaging with uniformed groups.
- There was a need to be mindful of the consequences of leaf drop in certain places where it may have a particular impact on vulnerable residents.

Councillor Mather responded to a question about the Town Centre Masterplan, she assured Members that landscaping and planting was part of the overall scheme and all regeneration projects would have a green element.

Involvement of the wider community was discussed as an important aspect of achieving the White Rose Forest plans and Rob said that any offers of assistance would be welcomed.

In reply to a further comment, Rob said that, where possible, sustainable screens/tree guards would be used when planting.

## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2019**

The representative of Kirklees Climate Emergency – Trees, Moorland and Rewilding Sub Group stated that dropped leaves should be considered a resource as they could be harvested and used as bio-gas feedstock. There were also opportunities that could be taken to recycle plastic waste into tree guards and posts. He stressed that there was a need for the planting work to be undertaken in a time period of no more than five years.

### **RESOLVED –**

(1) That Rob Dalby be thanked for his report and that the development of the Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy and the commitment to the White Rose Forest initiative be welcomed.

(2) That the intention to engage with officers in the planning department in relation to consideration of the treatment of trees and woodland management within the planning process be noted.

(3) That it be recommended that the Greenspace Service should engage with uniformed groups in relation to tree planting volunteering opportunities and that the engagement being undertaken with schools be endorsed

(4) That the policy be brought back to the Panel for consideration should significant amendment be made further to the consultation process.

(5) That it be acknowledged that there will be a need for involvement from partners and the wider community to achieve the objectives of the tree and woodland management plan and that more will need to be done to support and encourage community involvement.

## **7 Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2018-23 - Update**

The report provided an update on the approach being taken with key partners to develop and implement an action plan to support the achievement of the outcomes set out in the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2018-23.

Helen Geldart, Head of Housing Services introduced the report. Naz Parkar, Service Director for Housing, Economy and Infrastructure; Karen Oates, Commissioning Manager (Access to Housing); and Donna Harkins, the Rough Sleeper Team Manager were also present to answer questions.

Helen explained that the action plan was being developed, alongside partners, further to the adoption of the strategy in July 2019. She said that recent work had resulted in the award of funding of almost £250,000 to assist in tackling rough sleeping and a new team was now in place which took a holistic and proactive approach to work with people living on the street to understand the issues and build relationships. The team was working closely with partners.

Helen noted that:

- Funding of £120,000 had been awarded by MHCLG from the Private Rented Sector Access Fund.

## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2019**

- A good practice guide to street outreach work that had been developed by Homeless Link was appended to the report.
- The Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) was in place and would be activated when necessary.

Members welcomed the report, the holistic approach that was being taken and the positive outcomes being achieved despite the challenges.

The Cabinet Member expressed her thanks to officers for the significant amount of work that had been undertaken and the improvements being achieved. She thanked the Scrutiny Panel for its contribution to shaping the policy.

In response to questions it was explained that:

- Anyone attending Huddersfield Mission under the SWEP procedures would be encouraged to discuss their next steps the following day and this would include arrangements for transport if they had come from a different part of the district.
- SWEP provision had been sufficient but if there was ever a situation where a space was not available access to bed and breakfast accommodation would be ensured.
- The three consecutive night trigger was a national guideline but the Kirklees approach was flexible both in terms of timing and weather conditions. Information was sent to all elected members and partners, including the police and emergency duty services, once SWEP was in place and it was publicised on social media.
- MHCLG had some funding available associated with cold weather provision and the focus of this particular funding would also help strengthen health, social care and housing relationships.
- Possible models for temporary provision in North Kirklees were being explored, alongside a partner agency, as well as the provision of additional temporary Council units. Safeguarding was an important consideration in determining the appropriate solution.
- Local authorities had been asked to bid for funding to work specifically with veterans and this was being taken up at regional level.

### **RESOLVED –**

(1) That the holistic approach and positive outcomes being achieved in relation to the prevention of homelessness and rough sleeping in Kirklees be welcomed and that officers be thanked for their hard work on this issue.

(2) That it be acknowledged that the anticipated apparent increase in numbers of rough sleepers is partly the result of more effective capture of data and proactive work with partners.

(3) That the work being undertaken alongside other agencies to identify people at risk of homelessness at an early stage be welcomed.

(4) That it be recommended that specific reference be made to ex-military personnel as a vulnerable group and that the funding obtained at regional level to focus on work with veterans be noted.

(5) That it be noted that the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) had been in place with effect from 1 October and that the issue of temporary accommodation provision in North Kirklees still needs to be considered in the Council's approach.

**8 Work Programme 2019/20**

The Panel reviewed its work programme for 2019/20.

**RESOLVED –**

That the Panel's Work Programme and forthcoming items/activities be noted.

<b>KIRKLEES COUNCIL</b>					
<b>COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC</b>					
<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>					
Economy & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel					
<b>Name of Councillor</b>					
<b>Item in which you have an interest</b>	<b>Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")</b>	<b>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]</b>	<b>Brief description of your interest</b>		

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 Meeting**

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Title of report: Tenant Involvement and Engagement**

**Purpose of report: To update the Scrutiny Panel on the implementation of ‘Get Involved’ - the KNH Tenant Involvement Strategy**

<p><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></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>If yes give the reason why - – delivery of the strategy will continue to have significant effect on those electoral wards that include KNH managed estates.</b></p>
<p><b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u></b></p>	<p><b>Key Decision – No</b></p> <p><b>Private Report/Private Appendix – No</b></p>
<p><b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b></p>	<p><b>Not Applicable</b></p> <p><b>If no give the reason why not? The report provides an update only on progress made in relation to a Key Decision taken by Cabinet in 2017.</b></p>
<p><b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b></p> <p><b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?</b></p> <p><b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?</b></p>	<p><b>Karl Battersby 30/9/19</b></p>
<p><b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Cathy Scott</b></p>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: None**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes**

## 1. Summary

In 2017 Kirklees Council took the decision to decommission the Kirklees Federation of Tenants and Residents Association (KFTRA), known operationally as Communities Who Can (CWC), with effect from 1 October 2017. CWC provided support to a cohort of Tenants and Residents’ Associations (TRAs) and Community Voices (CVs) across Kirklees and helped tenants to develop new groups. CWC were also funded by the Council directly to deliver a Tenant Scrutiny model for Kirklees.

This decision was informed by the fact the existing model suggested low engagement levels, limited and uninspiring ways for tenants to get involved and, an approach to tenant scrutiny that was disconnected from any formal governance arrangements and did not align with the Council’s or

KNH's strategic priorities. As a result there was little evidence of the contributions from tenants in shaping services, influencing decisions and driving service improvements. It was also acknowledged that the model no longer complied with good practice and was not aligned to the Regulator for Social Housing's Consumer Standards.

As a result, the Council commissioned KNH to review the current model and to put forward recommendations for a new, modern and innovative involvement model which reflects best practice, promotes the use of technology, offers value for money and supports communities to do more for themselves and each other. The KNH Board also asked that the new approach include proposals that empower tenants to be more resilient, strengthen the tenants' voice in shaping services, influencing decision and driving improvements and is outcome focused.

In June 2018, in consultation with the Council, the KNH Board approved a new Tenant Involvement Strategy – 'Get Involved' which is attached at Appendix 1. The strategy highlights what tenant involvement means at KNH, the key activities it will support, the outcomes KNH seeks to achieve in partnership with our tenants, leaseholders, the Council and partners and the impact we want to achieve in our communities.

