

Public Document Pack



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

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Monday 11 January 2021

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Cabinet

A Meeting of the **Cabinet** will take place remotely at **3.00 pm** on **Tuesday 19 January 2021**.

This meeting will be live webcast. To access the webcast please go to the Council's website at the time of the meeting and follow the instructions on the page.

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.

Cabinet Members:-

Member	Responsible For:
Councillor Shabir Pandor	Leader of the Council
Councillor Paul Davies	Culture and Greener Kirklees
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Children (Statutory Responsibility for Children)
Councillor Musarrat Khan	Health and Social Care
Councillor Naheed Mather	Environment
Councillor Peter McBride	Deputy Leader / Regeneration
Councillor Carole Pattison	Learning, Aspiration and Communities
Councillor Cathy Scott	Housing and Democracy
Councillor Graham Turner	Corporate Services

Emergency Cabinet Portfolio Responsibilities During Covid-19

Cllr Shabir Pandor	Leading the immediate response to the pandemic Leading recovery strategy Public Health
Cllr Peter McBride	Immediate support to business Planning the post-pandemic inclusive economy
Cllr Viv Kendrick	Statutory responsibility for children's social care Safeguarding our most vulnerable children throughout the pandemic
Cllr Musarrat Khan	Statutory responsibility for vulnerable adults Responsible for vulnerable adult social care, and safeguarding our most vulnerable adults throughout the pandemic
Cllr Carole Pattison	Working with schools to maintain services Planning for return to school
Cllr Graham Turner	Financial oversight Resources
Cllr Naheed Mather	Council staff, including staff wellbeing
Cllr Cathy Scott	Engaging and supporting voluntary sector capacity for immediate responses to the pandemic Strengthening place-based working for the future (North Kirklees)
Cllr Paul Davies	Engaging and supporting voluntary sector capacity for immediate responses to the pandemic Strengthening place-based working for the future (South Kirklees)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Cabinet

To receive apologies for absence from Cabinet Members who are unable to attend this meeting.

2: Minutes of Previous Meetings

1 - 26

To approve the Minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet held on 18 November, 26 November and 15 December 2020.

3: Declarations of Interest

27 - 28

Cabinet Members will be asked to advise if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion on the item or participating in a vote upon the item, or any other interests.

4: Admission of the Public

Most agenda items will be considered in public session, however, it shall be advised whether Cabinet will consider any matters in private, by virtue of the reports containing information which falls within a category of exempt information as contained at Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Cabinet 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.

6: Questions by Members of the Public

Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, Members of the Public may submit written questions to the Leader and/or Cabinet Members. Any questions should be emailed to executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk no later than 10am on Monday 18 January 2021.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11(5), the period allowed for the asking and answering of public questions shall not exceed 15 minutes. A maximum of 4 questions per person may be submitted.

7: Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet will receive any questions from Elected Members (via remote access).

In accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3 (2.3.1.6) a period of up to 30 minutes will be allocated.

8: Annual RIPA Update

29 - 32

To receive (i) an update report on the use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 by the Council and (ii) an update on the 2020 IPCO inspection.

Wards affected: All

Contact: David Stickley, Legal Services

9: Housing Revenue Account Rent and Service Charge Setting and Key Housing Challenges 33 - 40

To consider the annual setting of rents and service charges.

Wards affected: All

Contact: Helen Geldart / Jacqui Fieldhouse, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing

10: Community Infrastructure Levy - Next Steps 41 - 46

To consider next steps in relation to the Kirklees Community Infrastructure Levy, including an officer recommendation not to adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule at this stage.

Wards affected: All

Contact: Steven Wright, Planning Policy and Strategy

11: Dewsbury Town Deal - Town Investment Plan 47 - 94

To consider the progress of the Town Investment Plan (TIP) for Dewsbury and associated recommendations.

Wards affected: Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South, Dewsbury West

Contact: Simon Taylor, Town Centre Programmes

12: Locality Based Unclassified Roads Programme 95 - 106

To consider the methodology designed to engage with Councillors and the allocation of funding for the delivery of a £15M locality based unclassified road programme.

Wards affected: All

Contact: Kathryn Broadbent, Environmental Services

13: Kingsgate Phase 2 - Funding from the Property Investment Fund

107 -
112

To consider a request for loan support from the Property Investment Fund towards the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre.

Wards affected: Newsome

Contact: Liz Jefferson / Adele Buckley, Economy and Infrastructure

14: Exclusion of the Public

To resolve that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

15: Kingsgate Phase 2 - Funding from the Property Investment Fund

113 -
118

(Exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 namely it contains information relating to the financial and business affairs of a third party. It is considered that disclosure of the information would adversely affect a third party and therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption, which would protect the rights of an individual or the council, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the Council's decision making.)

To consider exempt information in relation to Agenda Item 13.

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Wednesday 18th November 2020

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Rob Walker

Observer: Councillor Martyn Bolt

288 Membership of Cabinet

All Members of the Cabinet were present.

289 Minutes of previous meetings

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held 1 September, 22 September, 20 October and 23 October 2020.

290 Interests

No interests were declared.

291 Admission of the Public

It was noted that the information contained at Agenda Item 22 was exempt from publication.

292 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

293 Questions by Members of the Public

Question from Sarah Newton

“WYCA's carbon emission reduction Pathways anticipate the need for vehicle traffic to significantly decrease by 2030 including measures to reduce private car travel by up to 43%. In this context, investing in greater highway capacity is wasteful and short-sighted.

Would it not be more sensible to pause schemes which increase private vehicle capacity and instead review them in the context of the climate emergency and policy changes that will be implemented to achieve targets?”

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A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride).

Question from Sarah Newton

“When will there be an official statement regarding the decision to re-design the Cooper Bridge Road Scheme that guarantees the preservation of Nun’s Bank Woods and the Bradley Quarry Nature Reserve?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride).

Question from Sarah Newton

“Please will the Council consider revising the Climate Emergency Declaration to include the preservation of mature trees alongside the planting of new ones?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather).

Question from Sarah Newton

“The tree planting season has just started. Again there is an absence of actions meeting KMC’s claims of contributions to the Northern Forest. When will the Council refrain from repeating unsubstantiated claims about tree planting and actually get some Northern Forest trees planted? Will it be in the last months of 2021 or even later?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Walker).

Question from James Taylor

“At a previous Cabinet meeting I asked about the public feedback that hadn't been published on the planned improvements at Cooper Bridge and Cllr McBride said in that meeting that plans had been mothballed.

On Monday I read in the Examiner an article by Tony Earnshaw that Richard Hollinson, a senior officer at Kirklees, said all options remain on the table. Therefore, who is right and who is wrong and actually runs the Council, the elected Labour Cabinet or the unelected officers?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Cllr McBride).

Question from James Taylor

“With the delayed local elections due to take place in May 2021 has Kirklees done any work on the possibility that the way the electorate vote in May, may be different from normal?”

For example, I have a postal vote and Kirklees have my signature so they can check that it is I who casted the vote, if we end up with an all-out postal election, how can each voted be verified when Kirklees don't have everyone's signature on their systems?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services (Councillor Turner).

Question from James Taylor

"As requested in one of the many emails I receive from Kirklees Together I've recently completed several questionnaires on recycling, planning issues and museums. How are these questionnaires made up?

Are they done "in house" or sub contracted out and who decides on the questions, for example do cabinet sign it off?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services (Councillor Turner).

Question from Richard Stow

"Kirklees Council is the lead Council for the White Rose Forest. The White Rose Forest is the lead forest for the Northern Forest and Community Forests Trust. Kirklees Council through White Rose Forest is seeking multi million pound funding, to be the lead body for national reforestation delivery.

Kirklees Council has sought the responsibility to lead delivery of national reforestation policy. We face a climate emergency, right now. We are 6 weeks into planting season with little to show. Please Deliver."

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather).

294 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Question from Councillor Bolt

"A question to the Leader, yourself and the Cabinet agree to abide by the Nolan principles, which include openness, honesty, and leadership. We heard in response to a question from Sarah Newton, Cllr McBride say that the options put forward for public consultation on the Cooper Bridge Scheme had been withdrawn. The statement from your Officers categorically says 'At this point in time no formal decision has been taken to eliminate any of the options delivered to date' Who is correct?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“The Cabinet have launched another consultation exercise, this time a £2.4m project to link Brighthouse to Bradley. What strategic aims are underpinning this project and will the consultation findings on this occasion be brought back to a public Cabinet meeting for consideration?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride).

Question from Councillor Bolt

“Does the Cabinet support the Local Plan and agree that the first principle of any development should be that it conforms with and supports the Local Plan?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride).

Question from Councillor Bolt

“Referring to a press clipping in December 2014, Councillor McBride said that the future of Dewsbury lies with the relief road, and he was referring to a relief road for Ravensthorpe which was in the pipeline but it could be 2025 before it is finished. If the future of Dewsbury lies with the relief road, that was due to be finished in 2025, when will it start?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride).

295 Council Housing IT Replacement System

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which advised that approval had already been given to undertake a procurement exercise to replace the Council’s Housing IT system and that approval was now being sought to draw down capital and award the contract to the winning bidder. The report advised that an indicative budget of £1m had been identified in the Housing Revenue Account Capital Plan for the provision of a system that would improve the service available to tenants by providing more responsive service provision and process efficiencies, including opportunities for tenant self-service and improved frontline delivery.

Cabinet were advised that, following evaluation, four products had been shortlisted and the most suitable product, from a perspective of both quality and price, had been selected. Cabinet were asked to assign the necessary budget, estimated to be circa £1.1m, in order to purchase the system and to ensure sufficient resources were in place for its implementation. The report advised that it would be cheaper to purchase and implement the new system than continue to use the current system and would result in a financial saving over a 7 year period. It was noted that the project would commence in early 2021 with implementation anticipated to take 12 to 15 months.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the drawing down of £1.1m capital from the Housing Revenue Account Capital Plan to enable the contract for the new Housing IT system to be awarded to the winning bidder.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Adults and Health) to implement this decision.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into all relevant legal documents on behalf of the Council to enable implementation of this decision.

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Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan

Cabinet received a report which set out detail of the submission of the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan by Holme Valley Parish Council, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (as amended) 2012. The report advised that the Plan had been formally submitted to both the Council and the Peak District National Park Authority on 6 July 2020 and that Officers considered that the submission met the legal requirements to proceed to consultation and independent examination. An assessment of the legal requirements was attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

It was noted that the Council held responsibility for organising the statutory publicity of the plan and that this would commence on 8 December 202 for a period of 8 weeks. The detailed publicity plan was attached at Appendix 3 of the considered report. Appendix 2 of the report listed a number of concerns and detailed comments raised by Officers regarding the content of the plan and Cabinet was asked to endorse the submission of the concerns to the independent examiner.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to progress with publicity (consultation), appointment of an independent examiner (following consultation with Holme Valley Parish Council and the Peak District National Park Authority), participation at the independent examination and to undertake statutory duty to submit representations received during the publicity (consultation) period.
- 2) That the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan and supporting documents be published for publicity (consultation) for a minimum of 8 weeks commencing on 8 December 2020.
- 3) That the Officer comments on the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan, as set out at Appendix 2, be endorsed and submitted to the independent examiner for their consideration.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Growth and Housing) to make non-material amendments to the Council's comments (as endorsed in (3) above) to the independent examiner, or to reflect any further evidence that comes to light prior to the examination.

297 Dewsbury Towns Fund Accelerated Grant & Getting Building Fund

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which provided detail of grant approvals totalling £2.715m and sought approval to implement the associated projects and programmes. The report advised that the recent grant approvals had been received from the Government for capital works to take place in Dewsbury and Huddersfield, and Cabinet were asked to approve the implementation of the schemes and to also to give approval to entering into other agreements with third parties in order to enable the Towns Fund Accelerated Grant Programme and projects to be delivered.

The report set out details of the projects within both the Towns Fund Accelerated Grant, which included improvements to Dewsbury Railway station and improved pedestrian and cycle routes, and the Getting Building Fund Approvals which related to projects at the George Hotel and Huddersfield Arcade.

Cabinet noted that there was limited time available to use the grant and it was therefore suggested that the monies be allocated to other projects within the programme in order to provide flexibility and increased expenditure on some schemes, if necessary, in order to ensure that the funding was fully spent in 2020/21.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the success in receiving the £750,000 Towns Fund Accelerated Grant, and the in-principle approval from Government of £1.965m from the Getting Building Fund, be noted.
- 2) That approval be given to the projects as detailed within section 2 of the considered report.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to negotiate and agree with Kirklees Theatre Trust, or another organisation, supported by the Arts Council, agreements to create a Creative Hub at 15 Union Street, Dewsbury, including a grant award of up to a maximum of £200,000.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to negotiate and agree with Kirklees College, agreements to enhance open space to the west of Pioneer House as part of the Better Spaces Programme, including a grant agreement for a grant award of up to a maximum of £150,000.

298 Corporate Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 2, 2020-2021

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Bolt).

Cabinet received a report which set out financial monitoring information for General Fund Revenue, the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Plan, as at Quarter 2 (Month 6), 2020/2021.

The report advised that the Council's revised General Fund controllable (net) revenue budget for 2020/21 was £306.0m and that the budget included (net) revenue savings in-year of £2.8m. It indicated that the revised budget included a number of planned transfers from reserves during the year, with the most significant

Cabinet - 18 November 2020

being from £1.3m from the revenue grants reserve, £0.8m from the Public Health Reserve, £0.8m from the Strategic Investment Support reserve and £0.4m from the Rollover reserve.

Cabinet noted that there was a forecast overspend of £5.5m against the £306.0m revised budget at Quarter 1, equivalent to 1.8%, which represented forecast £3.7m unfunded pressures relating to Covid 19 and forecast £1.8m net pressures elsewhere. The report indicated that there had been a net £2.2m reduction on the forecast overspend position since Quarter 1 which was made up of both decreased net unfunded Covid 19 pressures, due in part to a higher estimated income compensation payment, and a net decrease in pressures elsewhere from a range of incremental changes across service activity.

The report set out information on headline variances as well as detail relating to Central Budgets, General Fund Reserves, the Collection Fund, the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool, Housing Revenue Account and Capital, 2020/2021 Budget Proposals.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That, in regards to the General Fund (i) the 2020/2021 forecast revenue overspend of £5.5m as at Quarter 2 be noted (ii) it be noted that the 2020/2021 forecast £7.6m High Needs overspend which, as per current DfE guidance, will roll forward into 2021/22 on the Council balance sheet as a negative reserve (iii) it be noted that, in conjunction with the assumed continued support of central Government to adequately compensate the Council for Covid 19 pressures, the Executive Team shall continue to identify opportunities for spending plans to be collectively brought back in line within the Council's overall budget by year end and (iv) the forecast year-end position on corporate reserves and balances be noted.
- 2) That the forecast position on the Collection Fund as at Quarter 2 be noted.
- 3) That the Quarter 2 forecast Housing Revenue Account position, and the forecast year-end reserves position, be noted.
- 4) That, in regards to the Capital Budget (i) the Quarter 2 forecast capital monitoring position for 2020/2021 be noted (ii) approval be given to the re-profiling across years of the capital plan , as detailed within the report and at Appendix 6 (iii) approval be given to the £255k capital proposal to increase burial capacity by way of a further extension at Batley Cemetery, as detailed within the report and at Appendix 7 (iv) approval be given to a £502k gym/spin studio development scheme at Batley Sports and Tennis Centre, as detailed within the report and at Appendix 8 (v) approval be given to capital works at Batley Baths and Recreation Centre at £50k, as detailed within the report (vi) approval be given to further capital remedial works of £300k at Huddersfield Leisure Centre, as detailed within the report (vii) approval be given to £463k to cover part of the Pioneer House overspend, with the remainder to be covered by future slippage to be identified within the plan, in agreement with the Chief Finance Officer (viii) approval be given to the release of funding from the Huddersfield Town Centres Action Plan for Huddersfield Town Hall and the release of Sustainability of Major Town Halls – Service Development Capital Programme line funding for Cleckheaton

Town Hall for external lighting systems, as detailed within the report and (ix) approval be given to the replacement of the Council's current fleet vans with fully electric equivalent vehicles, as part of the Climate Emergency Green Travel Measures, as detailed within the report and at Appendix 9.

299 Request to support children eligible for Free School Meals with vouchers during school holiday periods

Cabinet received a report which provided information as to a decision which had previously been taken by the Chief Executive under Emergency Powers as to support for children eligible for free school meals during October half term, and also gave consideration to arrangements for future school holiday periods.

The report advised that, following the decision of Parliament not to fund free meal provision over October half term 2020, Officers had remodelled the costs to the Council of making a commitment to local children and their families and made available funding as a £15 voucher for the half term, providing an entitlement to approximately 15,000 children, and that this decision was taken under delegated powers.

In terms of future school holidays, the Cabinet were asked to consider a similar commitment in order to support eligible children, though it was noted that the Government had recently announced a targeted support package to the families in greatest need up until the end of March 2021, and so were asked to delegate authority to Officers to be prepared to support related activity through the upcoming holidays if required in regards to the forthcoming Christmas, half term and Easter holiday periods.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the decision taken by Officers under Emergency Powers regarding supporting children eligible for free school meals during October half term be noted.
- 2) That the Director of Children's Services be asked to submit a report to the meeting of Cabinet on 15 December 2020 setting out proposals for the Christmas holiday period and other targeted support into 2021, following on from the Government's new winter package announcement for extra support this winter to vulnerable households.

300 Place Partnerships - Kirklees Mental Health Champions Training Programme and Support Network

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £93,270 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget in order to deliver the Kirklees Mental Health Network and Training Programme. The report advised that the proposal had been influenced by information collected through local data and intelligence and aimed to develop a place based approach to supporting the third sector to assist citizens facing low level mental health challenges.

Cabinet noted that the project of providing mental health first aid training would be delivered by locally based organisations and the Council's wellness team and that

the lead organisations would support and develop the training programme over a 12 month period.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to funding of £93,270 from the Place Partnership Mental Health Budget, for the Kirklees Mental Health Network and Training Programme.

301 Huddersfield Central, Huddersfield North, Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw and Spenningsdale Place Partnership - Tackling mental health and improving physical activity from the front door

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £38,255 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget for an 18 month pilot scheme for improving physical activity. The report advised that the proposal had been influenced by information collected through local data and intelligence and aimed to signpost citizens to what is available, and also to help to develop opportunities.

Cabinet noted that the proposal focussed upon short term early intervention and support for the next 12 to 18 months and would build upon activities that already existed, including cycling, jogging, guided walks and chair-based activities. The report advised that the objective of the scheme would be to develop a place based approach to supporting the third sector to assist citizens facing low level mental health challenges through physical activity and that locally based lead organisations would develop and map activity opportunities and identify volunteers to attend training in walking, cycling, jogging, movement and games.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to funding of £38,255 from the Place Partnership Mental Health Budget for the tackling of mental health and improving physical activity.

302 Huddersfield Central Place Partnership - Tackling the Taboo - Supporting Women Going Through the Menopause

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £42,947 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget to support a two year pilot for women experiencing the menopause. The report advised that the proposal was based upon a collaboration between the Women's Centre and local community partners to develop a two year pilot targeted at raising awareness of the menopause and creating opportunities for local women to shape the design, delivery and evaluation of a local response to support for women and their families, enabling opportunities for learning across Kirklees and beyond.

The report set out the anticipated outcomes of the pilot scheme, which included reducing anxiety and improving mental health and well-being of women and their families, would be community led and co-ordinated by a project worker.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to £42,947 revenue funding from the Huddersfield Central Place Partnership Mental Health theme allocation for the menopause pilot scheme.

303 Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw Place Partnership - Mental Health Initiatives

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £82,261 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget to deliver mental health initiatives in the Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw area. The report advised that the proposal would enable local providers to deliver a range of Mental Health support programmes, including carer support, access to employability, and work regarding community perceptions and stigma.

The report advised that the proposal had been influenced by information collected through local data and intelligence and aimed to provide support locally for citizens who may be effected by one or more identified themes. Cabinet noted the detail of each 3 projects; (i) Carers Support (ii) Mental Health Support through Employability and (iii) Anti-Stigma.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to £82,261 of funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Theme Budget to deliver the following projects; (i) Carers Support - £12, 376 (ii) Mental Health Support through Employability - £36, 685 and (iii) Anti Stigma - £33,200.

304 Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw Place Partnership - Supporting the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People as they return to school settings

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £40,000 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget to deliver support for children and young people in school and community settings in the Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw area. The report advised that collaboration was taking place with local schools and community youth providers to focus upon activities to support children and young mental health and wellbeing in the wake of the pandemic.

Cabinet were advised that schools and community providers would be invited to submit proposals based upon local knowledge and experience and that the short term interventions would be made sustainable wherever feasible were success was demonstrated.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to funding of £40,000 from the Place Partnership Mental Health Theme Budget to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in schools and community settings.

305 Dewsbury Place Partnership - 'Better Connected Dewsbury' Proposals for Allocation of Mental Health Focus Funding

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £142,857 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget for the commissioning of three preventative and interlinked approaches to help address mental health priorities across Dewsbury. The report advised that the programme would be delivered through three interlinked projects; (i) Mind, Health, Nature – Dewsbury wide 12 month pilot (ii) Enhancements of greenspaces in each of the three Dewsbury wards and (ii) 'Tech to Connect' digital inclusion approach to help tackle isolation and loneliness, and the report provided a breakdown of how the projects would benefit residents within the Dewsbury area.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to funding of £142,857 from the Place Partnership Mental Health theme budget to fund the commissioning of three preventive and interlinked approaches to address mental health priorities across Dewsbury.

306 Huddersfield Rural Place Partnership - Proposal to boost School Capacity to Support Children and Young People's Mental Health and Well-being

Cabinet received a report which requested the allocation of £187,778 funding from the Place Partnership Mental Health Themed Budget to boost mental health support and capacity in schools within the Huddersfield Rural Place Partnership area, which would support children and young people to maintain positive mental health and emotional well-being.

The report advised that the proposal sought funding for a project that would provide for two mental health professionals working across 37 schools, which collectively supported the wellbeing of 10,237 children, for a period of 18-30 months. Cabinet noted the key aims of the project, which included supporting the emotional wellbeing preparation of young people for progression to post 16 education and assisting school management and mental health teams to develop whole school strategies to emotional and mental wellbeing.

Cabinet were asked to consider funding options to appoint a host organisation for the two posts and an evaluation timescale. Cabinet were of the view that Option 3, as set out at Para, 2 of the report, allowing for a 30 month timescale, should be supported.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to funding of £187,778 from the Place Partnership Mental Health Theme Allocation to fund two posts aimed at boosting mental health capacity and support in schools in the Huddersfield Rural Place Partnership area, with the balance to be funded through ward budgets and/or other funds.

307 Development of land at Southgate, Huddersfield

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Bolt).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which requested that consideration be given to an offer received from the University of Huddersfield to purchase the strategic development site at Southgate, Huddersfield. The report advised that the site, which was over two hectares and was allocated as a mixed use site in the Local Plan, was subject to a proposal submitted by the University was for the development of the site as a National Health Innovation Campus, including teaching and learning facilities. Cabinet were advised that the proposal would bring staff, students and visitors into Huddersfield Town Centre.

Exempt appendices to the report provided detail with regards to the draft Heads of Terms, and the offer letter which had been accompanied by a vision and concept for the development of the site.

(Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information at Agenda Item 22 (Minute No. 309 refers) prior to the determination of this item.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the disposal of the Southgate site (Appendix 1 refers) to the University of Huddersfield at the price as detailed in Appendix 3 (exempt).
- 2) That approval be given to a departure from the adopted Disposals and Acquisitions Policy and that approval be given to the treatment of negotiations with the University as that of a Special Purchaser within the meaning of the adopted Policy.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to finalise the Heads of Terms and to proceed with the disposal broadly in accordance with the draft Heads of Terms as set out in Appendix 3 (exempt).
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into and execute any agreements or instruments relating to the disposal of the Southgate site.

308 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act.

309 Development of land at Southgate, Huddersfield

(Exempt information relating to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. It was considered that the disclosure of the information would be contrary to confidential terms and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the Council's decision making).

Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 20 (Minute Mo. 307 refers).

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Thursday 26th November 2020

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Nigel Patrick

310 Membership of Cabinet

All Members of Cabinet were present.

Cabinet Member, Councillor Paul Davies, attended the meeting but did not participate in any vote due to his appointment to Cabinet being subsequent to the publication of the agenda and the notice of Cabinet membership.

311 Interests

No interests were declared.

312 Admission of the Public

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

313 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

314 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

315 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Question from Councillor Bolt

‘Do Kirklees Cabinet take their responsibilities seriously in terms of the safety of KNH tenants and residents?’

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“Could you explain why residents of Bankfield Court in Mirfield who for three months have been plagued with criminal and anti social behaviour from a neighbour who is in a private rented property but severely affects those in KNH properties are not getting the support they wish from Kirklees. The situation has been reviewed by staff who told them they would come back in 6 weeks to review the situation. We have regular issues where emergency services are being called out, and elected members and the MP’s office were excluded from a neighbourhood management meeting last week, so, in saying that you take it seriously, why is no robust action being given to support, defend and assist tenants in Bankfield Court?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“As Leader of the Council, will you join me in extending every good wish to Councillor Lynn Petrini?”

A response was provided by the leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“When will Kirklees emulate Kingston Upon Hull by having meetings in a socially distanced fashion where members are present in the same room as they have been doing for some while, and seeing the installation of our first next citizen?”

A response was provided by the leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“As Leader you previously said that you run the Council, so when you or your Cabinet Members issue an instruction to Officers should that instruction be acted upon and complied with?”

A response was provided by the leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Patrick

“There is a small bouquet of flowers attached to a lamppost on Springwood Road by the high school. It is there as a constant reminder of a young person who lost her life on that road. Over a month ago I attended this Cabinet meeting and asked for an update on the progress of the Springwood Road school drop off point road safety scheme. I have not had an update. This scheme is fully funded, you have the money, 14 years in the waiting and still no sign of it being delivered. Do we have to wait for another bouquet to be placed on another lamppost before you deliver this scheme?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Greener Kirklees (Councillor Mather).

Question from Councillor Bolt

“When did the Deputy Leader and Cabinet have their damascene conversion regarding active travel as claimed in the press statement of 16 November which said, ‘it’s no secret that as a Council we are committed to making it safer and easier for people to travel by bike or on foot’ When and did the damascene conversion take place?

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor McBride) and the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration).

316 West Yorkshire Devolution - Consent to Draft Order

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought consent, in principle, to a draft Order to establish a Mayoral Combined Authority and associated changes, as set out in the ‘minded to’ Devolution Deal, and as submitted to the meeting of Council on 25 November 2020.

Cabinet noted that, during September, consideration had been given to the outcome of the public consultation process and that the summary of consultation responses had been submitted to the Secretary of State. The report advised that the submission, along with the detail of the Scheme, had been used to draft the Order which was now presented for consideration.

The report set out information with regards to (i) the benefits of the deal which would enable increased funding, power and influence (ii) the process for enacting the deal (iii) consultation follow-up and (iv) the content of the draft Order, which included matters regarding the election of the Mayor and mayoral functions. The report also explained that the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner role would be transferred to the Elected Mayor in May 2021 and that the arrangements for the current Police and Crime Panel would be retained and supported by Wakefield Council.

Appendix 1 to the report set out the timetable for implementing the deal and the draft Order was attached at Appendix 2. It was noted that the Order would be laid in Parliament during December 2020.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the report, and the draft Order, as attached at Appendix 2, be noted.
- 2) That consent in principle be given to the draft Order (Appendix 2), to establish a mayoral combined authority and associated changes as set out in the ‘minded to’ Devolution Deal.
- 3) That (i) authority be delegated to the Managing Director of the Combined Authority, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive of each Constituent Council, and the Chair of the Combined Authority, to finalise and consent to the final draft of the Order further to any technical issues which may arise, and (ii) accordingly, the Leader and Chief Executive be authorised to act as a consultee on behalf of the Council for these purposes.
- 4) That (i) the updated timetable, as set out at Appendix 1, and the next steps which are subject to consent being given by the Constituent Councils and

Combined Authority, to the draft Order that the Secretary of state will lay the Order in Parliament in December 2020 be noted and (ii) accordingly, authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to make necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.

- 5) That it be noted that Corporate Governance and Audit Committee are currently considering proposed governance and reporting arrangements between the proposed mayoral authority and the Council.
- 6) That it be noted that this decision of Cabinet shall be exempt from Call-In, as agreed by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, upon grounds of urgency as set out at para 3.6 of the report.

317 Covid 19 - Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme

(Due to urgency, a Regulation 10 Notice had been issued in respect of this item and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had agreed to the waiver of Call-In).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for the Council to establish an Additional Restrictions Grant fund for Kirklees. The report explained that the grant scheme would provide support for certain types of small and micro businesses that had been affected by Covid-19 but were ineligible for other grant schemes which had been established by the Government in response to the period of lockdown that commenced on 5 November 2020.

Cabinet noted that the scheme aimed to address gaps in the other grant programmes and that it would operate on a discretionary basis with local eligibility criteria being determined by the local authority, within a framework of national guidance. The report advised that a total of £8,795,740 had been allocated for businesses within Kirklees and sought approval to establish the scheme, including the eligibility criteria for applicants and the grant amounts to be awarded.

It was noted that the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had waived the period of Call-In on grounds of urgency for implementation.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the establishment of the Additional Restrictions Grant, including the proposed eligibility criteria for applicants and the grant amounts to be awarded, as detailed at section 2 of the considered report.
- 2) That a further update report be submitted regarding the implementation of the Government's business grant schemes that have been operating during the lockdown period.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and the Service Director (Finance) to implement and monitor the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund Scheme, and make any further changes to the scheme to ensure equity and achievements of the objectives.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Economy and Infrastructure) and the Service Director (Finance), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, to vary the eligibility criteria for the Additional Restrictions Grant Scheme.

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 15th December 2020

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Paul Davies

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor David Hall
Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje

Apologies: Councillor Peter McBride

318 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor McBride.

319 Interests

No interests were declared.

320 Admission of the Public

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

321 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

322 Public Question Time

Cabinet received the following question;

Question from Andy Leader

“There is a longstanding and ongoing problem on a number of Holmfirth public rights of way caused by intensive and inappropriate use by 4x4 vehicles and motorbikes.

This vehicle use is severely damaging both the unsurfaced rights of way and adjacent private land, causing a nuisance to non-motorised users and degrading the environment. The routes worst affected are Ramsden Road, Kiln Bent Road, Rake Head Lane and Old Gate.

Can the Council protect these vulnerable rights of way by closing these routes to vehicles with Traffic Regulation Orders?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Mather).

323 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following questions from members of the Council;

Question from Councillor Bolt

"At an earlier Cabinet meeting today, Councillor McBride agreed with me that enforcement action should be taken against developers who do not conform to the terms of the planning permission and deliver everything agreed. Could I ask that Cabinet will also agree with me and take action against the applicant of planning application 2003/95052, the applicant being Kirklees Metropolitan Council, and the application being the construction of a shared use footpath, walking and cycle route from Dewsbury through to Huddersfield. The area in particular is in the Dalton ward between Helme Lane and Bog Green Lane where what is delivered on the ground does not reflect what is in the plans. They have failed to deliver in accordance with plans, and also a planning condition on this stipulates that there should be an annual usage survey and an annual highways survey. We haven't had any highway safety surveys done at each of the road crossings and the route has not been delivered in conformity with the planning application approved, so it would seem hypocritical for Kirklees to be taking action against private developers whilst blatantly ignoring the planning conditions itself. So, will you ensure that your staff deliver the scheme as originally approved?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor D Hall

"Leeds Council are to empty all their household bins between Christmas and New Year, as are Calderdale and Bradford, and Wakefield is prioritising grey bin collections. In Kirklees there are to be no household bin collections between Christmas and New Year. Do you think this is an acceptable service to people who pay their Council tax?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Mather) and the Cabinet Member for Culture and Greener Kirklees (Councillor Davies).

Question from Councillor Bolt

"In line with all the other West Yorkshire authorities, Kirklees has signed up to the West Yorkshire Carbon Emission Reduction Pathway. Some of the key targets of this are to reduce private car travel by at least 21%, increase travel by walking by 78%, increase travel by bicycle by approx. 2000%, as well as bus and rail targets. Where are the targets that Kirklees have adopted, how much of these West

Cabinet - 15 December 2020

Yorkshire targets will Kirklees absorb and what is being done to increase cycling in Kirklees by 2000%?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Davies).

Question from Councillor Munro

“Advertising plays a key role in the climate crisis by fuelling demand for high carbon products such as diesel and petrol vehicles, SUVs, airline flights, as well as promoting fossil fuel companies like Shell and BP. We have declared a climate emergency and we must therefore make sure that we don’t allow advertisements promoting these kind of things to appear on our advertising billboards and screens that are located on council owned land across Kirklees. Additionally passenger transport executors often control advertising policies regarding buses, bus stops and rail so it’s vital that we put an end to any advertising that doesn’t accord with the Council’s climate change policy. I’m therefore asking today, will you adopt a low carbon advertising policy across Kirklees?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Culture and Environment (Councillor Davies).

Question from Councillor D Hall

“With regards the perennial recurrence of the poor bins service, can I ask the Leader, if you are re-elected as an administration in May, can we expect a similar service next Christmas?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“With regards to Christmas and bank holiday working hours and the IT service desk, this is obviously a section of the Council that has been put under extreme pressure since February this year, with more staff than ever home working and the excellent support that we as Members get from them when we have problems. I notice that the IT staff will be finishing work at lunchtime on Christmas Eve, returning on Tuesday 29th, so can I ask that the Cabinet join me in thanking our IT service for their dedication and hard work during this period, for the support that they give not only to elected members but to everyone in the Council in enabling them to work from home and to continue to run the Council. Will you join me in thanking them and wishing them all the best for the forthcoming season?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

324

Half Yearly Monitoring on Treasury Management Activities 2020-2021

Cabinet received a report which set out an update on the Council’s treasury management function and half yearly monitoring on treasury management activities for 2020/2021. The report advised that external investments averaged £53.4m during the period at an average rate of 0.41% and that investments had ranged from

a peak of £144.1m in April and a low of £15.0m in June, whereby the high investment balance in April was due to receiving a Covid 19 support grant of £12.2m and business grant relief grant of £11.7m on 27 March 2020, and business rates of £113.7m on 1 April 2020.

Cabinet noted that balances had been invested in line with the approved treasury management strategy, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, in instant access accounts or short term deposits. The report advised that in-year treasury management performance had been in line with treasury management prudential indicators, as set out at Appendix 4.

The report provided a breakdown of detail in regards to (i) economic context (ii) investment performance (iii) borrowing performance (iv) revenue budget monitoring (v) prudential indicators and (vi) future treasury management strategy.

Cabinet noted that the treasury management strategy would continue to maintain a relatively low risk strategy giving priority to security and liquidity, and as such, invest an average of around £20m externally in relatively short term liquid investments. The report advised that any remaining balances, net of the investment in the Local Authorities Pooled Investment Fund, would be used internally, offsetting borrowing requirements.

RESOLVED - That the Half Yearly Monitoring on Treasury Management Activities 2020/21 be noted and that the report be submitted to the meeting on Council on 13 January 2021.

325 Colne Valley Place Partnership - Proposal to provide responsive mental health and wellbeing interventions for young people and families

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Marchington).

Cabinet received a report which sought approval of £101,000 from the Place Partnership mental health themed budget to provide a responsive counselling support mental health intervention for young people and families in the areas of Golcar, Lindley and Colne Valley, and also the delivery of a Therapeutic Forest School Pilot for primary school children. The report advised that a pilot project of counselling support had been undertaken during the summer to provide a service for young people aged 11-18, and that feedback had been positive.

The report set out details of the proposal to fund a locally delivered intervention which would replicate the benefits of the pilot scheme and provide young people with the support that they require at an early stage to attempt issues from escalating and requiring more specialist intervention. Cabinet noted that aims of the proposal included a reduction in referrals to CAMHS, supporting young people with emotional resilience, and improving overall mental and physical wellbeing. The report advised that the allocation of £98,000 was being sought for the provision of this counselling support provision and that, additionally, the allocation of a further £3,000 was sought for the provision of an outdoor play based project (Therapeutic Forest School) for primary school aged children who may be experiencing anxiety, stress, loneliness or isolation. Cabinet noted that the allocation of £3,000 would fund 6 sessions at £410

per session, plus £540 to cover any potential transport costs incurred to enable families to have access to the sessions.

The report advised that, subject to approval, a procurement exercise would take place in respect of the counselling support service to commission a host organisation to be able to commence service delivery as early as February 2021, and that, in regards to the forest school project, liaison would take place with local schools to identify ten young people who would benefit from the pilot and that the sessions would commence in January 2021.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to £101,000 from the Place Partnership Mental Health Theme Budget to provide a responsive mental health intervention and a therapeutic forest school pilot in the Golcar, Lindley and Colne Valley wards.

326 Final Report of Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel on Elective Home Education
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Marchington).

Cabinet received the final report of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel on Elective Home Education, which had been formed in November 2017 following an increased number of home educated children in Kirklees, which reflected a trend a local and national trend, and therefore identified a need to review relevant protocols and support provided to parents with the aim of developing the offer available to ensure that families are supported to achieve the best possible outcomes for home educated children. The report advised that, between December 2017 and December 2019, the Panel had gathered evidence from relevant stakeholders and considered non statutory government guidance, prior to completing the final report which set out its findings and seven recommendations, including the possibility of providing a centre to sit exams and establishing a dedicated elective home education team.

Cabinet welcomed the content of the Scrutiny Panel's final report, along with the recommendations and appended action plan, and it was noted that updates on progress would be submitted to the Children's Scrutiny Panel.

RESOLVED - That the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel, and the responses as set out in the Action Plan, be noted.

327 Amendments to Civil Penalty Policy for Housing related offences

Cabinet received a report which set out proposed amendments to the civil penalty policy for housing related offences. The report advised that Cabinet had approved a policy to be used in determining appropriate levels of civil penalties on 2 October 2018 but that further housing legislation had since been introduced and that the revisions to the policy would consolidate all existing housing offences where civil penalties could be considered, and take account of legislation, guidance and case law.

The updated policy, which was appended to the considered report, was intended to deter and prevent the renting out of unsafe and substandard accommodation and providing clear and transparent guidance to promote high quality standards and practices within the private sector. Cabinet noted that, for offences committed under

the Housing and Planning Act 2016, raising the level of civil penalty to £30,000 was considered important in achieving this.

The report advised that a communications and publicity campaign would take place to outline the legislative changes and potential consequences of non-compliance.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That amendments to the Civil Penalty Policy for Housing Related Offences, as attached at Appendix A of the considered report, be approved.
- 2) That future minor amendments to the Policy be delegated to the Service Director (Growth and Housing) in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holder.

328 Local authority COVID Winter Grant scheme

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor D Hall).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out details of the local authority covid winter grant scheme, and proposals to provide assistance with food utilities and other essential supplies, in accordance with guidance issues by Government. The report advised that the scheme aimed to provide support to families with children and other vulnerable households and individuals from December 2020, and cover the period until the end of March 2021.

Cabinet noted that work would be undertaken with services and partners to identify recipients through the local welfare provision scheme and that the approach would take advantage of existing administration and delivery mechanisms, ensuring the most appropriate and timely interventions. The report advised that services would include the provision of food parcels, essential supplies and food vouchers, and the provision of winter clothing.

The report advised that the funding was a one off contribution for the 2020-2021 financial year, made under Section 31 of Local Government Act 2003.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That a sum equivalent to £30 per child eligible for free school meals be provided to schools and colleges in order that they can provide a voucher for the Christmas period.
- 2) That a sum equivalent to £15 per child eligible for free school meals be provided to schools and colleges in order that they can provide a voucher for the February half term period.
- 3) That the balance of funding available, estimated to be £697,500, be allocated to the Local Welfare Provision budget to support additional food, fuel and other essentials, in accordance with the grant determination and guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- 4) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet in early 2021 to consider proposals for a Holiday Activities and Food Programme for 2021, following

confirmation of Government funding support through the Spending Review 2020 announcement on 25 November 2020.

329 Proposal for the Early Help offer for Children Young People and Families

Cabinet received a report which set out the progress made pursuant to a report to Cabinet in 2017 which had set out proposals for the redesign of early support service delivery. The report also provided information on the 'Early Years and Beyond' Summit that had been held in January 2020 in order to engage with partners to shape the development of an integrated early support offer for children and families.

The report explained that the proposed family hub model, which was illustrated within the report, aimed to build upon existing relationships, and place and community assets, while focusing upon local residents and the needs of the area, and would be based around the geography of (i) Dewsbury and Mirfield (ii) Batley and Spen (iii) Huddersfield and (iv) Kirklees Rural, with each having a designated children's centre building.

Cabinet noted that the proposed model offered the opportunity for children and young people to be involved with their communities and to develop parent participation in local areas. The report advised that a series of engagement activities were taking place and that a subsequent report setting out the findings would be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet, prior to an anticipated implementation of the model from April 2021.

RESOLVED - That the proposal for the Early Help Offer for Children, Young People and Families be noted and endorsed, and that a further report be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting setting out the findings of the engagement exercise and the finalised proposals for the Family Hubs model.

330 COVID 19 Community Champions Grant Scheme

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to establish a Community Champions grant scheme to support the Community Champions Fund, which would provide a range of funding options in order to enable communities to provide additional capacity, and support the existing integrated Covid 19 response. The report advised that, subsequent to the Government announcement in October 2020, that up to £25m funding would be available for communities that had suffered disproportionately during Covid 19, via a new scheme called 'Community Champions', Kirklees had been identified as one of the areas to apply for this funding due to its diversity of communities and range of complex and individual needs. The report advised that, in order to deliver the outcomes of the scheme within Kirklees, a Community Champions grant scheme would be established in order to ensure that funding could be provided to support those areas and communities facing the greatest challenges.

Cabinet were asked to approve the establishment of the grant scheme, the eligibility criteria for applicants, and the indicative grant amounts to be awarded. It was noted that, subject to approval, the Council launch the scheme as soon as practicable and would promote detailed scheme guidance and application forms whilst keeping the operation of the scheme under review.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the establishment of the Community Champions Grant, including the proposed eligibility criteria for applicants and the grant amounts to be awarded, as detailed at para. 3 of the considered report, and that the short timescales for the establishment and operation of the scheme be noted.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Children's Services) to implement and monitor the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund Scheme, in consultation with the Service Director (Finance) and relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders, and that authority also be delegated to make further changes to the scheme to ensure equity and achievement of the objectives.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Children's Services), in consultation with the Service Director (Finance) and relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders, to vary the eligibility criteria for the Community Champions Grant Scheme.

331 VCS Support Funding over the Christmas Period (Late/Urgent item)

(The Leader of the Council advised that he had given authority for this item to be considered as a late and urgent item due to the timescales for implementation).

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Bolt).

Cabinet gave consideration to a proposal to provide Ward Members with additional resources to support voluntary and community groups who would be impacted by a loss of funding over the Christmas period. The report explained the proposal to allocate a budget of £50,000 to assist groups who have found increasing difficulty in relying upon consequential opportunities to generate income due to the challenges of Covid-19, impacting upon financial security. It was noted that, subject to approval, work would take place with local groups and organisations in order to facilitate timely access to the funding and that the criteria and process would be finalised and communicated.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That, in order to support local community groups and organisations impacted over the Christmas period with regards to a loss of funding, approval be given to a budget of £50,000.
- 2) That responsibility for the design of the criteria and supporting process be delegated to the Head of Democracy and Place Based Working.

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

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 19 January 2021

Title of report: Annual RIPA update

Purpose of report

To brief Cabinet on the use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 by the Council since the last report on use and to provide an update on the 2020 IPCO inspection.

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
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by Strategic Director & name	Rachel Spencer-Henshall – 14 December 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance	Eamonn Croston – 8 January 2021
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Julie Muscroft – 6 January 2021
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Graham Turner Corporate

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Have you considered GDPR? Yes

1. Summary

1.1 The role of Cabinet in Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000 matters is to provide strategic oversight and to keep the Council's use of surveillance under review. This is the annual report on the Council's use of RIPA to Cabinet.

1.2 As a result of the view of the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office (IPCO) that the use of RIPA should be considered more often than annually by Local Authorities the Council's Corporate Governance and Audit Committee considers and monitors

any RIPA related matters during the year as part of its quarterly audit reports. The process followed is that any reports are to be brought back to cabinet to be considered during the year as necessary. There were no incidents which required RIPA to be used in the period since the last report to Cabinet and therefore no reports were required to be brought back to Cabinet during the last twelve months or so.