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

This section of the report summarises progress made in relation to the roll-out of the strategy and the extent to which these are aligned with the original objectives set out by the Council and KNH. The report also provides an update on how KNH is responding to the findings from the Hackitt Review post Grenfell and specifically the organisation's approach to engaging with 'residents' on fire safety related matters.

### **2.1 Reflects Best Practice**

KNH is a member of TPAS (formerly known as the Tenant Participation Advisory Service) who are recognised as the leading experts in tenant engagement ([www.tpas.org.uk/](http://www.tpas.org.uk/)). TPAS have continued to work with the organisation on the development of the new Tenant Involvement Strategy which included strengthening the role of tenants and leaseholders as part of the organisation's governance arrangements (this will be discussed in more detail later).

KNH completed a self-assessment or 'health check' in autumn 2017 based on TPAS' National Tenant Engagement Standards and aligned to the TPAS Landlord Accreditation Framework on Tenant Engagement. Feedback from the self-assessment has informed the development of the new model. KNH will also be working with TPAS to carry out a full external evaluation of the new Tenant Involvement Strategy starting in January 2020.

Over the last 18 months, the KNH Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Team and the new Tenant and Leaseholder Panel (as described later at Item 2.5) have attended a number of tenant involvement conferences and roundtable events to hear and discuss best practice in tenant engagement. The roundtable events have been of particular value as they provided an excellent opportunity for staff and panel members to discuss with their peers, the housing sector's current challenges. Colleagues from Blackpool and Coastal Housing, St Leger Homes in Doncaster and Rotherham Council have also visited KNH to share experiences of their tenant involvement journey. The overarching sector view is that approaches to engagement needs to continually evolve to remain current and meaningful to tenants.

### **2.2 Use of Technology**

The new strategy incorporates a wider menu of involvement opportunities to meet the diverse needs of nearly 22,000 KNH managed households. To extend the 'Get Involved' offer at KNH, a



new digital platform was launched in October 2018 providing a range of online tools for tenants to engage with KNH staff, other tenants including via their Tenant and Resident Association (TRA) and potentially, with the KNH Board. Since December 2018, 594 logins and 284 posts have been made to the platform.

The platform can also be used by KNH staff and partners to generate discussions, comments and polls e.g. in response to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG) call for evidence on good practice and how residents and landlords work together to keep their home and building safe and funding opportunities etc. The platform also provides an ideal opportunity for KNH to improve our engagement with underrepresented groups.

KNH has recently launched a new website at [www.knh.org.uk](http://www.knh.org.uk) which provides a modern, vibrant yet easy to use platform accessible to all tenants and residents to engage and communicate directly with the organisation. The new website also has a direct link to the 'Get Involved' Platform detailing opportunities and encouraging more tenants to have a voice.

## 2.3 Demonstrates Value for Money

### 2.3.1 Integrated Grant Scheme

A new Integrated Grant Scheme for TRAs was introduced as part of the new strategy. This scheme replaces previous outdated and less effective TRA and community grant programmes managed by KNH e.g. in 2017/18 only 44% of the funding available was spent at the end of the financial year. Launched last year, the new grant scheme consists of two elements; a TRA Grant of up to £500 per award to support groups with day-to-day running costs and a Social Investment Fund (SIF) of up to £2,000 per award that groups can apply for to deliver local projects that align with the Kirklees Partnership Outcomes. SIF awards are determined by the Tenant and Leaseholder Panel (TLP) (see Item 2.5). The new approach also places greater emphasis on groups securing their own and additional funding including in-kind contributions e.g. one TRA has received funding from Safer Kirklees to run youth diversionary activities aimed at addressing Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).

Last year, a total of 23 TRA grant applications were awarded to the value of £10,535 and 20 Social Investment Fund applications valued at £25,480. Whilst this shows an underspend of £21,985 on the 2018/19 budget (£58,000 in total), this needs to be noted in the context that the new funding arrangements did not commence until quarter 2 and therefore there were only two application windows open that year.

The Integrated Grant Scheme allows TRAs to work with other local groups and community organisations to help with the design and delivery of projects and activities on their estates. In 2018/19, the new arrangements also achieved efficiency savings of circa £50,000 as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

### 2.3.2 TRA and Community Premises Review

As part of the development of the new Tenant Involvement Strategy, KNH was also asked to review the 25 TRA and Community buildings managed on behalf of the Council and to report back with proposals for the future use of each asset. The review involves the undertaking of a detailed options appraisal for each building taking into account current usage, links with corporate priorities, running and maintenance costs, conversion costs, the availability of other community assets in the area and local housing demand where applicable. The views of Ward Members, TRAs and other key stakeholders is also taken into account.

Given the fact that 10 of the 25 buildings are former residential properties and the huge demand for social housing in Kirklees, the option to convert these back into residential use is a priority. To put this into context, as at May 2019 there were over 14,000 applicants registered on Choose n Move and, on average each week 557 Band A and B applicants (those in high priority housing need) are actively bidding for properties.

The review was put on hold during the pre-election period in 2018, however this work recommenced later that year. Progress is slower than originally anticipated, due to the complexities and individual circumstances associated with each building e.g. 8 of the buildings in scope are currently used as Polling Stations. Where this is the case, KNH remains in discussions with Electoral Services to ensure that suitable and appropriate accommodation remains available to be used in the future.

Options for the future use of the first four buildings have now been presented to the Council and will continue to be reported on a rolling programme. It is anticipated that reviews on at least 50% of the buildings (12) will be completed by the end of March 2020, including the 10 former residential premises and any other premise that becomes void. The remaining buildings will be reported to the Council by the end of March 2021.

#### 2.4 Supporting Communities and Empowering Tenants

The new Strategy has a clear commitment to develop the capacity of our TRAs and CVs to do more for themselves and the communities and estates they represent. As part of the review, a health check was carried out on all TRAs last year. This work unfortunately confirmed that there were far fewer active TRAs operating than the presumed 88 groups notified to KNH when Communities Who Can (CwC) was decommissioned in September 2017. Some TRAs were no longer operating or properly constituted as a TRA and, others had only existed for a short period of time or had ceased operations but were not formally dissolved. Last year a robust exercise was undertaken with the remaining cohort of 47 active TRAs to inform a programme of training and on-going 'light support' aimed at building confidence and strengthening the capacity of these groups e.g. book-keeping, bid-writing etc.

In contrast to the reducing numbers of TRAs, KNH continues to see an increasing number of people who want to get involved as individuals rather than through a formal group. Work is ongoing to redefine and strengthen the role of Community Voices, who are now called Street Voices (SVs), to ensure these individuals can play a more active part in ensuring tenants and leaseholders have a strong voice at KNH e.g. SVs can now apply for grant funding to deliver activities that benefit a wider group of tenants or estates and have access to training and on-going 'light touch support' from KNH.

As part of the new arrangements, KNH is also supporting the Neighbourhood Forums (which replaced the former Area Forums), Surgeries and Estate Inspections which continue to offer face to face engagement opportunities for tenants and leaseholders to co-design local services influence neighbourhood plans, including as part of the Council's Place Standard engagement activities and, to help shape local housing priorities.

#### 2.5 Shaping and Influencing Service Improvements

TPAS has also supported KNH to strengthen the role of tenants as part of our governance arrangements. In addition to our Tenant Board Member representatives (up to 3 places available on the Board of 9 members), KNH now has a new Tenant and Leaseholder Panel (TLP) and a Service Improvement and Challenge (SIC) Panel which form part of the organisation's governance framework.