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

- 2.1 The Council is subject to the requirements of RIPA, which sets out how and when a local authority can engage in covert surveillance. RIPA regulates three types of surveillance, these being directed surveillance, the use of covert human intelligence and the obtaining of communications data. The current policy was adopted on xxth January 2019 and was amended in line with the implementation of GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 2.2 IPCO paid an inspection visit in 2016 and had indicated that another would take place in the summer of 2019. A further inspection took place in July 2020 and was done as a telephone inspection, in place of a physical one. This marked a change in policy, from annual physical inspection to a 'paper' inspection every other year.
- 2.3 Following the inspection, the Commissioner wrote to the Chief Executive, indicating that he was satisfied that there was an appropriate level of compliance, which removed the need for a physical inspection to be carried out.
- 2.4 Key points that the Commissioner noted were:
- all recommendations from the 2016 report had been implemented;
 - training had taken place;
 - the RIPA policy had been updated to include changes and had been reviewed in 2020.
- 2.5 The annual return to IPCO for 2020 has been completed. This is a report to the Commissioner on the Council's use of investigatory powers.
- 2.6 The number of RIPA authorisations granted in the last 12 months is 0.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Working with People**

N/A

3.2 **Working with Partners**

West Yorkshire Police – this will most often be a formal request for access to CCTV information held by the Council and is provided on the basis of a formal written request.

West Yorkshire Trading Standards– this will usually be within the context of test purchase operations, typically involving sales of age restricted goods to minors.

3.3 **Place Based Working**

N/A

3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**

N/A

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

Training needs and resources – a flexible approach to training will mean that external training providers can be engaged where the need arises, with the associated costs, but that training is also likely to be provided internally where feasible.

4. Consultees and their opinions

4.1 The following have been consulted on the contents of this report and have approved them:

4.1.1 The Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning, as Senior Responsible Officer

4.1.2 The Head of Legal Services, as RIPA Monitoring Officer

4.1.3 The Cabinet member for Corporate Services

5. Next steps and timelines

5.1 To continue to review the RIPA training programme and to keep training requirements under review in light of developments in the law. To continue to keep the Council's regulated investigatory activities under review and keep Cabinet informed of these. Quarterly updates to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee will continue.

5.2 To continue to raise RIPA awareness, particularly with regards to the use of social media to obtain intelligence. Informal advice was given by the Surveillance Commissioner's office on a suitable approach to training and awareness.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

6.1 That the Annual RIPA Update report be noted.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

N/A

8. Contact officers

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Senior Legal Officer 01484 221000

John Chapman john.chapman@kirklees.gov.uk
Head of Legal Services 01484 221000

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Report of the Office of Surveillance Commissioners

10. Service Director responsible

Julie Muscroft
Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning
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Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 19th January 2021
Title of report: Housing Revenue Account (HRA) rent and service charge setting report and key housing challenges

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report provides the financial context and basis for the annual setting of rents and service charges as well as for the HRA budget, which will be considered by cabinet on 19th January 2021.

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?	Yes
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by Strategic Director & name	David Shepherd - 11.01.21
Is it also signed off by the Service Director - Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 11.01.21
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 7.01.21
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Cathy Scott

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

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

An integrated impact assessment has been carried out.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The report is seeking Member approval for a 1.5% (CPI + 1%) increase in dwelling rents in 2021/22 and for the proposed garage rents and other service charges an annual uplift of 1.5% in 2021/22 with the exception of Extra Care services - Intensive Housing Management which has a proposed annual uplift of 2.75% and Extra Care services - Night Time Security, which has a proposed annual uplift of 2.2%.
- 2.2 The report proposes that Kirklees Council continue to charge a target rent on all properties let to new tenants.
- 2.3 The report aims to provide context in terms of the key challenges for the Housing Revenue Account including the CPI + 1% rent increase.
- 2.4 The appendix to the report sets out the full schedule of proposed weekly dwelling rent, service and other charge increases to Council tenants for 2021/22, noting that these will be calculated on a basis that matches the billing period to the number of weeks in the year (i.e. 52 weeks for 2021/22) Appendix 1.

3. Information required to take a decision

- 3.1 The Government has confirmed it has clear expectations of a revised national rent setting policy. The expectation is that following the 1% reduction in rents for 4-years from April 2016 to March 2020 (For Kirklees, cumulative £24.3m) Councils will increase rents by CPI + 1% from April 2020 for five years. The lost rental income from the 4-year reduction cannot be recouped fully during the lifetime of the HRA Business Plan but was partially recouped from the MTFP savings achieved.
- 3.2 Post Grenfell there has been the Hackett review which has meant a refocus on areas of compliance, especially in relation to fire regulations, but also asbestos, water hygiene, electrical testing, gas and other safety related services. This has meant a tightening of regulations and if all recommendations are implemented, this will provide reasonable assurance that tenants can remain safe in their own homes. In addition to the rent increase, the removal of the borrowing cap will provide for additional borrowing, so that resources can be directed to areas where statutory and regulatory requirements must be met, but also it will provide for additional investment into existing Council houses and to invest in building and acquiring new houses. The Government are committed to increasing the number of houses built and to improving the quality of homes available to let and to buy, which will reduce homelessness and improve living conditions for existing and future tenants and residents. There is also an increased focus to engage with tenants to ensure that the tenants' voice is heard.
- 3.3 Rent convergence was introduced from April 2002 and the key objective of this was to achieve convergence of actual property rents with a calculated formula (sometimes referred to as a "target") based on size, value, location and local earnings levels over the restructuring period (April 2002 – March 2012, extended to March 2016). This formula rent is calculated for each property and as a general principle it was intended that by the end of the restructuring period (2015/16) this would equal the actual rent charged. Kirklees Council intend to continue to charge a target rent on all properties re-let to new tenants, as currently rents charged for council properties are below target.
- 3.4 The HRA is a ring-fenced account and has to live within its means. Its main income source is rents. Future year HRA income forecasts prior to the July 2015 government announcement had assumed annual rent uplifts based on CPI + 1%. These forecasts have now been re-cast in light of the 1% reduction for four years and the future CPI +

1% increases from April 2020 onwards for 5 years and then CPI thereafter. Forecast income must be provided to:

- a) Service HRA Debt.
- b) Maintain current stock at a decency standard over the longer term.
- c) Provide a high-quality housing management and housing repair service.
- d) Explore opportunities for additional strategic investment e.g. New Build.

3.5 A number of key policy announcements have been made following the enactment of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016. The implications of the new legislation have been included within the 30-year financial modelling for the HRA and are summarised below in section 4. The budget proposals for 2021/22-2024/25 result from a joint review of the HRA with Kirklees Council and KNH with the key objective to deliver a balanced 30-year HRA business plan.

3.6 Rental Income will reflect the increase of CPI + 1% which will be applied for five years as per the Government announcement in October 2017.

4. Housing Challenges and Context

Universal Credit and Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016

4.1 The impact of the introduction of Universal Credit (UC) in Kirklees has not been fully felt yet. The rollout of UC started in June 2015 with new, single claimants and the second full digital rollout stage commenced in November 2017 and initially involved all new claimants and existing Housing Benefit claimants with a change of circumstances.

4.2 KNH Income Management resources are being made available and targeted towards new and transitioning UC claimants to ensure that they receive the support that they need to successfully make the change and keep in control of their rent accounts. The waiting period is around 5 weeks before the first payment is received, so it is inevitable that most tenants in receipt of UC will accrue some rent arrears during this waiting period, although tenants can now claim an advance payment. There are significant strategic and operational challenges in dealing with the estimated total of 10,000 claimants in Kirklees Council tenancies, as UC continues to be rolled out in Kirklees over the next 3 years, with increased risks associated with managing the HRA, cashflow and income collection rates. The KNH Income Management team oversee the delivery of a set of action plans designed to directly mitigate the impact of welfare reform changes such as UC on tenants and the HRA.

4.3 Due to the COVID 19 pandemic there have been additional costs and losses associated with the delivery of Housing and Property services, which are not recoverable and current forecasts are estimated to be around £2m. This is being mitigated by earmarked HRA (business) risk reserves. Councils with HRA's are currently exploring with MHCLG, whether any potential COVID funding compensation specifically for HRA's is available, as previous COVID funding received to date has been purely general fund related.

5. Proposed Rent and Service Charge

5.1 The new average weekly HRA dwellings rent for 2020/2021 is £71.18, based on a 52-week billing period and incorporating the CPI + 1% increase.

5.2 It is proposed that the annual increases to average weekly garage rent and other service charges for 2021/22, as attached at Appendix 1, continue to be uplifted in line with the

same Consumer Price Index (CPI) figure (September snapshot) which for 2021/22 is 0.5%% plus 1%, calculated over a 52-week billing period. It is proposed that charges for Extra Care Services – Intensive Housing Management are uplifted by 2.75% and Extra Care Services – Night Care Service by 2.2%, this is because there is no local flexibility, as uplift rates are explicitly tied into the contract terms agreed to deliver the service.

- 5.3 The proposed changes to rent and service charges for 2021/22, as set out above, will be effective from 5th April 2021.
- 5.4 It is proposed that Charges for properties let to new tenants continue to be charged at a target rent. This is closely linked to the Kirklees Council lettable standard, which was reviewed and updated in 2018. The standard provides for flooring to kitchens and bathrooms and extractor fans where required. The standard has been further reviewed and a new enhanced lettable standard has and is being piloted since January 2020. This will be targeted primarily at care leavers, existing tenants that are downsizing, those moving into retirement living accommodation, those moving from Kirklees Council temporary accommodation and those moving from a domestic violence refuge. The enhanced lettable standard will provide for carpets and underlay, blinds, decorated throughout, fully plastered where required. It will also include an additional switched fused spur fitted at either the top or bottom of the stairs, which could be used as power for a stair lift and tenants will be provided with a home starter fund to assist certain new tenants who may struggle to set up a new home.
- 5.5 The target rent is based on size, value, location and local earnings levels and will generate around £114k additional income during the first three years based on 5% of stock re-let and based on an average increase of 52p per property per annum in the first year. This would generate additional income of £1.1m over the 30-year life of the HRA business plan. Kirklees Council currently charge one of the lowest average rents per week across the country. (Limit rents data 2019 -20, S3/2019: Rent Rebate Subsidy Limitation information 2019-20)

6. Implications for the Council

- 6.1 The rent increase and wider key housing challenges set the broader financial context for the HRA budget discussions in February 2021.
- 6.2 The proposed CPI + 1% rent increase for 2021/22 will directly impact on around 35% of Council tenants not in receipt of housing benefit. Those in receipt of Universal Credit will see their housing cost element increase in line with the rent increase (once the claimant notifies DWP of the change).
- 6.3 As part of HRA self-financing settlement, central government's debt allocation to Kirklees was £216 million. This was based on a nationally modelled assumption that Kirklees HRA would have sufficient future rental income streams to be able to service this level of debt, provided it continued to uplift rents annually in line with national rent guidelines. The debt cap has now been removed but future rental income streams need to be sufficient to enable the Council to build up resources to be able to maintain existing housing stock at a level of decency over the longer term.
- 6.4 The cumulative impact of the four-year 1% rent reduction on the 30-year business plan was previously identified as a business risk to the Council. This has been and is being managed by

- a) Savings to the management fee

- b) Putting in place a new charging model from April 2020, which is focussed on service delivery and better management of costs, leading to the service becoming more efficient.
 - c) Continuation of interventions which mitigate the impact of welfare reform on the HRA.
- 6.5 The Equality Act 2010 (Section 149) requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:
- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 6.6 It is believed that the proposals to change rents and other charges set out in this report will not have an unduly adverse impact on any persons in any of the nine protected characteristics namely, age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion, or belief, sex and sexual orientation. All tenants affected by any approved changes to rents and other charges will be notified of the specific changes to their charges and be provided with information and guidance on how to access information and guidance on housing and other benefits.
- 6.7 There are two service charges which are commissioned by the Council's Adult Social Care. Night time Security service charge provides a staff presence in the extra care schemes overnight and to respond to emergency calls made by tenants during the night. The charge that tenants pay for this service amounts to 50% of the total cost and the service charge is eligible for housing benefit. The total cost of this service needs to increase by more than an inflationary amount as costs are increasing due to an uplift to the National Living Wage. An increase of 2.2% is proposed.
- 6.8 The Intensive Housing Management service charge provides a manager presence in the extra care schemes and the provision of a housing related support service to tenants to help them maintain their tenancies. The cost of this service needs to increase by 2.75% to cover increments to staff delivering these services. Of the total cost of this service tenants pay for 80% and the charge is also eligible for housing benefit.

7. Consultees and their opinions

- 7.1 Awareness of the CPI + 1% rent increase has been communicated to Tenant and Resident Associations through a briefing note sent out on 24th November 2020 and will be discussed at the Tenant and Leaseholder Panel on 9th December. TRA's were notified of the proposed changes and based on the information communicated to them as part of the proposed budget for 2021/22 we have not received any feedback opposing the rent increase. Individual tenants will be formally notified of the approved changes by letter and in accordance with the statutory 4-week notice period.
- 7.2 Feedback from the consultation carried out over the summer of 2020 will be taken into account when setting priorities for budgets and it is intended that there will be further Member, Portfolio Holder, Senior Officer and other key stakeholder briefings through 2020/21 to continue to assess the future opportunities for the HRA and key sensitivities impacting on longer term HRA business plan forecasts.

8. Next steps and timelines

In order to comply with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to have a balanced HRA and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and the rent standard which requires registered providers to comply with specified rules about their levels of rent set under section 194(2A) of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008; to implement the increase of CPI + 1% subject to Cabinet approval, Council and KNH officers will prepare for the implementation of rents and service charge changes from 5th April 2021 as set out in Appendix 1 and the issuing of prior notification letters to individual tenants in accordance with the statutory 4 week notice period.

9. Officer recommendations and reasons

- 9.1 That Members, in order to comply with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to have a balanced HRA and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and the rent standard, increase the proposed rents and service charges payable for social housing by CPI + 1% from April 2021 which are contained within this report.
- 9.2 That Members approve the charges for Extra Care Services – Intensive Housing Management uplifted by 4% and Extra Care Services – Night Care Service uplifted by 2.2% (CPI + 1%) in line with other increases.
- 9.3 That Members agree to continue to charge a target rent on all properties let to new tenants.

The approval of the above recommendations will ensure that a balanced HRA is achieved which means the Council is compliant with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

- 9.4 That Members note the national and local financial challenges outlined above in preparation for HRA budget discussions in February 2021.

10. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

- 10.1 That the proposed dwelling rent, garage rent, service and other charges set out in the report be approved and be effective from 5th April 2021.
- 10.2 That the national and local financial challenges outlined in the report are noted in preparation for the HRA budget discussions in February 2021.

11. Contact officers

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12. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Consultation letter sent to TRA's week commencing 23rd November 2020.

13. Service Director responsible

Naz Parkar

Service Director for Growth and Housing - Kirklees Council

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Schedule of Weekly Rent and Service Charges for 2021/22

	Schedule as at 6 April 2020 £	Schedule as at 5 April 2021 £	Increase %
RENTS			
Average Dwelling Rent	70.13	71.18	1.5
Split:			
Average 1 Bedroom Rent	61.85	62.78	1.5
Average 2 Bedroom Rent	73.04	74.14	1.5
Average 3 Bedroom Rent	82.22	83.45	1.5
Average 4 and Over Bedroom Rent	87.21	88.52	1.5
Garage Rents (Excl VAT)	5.25	5.33	1.5
Housing Benefitable Service Charges			
Concierge	2.23 to 14.49	2.26 to 14.71	1.5
Door Entry Systems	0.39	0.40	1.5
Communal Cleaning	0.90 to 6.96	0.91 to 7.06	1.5
Communal Cleaning (contract extension)	1.54	1.56	1.5
Window Cleaning	0.20 to 2.31	0.20 to 2.34	1.5
Sheltered Housing:			
Scheme Management	12.76	12.95	1.5
Scheme Coordinator	4.70	4.87	1.5
Furnishings	16.43, 17.51	16.68, 17.77	1.5
PFI Service Charges			
Communal Cleaning	9.85 to 13.41	10.00 to 13.61	1.5
Communal Utilities	2.02 to 10.74	2.05 to 10.90	1.5
External Lighting (General Needs Only)	1.58 to 2.34	1.60 to 2.38	1.5
Grounds Maintenance	2.65 to 6.89	2.69 to 6.99	1.5
Intensive Housing Management (Extra Care Only)	23.24 to 59.28	23.88 to 60.91	2.75
Management and Admin	1.19 to 1.20	1.21 to 1.22	1.5
Night Time Security (Extra Care Only)	17.64	18.03	2.2
Property Management (Extra Care Only)	20.07	20.37	1.5
R&M Com fac&ut cost	4.71 to 10.76	4.78 to 10.92	1.5
Other Charges			
Parking Spaces	4.52	4.59	1.5
Other Utilities charges	13.35, 18.65	13.55, 18.93	1.5
Older People Support	6.95, 19.24	6.95, 19.53	1.5
Council Tax	4.59, 7.20	4.59, 7.20	TBC
Gardening	3.01	3.06	1.5
Sheltered heating :			
Bedsit	9.49	9.63	1.5
1 bed	10.87	11.03	1.5
2 bed	12.19	12.37	1.5
3 bed	13.38	13.58	1.5



Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 19th January 2021
Title of report: Community Infrastructure Levy - next steps

Purpose of report: In light of proposals to reform the national planning system, this item is to enable the Cabinet to debate the next steps in relation to the Kirklees Community Infrastructure Levy including an officer recommendation not to adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule at this stage.

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?	Yes (this affects more than one electoral ward)
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision - Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd - 21.12.20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 21.12.20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 23.12.20
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr McBride

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted:

The following ward councillors have been consulted / briefed on this item:

- Cllr McBride, Cllr Mather and Cllr Scott briefings (23rd November 2020)
- Leadership Management Team (cabinet members) (7th December 2020)
- Planning Committee Chairs:
 - Cllr Steve Hall (9th December 2020)
 - Cllr Terry Lyons (15th December 2020)

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes, there is no personal information contained in this report.

1. Summary

The government has announced that it will abolish the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and replace it with a nationally-set infrastructure levy. With this in mind, this report proposes not adopting the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule in Kirklees at this stage.

Prior to the pandemic, Kirklees Council was proposing the adoption of a Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule in Summer 2020. The levy is one method of securing money from developers and channelling it into a Kirklees-wide infrastructure fund.

The decision not to adopt the CIL Charging Schedule (the document which would implement CIL) also takes into account a change in the planning rules which now allow contributions from developers to be pooled together and used to help fund infrastructure proposals to reduce the impacts of developments. The council will also continue to seek funding from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to fund large scale infrastructure improvements.

The council may seek to re-visit CIL in future, should the government stance change. Were that to be the case, the council would again consult the community and update its evidence to determine the most appropriate approach to support the economic recovery of the district.

2. Information required to take a decision

Background

The council submitted the CIL Charging Schedule to the Secretary of State in April 2017 alongside the Local Plan. The CIL examination hearings took place in September 2019 and concluded with a report from the Examiner (Inspector) in January 2020. The Examiner's Report concluded that the council could proceed to adopt the CIL Charging Schedule subject to a range of modifications.

Following the receipt of the Examiner's Report, the initial intention was to proceed to adopt CIL by mid-2020 including incorporating a transitional period prior to the implementation of CIL. The disruption caused by the pandemic delayed this process and a range of factors since have now resulted in concerns about the implementation of the CIL Charging Schedule.

A significant factor is the recent 'Planning for the Future' White Paper which set out the government's intention to abolish CIL and replace it with a nationally-set Infrastructure Levy. Although this approach is contained in a White Paper rather than set out in law, this does show the intentions of the government to move away from the local CIL process. This raises concerns about the short-term nature of CIL if it was to be adopted in Kirklees at this stage. This includes the resource implications of setting up governance structures to determine CIL spending, and the fact that there would need to be a transitional period prior to the implementation of CIL.

One of the key driving forces behind initially pursuing CIL in Kirklees was the introduction of legislation meaning S106 contributions (the mechanism by which planning applications secure funding to mitigate the impact of developments) could not be pooled from more than 5 planning applications to pay for any one infrastructure scheme. This caused concerns at the time especially when seeking to fund larger infrastructure proposals and CIL provided a solution to this issue. This restriction on the pooling of S106 contributions was lifted on 1st September 2019 so the contributions from more than 5 planning applications can be pooled towards an infrastructure proposal.

The ongoing pandemic situation has also raised concerns how this may impact on the development industry, the housing market and the economic recovery of the district. Officers therefore have concerns about the impacts of this on the CIL viability evidence which informed the Examiner's decisions (which is almost 18 months old), in addition to the fact that the Examiner's Report itself was issued almost 12 months ago. These factors alongside the diminished returns from CIL as time passes (due to planning applications being granted in the absence of CIL) makes the adoption of CIL less beneficial than it was at the start of the year. In

addition, as CIL would be non-negotiable there is a risk of adverse impacts on other elements of planning applications which would still be negotiable such as affordable housing.

It should be noted that the CIL examination process closed at the point the council received the Examiner's report therefore there is no option to re-open the examination at this point to consider revised evidence.

Options

Options at this stage are to proceed with the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule or not to adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule. When balancing these factors, the officer recommendation is not to adopt CIL at this stage. Depending on the outcome of the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper and once the economic implications of the pandemic are more clear regarding the development industry and the potential support needed to facilitate the recovery, the Cabinet may decide to revisit CIL in the future. Given the passage of time, at that point there would need to be a new CIL process including revised viability evidence, community consultation and a further examination in public.

Expected outcomes

The Local Planning Authority will continue to secure funding towards infrastructure improvements through the planning applications process (known as Section 106 funding) where improvements are required to make the proposal acceptable in planning terms. This includes contributions to open space, education and road infrastructure where appropriate. The council will also continue to work with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to fund significant infrastructure across the district as well as submitting funding bids to national government as funding is made available.

The CIL process states that a '*meaningful proportion*' of CIL raised in an area must be spent on local infrastructure priorities. This is set at 15% for most areas but for areas with an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan this increases to 25%. Although there are no adopted Neighbourhood Development Plans in Kirklees, a number of plans have reached an advanced stage. In the case of not adopting CIL, there would not be a specific proportion of CIL assigned although the planning applications process will still be able to secure S106 funding from developers, which would be spent on projects in the local area to mitigate the impacts of developments. The council will continue to consult with the community and elected members through the planning applications process.