A replacement to the previous Tenant and Resident Committees (TRCs), the TLP's role includes contributing to the development of new policies and service planning, driving improvements in services, approval of grant applications and the formal dissolution of TRAs. The TLP has now been in operation for 14 months. Six of the twelve positions on the TLP have now been appointed to, including one leaseholder. KNH continues to publicise and promote the opportunity to join the TLP.

The SIC Panel replaced the previous tenant scrutiny arrangements at KNH and is responsible for scrutinising policies and strategies, reviewing particular services and function to identify improvements using a variety of methodologies including surveys, mystery shopping, task and finish approach, monitoring performance, customer feedback and levels of satisfaction and reviewing complaints. The SIC is independent and agrees its own work plan however, this must have relevance to KNH priorities. With support from TPAS, the first scrutiny took place during spring/summer this year on how effectively KNH deals with complaints, given the importance of having robust and transparent processes in place following Grenfell. The findings are being incorporated into the on-going review of the KNH Complaints Policy and the development of a new service charter to replace the former KNH Quality Guarantee.

Over the last 18 months, KNH has led or participated in a series of consultation and engagement events with other teams e.g. to inform KNH's Your Home, Your Place 5 Year Capital Investment Programme and with other Council Services e.g. the roll-out of the Place Standard toolkit based on the principles that underpin the new strategy which are that KNH will:

- **Listen** to what our tenants are telling us
- **Empower** tenants to engage effectively with KNH
- Ensure all tenants can **influence** key decisions
- Make sure **engagement** is planned, monitored and measurable with clear outcomes
- Use a wide and flexible range of **involvement** tools and opportunities
- Create opportunities for projects to be **delivered** utilising the strengths of tenants
- Give clear **feedback** on how we have acted upon what tenants tell us

## 2.6 Evidenced Based Outcomes

Integral to the new strategy is the ability to monitor the impact of the new arrangements and specifically, the opportunities that are created to ensure tenants can have a really strong voice, are able to influence service delivery and development and, have opportunities to develop themselves, their families and their communities. As a result, new Performance Indicators (PI's) have been developed at KNH for Tenant Involvement and are monitored on a quarterly basis which include:

- Number of households engaged in Tenant Involvement activities
- That KNH listens and acts upon the views of tenants (taken from the annual STAR Survey)
- % of Active Tenant and Resident Associations (TRAs) and Street Voices (SVs)
- Number of underrepresented groups involved in Tenant Involvement activities

## 2.7 Fire Safety

In the summer, the KNH Board endorsed a new Fire Safety Management Plan (FSMP) which is awaiting formal approval by the Council. The FSMP is informed by the findings from the Hackitt Review which, in addition to strengthening building regulations and compliance, recommends that landlords should have a 'resident engagement strategy' for fire safety. The FSMP is also aligned with the recommendations in the Social Housing Green Paper and the priorities set out in the Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018-23.

A Resident Engagement Framework forms part an integral part of the FSMP and sets out the organisation's approach to engaging with 'residents' on fire safety related matters. The framework describes the various channels and opportunities for tenants and leaseholders to understand, discuss and scrutinise KNH's fire safety practices and performance and will be aligned with the organisation's revised Complaints Policy and Procedures. KNH will adopt an 'every contact counts' approach to ensure conversations' on fire safety are routinely and informally discussed at every opportunity.

The framework is not designed to replace existing or individual interactions with residents but will complement existing channels available through the Tenant Involvement Strategy whilst helping to bring a more structured, transparent and robust approach to the fire safety relationship between KNH and its residents e.g.

- Tenant and Leaseholder Panel (TLP) – the FSMP is already a standard agenda item at all TLP meetings.
- Service Improvement and Challenge Panel (SIC) – the Panel will scrutinise and review customer facing elements of the FSMP
- Tenants and Residents Associations (TRAs) and Street Voices (SVs) - KNH will work with the groups and individuals to promote fire safety in their blocks and encourage others to do the same
- Creation of Fire Safety Champions from existing tenant groups where possible e.g. TRAs or SVs
- Use of the Tenant Involvement Digital Platform to create an interactive dedicated space targeted at residents living in 'high rise' blocks and including relevant information e.g. Fire Risk Assessments.
- Prioritising the Integrated Grant Scheme to support residents who want to deliver 'fire safety' activities targeted at the 'high rise' properties
- Provide residents with fire safety awareness training including online or e-learning opportunities, taking full advantage of the digital platform
- Use the wide range of engagement opportunities to raise awareness with residents about their obligations to maintain the safety of their flats e.g. improvements or alterations that require approval, advice on appropriate storage etc and implications for any breaches
- Development of a 'High Rise Living Residents Forum' linked to KNH's existing governance framework through the TLP and SIC to give residents a voice and ensure services meet the needs and expectations of people living in 'high rise' buildings

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

#### **Working with People**

The new Tenant Involvement Strategy creates more opportunities for more local people to come together around a common purpose ensuring services are shaped by and reflect the voice of the tenant and helping to create successful communities.

#### **Working with Partners**

Working in partnership with tenants, residents, leaseholders and local services including community and voluntary groups is integral to delivering the outcomes in the Tenant Involvement Strategy.

#### **Place Based Working**

Place Based Working will continue to be aligned with the roll-out of the Tenant Involvement Strategy at KNH to maximise citizen engagement, reduce duplication of work with tenants,

leaseholders and other residents living on KNH estates and, the risk of consultation fatigue across KNH communities e.g. Berry Brow

## **Improving outcomes for children**

Implementing the strategy will allow KNH to better understand what is important to families living in KNH communities and, creates more opportunities for children to have a voice in the services that impact on their lives and their future.

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

The proposals are in line with the Regulator for Social Housing Consumer Standards and, specifically, the Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard (TIE).

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

Consultation was carried out on the content of the report with the Director of Neighbourhoods at KNH.

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

Will be determined following presentation of the report to the Economy & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

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

The contents of the report details an update on the implementation of the 'Get Involved' – KNH Tenant Involvement Strategy. This follows a request by Councillor Uppal at a briefing on 12th September for an update on tenant involvement and engagement to include recent history, current arrangements and how things such as safety issues are picked up.

### **7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**

Not applicable.

### **8. Contact Officer**

Michelle Anderson-Dore, Head of Partnerships, KNH - [michelle.anderson-dore@knh.org.uk](mailto:michelle.anderson-dore@knh.org.uk) or telephone: 07815 495 324.

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

KNH Board Reports detailed history of decisions made dated 20th September 2017; 13th December 2017; 21st February 2018; 28th March 2018; 12th December 2018 and 20th June 2018. Copies of the report can be made available on request.

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

Joanne Bartholomew, Chief Operating Officer at KNH  
Naz Parkar, Service Director for Housing, Economy and Infrastructure

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# Get Involved!