There are benefits of the non-adoption of CIL for small and medium sized developers as this will reduce their burdens especially relating to funding strategic infrastructure. Developers proposing more significant sized sites will still be expected to contribute to larger scale infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of their proposals and make their scheme acceptable in planning terms.

3. Implications for the Council

• Working with People

The Local Planning Authority will continue to consult communities on planning applications and is still able to secure S106 funding to mitigate the impacts of planning applications to make them acceptable in planning terms. The meaningful proportion of CIL (15%, or 25%) will not be available for local infrastructure priorities however local infrastructure priorities will continue to be supported through the planning system and other council funding streams / initiatives

• Working with Partners

Small and medium sized developers are likely to benefit from the proposal not to adopt CIL at this stage. This is because many small schemes may not have significant implications for strategic infrastructure so they will not be required to fund such infrastructure. The planning system will instead focus on the direct implications of these proposals and how the council can secure such funding from the developer to mitigate impacts locally.

• Place Based Working

The planning applications process will continue to seek the views of local communities affected by planning applications. The current process of securing S106 funding from developers through this process will continue. Elected members at planning committee can also seek to reflect local

priorities through their role in the planning process. The council will report on S106 income and spending in the new annual Infrastructure Funding Statement.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

No change to emissions - The scale of development is set out in the Local Plan whereas the CIL was a way to fund infrastructure improvements. As set out earlier, where necessary to make the scheme acceptable in planning terms, Section 106 income can still be obtained from the developer which may relate to climate change and air quality mitigation.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

There will be no impact.

- **Other**

Financial implications:

- It should be noted that if the implementation of CIL was to proceed there is a risk that some sites may not be developed and that others may be granted permission during a transitional period prior to CIL being applied, both of which would reduce the council's income from CIL.
- The overall financial implications relating to the proposed nationally-set Infrastructure Levy will be known when the government release further details.

Communications:

- A press release was issued on 17th December 2020 alongside the Key Decision Notice for this item
- Officers have also ensured there is clear communication with Neighbourhood Plan Bodies in relation to this decision and will communicate with the community about the non-adoption of CIL.

Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?

An Integrated Impact Assessment (Stage 1) has been undertaken in relation to the non-adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy. This showed that a Stage 2 assessment was not required. The Integrated Impact Assessment can be viewed at: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/integrated-impact-assessments.aspx>

4. Consultees and their opinions

Cllr McBride, Cllr Mather and Cllr Scott were briefed on 23rd November 2020 and Leadership Management Team (cabinet members) were briefed on 7th December 2020. In these sessions, members agreed with the proposed approach relating to the non-adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy at this stage on the basis of the proposed government intentions to abolish CIL and replace it with a nationally-set Infrastructure Levy. Planning Committee Chairs have also been briefed.

5. Next steps and timelines

If the Cabinet decide not to adopt CIL the council will inform all relevant parties who were involved in the CIL process or have indicated an interest in progress of CIL. As stated earlier, through the planning applications process the council will continue to seek developer contributions where these are justified in seeking to mitigate the impacts of developments. This process will continue to include public consultation and where applicable, member involvement through the planning committee decision making process. The council will also continue to seek funding from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to fund large scale infrastructure improvements.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

Officer recommendation – officers recommend a decision not to proceed to adoption of the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule) at this stage and re-consider the implementation of CIL at a later date depending on national government policy intentions and economic circumstances.

Reason: Based on the changes set out in the Planning for the Future White paper and other changing circumstances set out in this report, officers recommend that CIL is not taken to adoption at this stage. Depending on the outcome of the Planning for the Future White Paper, whether to revisit CIL can be a future Cabinet decision. At that point there would need to be a new CIL process including revised viability evidence, community consultation and a further examination in public.

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

Cllr McBride was briefed on 23rd November 2020 and Cllr McBride supports the officer recommendation that the Cabinet should not seek to adopt the CIL Charging Schedule at this stage.

8. **Contact officer**

Steven Wright
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01484 221000

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

- Extraordinary Council meeting (12th October 2016) where the decision was made to submit the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule for independent examination (<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=534&MId=5200>)
- Details of the CIL process to date (<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/community-infrastructure-levy.aspx>)
- CIL Examiner's Report (10th January 2020) (<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/examiners-final-report.pdf>)

10. **Service Director responsible**

Naz Parkar
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Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 19th January 2021
Title of report: Dewsbury Town Deal - Town investment Plan.

Purpose of report

To update Cabinet on the Dewsbury Town Deal Board and the progress that has been made on the Town Investment Plan (TIP) for Dewsbury. The main recommendation is to note the TIP and the series of projects proposed to be funded and to agree to formally submit to Government the Plan with a request for investment of around £25m by 29th January 2021. It is also to note the impact on the council who will be the accountable body for the projects within the plan

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?	Yes
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Published 17 th December 2020
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd - 30th December 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 7 th January 2021
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 8 th January 2021
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Peter McBride Regeneration Portfolio Holder

Electoral wards affected: Dewsbury East, West, and South

Ward councillors consulted: Yes

Public: An engagement process was carried out in November 2020

(Have you considered GDPR?) Yes.

1. Summary

- 1.1 Dewsbury is one of 101 places to be invited to develop proposals for a new generation of multi-million-pound Town Deals. The town is eligible for support from the £3.6 billion Towns Fund and can access up to £25m. This report sets out the proposed Town Investment Plan to be submitted to Government at the end of January 2021, highlights 9 projects to be supported across Dewsbury, including their cost and where Council match funding is required. The report also seeks authority to negotiate and agree the terms of any Town Deal as the accountable body and once approved by Government authorises the Chief Executive to enter into any grant agreement between the Council and MHCLG in respect of any Town Deal as well as any ancillary documents.

2 Information required to take a decision

Expectations from Government

- 2.1 Dewsbury is one of 101 towns invited to develop proposals for a new generation of multi-million-pound Town Deals.
- 2.2 One of the requirements of Town Deals is that a Town Board is established. As part of this the Council has assisted in setting up a town deal board. This has been created following MHCLG's guidelines and is the vehicle required to prepare and agree a Town Investment Plan (TIP). It has no separate legal status.
- 2.3 The TIP needs to set out a clear vision of the area, focusing on its assets, opportunities and challenges and will be used to establish the business case supporting any funding applications. It also needs to set out investment priorities that will drive economic growth in the short, medium, and long term, and be supported by clear evidence and targeted investment. This should include activity that can be locally funded, projects that could be supported by public investment (including through the Towns Fund) and any ambitions for private sector investment and community involvement. The Government's guidance indicates that this should include urban/physical regeneration activity; skills and enterprise infrastructure; and connectivity.
- 2.4 The amount of investment from the Towns Fund will be determined based on the strength of the TIP amongst other relevant factors. Up to £25m will be made available to each of the 101 towns that are participating in the Towns Fund programme. Most of this funding is expected to be capital rather than revenue. The latter is around 10% of the total.
- 2.5 The TIP will set out how Town Fund support will leverage additional public and private investment and outline the outputs that will be achieved. It is therefore critical that the TIP is well thought through, with a robust evidence base that clearly demonstrates joined up thinking and value for money.
- 2.6 To meet Government's timetable a TIP needs to be agreed and a Town Deal in place by the end of March 2021. The Government has asked for TIP's to be submitted in various tranches with Tranche 3 being the target for the Dewsbury TIP. This needs to be with Government by 29th January 2021.
- 2.7 Anticipated outputs would include a clear articulation of the strategic vision for the area, a prioritised list of targeted and costed projects and investments needed to deliver this vision (including suggested phasing and a clear articulation of the additional value the Towns Fund will bring), and a clear set of outputs or KPI's against which the plan can be measured.

Dewsbury Town Deal Board

- 2.8 At the outset of this process the Council set up a town deal board. This has been operating as a Shadow Board until January 2021. The Shadow board was chaired by the Leader of the Council and included a variety of representatives from across Dewsbury drawn from the private sector, community and business groups, the Combined authority and the LEP as well

as the further education sector. The Leader of the Council and the Local MP are part of the Board.

- 2.9 The Board is now fully constituted. This was carried out on 14th January 2021. The Board also elected an interim private sector chair to align with government guidelines. Cllr Shabir Pandor will remain a Board Member to represent the Council who are the accountable body.

Preparing a Town Investment Plan (TIP)

- 2.10 In this first year the primary focus has been to prepare a TIP. To do this Officers, together with the Board, the Government's Town Hub and consultants have been working towards a TIP for Dewsbury. The main stages for this have been:

- Developing an evidence base
- Public engagement
- Creating a vision
- Identifying and evaluating a shortlist of projects
- Preparing the TIP for submission

- 2.11 The TIP is now at the stage where it needs to be submitted to MHCLG. The Dewsbury Town Deal Board (DTDB) has agreed the content of the draft TIP (attached as Appendix 2) including its vision, engagement process and the set of projects to be invested in. Importantly the TIP includes several projects already being promoted by the Council. An important milestone for the TIP is a further session with the Town Hub from MHCLG to review the content – 15th January 2021. This is one of a number of challenge sessions held along the way to ensure the TIP is of a sufficient standard. The version of the TIP attached to this report may need to be amended after this session to reflect MHCLG requirements. Officers of the Council will oversee these ahead of submission. It is anticipated that any potential changes following this session will relate to improving the chances of success of the TIP submission bid rather than fundamental changes to the range and cost of projects.

Town Investment Plan – Vision

- 2.12 Considerable work has already been undertaken with regards to establishing a vision for Dewsbury. The Strategic Development Framework (SDF), led by the Council, in 2018 set out a 25-year vision for the town supported by a delivery programme. The key themes from the SDF and the Dewsbury Blueprint together with input from the local community (both businesses and residents), were taken and distilled into a vision of what Dewsbury will be in 2030, which is underpinned by three pillars. These are:

- A diverse and vibrant place
- Opportunity for all
- Connected and accessible

- 2.13 The Vision for 2030 agreed by the Board and endorsed through the engagement process is as follows:

“Dewsbury is our town and a town to be proud of, both for its past and its potential for the future. We are a town made up of diverse communities, entrepreneurship, creativity, and beautiful architecture – these are assets that, working together, are greater than their individual parts”.

Town Investment Plan – Engagement

- 2.14 The Town Deal approach to consultation and involvement builds on extensive public engagement exercises such as the Local Plan, Dewsbury Blueprint, regular resident / customer surveys about services and living in Dewsbury and consultation on specific projects.
- 2.15 Most recently the Council conducted a Dewsbury Blueprint public consultation that took place over a 4-week period in Spring of 2020. This consultation sought to gain an understanding

from the public as to how the Blueprint should be shaped, one that works for residents, business, and visitors to the town centre. To reach out to the community KMC opened a Blueprint Shop in the centre of the town where people could come and discuss the Blueprint in more detail.

- 2.16 The Dewsbury Town Deal Board followed up the Dewsbury Blueprint consultation with its “Our Town” consultation. In normal circumstances activities would have taken place in the form of public meetings, street stalls etc. Under Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, however this has not been possible, and this had a more digital and telephone-based approach. Through the Board members this exercise has been able to target a comprehensive cross section of the community and ensure the voices of key stakeholders have been strongly represented.
- 2.17 All stakeholders were asked for their ideas and given the opportunity to set a vision for Dewsbury and share views on project ideas that are well developed. The aim was to ensure plans are made with the communities they affect, to ensure they are genuine partnership arrangements and have the greatest chance of success.
- 2.18 An online survey was run over a period of four weeks and widely publicised through local media, key stakeholder networks, the Council’s website, and social media channels. This exercise generated just over 500 responses.
- 2.19 To gather a richer understanding of people’s views on where funding should be prioritised and to ensure they are heard and invested in the success of projects, we gave key stakeholders further opportunities to have their say. This was in the form of online focus groups where groups of up to 10 people took part in discussions around local needs and individual telephone interviews.
- 2.20 Summarising the key and consistently clear messages about what residents want, these are:
- More access to open/green space
 - More activities and opportunities for young people and families
 - A safe, vibrant, and welcoming town centre
 - Opportunities and activities that bring the community together
 - Residents also talked about their pride in Dewsbury and how they want Dewsbury’s identity to be strengthened.
- 2.21 These priorities are reflected in the strategy and can be clearly seen within and across the projects and associated interventions that make up this investment plan.
- 2.22 A summary of the top 3 themes for investment and projects are as follows:

Themes for Investment

- 76% Want to see Town Centre improvements
- 45% Want to see improvements in Parks and Open Spaces
- 41% Want investment in skills and jobs

Projects

- 75% Favoured bringing the Arcade back into use
- 66% Wanted to see a new Market
- 44% Supported a new Town Park

Town Investment Plan – Projects, Investment and Match Funding

- 2.23 The selected projects are set out in Appendix 1 attached to this report. These have a total Town Fund ask of £26.255m.
- 2.24 However, this is not the total value of the projects. The delivery of this range of projects relies upon match funding to a tune of £33.6m. This will draw from a variety of sources including

Council Capital, Arts Council Grant, Private Sector contributions, Transforming Cities Fund and Getting Building fund.

Town Investment Plan Council - Capital Contributions

- 2.25 A number of these projects are to be match funded from Council capital allocations. This totals £26.4m. At the present time £6.8m is already allocated to the projects identified. This includes commitments to the Arcade; the Market; a Building Revival Grant scheme; public realm schemes and the Fieldhouse project.
- 2.26 In addition, £5.9m remains unallocated within the overall Dewsbury Town Centre capital allocation. This leaves a further £13.7m of additional capital required over a six year period to 2026. It will be required to allocate this within the Council's Capital Plan, and it is expected that this can be found within the existing capital allocations for example strategic acquisitions and the use of future capital receipts. The situation will be monitored overtime as each project receives cabinet approval on its way to delivery and through the Council's own project management framework.
- 2.27 The forthcoming Capital Plan update will make provision for this additional expenditure – this is due to come before Cabinet on 26th January 2021.

3 Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

As part of the Dewsbury Blueprint the Council held town centre consultations and workshops in the town centre during the early part of 2020. This included a town centre presence via a blueprint shop. This work has fed into the preparation of the TIP. During November 2020 specific engagement across Dewsbury was undertaken as part of the TIP preparation. This work was carried out by a consultancy on behalf of Dewsbury Town Deal Board to align with Government guidance on the preparation of TIP's. This work was constrained by the latest co-vid restrictions, but it did include a mix of online and focus group communication.

3.2 Working with Partners

Dewsbury Town Deal Board includes a wide of stakeholders from across the Dewsbury area including community, education, business, and development sectors as well as the Council and the local Member of Parliament. The bespoke TIP engagement exercise set out to be as inclusive as possible and reach out to a wide range of audiences.

3.3 Place Based Working

Developing the TIP and the projects within them is part of a place-based approach to regeneration. The board which includes local representation has based the TIP on an established evidence and has sought to engage widely to ensure that the vision and projects are part of the overall solution of improving Dewsbury as a whole. The vision and projects have endorsement from the community and are one strand of the overall package of regeneration and place-based solution.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and has adopted a 'net zero' carbon emissions target for 2038. All projects delivered through the Town Investment Plan will be assessed on a case by case basis to ensure that the right principles are applied to ensure they achieve or come as to this objective as possible. The whole TIP programme has been designed to support clean growth by:

- Encouraging active travel by investing in new cycle ways and footpaths along with new public spaces such as a new town park. These investments will encourage residents to make journeys by foot or bike and which will help to improve air quality.

- Creating a vibrant town centre with a revitalised Market, the Arcade, a new town park and a programme of arts and culture activities will encourage residents to choose to stay local for recreational activities.
- The planned upgrades of many of the historical buildings through projects such as the Arcade, the building revival scheme, 15 Union Street and Field House will improve the energy efficiency of the buildings and restore and recycle existing assets.
- The TIP is supporting local town centre housing, close to public transport and other amenities. This will be a key feature of sustainable living for the town and is promoted by the TIP.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

The regeneration of Dewsbury, in particular the town centre, has always had a family friendly emphasis. The stakeholder engagement has reconfirmed this. The projects reflect the need encouraging families back into the town. Projects such as the Town Park, the Market and the Union Arts Centre will underpin this as an objective.

3.6 Legal

The Council has the statutory power to apply to MHCLG for a “Town Deal” and has the statutory power to enter into any grant or funding agreement with MHCLG. The council has legal powers to apply for grant and enter into Heads of Terms and any grant agreement under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 and section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, and all other enabling powers. Individual projects will need to rely on an assessment of appropriate legal powers on a case by case basis and be compliant with the Council’s public sector equality duty under section 149 Equality Act 2010, State aid rules, Contract Procedure rules, and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

It should be noted as referred to elsewhere in the report that the Council will be the Accountable Body for the projects in the TIP and will be legally responsible for ensuring that the conditions of the funding with MHCLG are met as the Board does not have legal status to do this. The Council will be responsible for oversight and carrying out some of the work as well as match funding the projects. The council therefore needs to be confident that the TIP is achievable and the terms and conditions of the funding agreement with the MHCLG can be met. For that reason, it will be important for the Council to work closely with the DTDB to ensure that this is managed appropriately.

Projects will be overseen by DTDB and managed internally within council by the Dewsbury Blueprint Board chaired by Service Director. Project approvals will be considered by cabinet as appropriate. Further work is underway to finalise these project management arrangements which will be finalised alongside agreeing and finalising the Funding Agreement with MHCLG and any other ancillary documents/ agreements required.

3.7 Finance

The Town fund deal represents an additional £25m of investment into the regeneration of Dewsbury. It is an important catalyst to delivering key projects from the Dewsbury Blueprint and means the vision can be realised earlier. The implications for the Council are set out in sections 2.23 to 2.27 above. It is important to note that the Council is the “Accountable Body” to MHCLG with responsibility for receiving and managing the grant funding and delivery of the projects. Management, governance and delivery of the TIP will be overseen by the Dewsbury Town Deal Board (DTDB) and the Council will be responsible for the delivery of projects in conjunction with the DTDB and other partners.

4 Consultees and their opinions

A full engagement exercise was undertaken in November 2020 this included some interviews with Ward Members and the MP. This is outlined in Section 2.14 to 2.22. In addition, a

session was set up with ward members in Dewsbury on 22nd December 2020. All Members were invited and those who attended were appraised of the TIP and the projects selected.

5 Next steps and timelines

Following a decision by Cabinet, officers will finalise the TIP and submit to MHCLG by 29th January 2021. Once agreed the Council and Board will be expected to enter into a Town Deal with government. To do this it is recommended that the Director of Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Regeneration and the Dewsbury Town Deal Board, negotiate and enter into a Town Deal with Government and to activate any changes to the plan to achieve that aim.

6 Officer recommendations and reasons:

- a. To note and welcome the current version of the Town Investment Plan for Dewsbury proposed by the Dewsbury Town Deal Board.
- b. To note the level of match funding required to deliver projects and that provision for this will be made in the forthcoming Capital Plan.
- c. To note that The Dewsbury Town Deal Board may make final changes to the TIP prior to formal submission at the end of January 2021
- d. To submit the Dewsbury Town Investment Plan to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) before the end of January 2021.
- e. Once submitted to government to authorise that: The Director of Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with, the Portfolio holder for Regeneration and the Dewsbury Town Deal Board, negotiate and agree the terms of any Town Deal and any ancillary agreements required.
- f. Once approved by Government authorise the Chief Executive to enter into any grant agreement between the Council and MHCLG in respect of any Town Deal and any ancillary agreements that are required.
- g. Note and endorse the Council's role as "Accountable Body" for the Dewsbury Town Investment Plan and Dewsbury Town Deal Board

Reason: To ensure that a robust and timely submission is made to government in order to access further financial grant to aid the regeneration of Dewsbury.

7 Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

Cllr Peter McBride was briefed on Monday 20th December 2020 and supports the recommendations.

8 Contact officer

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Background Papers and History of Decisions

None specifically

Strategic Director responsible

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Appendix 1 - Dewsbury Town Investment Plan Projects

Project	Capital	Revenue	Total Town Fund Ask	Outputs
The Arcade	£1.00m	£0.31m	£1.31m	997 sq. m of commercial space Increase in share workspace or innovation facilities Space for socialising, arts, events and community activities
Dewsbury Market	£6.60m		£6.60m	Commercial space c200 stalls (1,800 sq m) Upgraded community spaces
Building Revival Scheme	£3.15m		£3.15m	Improvements in shop fronts Vacant building brought back into use Commercial units created
Full Fibre / Digital	£0.25m		£0.25m	Infrastructure to support 5G or full fibre activity
Urban Realm	£6.25m		£6.25m	Formation of new town park – 7,400 sq m Delivery of quality public realm – 4,112 sq m
Build Construction skills	£1.5m		£1.5m	Increase in capacity or accessibility to new training Increase in the breadth of local skills offer that responds to local needs
Union Arts Centre	£1.68m	£0.515m	£2.195m	Significant increase in visitors to arts, cultural and heritage events (42K new visitors in first 3 years)
Daisy Hill	£3.00m		£3.00m	Delivery of quality residential conversion in a key gateway location (23 apartments in phase 1) Site assembly in order to deliver town centre housing
Sustainable Transport	£2.00m		£2.00m	New wider footways (650m) / new zebra crossing Two lane cycle track (400m) / contra flow cycle lane New surface treatment
Total	£25.43	£0.825m	£26.255	

Appendix 2- Dewsbury Town Investment Plan - Latest Draft

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Dewsbury Town Investment Plan



Investment summary

Overview

DEWSBURY HAS ONE OF THE YOUNGEST AND MOST DIVERSE POPULATIONS OF ANY TOWN IN THE UK. IT HAS FALLEN A LONG WAY FROM ITS PROSPEROUS INDUSTRIAL PAST. IT HAS BECOME A FRAGMENTED TOWN AND COMMUNITY WHERE ITS POTENTIAL IS NOT BEING REALISED DUE TO A LACK OF OPPORTUNITY, MARKET INTEREST AND CONFIDENCE.

The challenges faced by Dewsbury were recognised by MHCLG's own review of Towns - identifying it **amongst the top ten priority towns in England** for Towns Fund investment.

The residents of Dewsbury, business and the public sector all believe that Towns Fund Investment will play a vital role in bringing the Dewsbury community. By laying the foundations for a prosperous and sustainable future with a future built on the youth, diversity and talents of its community, we aim to create the conditions for a prosperous, vibrant town for the 21st century.



1. Context

A PROSPEROUS HISTORY

Dewsbury has a long, vibrant history at the heart of West Yorkshire and its incredible industrial heritage. The town's original prosperity is rooted in the 'heavy woollen' industry of the Victorian era and although some textile related activity still exists this is much reduced from its heyday. However, the legacy of Dewsbury's industrial past still predominates across the town through its high quality Victorian architectural / built heritage.

Market failure in the town is persistent. The town has struggled to attract investors due to potential projects being commercially unviable. This lack of development in Dewsbury, due to low development values, evidences and further exacerbates this issue in a vicious cycle of low investor confidence.

The lack of investment and economic activity in the town has led to a more insular, fragmented community, which is a real tragedy given the rich diversity within the community is one of the town's strongest assets.

INDUSTRIAL DECLINE

Despite Dewsbury's prosperous industrial past, the town has suffered a long and painful decline throughout the second half of the 20th century and into the 21st century. The once large, bustling market has seen its vibrancy reduced, vacancies have increased, and the popular historic Arcade has been closed for years.

Along with its heritage, which is still evident through the attractive town centre buildings and its excellent location and transport links (easy access to motorway and rail network with proximity to Huddersfield, Leeds and Manchester), the greatest asset Dewsbury has is its people.

DEWSBURY TODAY

The town is a relatively small and ethnically diverse town of 66,500 people with over a third of the population having an ethnic origin outside of the UK, predominately of South Asian origin, originally attracted by the opportunities in textiles industry. There are companies and people with higher skilled jobs and income; but compared to national, regional and local benchmarks, Dewsbury compares poorly in terms of educational qualifications, skills, health, employment levels and wages.

The Towns Fund will be crucial to providing Dewsbury with much needed funding support that will act as a catalyst to build on its heritage and boost the local economy bringing; jobs, culture and leisure opportunities and eventually much needed private sector investment, particularly to the town centre. Most of all, the people of Dewsbury will be reconnected with a sense of pride in their town.

The importance and impact of this TIP in starting the process of delivering the long-term future for Dewsbury and its community cannot be underestimated.

Assets & strengths

DEWSBURY HAS EXCELLENT CONNECTIVITY LOCATED ON KEY TRANSPORTATION ROUTES THAT CONNECT TWO MAJOR CITY REGIONS WITH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN LEEDS AND MANCHESTER.

- DEWSBURY IS ON THE TRANSPENNINE RAIL ROUTE WITH UP TO 4 TRAINS AN HOUR. LEEDS CAN BE REACHED IN 13 MINUTES AND MANCHESTER 40 MINS. THE TRANSPENNINE RAIL UPGRADE WILL INCREASE SPEEDS AND RELIABILITY OF SERVICES.
- DEWSBURY BUS STATION IS THE HUB FOR THE LOCAL AREA WITH A GOOD LOCAL NETWORK.
- DEWSBURY HAS EASY ACCESS TO THE MOTORWAY NETWORK - THE TOWN IS LESS THAN 10 MINUTES' DRIVE FROM BOTH JUNCTION 28 OF THE M62 AND JUNCTION 39 M1, GIVING QUICK ACCESS TO MARKETS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



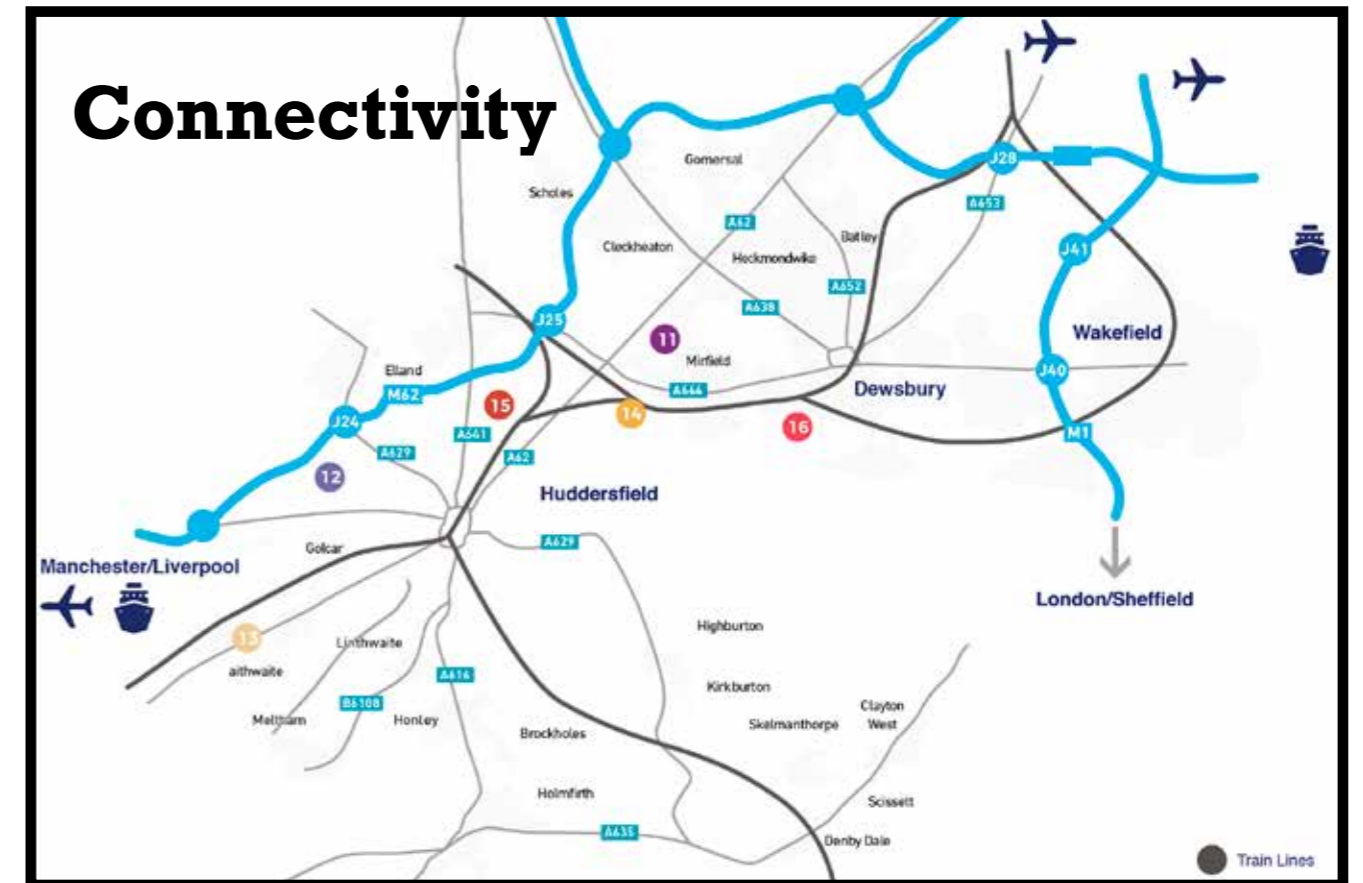
UP TO 4 TRAINS AN HOUR



EXCELLENT LOCAL BUS NETWORK AND CONNECTIVITY



LESS THAN 10 MINUTES DRIVE TO BOTH M62 AND M1



A VISUALLY ATTRACTIVE TOWN CENTRE

Dewsbury has an attractive town centre comprising historic buildings dating back to its industrial heyday. The majority of the town centre is in a Conservation Area with over 50 listed buildings which still to this day display the town's rich 19th century architecture. Although the Market has declined in recent years, it is still one of the most renowned markets in Yorkshire and has been the heartbeat of the town.



A YOUNG AND DIVERSE MULTI-CULTURAL COMMUNITY WITH UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

The town has a significant catchment - 66,500 with wider potential for areas beyond. Around 43% of the population in 2018 was under 30 with 38% of the population being non-white. The majority of those people are of South Asian origin. The opportunities for enterprise and investment from the BAME community are currently not being realised.



LOWER HOUSE PRICES AND COMMERCIAL RENTS COMPARED TO REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AVERAGES

Property values in the town are relatively low which makes the area a cost effective and more affordable location for businesses and people alike, particularly when compared to Leeds (which is only 13 mins away by train).



A STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT LOCATION

The potential of Dewsbury is recognised with it being a major part of the North Kirklees Growth Zone and therefore formally recognised as a Spatial Priority area in the Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan as an area of housing and employment growth.



The challenges and needs

Dewsbury is one of the most deprived towns in the UK. Many of its residents face worryingly high levels of deprivation and ill-health, while skill levels and incomes are also below average. Relative deprivation is severe in almost all aspects of life: education, crime, employment, incomes and the quality of the local environment.

Dewsbury's position on each measure comprising the Index of Multiple Deprivation is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Relative deprivation in Dewsbury and Kirklees by domain in 2019

	Dewsbury		Kirklees
	% of areas in most deprived 10% in England	% of areas in most deprived 25% in England	% of areas in most deprived 25% in England
Income	18%	61%	34%
Employment	18%	58%	35%
Education	42%	68%	33%
Health	11%	50%	29%
Crime	32%	53%	45%
Living environment	17%	53%	44%
Children's' income	13%	37%	22%
Older people's income	39%	50%	27%

Green shading – less highly deprived than England
 Amber shading – more highly deprived than England
 Red Shading – more than twice as highly deprived as England

Table 1 shows that Dewsbury is most severely deprived in relation to education and crime, in that more than twice as many neighbourhoods are in both the bottom 10% and the bottom 25% compared to the average in England. The town is also badly deprived in terms of income levels, employment and the quality of the local environment.

Further details on the socioeconomic characteristics of Dewsbury and the evidence base underpinning the key challenges can be found in the Socioeconomic assessment report at Appendix 1.

¹Source: Kirklees Observatory



CHALLENGE 1: INCREASING EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND SKILLS TO SUPPORT INCLUSIVE GROWTH

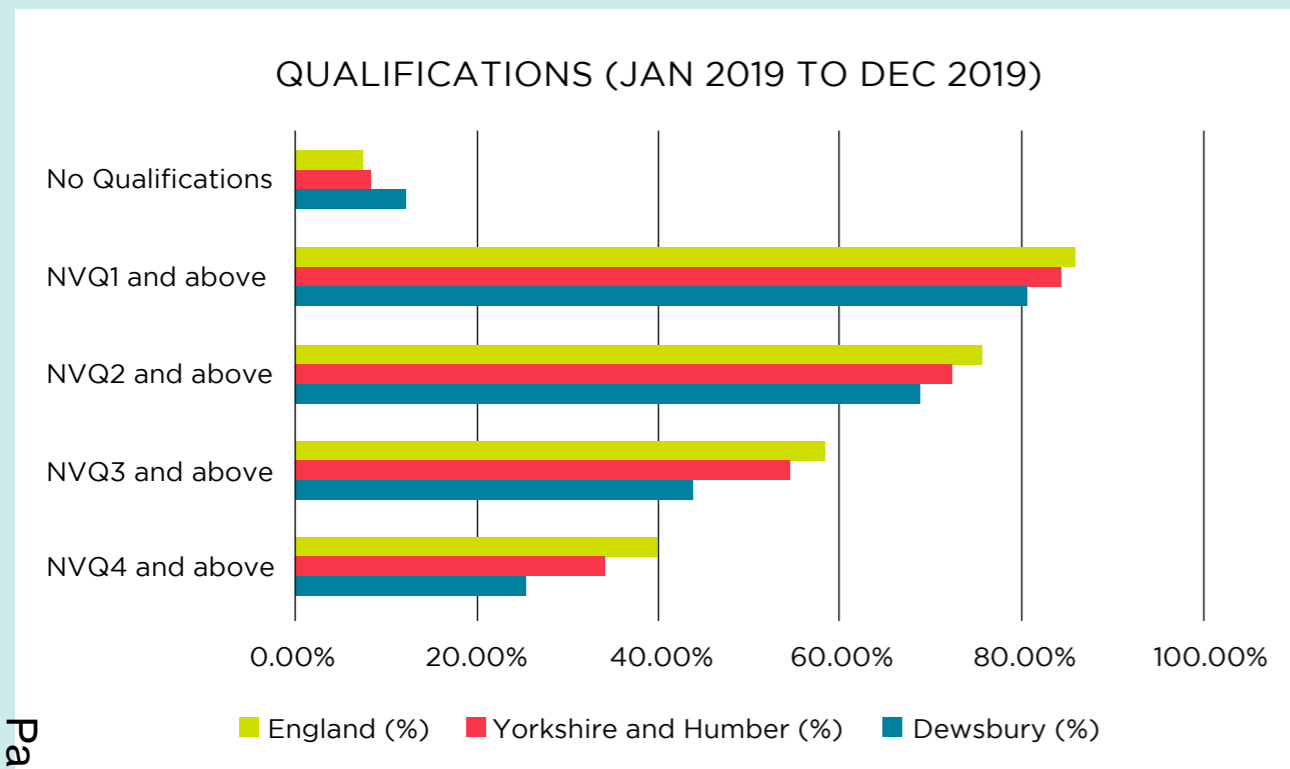
QUALIFICATION AND SKILL LEVELS ARE LOWER THAN NATIONAL AVERAGES

“The main focus should be on helping people to upskill, find work and a feeling of community and belonging.”

Educational qualifications and skill levels are one of the most important determinants of job opportunities and earnings potential as well as business productivity.

Figure 3 provides a snapshot of educational attainment in Dewsbury compared to other areas.

Figure 3: Qualifications (Jan 2019 to Dec 2019)²

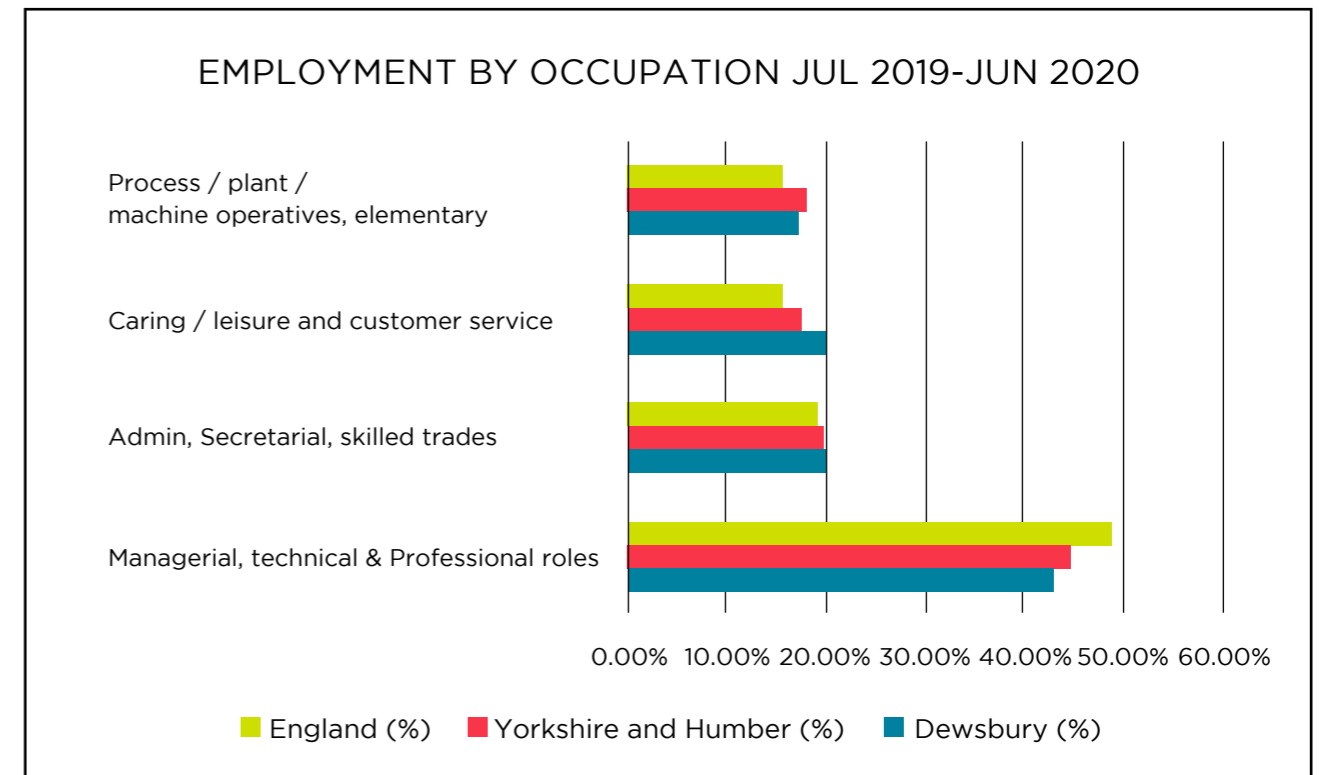


Low levels of educational attainment are translated into a comparatively low skills / low wage / low productivity workforce. In 2019, 12.2% of working age residents of the Dewsbury parliamentary constituency had no qualifications at all (compared to just 7.5% for England as a whole). The qualification gap widens markedly for both Level 3 and 4 qualifications.

Low levels of qualifications / skills are directly translated into an occupational profile which for the town includes a higher than average proportion of lower paid jobs.

Figure 4 shows the employment by occupation in Dewsbury compared to other areas.

Figure 4: Employment by occupation (Jul 2019 to Jun 2020)³



Compared to the rest of the UK, most of Dewsbury’s residents are employed in routine process/ machine work and elementary jobs, with few working in managerial and professional posts. The average household incomes in Dewsbury are up to 10% below the district average, which in turn are only 80% of the UK average.

²Source: NOMIS - Official Labour Market Statistics

³Source: NOMIS - Official Labour Market Statistics

CHALLENGE 2: ATTRACTING AND CREATING VALUE ADDED BUSINESSES

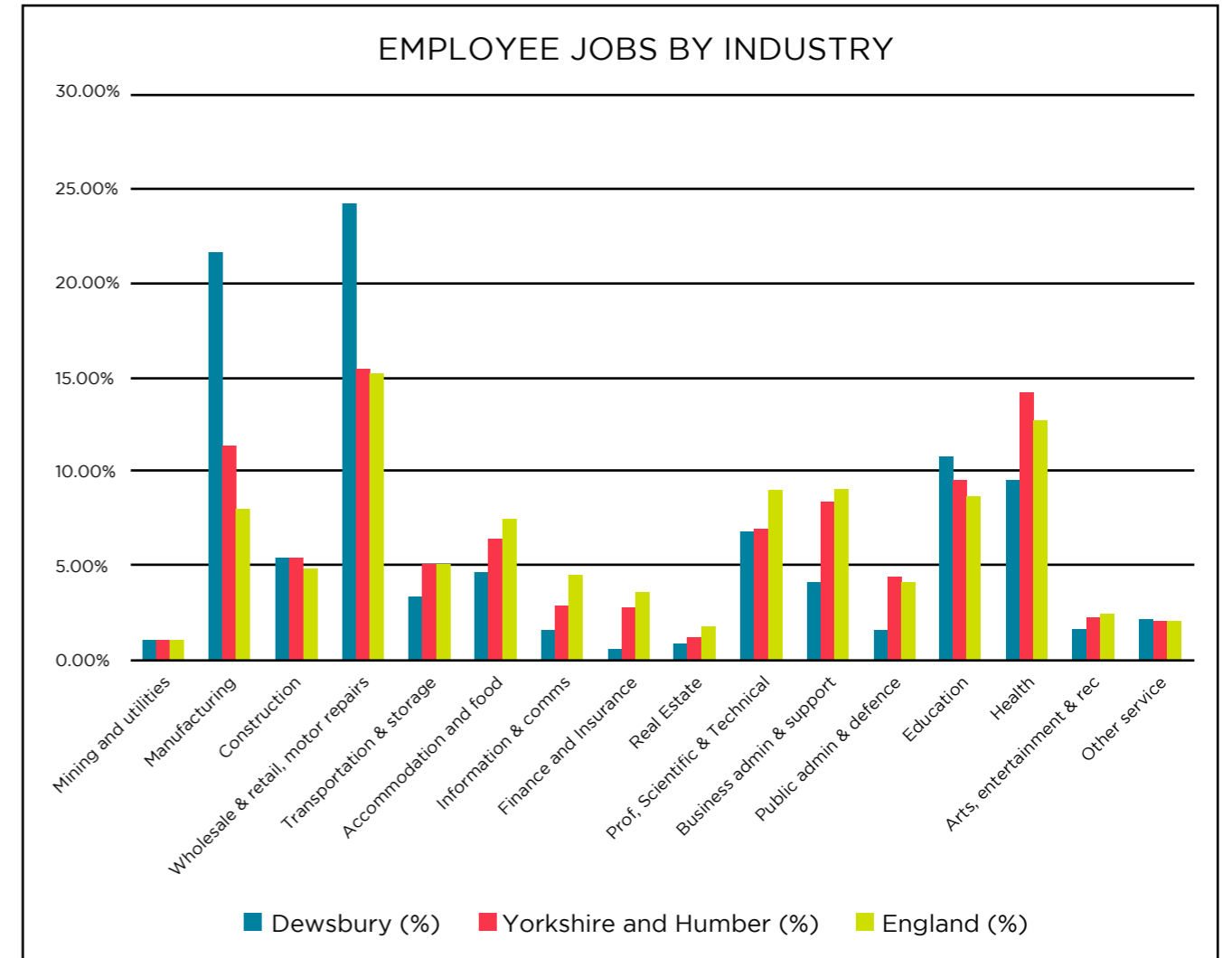
“Dewsbury suffers from an acute skills shortage. There is an oversupply of low paid, low skilled jobs and these positions can’t be filled. There are always vacancies. There’s a lot of informal economy work, a strong gig economy. We need a focus on helping to create better paid jobs. Many women want to set up businesses and need support. We could do with an incubator to help create more high value jobs”

The make-up of businesses in Dewsbury suggests a local economy highly dependent on companies in low value / productivity sectors.

Figure 5 shows the breakdown of jobs by industry in Dewsbury compared to other areas.



Figure 5: Employee jobs by industry (Jan 2019 to Dec 2019)⁴



Of the 37,000 employee jobs in the Dewsbury parliamentary constituency, 35.1% are part-time (higher than the England average). Almost one in four jobs (24.7%) are in wholesale/retail and repair of motor vehicles, a comparatively low paid/low skilled sector. There are over 8,000 jobs in manufacturing (21.6%, compared with just 8% for England as a whole) and 8,100 jobs in the public sector. Many of these jobs are located in traditional industrial areas adjoining the River Calder including the Bretton Street / Mill Street and Ravensthorpe Industrial Estates.