## Tenant Involvement Strategy

### Tenant Involvement at KNH means we:

- Listen
- Empower
- Influence
- Engage
- Involve
- Deliver
- Feedback

### Key activities we will support:

- Tenant and Leaseholder Panel
- Service Improvement and Challenge Panel
- Tenant and Resident Associations (TRAs)
- Digital Platform
- Neighbourhood Forums, Surgeries, Estate Inspections
- Grants Scheme

### Outcomes that will evidence our success:

- The voice of the tenant is clearly evident in key decisions taken by the Board
- Service improvements are shaped by and reflect the voice of the tenant
- More opportunities for individuals to have a say in the future of their homes and communities
- Increased enrichment of the business and staff through the diverse and collective experiences of our tenants
- More local people coming together around a common purpose to help create successful communities

### Impact we will make:

- Tenants will feel they really have a strong voice, are able to influence services, delivery and development and, have an opportunity to develop themselves, their families and their communities

## Tenant Involvement at KNH means we will:

- **Listen** to what our tenants are telling us
- Put in place the right support for our tenants to develop their confidence, skills and knowledge so they feel **empowered** to engage effectively with KNH on behalf of themselves, their families and the wider community
- Ensure all tenants have a strong voice and can **influence** key KNH decisions relating to service improvements and performance
- Make sure **engagement** is planned, monitored and measurable with clear outcomes linked to KNH's priorities and Kirklees Council's seven partnership outcomes
- Use a wide and flexible range of **involvement** tools and opportunities to promote fairness and inclusion, recognising that one size does not fit all
- Create opportunities for projects to be **delivered** that utilise the strengths of our tenants and the wider communities and enable individuals to do more for themselves and each other
- Give clear **feedback** on how we have acted upon what tenants tell us and what

## Key activities we will support include:

- A **Tenant and Leaseholder Panel** as part of the KNH governance framework ensuring tenants and leaseholders can influence the development of strategies, policies and plans and how the business is run
- A **Service Improvement and Challenge Panel** to ensure tenants and leaseholders can scrutinise services. The panel will hold KNH to account for their decisions and performance. As part of their work the panel will suggest areas where KNH can make improvements
- Ensuring **Tenants and Resident Associations (TRAs)** and our Community Voices representatives can continue to operate across KNH estates, providing information, activities and opportunities for tenants, leaseholders and residents to be involved, support common goals, build networks and develop new skills
- A new **Digital Platform** to enhance and complement KNH's menu of involvement opportunities. The platform offers a range of tools for tenants, leaseholders, residents and wider stakeholders to engage through social media, online surveys, feedback and other interactive channels. The platform is also used by KNH staff to monitor, measure, analyse and report on the effectiveness of the different approaches
- **Neighbourhood Forums, Surgeries and Estate Inspections** continue to offer face to face engagement opportunities for people to co-design local services, influence neighbourhood plans and help shape local housing priorities
- Promotion of a new **Grant Scheme** incorporating TRA Grants and a Social Investment Fund, that supports tenants who want to design and deliver local activities for and on behalf of people living on KNH estates

## Kirklees Council Seven Partnership Outcomes



Children



Healthy



Achievement



Safe & cohesive



Economic



Clean & green



Independent



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

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Title of report: Playable Spaces – Revised Strategy**

**Purpose of report:** To provide an overview and an update on the Playable Spaces Programme

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?	No (In the context of this report)  The approved programme will result in spending more than £250k and will have an effect on all wards.
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	Key Decision – No  Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Karl Battersby – 04/10/2019
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr Rob Walker

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: No**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes, personal data will not be collected or retained**

## 1. Summary

The revised version of the Playable Spaces Strategy was approved at Cabinet on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (Attached as Appendix 1).

Since then works to re-start the programme have commenced:

- 24<sup>th</sup> October – Re-start meeting held with the Project Team, the Comms team and Cllr Walker  
Next steps are to re-arrange ward meetings with all councillors, develop the communications plan, including a case study of a Playable Space and investigate options for and logistics of public engagement
- 28<sup>th</sup> October – Meeting held to discuss engagement with children through Community Hubs and Play.  
Next steps are to develop and review engagement plan, aligned with comms plan
- 31<sup>st</sup> October – Meeting arranged with Project team and Comms team to plan the communications programme
- 11<sup>th</sup> November – Commence Case Study  
Site visit with Project team, Comms and Cllr Walker to design case study materials for use with Ward meetings and social media

## 2. Ward Meetings / Member Briefings

During the summer a number of meetings were held with councillors to discuss their play areas and to obtain vital local knowledge.

These meetings proved invaluable in gathering additional knowledge to help guide the design process and the public engagement plan.

It is anticipated that the ward meetings will recommence prior to the Christmas break (after the General Election) pending Councillor availability and will continue into the new year.

## 3. Public Engagement

As per the original plan, public engagement is a key and essential part of the programme. There is a huge emphasis on this as reinforced by Cllr Walker at Full Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> October:

The following quotes are taken from the webcast recorded on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019:

*“A park would only be closed if there is a very clear call from a community to do so.*

*If there is no express desire to change things then the team, the parks team, would carry out the regular checks on the play equipment and the general environment of the park. It's inevitable that at some point items of play equipment may need to be replaced or refurbished. There is no secret plan to spirit away equipment in the dead of winter as the examiner article suggests and we would look at each park and ensure that it maintains its play value.*

*...what we need to do now is to have a proactive approach which is all about working with communities and all of us as councillors I think have got a really important role to play in that. We know our communities best and the parks team [and] with myself need to work with councillors through you to identify who the key people are in particular communities when we're making the decisions about the future of each park and I'll return to that in the answer to some of the later questions.*

*Any changes to play areas will only be made in consultation with both ward councillors and communities. We care very much about the views of local people. Friends of groups can act as the voice of many communities and are very important in part in making sure that we get things right for people. They will be just one of many ways though in which we will engage with the community. I know that not all play areas have established Friends of*

*groups that are there to articulate local opinion and activity. If ward councillors or members of the community wish to establish such groups there are officers in place to provide such support and I have worked with them along with my fellow ward councillors within my own ward and found that a very satisfactory way forward. I would expect ward councillors may be involved in such activity and I would very happy to discuss that with them so if anybody wants to come along and have a chat with me about help setting up Friends groups in your area or if you want to go directly to the appropriate officers please do that.*

*I know from experience that in some cases there can be differences of opinion within a community about a particular park, this again is a situation when I would hope ward councillors will help in identifying key stakeholders and in helping to judge the most appropriate way forward for the benefit of the community.*

*I think we do need to work with the people who know the communities best, which in many cases is the ward councillors.”*

A copy of the report to Cabinet is attached at Appendix 2

Regarding engagement with the general public the current suggestion is to have a two-phased approach:

Phase 1 (winter 2019/20) – gather views and opinions from children across the district in addition to promoting positive comms messages through various channels. There is also an option to hold generic drop-in sessions across the district to take any feedback directly from communities. These options are currently under discussion.

Phase 2 (spring 2020 onwards) – a more focussed and detailed engagement by site. This phase requires further research and planning to determine the logistics of carrying out this intense, high level style of engagement.

#### **4. Financial Implications / Ongoing Discussions**

The original programme was designed to complete within 3 years. Following the revised strategy there are some potential challenges that may be faced in terms of the original budget.

We are now working towards developing a 5 year programme. Officers are reviewing the impact of this on the budget, but it is likely that additional funds will be required to align the 15 year age rule for equipment.

In addition to this, should during community engagement, communities request a strong desire to retain/replace equipment not currently budgeted for, then the programme will likely incur additional costs for the supply and installation of equipment and also for the ongoing maintenance.

Finally, the original programme put working with communities at the heart of the programme, however it didn't include the amount of resource required to complete detailed engagement for each play area. Options for this process is being considered by the project team but may require additional resource not currently budgeted for.

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

Winter 2019/20

- Meet with ward members to discuss local site information
- Establish and articulate public communications
- Start to talk to children through community hubs
- Hold generic drop-in sessions and/or provide positive and creative social media messages

Spring 2020 (post local elections)

- Begin to hold localised community engagement sessions
- Develop play area designs

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

Officers would support the opportunity to be able to talk to both ward councillors and the general public prior to the local elections in Spring 2020. This could be a valuable opportunity to dispel many of the myths and show that progress is being made.

## **7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations/comments: Cllr Rob Walker**

The playable Space Strategy is an important initiative to invest £9.5 Million in improving the play opportunities for children in Kirklees. This capital expenditure is to be supported by active play development initiatives through the work of public health and community hubs. It is vitally important that we respond to the health and well-being needs of Kirklees children, their parents and carers. Central to this process is working with ward councillors and our communities to ensure that we develop the play opportunities that meet children's needs.

## **8. Contact officer**

Rob Dalby  
Greenspace Operational Manager  
Email: [rob.dalby@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:rob.dalby@kirklees.gov.uk)  
(01484) 221000

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

- o Playable Spaces Revised Strategy 16/10/2019  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=8203>
- o Playable Spaces Strategy and Operational Plan 19/03/2019  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7328>
- o Revised Play Strategy and Delivery Cabinet paper 27/06/2017  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=4208>

## **10. Service Director responsible**

Karl Battersby  
Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure  
Email: [karl.battersby@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:karl.battersby@kirklees.gov.uk)  
(01484) 221000

# **Kirklees Council**

## **Playable Spaces Strategy**

### **1. Introduction by Cllr Walker**

Kirklees Council is committed to ensuring that every child has the best start in life, that people live as well as possible for as long as possible and that we all have the opportunity to enjoy a clean and green environment. The experience of positive and creative play is an essential element of enabling our communities to achieve these outcomes.

Children play in many different ways and at many different times and places. For children and young people, play is more than just 'letting off steam'; it is what they do in their own time, for their own reasons. Through play, children are able to explore the world around them and learn to take responsibility for their own choices.

Play in the outdoors has the potential to have a large and important role in a child's physical, social and cognitive development. Active play helps to build physical strength, increase fitness and teach children vital life skills such as planning, negotiating, being creative and managing risk. It also provides opportunities for children to socialise with friends and their parents and carers, which can help to ensure secure bonding and strong attachments. In addition play areas are important meeting places for parents and carers of younger children to meet and socialise. This can help break down social isolation. Play is not reserved solely for children and young people - it should be encouraged at all stages of life - with many additional benefits experienced by individuals and communities from intergenerational play.

Our Council is passionate about enabling equitable access to play in Kirklees. This ambitious Strategy is our first step towards achieving this. By building on the great and diverse assets and opportunities to play we already have in Kirklees we can ensure that our communities are able to enjoy the fantastic opportunities which play can bring.

### **2. Vision and Aims**

**Our vision is a district where all are able and encouraged to access a range of opportunities to play outdoors, benefitting their physical and mental health and well-being as well as encouraging intergenerational interaction and community cohesion.**

To achieve this vision the Playable Spaces Strategy aims to:

- provide a diverse range of high quality play spaces for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to access challenging opportunities for play, physical activity, contact with nature and social development close to home;
- encourage active play to help build physical strength, increase fitness and teach children vital life skills such as planning, negotiating, being creative and managing risk;
- improve the overall quality of the play offer throughout Kirklees, and the financial sustainability of the network;
- provide a more effective approach to ongoing maintenance and management both within the Council and by fostering greater citizen involvement.

In order to achieve this, we will work closely with our communities to:

- understand local inequalities in play;
- identify physical and social barriers to accessing playable spaces; and

- enable communities to gain the maximum opportunity to access playable spaces and to benefit from the wellbeing benefits delivered by active, imaginative and environmentally engaged play.

The Strategy seeks to instill lifelong habits of physical activity through play amongst Kirklees citizens, recognising that this is generational change rather than short term intervention, with a commitment to co-producing and supporting communities and individuals in this programme.

The Playable Spaces Strategy is underpinned by the three key principles of Kirklees Council's Corporate Plan:

- *Working with people not doing to them:* Citizens and communities will be engaged as part of the delivery of the programme to ensure that all play areas meet the needs of the community, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility over their play spaces. Ongoing play engagement programmes will help us to understand local inequalities in play, local barriers to accessing playable spaces, and to address these issues in conjunction with communities.
- *Working with partners:* The Playable Spaces Strategy has been produced as a partnership between Parks and Greenspace and Public Health. Delivery of the Strategy will build on this partnership and link with other Council services such as Communities. Relationships with external voluntary and community sector partnerships will be built up through site-based engagement as well as through the delivery of an ongoing play engagement programme.
- *Place-based working:* Sites will be refurbished on a case-by-case basis, in conjunction with the local community, rather than applying a "one size fits all" solution, taking into consideration areas of deprivation, housing density, health inequalities and other local factors, such as local fundraising initiatives. The Strategy is not just about providing physical places to play but also about gaining a better understanding of what physical and social factors influence the ability to access play, and how the Council can enable equitable access to play throughout Kirklees.

The Playable Spaces Strategy will contribute to the delivery of a number of the shared outcomes in the Corporate Plan, including:

- *Best start:* Providing neighbourhood environments and facilities that nurture children, offering them opportunities to explore their abilities, develop their skills and socialise both with their peers and intergenerationally.
- *Well:* Encouraging people of all ages to engage in physical activity and enjoy contact with the natural environment, contributing to good physical and mental health and well-being amongst our citizens.
- *Sustainable economy:* Improving the physical attractiveness of neighbourhoods by creating high quality green spaces, improving local property values and attracting events and other community activity and associated investment.
- *Safe and cohesive:* Ensuring all communities have access to safe places to play, providing spaces where communities can come together, and encouraging community stewardship over their play spaces.
- *Clean and green:* Ensuring all citizens have access to high quality, well maintained green spaces.
- *Efficient and effective:* Improving the efficiency of play area management within the Parks and Greenspace Service to ensure a future network of high quality playable spaces which is financially sustainable.

### 3. Why is play important?

#### 3.1 Benefits of play

Outdoor play has many benefits for children, families and the wider community and is a subject area that has been widely explored in academic research.

The benefits of outdoor play include:

- the opportunity to access and participate in physical activity for both children and adults;
- the opportunity to enjoy good mental health for both children and adults;
- opportunities for children to develop their creativity and to build resilience through risk taking, challenge and problem solving;
- the opportunity for children to enjoy social interaction with peers and adults;
- the opportunity to develop bonds and attachments between children and parents/carers;
- physical and mental health benefits of contact with nature; and
- providing a focal point for communities thereby contributing towards community cohesion.

The challenge:

- Across England, 24% of girls and 32% of boys aged between 2 years old and 15 years old are meeting national recommendations of at least 60 minutes of physical activity a day.
- 56% of the Kirklees population are overweight/obese.
- 22% of Reception age children in Kirklees are overweight/obese.
- 36% of Year 6 children in Kirklees are overweight/obese.
- There is a clear correlation between deprivation and use of local green spaces – residents of more deprived areas are less likely to utilise their local green spaces.