Dewsbury’s unique manufacturing heritage dates back to the establishment of the textiles sector in the town and this tradition remains today through firms including Dormeuil, established in 1842, and Calder Textiles. The town also retains a strong base of bed and furniture manufacturers (over 50) including HSL, Jay-be Ltd, Highgate Beds and Shire Beds.

Whilst its strong manufacturing base remains a significant asset for the town (with particularly strong demand for jobs in the bed and furniture sector), driving up innovation, productivity and workforce skills levels remains a significant challenge for many local employers across the sector. Some also face the challenge of operating in obsolete premises or in a poor-quality environment, the town also has fewer businesses in the types of service industries that are growing rapidly across the UK and which offer many higher-paid jobs, such as finance, IT and professional services.

⁴Source: NOMIS – Official Labour Market Statistics

CHALLENGE 3: IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF RESIDENTS

HEALTH AND WELLBEING OUTCOMES ARE POOR

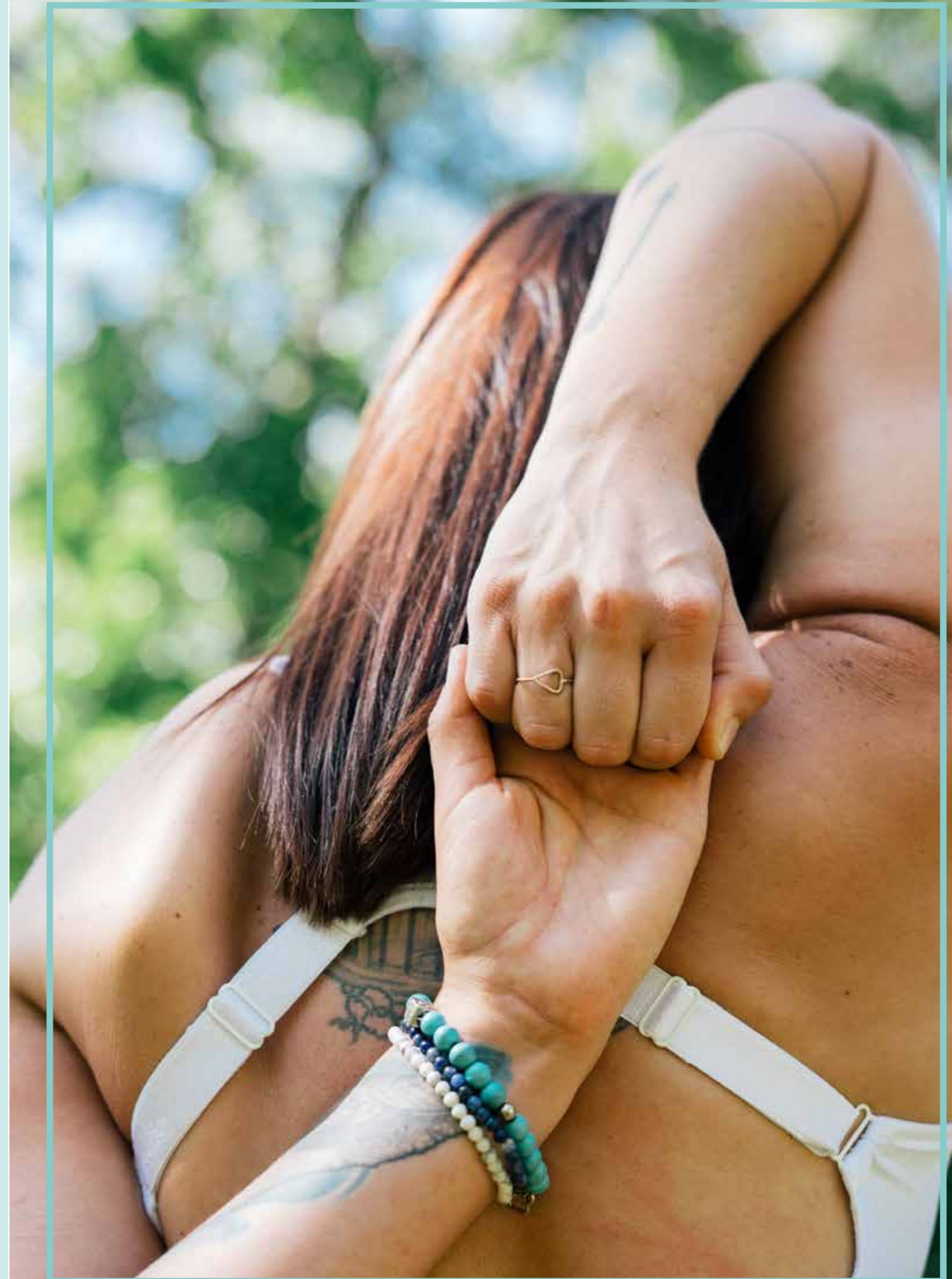
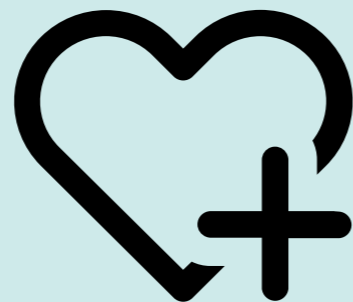
The health of the town's residents is poor, with local healthy life expectancy three years below England as a whole.

“Dewsbury has high levels of child obesity and other health problems associated with a lack of physical activity. We have amazing links to the countryside and great bike trails. All we need is a cycling hub to inspire a new generation to get on a bike. Leeds has an urban bike park and I don't see why Dewsbury shouldn't have one too.”

Dewsbury Mountain Bike group.

The overall mortality rate during the period 2013-17 was around 20% above the national average, and premature deaths among the under-75s were more than 25% higher than the national average.

Covid-19 has had a disproportionate impact on the health of the town's residents given the high levels of deprivation. In particular, with a relatively young population, mental health suffering has increased which impacts on education, aspirations and hopes for the future.





CHALLENGE 4: DRIVING ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE TOWN CENTRE WHICH WILL LEAD TO MORE SPENDING IN THE TOWN, MORE DEMAND FOR LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT AND HENCE THE CREATION OF MORE JOBS.

A DECLINING TOWN-CENTRE

“The town centre does not reflect the people of Dewsbury in that a lot of people don’t use it. People my age don’t think there is anything there for them. There are very few restaurants and bars – and I’d like to see more events.”

Creative Scene, an organisation that supports communities to take part in. make and experience arts and culture

Whilst Dewsbury town centre has had a long thriving retail and commercial life, there has been a sustained decline in its fortunes over the past 20 years. The clearest evidence of this comes in the footfall figures which have been falling over this period. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the town centre had seen a catastrophic drop in footfall, including a loss of 50% of visitors on Saturdays over the past 20 years. The decline on Wednesdays – market day – was also bigger than on non-market days. Footfall in Dewsbury fell by a further 75% at the height of the lockdown. This suggests that the town centre is being seen less and less as a destination for shopping and leisure activity, and increasingly as a place for essential visits only.

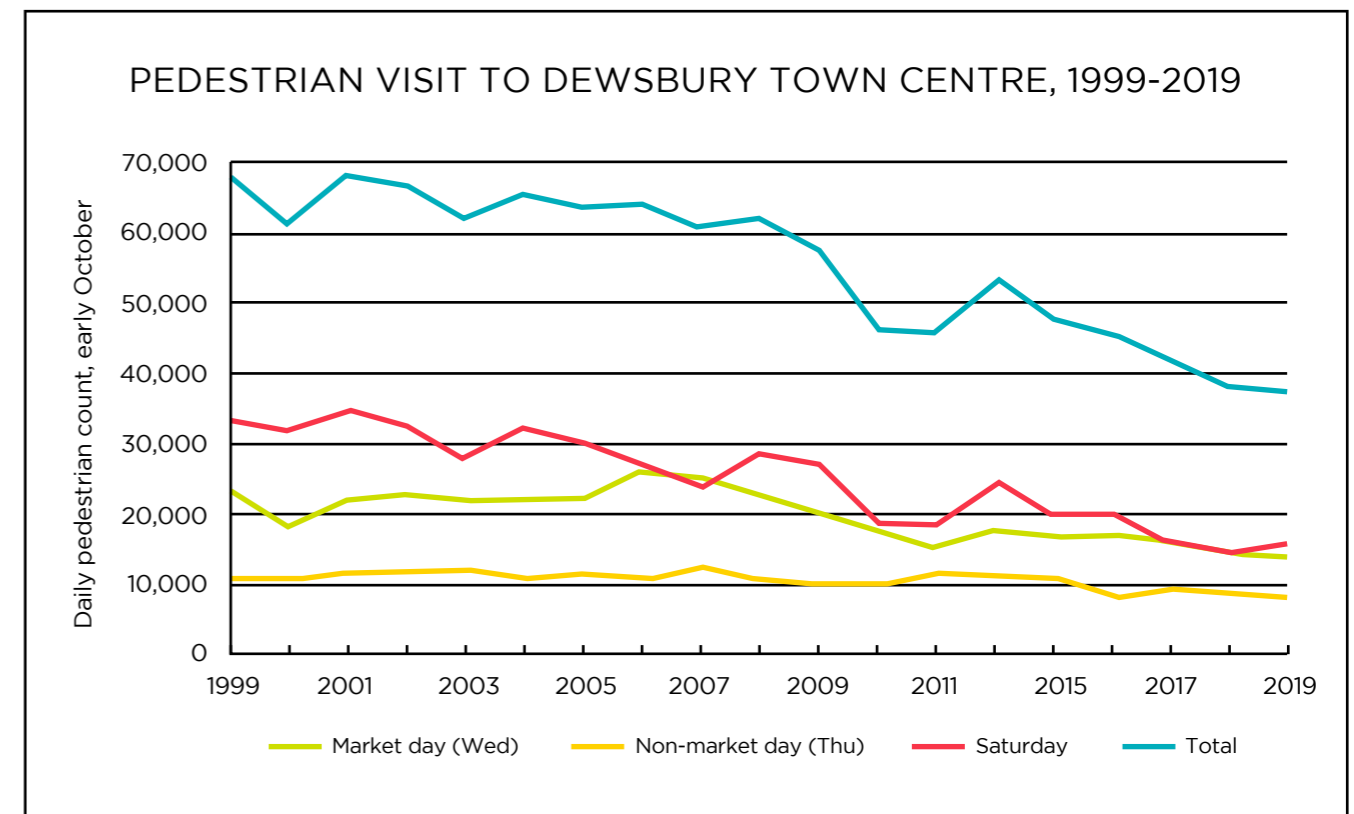
“The town centre doesn’t feel safe either by day or night.”

response to online survey

There are few restaurants and leisure or entertainment opportunities in the town centre, meaning there is a lack of evening activity. The loss of footfall due to a combination of changing consumer behaviour and a poor town centre offer has led to further closures of retail and other businesses resulting in a 30% vacancy rate in 2019.

Figure 6 shows the number of pedestrian visits to Dewsbury Town Centre over the past 20 years.

Figure 6: Pedestrian visits to Dewsbury Town Centre (1999 to 2019)



The graph shows how footfall has decreased from nearly 70,000 in 1999 to less than 40,000 in 2019.

Collectively these issues have resulted in a cycle of low investor confidence and the town centre has been in serious decline. The once large market has seen its vibrancy reduced and vacancies increased, despite this it is still important to the town.

As a result, the town now has a poor image and is visually unattractive in parts with run-down buildings and vacant sites. This has resulted in low business confidence and a fear of crime / anti-social behaviour.

CHALLENGE 5: BRING THE COMMUNITY BACK TOGETHER

COMMUNITY COHESION HAS DECLINED

“Ensuring that physical activity is prevalent in any of the planning of any areas for development. How we walk to work, how we use physical activity to connect to people, mental health, community integration and cohesion.”

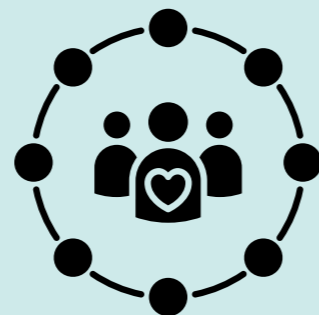
response to online survey

“There is a community spirit here, but it exists in pockets. We have to make sure it’s spread across the whole town.”

views of a local faith group

Dewsbury has proud, diverse and distinct communities. The town owes much of its early success and the vibrancy of its cultural life to the diversity of the backgrounds and lifestyles of its inhabitants.

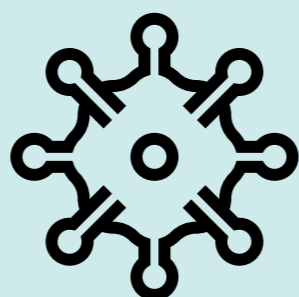
Community assets including people, organisations, institutions, the local economy, environment and culture are key to connecting people and enhancing community cohesion. Despite the hard work undertaken by local volunteers who run community groups and the Kirklees Metropolitan Council (“KMC”), the prolonged lack of investment in the town has meant there are fewer places, spaces, events and activities for people to come together.



CHALLENGE 6: RESPONDING TO COVID-19

As with the rest of the UK, Dewsbury's economy and its people have been significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact on Dewsbury has been felt in a number of ways:

- **Accelerating town centre decline** which has been particularly hit hard with recent announcements of closures for some of the town's high street stores which include WH Smith and Peacocks. Footfall in the town centre has fallen to 25% of normal levels.
- **A disproportionate impact on local businesses** where Covid-19 has had an immediate and unprecedented impact. The government has developed a list of industries that it thinks are most 'at risk' from the economic impact of the pandemic. On this measure, two thirds of jobs (67% in Dewsbury are 'at risk', whereas the national figure is around half (49%). This is largely due to the above average concentrations of manufacturing and wholesale employment in the town compared with the national average. In response, KMC has offered a number of business support grants to help businesses stay afloat during the pandemic.
- **Popularity of the town's limited green space.** This has been demonstrated by the number of people visiting the Dewsbury Country Park during the lockdown. It has been a real hub for different cultures and highlights how a new town park could have a really positive impact on the town.



KMC's draft Local Economic Recovery Plan (see Appendix 2) was approved by Cabinet in July 2020 and covers the three-year period to 2023. It sets out how, working in partnership, KMC will support the economic recovery through initiatives including:

- maximising the social impacts of our spending – ranging from school meals to road building – to generate local jobs, Apprenticeships and work experience opportunities, including the development of a construction skills village
- implementing a Kirklees Youth Guarantee, to support 16-24-year olds to access full-time education, Apprenticeships or employment
- scaling up our support for business start-ups and self-employment, including a major awareness raising campaign and linking advice/support for start-ups with subsidised accommodation
- tackling the digital divide within our communities and residents to improve access to services and learning, through development of local digital hubs and other initiatives
- developing a new package of grant support for businesses and social enterprises with potential to deliver jobs growth and other social value outcomes, targeting both existing SMEs and inward investors.



Opportunities - regaining the momentum

THE LACK OF INVESTMENT AND DASHED EXPECTATIONS OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS IN PARTICULAR HAS LED TO A DEGREE OF CYNICISM AND LOWERED OPTIMISM IN THE TOWN. HOWEVER, DESPITE THE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES THAT THE TOWN FACES, THERE IS NOW A RENEWED MOMENTUM AND GROWING OPTIMISM ABOUT THE TOWN'S FUTURE. OBTAINING TOWN'S FUND SUPPORT WILL BE CRITICAL IN BUILDING UPON THESE MORE POSITIVE FEELINGS AND MAKING THE MOST OF THE FOLLOWING OPPORTUNITIES:

TAP INTO STRONG HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH AROUND DEWSBURY

“We are investing in a development with 1,500 houses and huge business park in the north side of Dewsbury” – major landowner response to online survey

There are significant levels housing growth planned for the Dewsbury area through land allocated in the Kirklees Local Plan and sites with planning permission for housing. This equates to nearly 4,000 new homes over the next 10 years. The council also expects additional homes to be delivered from further windfall sites which become available during this period. This is a yet untapped local customer base for Dewsbury.

In addition, the Chidswell Employment Site is the largest employment allocation in the Kirklees Local Plan and has capacity for over 1 million sq. ft of industrial use development. This has the potential to generate significant inward investment in Dewsbury alongside unlocking the expansion of existing local firms and create associated value-added job opportunities for residents. Improving education and skill levels among the town’s residents are essential to enable them to take advantage of these new job opportunities and to support inclusive growth.

The Council is also aiming to pilot a more area-based approach to business support in Dewsbury, working more closely with businesses in traditional industrial areas of the town to address concerns in relation to their business environment and improving access to business support, advice and investment. This will complement the package of Towns Fund support.

CAPITALISING ON NEW STATE OF THE ART EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE TOWN CENTRE

“The main focus should be on helping people to upskill, find work and a feeling of community and belonging” response to online survey

At the local level KMC and Kirklees College have shown great commitment, in saving and then converting the large former Grade 2 Coop Department Store (Pioneer House) into a College facility. Its recent opening in November 2020 is a major step forward for the town and along with the opening of the Springfield Sixth Form Centre, brings the introduction of a large number of students (1,000+) into the town centre, leading to increases in footfall and activity.

The £14m restoration of Pioneer House has created a major new higher-level skills centre for the town with the potential to deliver not only significant learning opportunities but also a substantial increase in town centre footfall and unlock related activity. Almost 80 courses are already on offer including a wide range of HNC/HND provision in subjects including Art and Design Computing and ICT, Creative and Digital Media, Business and Finance and Health and Social Care.

These recent state-of-the-art educational interventions together with easy access to Huddersfield University will play a key role in addressing the town’s skills shortages by attracting and retaining talent as well as generating much needed footfall to the town centre.

The increased local presence of the College will also increase access to training and other support for Dewsbury employers. Through the ‘Let’s Talk Real Skills’ programme, the College, working with the Council, is developing proposals to support workforce development and recruitment for the town’s bed and furniture manufacturing sector. This will support business innovation alongside the creation of higher skilled roles and clear progression pathways for employees in this sector.

Pioneer House will also operate as a key hub for the Construction Skills Village proposals which are described later in the TIP.

TIME IS RIGHT TO RECONNECT THE PEOPLE OF DEWSBURY WITH A VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE

“Space for young people to connect and be creative.” response to online survey

“A safe space for young people would also be valuable within the area where they could seek support, showcase their talent...” response to online survey

“I remember as a child when Dewsbury was the hub of the community. The market was incredible. A destination for people to come. My mum has told me many times that people used to come on coach trips to visit the market. There’s so much we could do in this area to encourage artisan foods, crafts, street artists to come along – let’s make Dewsbury a destination. A weekly farmers market perhaps. There’s so much history in our town – perhaps free walking tours. Bring some greenery back – make long causeway a place to want to be. A safe and welcoming environment for families.” response on #MyTown website

A reinvigorated town centre is key to the long-term success for Dewsbury as it will attract people and businesses to Dewsbury creating opportunities for jobs.

With the recent investments in new College facilities in the town centre, there is a chance to seize the moment and build momentum via the TIP, otherwise the opportunity might be lost. The TIP includes projects that will directly improve vibrancy in the town centre and bring people together through:

- Town centre living
- Repurposing vacant buildings, including for use by new businesses on a ‘meanwhile’ basis
- Improving the Market
- Developing the creative and cultural sector
- Improving public spaces and creating a new town park,

The resulting improvements in built heritage and public realm, increased residential population and economic demand will in turn provide a boost to private sector confidence and investment leading to a virtuous cycle of growth.

“The Towns Fund will provide much needed support to the regeneration of Dewsbury, driving additional footfall and creating a vibrant town centre through the provision of quality public realm, a revitalised Market and Arcade and an exciting events programme focussed on culture and the arts. We are very enthusiastic, as owners of Empire House, for the regeneration of Dewsbury and as part of that, the Towns Fund provides us with the confidence to invest in the refurbishment and repurposing of Empire House as well as contributing to the events programme in the same way we have invested in our other destinations such as Peterborough and Tunbridge Wells” – Paul Burnett, Property Director at Targetfollow (commercial property company and owner of Empire House).

These projects will also provide social benefits such as improved health and well-being, better air quality and more opportunities for the community to come together.

However, if the ambition and potential of Dewsbury is to be realised then significant resources are required. The Towns Fund provides a great opportunity to deliver the much-needed funds required to act as the catalyst to turn Dewsbury around.

2. Strategy

DEWSBURY TOWN VISION: 2030

“Dewsbury is our town and a town to be proud of, both for its past and its potential for the future. We are a town made up of diverse communities, entrepreneurship, creativity and beautiful architecture – these are assets that, working together, are greater than their individual parts”.

Building on its unique manufacturing heritage and legacy of Victorian buildings, the town has reinvented itself as a sought-after place for its young and diverse communities, a location of choice to set up in business; to live, work and play. Its location as a main stop on the upgraded Transpennine rail route linking Manchester-Huddersfield-Leeds and beyond, along with good links to the M1 and M62, have strengthened links with wider housing and labour markets. The success of the town’s resurgence has been supported by the rise of flexible working and Dewsbury’s appeal as an attractive hometown, offering excellent links to key economic centres across the North.

A revitalised and diversified town centre is at the heart of this transformation. Building on the ‘Blueprint’ adopted a decade ago, the town centre serves as a multi-faceted cultural, learning, business and community hub. The town has a renewed confidence in itself, a place, residents are proud to call their own.

The presence of Kirklees College, Springfield Sixth Form Centre and a wider University offer have transformed Dewsbury’s role as a centre for further and higher education, generating increased footfall and activity throughout the

town centre during the day and supporting its burgeoning evening economy. Local students now regularly achieve above average attainment for GCSE and A levels and have greater access to vocational and academic learning pathways. The College has continued to have **well established links with key employers** within Kirklees and West Yorkshire which means the number of young people living and working in and around the town has increased significantly over the past decade.

Many town centre buildings have been repurposed to provide high quality workspace for digital, creative and other businesses – some created by local entrepreneurs and some attracted by Dewsbury’s high quality, affordable location with beneficial proximity to both Leeds and Manchester. The town’s focus, post Covid, to take advantage of early fibre connectivity to provide flexible and **connected space** has created a new generation of talent in Dewsbury. Many of these businesses have a digital component and have been started by former Kirklees College students which has further fostered the link between the College and the business community.