Regular moderate physical activity, including walking and active play, can help prevent and reduce the risk of a number of chronic conditions including coronary heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, cancer, obesity, mental health problems and musculoskeletal conditions; this can be achieved in many different forms, most of which can be provided through the provision of play opportunities. Active play is the most common type of physical activity that children take part in outside school. Unstructured play may be one of the best 'pop' forms of physical activity for children (British Heart Foundation 2009, *Couch Kids: The Nation's Future*).

UKActive's report *Turning the Tide of Inactivity* (2014) also suggests that reducing physical inactivity by just 1% a year over a 5 year period would save local authorities £1.2 billion. With Kirklees ranked 114th out of 150, with nearly 32% of people considered inactive, the associated cost of inactivity to Kirklees is £20,750,766 (per 100,000 people per year - UKActive, 2014).

#### 3.2 Barriers to play

There are a number common barriers to outdoor play. These include:

- Traffic – the growing dominance of cars in residential streets restricts the space and opportunity for children and young people to engage in active outdoor play close to home.
- Negative attitudes towards children and young people playing in public spaces, with other members of the community finding this threatening or equating it with antisocial behaviour.
- Outcomes focused play provision – the replacement of free, self-directed play, with an increase in prescribed educational activities or childcare.
- Reduction in free time.

- Parental anxiety – perceived dangers, parental fear and lack of confidence can reduce the amount of time children spend in outdoor open space.

It is important to recognise that a child or family’s ability to access and use play areas is influenced by a wide range of factors. This includes their relationship with their local environment or place – how attractive it is, how safe people feel, the ease of walking or cycling – as well as perceptions of the meaning and value of play and local social norms. This can be broadly defined as the ‘wider determinants of play’ and is demonstrated below:



Kirklees Council therefore recognises that this Strategy is not only about providing physical resources but also about clearly understanding what physical and social factors influence the ability to access play – and how we can help break down barriers to enable equitable access to play throughout Kirklees.

### 3.3 National policy and guidance

Reference has been made to relevant national policy and guidance in the development of this Strategy. This includes:

- Fields in Trust’s *Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play* (2015)
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)
- Play England’s guidance document *Design for Play* (2008)
- The Disability Discrimination Act (1995)
- The Equality Act (2010)
- Bob Hughes’ *A Playworker’s Taxonomy of Play Types* (1996)

### 3.4 Kirklees policy context

This Strategy links to a number of existing Kirklees Council policy documents:

- The *Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Plan* (2018-2023)
- *Kirklees Local Plan*
- The *Kirklees Open Space Study 2015* (revised 2016)
- *Kirklees Open Space Demand Assessment* (2015)
- *Kirklees Economic Strategy 2014-2020*
- *Everybody Active: Kirklees Physical Activity and Sport Strategy* (2015)
- *Kirklees Playing Pitch Strategy* (2015, under revision)



- *Kirklees Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2010-2020*
- *Walking and Cycling Strategic Framework 2018-2030*

#### 4. Community Engagement and Desktop Study

To inform the development of the Playable Spaces Strategy a district-wide engagement exercise was undertaken to engage communities and other stakeholders in meaningful conversations about play in order to better understand their feelings about existing provision and their needs for the future play site network. This data was seen alongside the desktop work looking at current play provisions within the Council's ownership focusing on, among other factors, the current quality, compliance and play value.

The overall consensus was that the play site network should provide a balanced mix of traditional play equipment as well as alternative wild play and there should be more provisions for teenagers and older children.

In addition to the community engagement, a desktop study was undertaken comprising both data analysis and a mapping exercise to analyse current play provisions within the Council's ownership focusing on, among other factors, the current quality, compliance and play value. A summary of the findings are below.

##### **Playable Spaces engagement: key findings**

- Lack of **teenage provisions** was the most common issue raised at the public engagement sessions by both teens and adults: in particular the need for sheltered areas, which are one of the main sources of complaints currently, and age-specific equipment. On only a couple of occasions were concerns about anti-social behaviour raised in relation to teen provisions, and these were usually from the teenagers themselves with regard to other teens.
- The need for **clarity and guidance on how and where people can play** was the next most frequently discussed topic at the engagement sessions. Within these discussions the issues of access to playable spaces in schools and forest schools were frequently raised.
- Respondents to the questionnaires agreed that the current play offer is limited in terms of opportunity for **varied types of play**. Only 25% believed that there were enough opportunities for different types of play.
- 60% of questionnaire respondents wanted to see **more natural play equipment** such as mounds, boulders, logs, tunnels etc. within the district along with more places that would facilitate imaginative and wild play including opportunities for den building, exploring, make-believe and adventure play.
- While there was strong support for a more diverse play offer that encouraged more types of play, it is recognised that there is still a desire for **equipped play areas** within the district as 50% of respondents wanted to see more manufactured equipment.
- Spenborough Trust Youth Parliament unanimously agreed that the play areas in the district are generally too small and 7 of the 8 members believed them to be too basic; **signposts to sites** were also suggested to enable people to find them.
- 6 out of 8 members of Spenborough Youth Parliament expressed an interest in the **wildlife** found in parks and a desire for learning and discovery opportunities. Linked to this was den making which was also a popular request.
- Amongst the primary age children in the lunchtime sticker survey voting trends suggested that the **most popular play features were not always manufactured pieces of play equipment**. Images of a traditional metal framed swing set received only 6% of the votes whilst the highest scoring play feature was a cluster of tall upstanding tree trunks, scoring 22%.

## **5. Strategy Recommendations**

### **5.1 A varied mosaic of play opportunities**

The research undertaken in the development of this Playable Spaces Strategy, in conjunction with the Fields in Trust play space typologies, highlights the need to provide a more diverse play offer across the district. The play offer throughout Kirklees will be designed to give communities access to a variety of safe, fun, relevant and engaging play environments as part of a strategic play network linked by playable routes.

### **5.2 Kirklees Play Standard**

A **Kirklees Play Standard** is proposed to guide both internal (Council led) site development and for use in planning decision-making, in conjunction with the Fields in Trust Guidelines. The Standard takes into account both the community engagement findings and national guidelines. It incorporates the themes in *Design for Play* as its core principles but takes these further, with a commitment to provide playable spaces which are:

- designed for all user groups and all ages (not just for children);
- designed within the context of their environment;
- well connected with the wider community;
- encouraged to be smoke free;
- designed to complement other local play spaces, such as to offer a diverse range of play opportunities across the whole of the district.

The Standard also offers guidance on other key design considerations when refurbishing or designing new play spaces, including issues relating to risk, boundaries, equipment choice, accessibility and playable routes.

### **5.3 Improvement programme**

A comprehensive play area refurbishment programme is proposed as part of this Strategy. The programme will be design and disseminated following ward member and public engagement sessions.

### **5.4 Play engagement programme**

To enable the infrastructure to meet its full potential a play engagement programme will be delivered with the aim to:

- work towards gaining an in-depth understanding of barriers to play in each local area and addressing these in a bespoke manner at each site, and
- embed positive and creative use of whole sites, offering a range of activities as part of each project to encourage the whole community, including hard to reach groups, to engage with a site.

In addition to the activity programme on offer, each project will aim to recruit local volunteers as Play Area Guardians - as local community 'champions' for sites - in order to foster a culture of local stewardship. Play Area Guardians will be offered ongoing support once the projects are complete from existing volunteer networks such as Friends groups and Kirklees Council Volunteer Officers.

### **5.5 Ongoing risk management and maintenance**

Alongside the implementation of the improvement programme an improved and rationalised playground inspection and maintenance regime will be introduced. This will ensure a compliant and robust risk management framework is in place and that the new network of high-quality play areas is well maintained into the future.