Dewsbury is a place well known for its creativity and experimentation in art, music and creative industries. Achieving UNESCO Creative City of Music status in 2023 has further enhanced Dewsbury’s reputation as a music hub with its many year-round festivals and programmes featuring a full spectrum of music genres that represent its thriving melting pot of cultures.

Establishing itself as a world class music brand has enabled Dewsbury and Kirklees to attract creative industries in the area which has further enhanced the vibrancy of the town, the health and well-being of residents and provided employment opportunities in a range of careers linked to music and the creative industries. New creative industries have complemented and built on Dewsbury’s textiles heritage offering a range of opportunities in music, fashion, design, performing arts, media and gaming.

There has been a significant increase in the number of local independent retailers and the town centre has adapted successfully to changes in the retail sector. The famous **Dewsbury Market** and **The Arcade** have been transformed into flexible space for commerce, shopping, leisure and cultural activity shopping.

Despite the revolutionary changes made to the retail sector over the past decade, the town has seen a significant increase in footfall, including more flexible workers - with both residents and visitors enjoying the diverse range of eating and drinking establishments along with the many events that are held within cultural spaces within the town.

The town centre is an attractive place to visit with its restored iconic Victorian buildings that tell a story of Dewsbury’s industrial past. This **restoration of old buildings including opening them up for alternative uses** has been part of the pull factor for businesses attracting customers and has encouraged new businesses into the town centre. The **new Town Park** which incorporates Memorial Gardens offers a tranquil place for residents and visitors to enjoy a high-quality green space in the heart of the town.



The number of people cycling, and walking has increased significantly over the past decade due to the **new pedestrian and cycle routes** that have been installed.

Daisy Hill has benefited from being a Heritage Action Zone and become the coveted location to live for professionals with disposable incomes looking for high quality apartments drawn by the vibrant and diverse town centre offer. Perceptions of Dewsbury have changed. Dewsbury is a town with the confidence to compete locally, regionally and nationally providing better life outcomes for all its residents.

THE GENESIS OF THE DEWSBURY VISION

Considerable work has already been undertaken with regards to establishing a vision for Dewsbury. The Strategic Development Framework (SDF), led by the Council, in 2018 set out a 25-year vision for the town supported by a delivery programme.

The key themes from the SDF and the Dewsbury Blueprint together with input from the local community (both businesses and residents), were taken and distilled into a vision of what Dewsbury will be in 2030, which is underpinned by three pillars. These are:

1) A diverse and vibrant place

2) Opportunity for all

3) Connected and accessible

A DIVERSE AND VIBRANT PLACE	OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL	CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE
<p>People value the town centre benefiting from its thriving heritage, culture, artistic and entrepreneurial spirit.</p> <p>Residents and visitors have good quality public realm and green spaces, an attractive retail and leisure offer supported by cultural spaces and events that reflect its character.</p> <p>A town that offers high quality, sustainable housing that is affordable, with a town centre that is vibrant, where people want to live and spend time in.</p>	<p>Our residents will have access to high quality education and value-added jobs.</p> <p>Capitalising on the rise of flexible working post Covid - Dewsbury offers local hubs, connectivity and amenity to support flexible workers.</p> <p>Investment in skills and digital infrastructure will support the creation and attract more successful businesses into Dewsbury.</p>	<p>Dewsbury will be digitally connected with more sustainable access, physically linking the town with pedestrian areas, cycle routes and future travel options.</p> <p>With improved transport infrastructure (rail and road), Dewsbury is a highly connected hub both as a business / employment base and as a place to live.</p> <p>Easy in / easy out and flexible shared office makes Dewsbury an attractive satellite location for city office working.</p>



EXISTING STRATEGIES

Dewsbury has already laid the foundations for long term success, with clear plans for impactful investment via:

- The Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan (“LCR SEP”)⁵
- North Kirklees Growth Zone (“NKGZ”)
- The Kirklees Local Plan⁶,
- The Kirklees Economic Strategy⁷, and draft Economic Recovery Plan, and
- The Dewsbury Town Centre Strategic Development Framework/Dewsbury Blueprint⁸.

The LCR SEP, identifies the NKGZ as one of its spatial priority areas for housing growth and employment growth. The NKEZ has 3 objectives:

- Dewsbury as a key transport node
- as a key economic and service centre to its wider catchment, and
- as a focus for housing growth in Kirklees and the Leeds City Region.

The LCR SEP priority is reflected in the recently adopted Kirklees Local Plan which has a large employment and housing allocation at Chidswell and another large housing allocation at Dewsbury Riverside. Together these have capacity for 5,000 new homes and over 1m sq ft of new employment space. The Local Plan also seeks to ‘Strengthen the role of town centres, particularly Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley, to support their vitality and viability’. At a thematic level the Kirklees Economic Strategy focusses on sustainable economic growth for business and communities and one of its 5 strategic priorities is ‘Revitalised Centres’, including Dewsbury. Revitalising Dewsbury is one of the 5 ‘big wins’

For Dewsbury Town Centre all of the above is expressed in more detail by the Dewsbury Town Centre Strategic Development Framework (2018) and associated Delivery Plan. The more recent Dewsbury Blueprint (launched in February 2020) translates and expands the SDF into a series of themes and projects over a ten-year timespan.

the TIP aligns and supports the spatial plans for the town centre, including the Kirklees Local Plan and the Dewsbury Town Centre SDF.

⁵Source: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/growing-the-economy/economic-strategy/strategic-economic-plan/>

⁶Source: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/local-plan-strategy-and-policies.pdf>

⁷Source: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/pdf/economic-strategy.pdf>

⁸Source: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/dewsbury-blueprint/index.aspx>

Summary of TIP projects

HAVING ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS AND BASED ON THE PRIORITIES SET BY THE TOWN DEAL BOARD, NINE PROJECTS WERE SELECTED FOR THE TIP WITH A TOTAL ASK OF £26.255M FROM THE TOWNS FUND. THIS IS COMPRISED OF £25.43M IN CAPITAL SPENDING AND £0.825M IN REVENUE SPENDING OVER THE PERIOD 2021-26.

KEY

1. The Arcade
2. Dewsbury Market
3. Urban Realm
4. Creative Culture Programme - 'Union' Arts and Cultural Centre
5. Building revival
6. Daisy Hill neighbourhood
7. Build - Construction Skills Village (please refer to p.46)
8. Fibre capability
9. Sustainable Transport modes

Sustainable Transport Routes

Bond Street
Wellington Street
Leeds/Bradford Road

Fibre Projects



**THE
£25M
PLAN**



The majority of the proposed Town Fund projects are concentrated within Dewsbury town centre. There are two proposed projects outside of the town centre: the redevelopment of a pipeline bridge across the River Calder for pedestrian and cycle access as part of the sustainable travel modes project, and a Construction Skills Village which will be located in the major Dewsbury Riverside development area. Further details on the Construction Skills Village are on **page 46**

The Arcade



Project Description	<p>The project involves the reopening of the vacant Grade 2 listed Victorian Arcade, for small, local independent businesses. The focus will be on businesses in the creative sector</p> <p>The project will deliver 21 refurbished ground floor business units. The upper floors will offer opportunities for further business space including for the creative industries, and the use and configuration of this space will be explored as part of the design process.</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to attract new people to the centre. • A tenant mix needs to be curated to make it a place to go to, not walk through - will be an outlet for socialising, events, arts, student and community activity as well as straight retail. • Central to efforts to revitalise the town centre. Found to be the most popular project with the public. • Project not currently viable for commercial investors given the significant costs involved and the comparatively low retail rents • Opportunity to create innovative jobs / opportunities for young people 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £3.68m with a £1.31m Towns Fund ask • KMC providing £1.77m in match funding from capital programme (purchase and refurb) • West Yorkshire Combined Authority providing £0.6m in match funding via its Getting Building Fund allocation. 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 -£1.1m 2021/22 - £1.7m 2022/23 - £0.5m 2023/24 - £0.12m 2024/25 - £0.13m 2025/26 - £0.13m Total - £3.68m	2020/21 -£0m 2021/22 - £0.7m 2022/23 - £0.23m 2023/24 - £0.12m 2024/25 - £0.13m 2025/26 - £0.13m Total - £1.31m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To bring into use 997sq m of commercial floorspace in 2023 • Increase amount of shared workspace or innovation facilities • Other scheme to support enterprise business productivity and growth 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in business births and survival rate • 20 new business units, creating 30 new jobs and 16 construction jobs • Create 15 new businesses by 2024 • £16m net GVA secured • Estimated BCR 4.8 		

Dewsbury Market



Project Description	Dewsbury Market is at the physical and economic heart of the town centre. Its health is critical to the vibrancy of the town centre as a whole. The Market will undergo a 'root and branch' change in order to create a model market for the 21st century. The project will involve a complete overhaul of the physical fabric, changes to product offer, introduction of leisure and improvements in operational practices.		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
	✓	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key driver for footfall that needs bringing up to date • Will help with increasing jobs, improving amenity and activity in the town centre • Very much the heartbeat of the town centre - the market can be used to support enterprise and test trading. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £15.5m with a £6.60m Towns Fund ask • KMC providing £8.90m in match funding from its own capital programme. 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.3m 2021/22 - £2.0m 2022/23 - £12.6m 2023/24 - £0.6m Total - £15.5m	2020/21 - £0.0m 2021/22 - £0.0m 2022/23 - £6.6m 2023/24 - £0.0m Total - £6.60m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial space c200 stalls (1,800 sq. m) • Upgraded community spaces 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 enterprises utilising high quality, affordable and sustainable commercial spaces • Improved perceptions of the place by residents / businesses / visitors • An increase in visitors to arts, cultural and heritage events and venues • Increase in footfall into the town centre from both residents and visitors. • Market helps to drive enterprise culture 		

Urban Realm



<p>Project Description</p>	<p>The aim of the Urban Realm programme is to deliver a number of projects that will improve the publicly accessible spaces within the town centre.</p> <p>Urban Realm comprises both large and small scale projects, the largest being the creation of the Town Park.</p> <p>The design of the park will comprise a combination of soft and hard landscaping and will include infrastructure on a scale that will appeal to a number of end users.</p> <p>All these projects will see a number of interventions around the redevelopment of public space, improvements to infrastructure, better linkages to the town centre as well as creating spaces that would support the existing public services such as the Sports Centre and Library.</p>		
<p>Project rationale</p>	<p>Diverse and vibrant Place</p>	<p>Opportunity for all</p>	<p>Connected and accessible</p>
	<p>✓</p>		<p>✓</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Park will be space that brings the community together to enjoy events, festivals, the green spaces and leisure activities. • Will make the area more attractive for businesses and residents and will encourages residential development within the town centre. • Increase in the amount of footfall generated by the Town Park has the potential to increase economic activity by attracting new firms to the area which could boost local jobs • Contribute to the KMC’s climate change emergency with more green space and encouraging residents to walk rather than take the car, reducing carbon emissions. • Addresses health issues (physical and mental) by encouraging walking and physical activity. 		
<p>Ask and Match Funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £14.93m with a £6.25m Towns Fund ask • KMC providing £8.68m in match funding from capital programme. 		
<p>Timescales and spend profile</p>	<p>Overall Spend profile</p>	<p>Towns Fund spend profile</p>	
	<p>2020/21 - £0.143m 2021/22 - £0.821m 2022/23 - £0.666m 2023/24 - £3.65m 2024/25 - £8.15m 2025/26 - £1.5m Total - £14.93m</p>	<p>2020/21 - £0m 2021/22 - £0m 2022/23 - £0.25m 2023/24 - £1.65m 2024/25 - £3.65m 2025/26 - £0.70m Total - £6.25m</p>	
<p>Outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of new public town park - 7,400 sq. m • New public spaces • Upgraded cycle and walking paths 		
<p>Outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased perception of the place by residents / businesses / visitors • Increased number of visitors to arts, cultural and heritage events • Contributing to KMC’s clean growth strategy by encouraging walking and cycling, so cleaner air • Improvements in public health through increased active use in the area and improved air quality in the town centre. 		



Creative Culture Programme – Taking a lead



Project Description	<p>The new arts and cultural centre (Union), creative social enterprise and production hub and a year-round programme of cultural activities and events to animate the town and bring communities together. It will provide new cultural infrastructure and enable a creative community to develop and create entertainment and cultural experiences developed and co-produced with Dewsbury's communities. Union will include performance spaces, meeting and exhibition space and studios for music, performance and visual art.</p> <p>Programmed with and by local artists and communities, inspired by and celebrating the many voices, cultures and communities of Dewsbury, it will host poetry slams, exhibitions, film screenings, family friendly theatre, creative activities for children and training for young adults.</p> <p>The broader cultural programme will see a series of activity that come together in major public events.</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
	✓	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Union addresses the need for more activities for children and young people, and for a creative hub and focus for production for the diverse communities of Dewsbury in an area where there is no such existing facility. • Provides space and facilities to bring forward the town's creative community. • Addresses views of young people expressed in consultation exercise that more activities are needed in the town centre. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £3.40m with a £2.195m Towns Fund ask • £1.68m is capital for the development of the Union Arts Centre and £0.515m is revenue to support a series of arts and culture festivals and events • Match funding of £1.05m is provided by the Arts Council • KMC is providing the building (valued at £0.15m) 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.0m 2021/22 - £1.039m 2022/23 - £1.213m 2023/24 - £1.48m Total - £3.40m	2020/21 - £0m 2021/22 - £0.66m 2022/23 - £0.805m 2023/24 - £0.73m Total - £2.195m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception of place by residents / visitors • Estimated 58,000 visitors to arts, cultural and heritage events over the first three years. • Enterprise Infrastructure - increase in shared workspace and schemes to support enterprise 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the vibrancy of the town centre with a range of cultural events. • Increasing footfall into the town centre • Improving employability, life-skills and health and well being of residents of Dewsbury. 		


Building revival



Project Description	<p>The Building Revival scheme is aimed at providing support for the conversion of buildings to office / workspace & residential where appropriate and improving shop fronts to a Conservation Area Standard.</p> <p>The project objective to grow momentum through the Dewsbury Townscape Heritage Initiative, in improving shopfronts in line with Conversation Area principles, thus raising the profile and quality of the area.</p> <p>The scheme involves providing grant assistance to owners in providing quality accommodation, prompting property owners to think differently about conversions, through using spaces more creatively - creating live/workspaces, rather than just plain box conversions.</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinct lack of quality accommodation, both residential and commercial in Dewsbury town centre • Need to bring vacant floor space back into use, helping to create vibrancy and supporting live / workspace opportunities, thus increasing economic activity. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £6.40m with a £3.15m Towns Fund ask • KMC providing £1.25m in match funding from capital programme • Private sector will contribute £2m 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.075m 2021/22 - £1.15m 2022/23 - £1.5m 2023/24 - £1.5m 2024/25 - £1.5m 2025/26 - £0.675m Total - £6.40m	2020/21 - £0m 2021/22 - £0.15m 2022/23 - £1m 2023/24 - £1m 2024/25 - £1m 2025/26 - £0m Total - £3.15m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements in shop fronts • Vacant buildings brought back into use • Residential units created • Commercial units created 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved perception of the place by businesses • Quality new spaces in refurbished buildings provides locations for start-up businesses and / or scaleups utilising business incubation and co working spaces • Creates increased footfall into the town centre 		

Daisy Hill neighbourhood



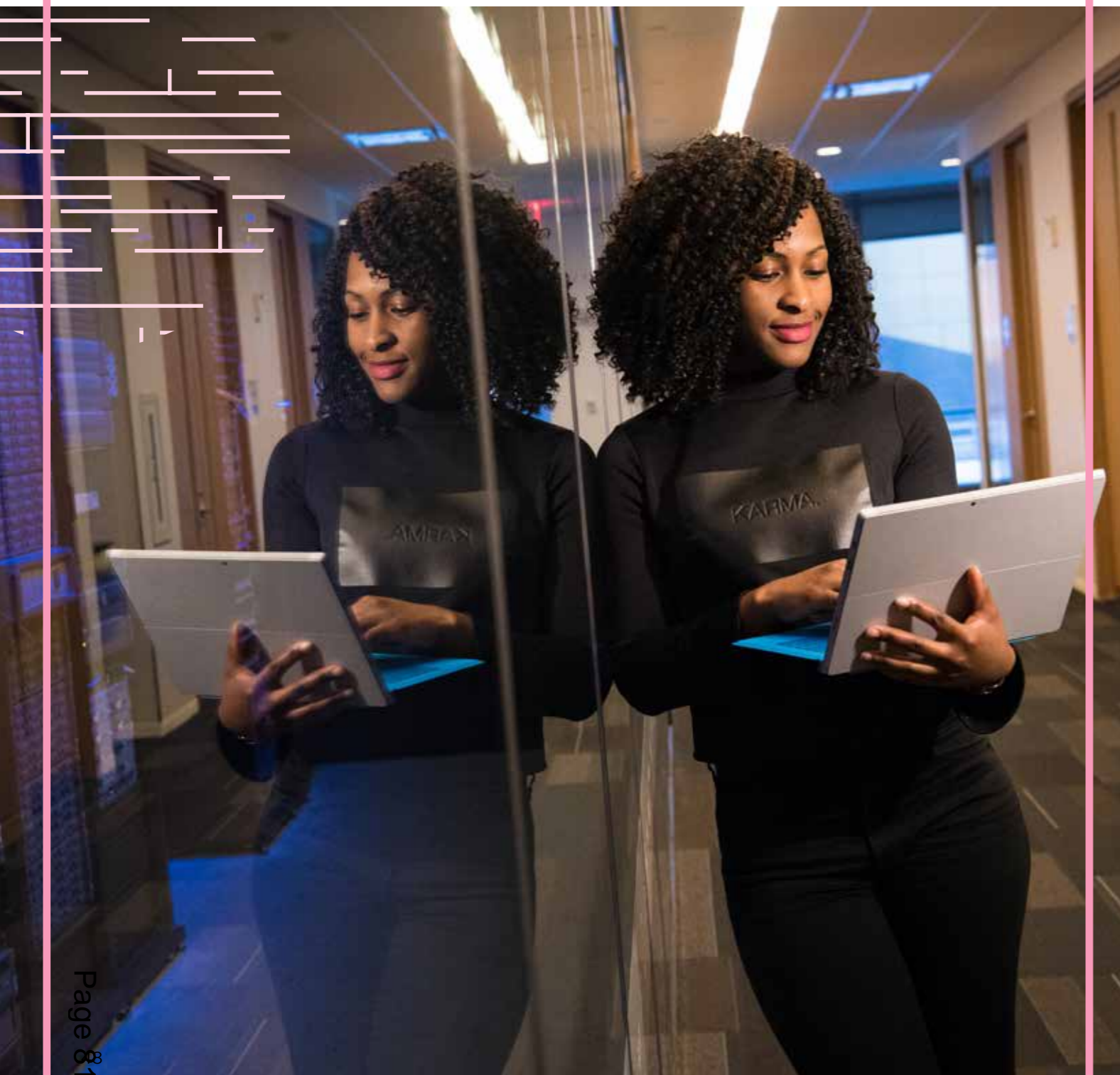
Project Description	<p>The project will undertake the critical first steps on the road to creating a new neighbourhood of circa xx homes at the heart of Dewsbury, which will support town centre vibrancy and make the most of the heritage assets of the town. It is comprised of two parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first phase which is the conversion of the vacant grade 2 listed Field House building into 23 high quality apartments and a restaurant / bar. • The acquisition of land and buildings to create a single development opportunity of a scale necessary to deliver the desired outcomes. <p>The project will set a new standard for quality of residential accommodation in Dewsbury Town Centre and will attract occupiers with disposable incomes that will help support the town centre economy.</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim is to provide an exemplar residential scheme offering significantly better specified and more generously sized accommodation than is currently offered elsewhere in the town • The Field House conversion will act as a pilot scheme to target and attract a new residential market to Dewsbury Town Centre. • Town centre living will create more footfall and vibrancy in the town centre • Development is planned to be on sufficiently large scale to create enough critical mass to permanently change market perceptions for town centre residential schemes in Dewsbury and act as a publicly funded catalyst for further private sector residential development within the town centre. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £11.0m with a £3.0m Towns Fund ask • Match funding of £1.5m from Heritage Action Zone • Match funding of £3.80 from KMC capital programme • Match funding of £2.7m from private sector developer 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.8m 2021/22 - £1.25m 2022/23 - £6.45m 2023/24 - £1.25m 2024/25 - £1.25m Total - £11.00m	2020/21 - £0m 2021/22 - £0.5m 2022/23 - £1.5m 2023/24 - £0.5m 2024/25 - £0.5m Total - £3.0m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of quality residential conversion in a key gateway location • 1,965 sqm of residential space • Strategic Town Centre Land assembly • Meanwhile use on cleared site 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional residents with good disposable incomes increase footfall and spending in the town centre • Changed market perception of town centre living in Dewsbury 		

Construction skills village



Project Description	<p>A multi-purpose skills and education centre for the construction and built environment sectors, located at the heart of one of Kirklees's largest housing sites, Dewsbury Riverside. Developed in partnership with Kirklees College and industry partners and operating on a hub and spoke basis with the Pioneer Higher Skills Centre, the project will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an exciting new facility to engage young people and raise awareness of careers in the industry • a safe/secure environment, within a major housing site, to deliver a wide range of construction training to young people, unemployed adults and other target groups • a leading-edge training facility specialising in modern methods of construction and low carbon energy alongside specialist heritage construction skills and, delivering a wide range of industry-focused short-courses 		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant-Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
		✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is substantial construction happening around Dewsbury and within Kirklees, so the skills village is a great way to connect residents to those jobs, driving inclusive growth. • The project will deliver significant additionality. Kirklees College's existing construction training centre in Huddersfield has reached capacity due to recent growth and is in need of further investment and updating. The North Kirklees site will provide valuable new capacity and opportunity to develop new facilities to deliver new curriculum and better serve North Kirklees. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £2.25m with a £1.50m Towns Fund ask • Match funding of £0.75 provided by KMC 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.0m 2021/22 - £0.6m 2022/23 - £0.65m 2023/24 - £0.5m 2024/25 - £0.25 2025/26 - £0.25 Total - £2.25m	2020/21 - £0.0m 2021/22 - £0.10m 2022/23 - £0.40m 2023/24 - £0.50m 2024/25 - £0.25m 2025/26 - £0.25m Total - £1.50m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in capacity or accessibility to new training facilities • Availability of new specialist equipment • Increase and closer collaboration with employers • Increase in the breadth of the local skills offer than responds to local skills needs 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 new learners assisted • 90% of learners gaining relevant experience / being 'job ready' (as assessed by employers) 		