## **6. Strategy Monitoring and Review**

Ongoing monitoring of the Playable Spaces Strategy process and outputs will be undertaken to ensure continual refinement of the improvement programme and capturing of lessons learnt to inform future work. Findings from this review and monitoring process will be disseminated within the organisation, including to elected members.

It is intended that an operational plan is put into place to enable the realisation of the recommendations and to enable Kirklees to achieve the aims and objectives as set out in this Strategy.



**Name of meeting: Cabinet**

**Date: October 8<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**Title of report: Playable Spaces – Revised Strategy**

**Purpose of report:**

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?	No (In the context of this report)  If approved will result in spending more than £250k and will have an effect on all wards.
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan</u> (key decisions and private reports)?	Key Decision – No  Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Karl Battersby – 27/09/2019
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	Eamonn Croston – 27/09/2019
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Karl Larrad on behalf of Julie Muscroft – 27/09/2019
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr Rob Walker

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted: No**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes, personal data will not be collected or retained.**

## 1. Summary

The original Playable Spaces Strategy was approved at Cabinet on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Following discussions that have taken place subsequently, and the feedback that has been received from a variety of sources, the Strategy has been revisited and revised. This is to alleviate concerns that any decisions have been made regarding the future of the existing play areas.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

The updated Strategy document is not a change to the policy, but the revised document has been developed to make the intentions of the policy clearer.

The amendments to the Strategy incorporate the following:

- Additional references to community involvement have been added to assure citizens that there will be opportunities to discuss their play areas.
- References which distinguish between traditional, equipped or natural play have been removed to promote flexibility when discussing and designing facilities.
- The play area classifications (i.e. Doorstep, Community & Destination) have been removed to help understanding that all play spaces are remaining, and there aren't any pre-determined decisions made regarding their design.
- The appendices, including the list of sites and maps has been removed, to again advise that play areas are not being closed, and no final decisions have been with regards to their future design.

## 3. Implications for the Council

The implications for the council that were discussed as part of the original March 2019 cabinet report remain relevant to the updated Strategy;

- **Working with People**

We are keen to ensure that citizens are involved in any changes taking place to their local open spaces. Communities will be consulted, involved and informed as part of the delivery of the programme to ensure that sites meet their needs and to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility over their open spaces.

It is important that this work is co-produced in order to ensure that our playable spaces are used equitably across Kirklees. It is acknowledged that the district is varied, with a wide range of environments, landscapes and communities, and these proposed developments will recognise these differences. Through the involvement of those living and using the spaces, as well as ward councillors – who are important community leaders - we will strive to make the most of the assets within our diverse spaces. We wish for our spaces to help identify and characterise their local area, and so be different from other spaces across the district. We will key in to the Place Based Working approach as appropriate.

We intend to deliver this is by working with communities across Kirklees in order to:

- understand local inequalities in access and play;
- identify physical and social barriers to accessing playable spaces;

- enable communities to gain the maximum opportunity to access these spaces and to benefit from the wellbeing benefits delivered by active, imaginative and environmentally engaged play.

- **Working with Partners**

The Strategy has been led by Greenspace colleagues, with support from Public Health and Policy colleagues. The partnership between Greenspace and Public Health will continue as the Operational Plan develops. Key to the success of this work is partnership working with other Council colleagues from Communities as well as partnerships with local communities and the voluntary and community sector.

- **Place Based Working**

The places of Kirklees are complex and varied, and our residents are similarly diverse. Our portfolio of open spaces is also diverse and through the involvement of our residents and ward councillors we hope to place a greater emphasis on these differences, and the benefits that this diversity brings.

It is important to recognise that a child or a family's ability to access and use play areas is influenced by a wide range of factors. This includes their relationship with their local environment or place, how attractive it is, how safe people feel, the ease of walking or cycling, perceptions of the meaning and value of play and local social norms.

The Playable Spaces Strategy is not just about providing physical places to play but also about clearly understanding what physical and social factors influence the ability to access play – and how the Council can enable equitable access to play throughout Kirklees.

Sites will be refurbished on a case-by-case basis, in conjunction with the local community, rather than applying a “one size fits all” solution and will take into consideration areas of deprivation, housing density, health inequalities and equipment’s physical condition and age.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

There is a wide range of evidence which demonstrates the positive impact of play for children as well as their parents/carers and families. This includes the opportunity to:

- access and participate in physical activity for both children and adults.
- enjoy good mental health for both children and adults
- children to enjoy social interaction with peers and adults
- develop bonds and attachments between children and parents/carers

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

The Strategy will also contribute to the delivery of a number of the shared outcomes in the Corporate Plan, including:

- *Best start*: Providing neighbourhood environments and facilities that nurture children, offering them opportunities to explore their abilities, develop their skills and socialise both with their peers and intergenerationally.
- *Well*: Encouraging people of all ages to engage in physical activity and enjoy contact with the natural environment, contributing to good physical and mental health and well-being amongst our citizens.
- *Sustainable economy*: Improving the physical attractiveness of neighbourhoods by creating high quality green spaces, improving local property values and attracting events and other community activity and associated investment.

- *Safe and cohesive*: Ensuring all communities have access to safe places to play, providing spaces where communities can come together, and encouraging community stewardship over their play spaces.
- *Clean and green*: Ensuring all citizens have access to high quality, well maintained green spaces.
- *Efficient and effective*: Improving the efficiency of play area management within the Parks and Greenspace Service to ensure a future network of high quality equipped play areas and playable spaces which is financially sustainable.

Due to the proposed changes which would be created by this strategy, and the changes to service delivery, a Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment was carried out. This EIA covered the strategy as a whole, rather than one for each site. The EIA shows that there will be positive levels of impact for service provision for residents in the characteristic groups of age and disability, with enhanced inclusivity being one of the key foci of the operational plan. All the other protected characteristic groups show a neutral level of impact. The risk score of the EIA was calculated as 10.

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

Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care  
Cabinet Member for Greener  
Cllr Viv Kendrick

The consultees are in support of the strategy and moving this forward.

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

Once approved officers will re-engage with ward Councillors to review each play area in their respective ward. This is hoped to be completed for January 2020. Following that the public engagement will be planned and scheduled to commence post local election period.

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

We recommend that Cabinet approve the revised Strategy in order to proceed with gathering and obtaining vital feedback from the ward Councillors. This will feed into, and influence, the operational plan and the public communications. It is also recommended that authority to make subsequent minor changes is delegated to the Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder and within authorised financial constraints.

#### 7. **Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**

Kirklees Council is committed to ensuring that every child has the best start in life, that people live as well as possible for as long as possible and that we all have the opportunity to enjoy a clean and green environment. The experience of positive and creative play is an essential element of enabling our communities to achieve these outcomes. This strategy provides the opportunity for significant investment in the play experience of our Children, parents and carers in Kirklees.

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

Rob Dalby  
Greenspace Operational Manager  
Email: [rob.dalby@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:rob.dalby@kirklees.gov.uk)  
(01484) 221000

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

- Playable Spaces Strategy and Operational Plan 19/03/2019  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7328>
- Revised Play Strategy and Delivery Cabinet paper 27/06/2017  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=4208>

**10. Service Director responsible**

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



## ECONOMY AND NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

**MEMBERS:** Councillors Harpreet Uppal (Lead Member), Martyn Bolt, Richard Eastwood, Yusra Hussain, Richard Murgatroyd and John Taylor  
 Co-optees: Andrew Bird, Chris Friend, Eilidh Ogden

**SUPPORT:** Sheila Dykes, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES/ACTIONS
<b>Inward Investment Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inward Investment Strategy                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ which businesses/sectors should be targeted and what do they need to be sustainable and grow.</li> <li>○ alternative sources of finance for environmental issues/ alternative energy use.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="color: #4F81BD;">Provisional – December 2019/January 2020</p>
<b>Skills Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What the Council is doing to develop skills Post 16 to ensure a local workforce that will have the right skills and qualifications to take advantage of planned investment across the district and neighbouring town and cities; including boosting skills to enable access to higher income and better quality jobs;</li> <li>• What are the gaps within the Kirklees district and the wider region?</li> <li>• What actions are being taken to address inequality?</li> <li>• Time series analysis and comparator data with the rest of the Leeds City Region and nationally.</li> <li>• Possible opportunities arising, from housing quality requirements, for development of the green economy in Kirklees by using the existing knowledge of relevant construction skills in the district; which also links into both the Housing Strategy and the Economic Strategy</li> </ul>	<p style="color: #4F81BD;">Provisional – March 2020</p>

<p><b>Towns and Communities in Kirklees</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and assess the plans being developed for town centres.</li> <li>• Huddersfield Town Centre Masterplan – to look at the engagement and consultation process particularly in relation to local stakeholders and small businesses.</li> <li>• Assess the objectives of plans to include the aspirations/vision for the towns, public realm and infrastructure.</li> <li>• Consideration of the wider context of other town centres/villages across Kirklees to include looking at the key challenges and opportunities that could influence this agenda.</li> </ul>	<p><u>17 July 2019</u>  Report on the Huddersfield Blueprint – with a focus on engagement and consultation.  Head of Development and Master Planning requested to provide additional information in respect of a number of related issues and to include information in future reports in relation to measures to make public transport an attractive option/potential impact on other town centres/environmental impact.</p>
<p><b>Green Space Strategy</b></p>	<p>To consider the proposed approach to the draft Greenspace Strategy; focus on engagement and consultation.</p>	<p><a href="#">Provisional – March 2020</a></p>
<p><b>Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy</b></p>		<p><u>10 October 2019</u>  Report on development of the Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy and the commitment to the White Rose Forest initiative.  Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenspace Service should engage with uniformed groups in relation to tree planting volunteering opportunities and that the engagement being undertaken with schools be endorsed.</li> <li>• Policy be brought back to the Panel for consideration should significant amendment be made further to the consultation process.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Playable Spaces Strategy</b></p>	<p>To consider the proposed approach to the draft Playable Spaces Strategy; focus on engagement and consultation.</p>	<p>14 November 2019 meeting</p>

<b>Digital Strategy</b>	<p>Update report 12 months after implementation to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress with physical infrastructure but also in respect of the wider promotion of the advantages of the Kirklees district.</li> <li>• The work being undertaken relating to the development of appropriate skills (links in with Skills Strategy)</li> <li>• The work being done to ensure that residents within more rural areas are supported to be able to access a digital network that is fit for purpose and future proofed.</li> </ul>	<p>Provisional January/March 2020</p>
<b>Planning and Related Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Infrastructure Levy/Section 106 Agreements; to include the associated administrative process and effectiveness of the provision of ‘Metrocards’</li> <li>• Progress in relation to the development of the supporting policies for the Local Plan</li> <li>• Bus service provision relative to: the Local Plan and the planning system/ new development (links in with air quality).</li> </ul>	<p>Provisional S106 + Local Plan Policies December 2019 Provisional CIL January 2020</p>
<b>Active Travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling and Walking Framework</li> </ul>	<p>Study Visit planned.</p>
<b>Waste Strategy</b>	<p>New National Resources and Waste Strategy is being developed. Areas could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implications for Kirklees Waste Strategy; Scrutiny to feed into proposals/engagement in relation to changes to collection regime.</li> <li>• Litter and Environmental Crime – approach; to include statistics and analysis/ how ‘hotspots’ are targeted/ trends/how the work of the Street Cleansing Teams is focused/ feedback on the Ward Based Action Squads.</li> <li>• Considering what work is being done with the local population and local business in respect of avoiding and</li> </ul>	<p><u>19 September 2019</u> Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward Councillors should be provided with an overview of the issues reported to the Council by residents (including on ROSS) to assist them in determining the priorities for action within their ward.</li> <li>• Consideration be given to how best the Service might be able to support ward members in promoting and publicising this work to their residents.</li> </ul>

	<p>reducing waste/single use plastic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household Waste Recycling Centres; accessibility/permit process/layout/potential barriers to use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Service should consider raising awareness within schools and colleges of the potential for volunteering opportunities and work experience.</li> <li>A strategic environmental assessment should be undertaken as part of the development of the Kirklees Waste Strategy.</li> <li>Disposal of trade waste, including the potential impact on the levels of fly tipping, should be considered as part of the development of the new waste strategy.</li> <li>Fly tipping be retained on the Panel’s Work Programme with a particular focus on the use of an intelligence led approach.</li> <li>It would be beneficial to increase awareness of the concessions available for the bulky waste collection service for those residents in receipt of an assisted bin service, and the permit process for the Household Waste Recycling Centres.</li> <li>That Members of the Panel be provided with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>data in relation to the number of fines collected for littering and fly tipping compared with the number issued.</li> <li>the enforcement flow chart.</li> <li>the gross tonnage figures for the Household Waste Recycling Centres broken down into general waste/recyclable waste for 2015/16 onwards.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relationship with KNH</li> <li>Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy; update post implementation including statistics on housing need/waiting lists/rough sleepers.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">OSMC – Ad Hoc Panel</a></p> <p><u>10 October 2019</u> Progress Report. Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That specific reference be made to ex-military personnel as a vulnerable group and that the funding obtained at regional level to focus on work with veterans be noted.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tenant Involvement and Engagement</li> </ul>	14 November meeting
<b>Air Quality</b>	Update after completion of consultation	<u>10 October 2019</u> Update on development of the Council's 5 Year AQ Action Plan. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of interest which the Panel may wish to give more detailed consideration in the future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which measures have proven effective and which provide good value for money.</li> <li>- Addressing the issue of vehicles with idling engines particularly outside schools.</li> <li>- How the planning system can be used/will address issues in relation to infrastructure to encourage sustainable transport/active travel.</li> <li>- Improving infrastructure to encourage travel by public transport/cycling and walking.</li> <li>- Encouraging/ facilitating better options for travel to school to reduce use of private cars.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING/MONITORING**

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
<b>Economic Strategy</b>	Update following implementation (9-12 months). to include: Progress in respect of the priorities and actions set out in the Kirklees Economic Strategy (KES); what has been done and economic position statement including outcomes.	KES 2019-25 approved March 2019  Lead Member Briefing 8/10/19
<b>Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kirklees Housing Strategy; progress report 12 months after implementation (approved September 2019)</li> <li>• Selective Licensing Schemes</li> <li>• Hackitt Report: update on the progress of the Working Group established to work through the Hackitt Report's detailed implications. Other potential areas for future detailed consideration included:-</li> </ul>	Lead Member Briefing 12/9/19

	<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;</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>	
<b>Tackling Poverty</b>	To consider the approach to tackling poverty	Lead Member Briefings 1/10/19 + January 2020