Fibre capability



Project Description	<p>This project is to facilitate the installation of a fibre network into key buildings in Dewsbury town centre.</p> <p>The project will provide a new primary duct network that links all key TIP projects in the town centre; along with key Council buildings.</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
		✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fibre to The Premises (FTTP) can provide gigabit capability and easily meet the current and future demand. Although it rolled out across much of Kirklees, Dewsbury Town Centre has not been part of the roll out as it is not considered as being sufficiently commercial attractive. The primary benefit of this project is that there will be capacity within the ducting for organisations to install their own fibre at a fraction of the cost of digging and laying their own. Dewsbury Town Centre will, as a result, become economically viable for fibre broadband to business and homes. 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total cost of £0.50m with a £0.25m Towns Fund ask Match funding of £0.25 provided by KMC 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.20m 2021/22 - £0.10m 2022/23 - £0.10m 2023/24 - £0.05m 2024/25 - £0.05m Total - £0.5m	2020/21 - £0.1m 2021/22 - £0.05m 2022/23 - £0.05m 2023/24 - £0.025m 2024/25 - £0.025m Total - £0.25m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure to support fibre connectivity New upgraded or protected community centres, sports or athletics facilities, museums, arts venues, theatres, libraries, film facilities, prominent landmarks or historical buildings, parks or gardens. 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher broadband speeds Internet access and usage by businesses Number of people who work remotely at least some of the time 		

Sustainable Transport modes



Project Description	<p>A transformational programme of walking and cycling infrastructure improvements within Dewsbury delivering a high-quality network connecting key transport nodes.</p> <p>The proposed new footway/cycleway facilities would offer greater pedestrian and cycling connectivity in the North-east of Dewsbury Town Centre and better access to Town Centre and college sites. The scheme incorporates a new two-way cycle track alongside the footway to enable and encourage modal shift to bike through creation of a safer, more attractive environment for cyclists as part of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).</p>		
Project rationale	Diverse and vibrant Place	Opportunity for all	Connected and accessible
			✓
	<p>The scheme will deliver a range of positive benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering clean growth by reducing private car dependency and thus reducing carbon emissions • Encouraging local people to make healthier active transport decisions • Creating attractive and sustainable travel routes that will enhance the perception of Dewsbury as a place to live and work 		
Ask and Match Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost of £3.0m with a £2.0m Towns Fund ask • Match funding of £1m from the LCR Transforming Cities Fund 		
Timescales and spend profile	Overall Spend profile	Towns Fund spend profile	
	2020/21 - £0.05m 2021/22 - £1.85m 2022/23 - £1.1m 2023/24 - £0.0m 2024/25 - £0.0m Total - £3.00m	2020/21 - £0.05m 2021/22 - £1.35m 2022/23 - £0.6m 2023/24 - £0.0m 2024/25 - £0.0m Total - £2.00m	
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New two-way cycle track • Contraflow cycle lane • New surfacing • New footway facility • New Zebra crossing 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved perceptions of the place by residents / businesses / visitors • Improved sustainable and affordable transport options to and from places of work and Dewsbury town centre 		

ALIGNED INVESTMENTS AND INTERVENTIONS

The TIP provides for key investments to complement other planned investment. Without it, Dewsbury residents face an increased risk of not benefiting from some of this investment in the area. Indeed, to realise the vision for Dewsbury, it's vital that the TIP and aligned investments work hand in hand.

Our key initiatives that support the delivery of the overarching TIP are set out below:



THE DEWSBURY LEARNING QUARTER

The Dewsbury Learning Quarter has seen major investment from KMC, Kirklees College, Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Learning Quarter comprises the Springfield Sixth Form Centre, a new state of the art, BREEM excellent facility for learning as part of the Kirklees College campus. The building was completed in September 2019.

The Learning Quarter was completed with renovation of Pioneer House. The Victorian grade II-listed Co-op building in Northgate has been transformed into the Pioneer Higher Skills Centre, run by Kirklees College. This new study centre was opened November 2020 and along with the Springfield Centre, will bring 1000s of students into the town centre.



STRATEGIC HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT

There are significant levels of housing growth planned for the Dewsbury area through land allocated in the Kirklees Local Plan and sites with planning permission for housing. This equates to over 4,000 new homes up to the end of the Local Plan period (2031) with the main sites allocated being South Dewsbury and Chidswell. The Chidswell site includes the release of 35 Ha employment land and has the capacity for 1 million sq. ft of floor space and associated jobs.

Market demand for housing and employment space at these sites will be enhanced by a revitalised town centre, with better connectivity and accessibility and greater access to skills and jobs, which the nine Towns Fund projects help to deliver. The proposed Construction Skills Village will unlock training and employment opportunities associated with the construction of these and a wide range of other Dewsbury projects.



FAMILY ATTRACTIONS

As part of the future ambitions for the Town Centre to be a place that attracts families and bring much needed footfall into the centre, the Council will be investing £320,000 into a new Dare 2 Air family inflatable theme park which will look to bring in circa of 37,000 visitors a year.

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING

A key objective is that Dewsbury will be a family-friendly town where everyone feels safe and welcome. Families will come together to enjoy the open spaces, shops and leisure opportunities during the day and into the evening.

KMC is investing £250,000 into community safety with the recruitment of additional officers that will patrol the town centre and will undertake enforcement activities with a focus on anti-social behaviour, improving the environment through enforcing Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and littering offences. All the nine projects that form part of our Towns Fund Ask will benefit from this initiative.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

Dewsbury will benefit from funding providing by the Leeds City Region's Transforming Cities Fund that will help to pay for a remodelled and improved Bus Station and there will be improvements to the ring road and highway junction at Shaw Cross as well as improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in addition to those funded via the Towns Fund project.



TRANSPENNINE RAIL UPGRADE

Dewsbury will benefit from the Transpennine upgrade which will include electrification of the track from Huddersfield to Dewsbury and right through to Leeds. This will bring improved and more reliable rail services to Dewsbury. A new, improved station will also be built at Ravensthorpe providing improved connectivity to the town centre. Construction training and employment opportunities will be supported via the proposed Skills Village.

MORE COUNCIL EMPLOYEES BASED IN THE TOWN CENTRE

At the Blueprint launch KMC announced the plans to transfer up to 750 staff to Dewsbury Town Centre. KMC is still committed to reviewing how a staff presence can help with the revitalisation of town centres. Covid-19 has changed the future demand for dedicated office space. KMC is aware of this and is looking at the type and nature of provision within each of its town centres as well as how it can create more shared working space to be used by others.

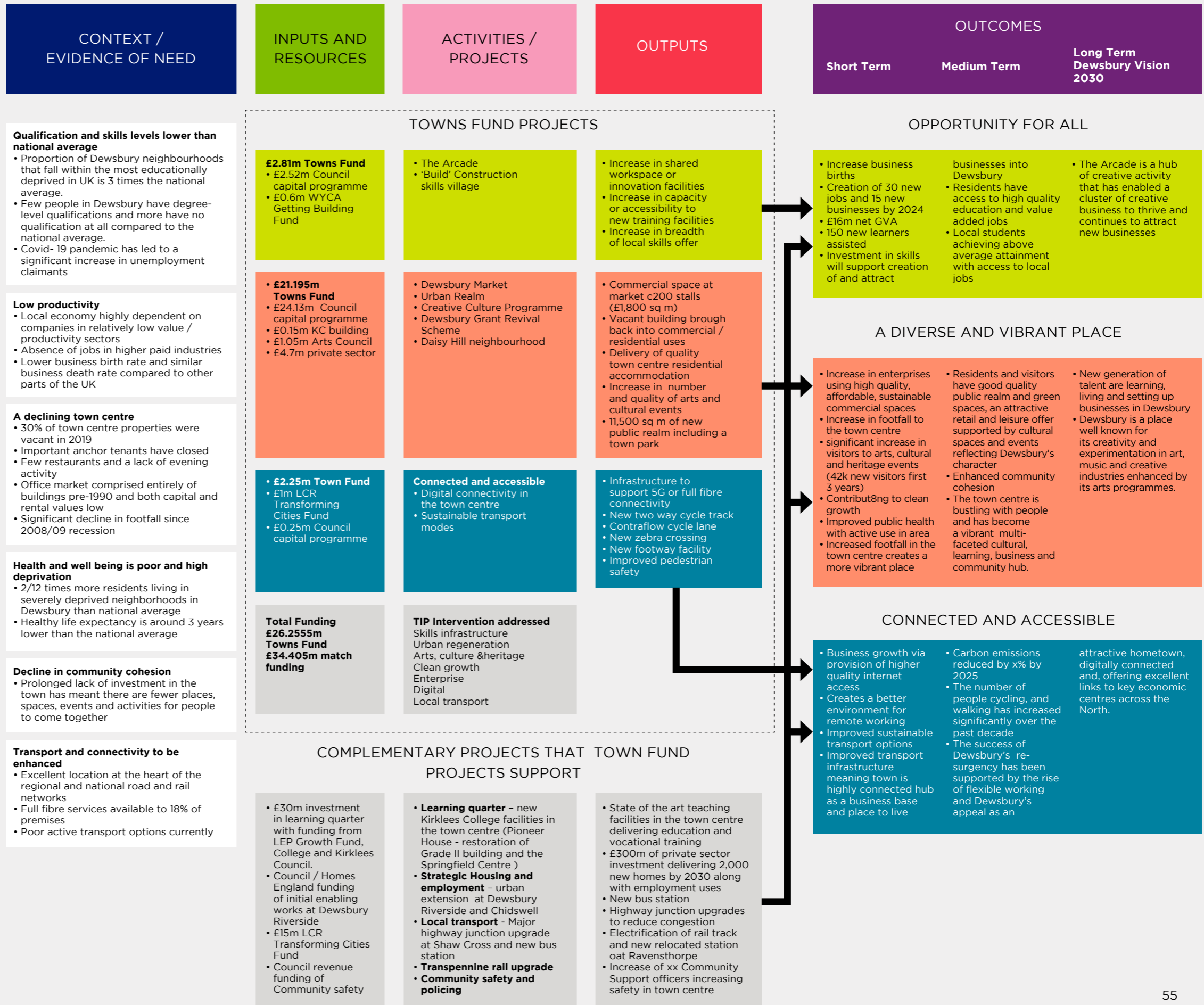
CLEAN GROWTH

KMC has declared a Climate Emergency and has adopted a 'net zero' carbon emissions target for 2038. All projects delivered through the Town Investment Plan will be assessed on a case by case basis to ensure that the right principles are applied to ensure they are 'net zero' compliant. Our TIP programme has been designed to support clean growth by:

- Encouraging active travel by investing in new cycle ways and footpaths along with new public spaces such as a new town park. These investments will encourage residents to make journeys by foot or bike and which will help to improve air quality.
- Creating a vibrant town centre with a revitalised Market, the Arcade, a new town park and a programme of arts and culture activities will encourage residents to choose to stay local for recreational activities.
- The planned upgrades of many of the historical buildings through projects such as the Arcade, the building revival scheme, 15 Union Street and Field House will improve the energy efficiency of the buildings.

THEORY OF CHANGE

Based on the contextual analysis, vision and objectives, the Town Deal Board has developed the following programme-level Theory of Change. It highlights how the chosen TIP projects will, together with supporting investment, make a real and tangible difference to Dewsbury, tackling key issues identified by its residents and businesses.



3. Engagement and delivery

This chapter summarises our approach to the engagement and collaboration process carried out for developing this TIP and outlines our plan for future engagement, business case development and delivery of each project.

TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN ENGAGEMENT

The Town Deal approach to consultation and involvement builds on extensive public engagement exercises such as the Local Plan, Dewsbury Blueprint, regular resident / customer surveys about services and living in Dewsbury and consultation on specific projects.

KMC conducted a Dewsbury Blueprint public consultation that took place over a 4-week period in Spring of 2020. This consultation sought to gain an understanding from the public as to how the Blueprint should be shaped, one that works for residents, business and visitors to the town centre.

In order to reach out to the community KMC opened up a Blueprint Shop in the centre of the town where people could come and discuss the Blueprint in more detail.

KMC followed up the Dewsbury Blueprint consultation with its “Our Town” consultation led by Social, the communications and consultation agency.

In normal circumstances activities would have taken place in the form of public meetings, street stalls etc. Under Covid-19 lockdown

restrictions, however this has not been possible, and we have had to pivot the consultation approach to a digital and telephone-based approach. We are confident this approach has not reduced our ability to engage with hard to reach groups and, as a result of working with Dewsbury networks, we have been able to target a comprehensive cross section of the community and ensure the voices of key stakeholders have been strongly represented.

The full Our Town Dewsbury consultation report is available at Appendix 3

All stakeholders were asked for their ideas and given the opportunity to set a vision for Dewsbury and share views on project ideas that are well developed. The aim was to ensure plans are made with the communities they affect, to ensure they are genuine partnership arrangements and have the greatest chance of success.

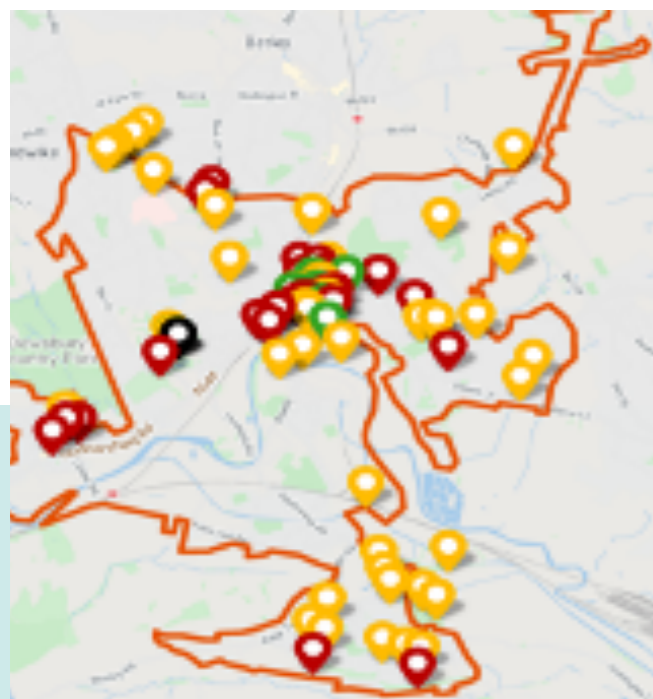
Following a stakeholder mapping exercise, the following groups were identified as a priority and with a strong interest in the town. Our approach to engaging with these groups is also outlined.

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	ROLE/INTEREST	ACTIONS
Voluntary/ Third sector	Active members of the community with detailed knowledge of specialist areas	Carried out online focus group discussion, phone interviews and direct email contact to encourage interested parties to take part in our online survey
Training providers/ education	Key to developing skills for jobs market. Wish to see young people's needs reflected in plans	Direct email contact to encourage interested parties to take part in our online survey with offer of follow up online and/or telephone discussions.
Health	Making sure interventions feed into public health priorities	Direct email contact to encourage interested parties to take part in our online survey
Young people	Over 30 per cent of Dewsbury is made up of people under the age of 24. They have a keen interest in their town centre	Three online focus groups carried out with schools and colleges
Local MPs/ politicians	They have strong local knowledge and would be keen to see that local priorities are addressed through the funding	Direct email contact to all local politicians. Some councillors actively promoted the consultation. An interview was conducted with the town's MP, Mark Eastwood.
Local business	Key stakeholders driving the local economy who will have a strong interest in the outcome of the consultation, as it could be critical to their livelihoods	Direct email contact to local businesses and telephone interviews with local business consultants and Dewsbury Chamber of Trade
Leisure/culture	Key stakeholders in both areas and arts and culture is a Towns Fund intervention theme	Two online focus groups carried out with leisure groups and a local culture group of young people
Housing & local community groups	As housing providers, they have strong local knowledge and an understanding of community needs, which they will be keen to see reflected in the TIP	Direct email contact to encourage interested parties to take part in our online survey. Also, phone interviews with local housing providers.
Regional & sub-regional stakeholders	Strong strategic interest in how funding can support wider regional plans to develop the economy.	Direct email contact to encourage key regional stakeholders to take part in our online survey.
Faith groups	Very established part of the community and provide a lot of emotional and social support to the town.	Several telephone interviews carried out with local faith leaders

ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey was run over a period of four weeks and widely publicised through local media, key stakeholder networks, the Council's website and social media channels. We received 502 responses and a breakdown of findings can be found in the report at Appendix xx

INTERACTIVE MAP



#MYTOWN WEBSITE



SOCIAL MEDIA



FOCUS GROUP / TELEPHONE INTERVIEW FEEDBACK

To gather a richer understanding of people's views on where funding should be prioritised and to ensure they are heard and invested in the success of projects, we gave key stakeholders further opportunities to have their say. This was in the form of online focus groups where groups of up to 10 people took part in discussions around local needs and also individual telephone interviews.



WHAT OUR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES TOLD US



Summarising the key and consistently clear messages about what residents want, these are:

- **More access to green space**
- **More activities and opportunities for young people and families**
- **A safe, vibrant and welcoming town centre**
- **Opportunities and activities that bring the community together**

Residents also talked about their pride in Dewsbury and how they want Dewsbury's identity to be strengthened.

These priorities are reflected in the strategy and can be clearly seen within and across the projects (which mainly focus on the town centre) and associated interventions that make up this investment plan.



BUSINESS

“There is a healthy entrepreneurial spirit here, but it needs support. We need mentors to guide people with good ideas and business angels who are willing to take risks.”

“Dewsbury suffers from an acute skills shortage. There is an oversupply of low paid, low skilled jobs and these positions can’t be filled. There are always vacancies. There’s a lot of informal economy work, a strong gig economy. We need a focus on helping create better paid jobs. Many women want to set up businesses and need support. We could do with an incubator to help create more high value jobs.”

YOUNG PEOPLE

“A safe space for young people would also be valuable within the area where they could seek support, showcase their talent....”

“There needs to be more spots to hang out. There’s no real place for young people. My parents have lived here all their lives and they say it’s changed for the worse. Dewsbury used to be a lot more vibrant when they were younger. There’s a massive arts centre in Bradford and lots of nice shops. But we don’t have that here.”

“When we go to the town centre we sit outside Greggs on the tables. There is nowhere else for us to go. It’s much better in Leeds or Bradford. I’d like to go into Dewsbury more, but there’s nothing there for us.”

VOLUNTARY SECTOR

“There is a good sense of community in Dewsbury, but it’s fractured and very siloed. People don’t tend to reach out beyond their community. It’s quite insular and when communities don’t mix then they become distrustful of each other. We need better facilities and community provision to help people mix.”

“There are too many pound shops, vape shops etc. It’s not an aspirational offer and it’s not something you would take pride in. There are some great buildings, but this needs to be matched by a better offer. When we do events at the town hall, people just come and then go home. There’s nowhere to go before or after. There’s nowhere to have a nice meal or a drink in a quality bar.”



HOUSING

“We need to give the place a pull factor. Pocket parks, green spaces and tree lined roads can also contribute to that positive psychology and sense of wellbeing. It can make a huge difference. We need to give people a reason to be there. That’s how we can create a good community where people want to live.”

CULTURE / ARTS

“I’d love to see a community garden. I really like Birstall in Bloom. It would also be good if we had more places to relax, better public realm, pop up events and an artistic hub.”

“That’s a good idea. Events bring people from all communities together and we need that. Also, a creative or cultural hub for young people would not only create a buzz. It would give young people more confidence to do their own thing. People from Dewsbury are proud, but they don’t have enough opportunities to express that.”

FAITH GROUPS

“There is no great identity to Dewsbury and the regeneration question we should be posing is what is it that holds people together?”

ACTIVE LIVING / PUBLIC HEALTH

“We’ve seen all sorts of people asking about cycling. People of different faiths, all communities. It’s something that could unite people”

“I’m a park ranger and I’ve seen how the country park became incredibly valuable during lockdown. It’s a real hub for different cultures and a place where everyone can come to exercise, walk, bird watch, picnic or simply get some fresh air. Lots of people use it to go to work. Many don’t have gardens either so it’s a godsend. The importance of green space has really been highlighted this year”

LEISURE / TRANSPORT

“I’m the Sustrans partnership manager for Yorkshire and Humber, and we feel that there’s a real chance to make Dewsbury a jewel in the crown for Kirklees where active travel is concerned. There are already some fantastic greenways there, but they’re not connected. We need to make these green corridors more joined up and accessible. It’s also about making Dewsbury a safer place to walk.”

FURTHER ENGAGEMENT

The purpose of the future engagement strategy is to continue the dialogue started in the consultation process by engaging with the public and key stakeholders throughout the development of Towns Fund projects and their delivery. The Engagement and Marketing Plan will run from the announcement of any funding received and will continue from the inception of the Terms of Reference and progress for the first 12-18 months as the projects are established and will be run adjacent and inclusive of the individual communications and marketing plans for each of the projects that go ahead.

OBJECTIVES	TARGET AUDIENCE	MARKETING CHANNELS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise awareness of the TIP and what the Towns Fund money is going to be spent on, • To promote the positive messaging and action taken through the use of funding to improve Dewsbury including the economic and social benefits outlined thus improving perception. • To acknowledge comments made throughout the consultation process and profile the positive benefits of the projects being developed via the Towns Fund. • Promote an open and honest dialogue about the likes and dislikes raised through the engagement process. • To provide an ongoing dialogue with stakeholders and the public about the development of the individual projects funded through the Towns Fund to ensure they are able to influence, design, delivery and end use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses and their employees • Community groups / religious groups / not for profit organisations • Young people and students • Residents / visitors to Dewsbury from surrounding towns. 	<p>Online marketing - social media, website advertising and promotion, LinkedIn and all Kirklees Council's web assets.</p> <p>Offline marketing - radio advertising, printed media including posters, newsletters, outdoor advertising, press releases and editorial features in relevant publications.</p> <p>Partner and stakeholder engagement - including Kirklees College, local housing associations, the NHS, Creative scene, Community Interest Companies.</p>

EVALUATION AND MONITORING

The engagement will be continuously reviewed and monitored using a number of different measures and tools to ensure the aims and objectives of the communications are being met. Fundamentally results will need to show an open dialogue with all target audiences and will be reviewed to ensure each group is able to influence the design, delivery and end use of

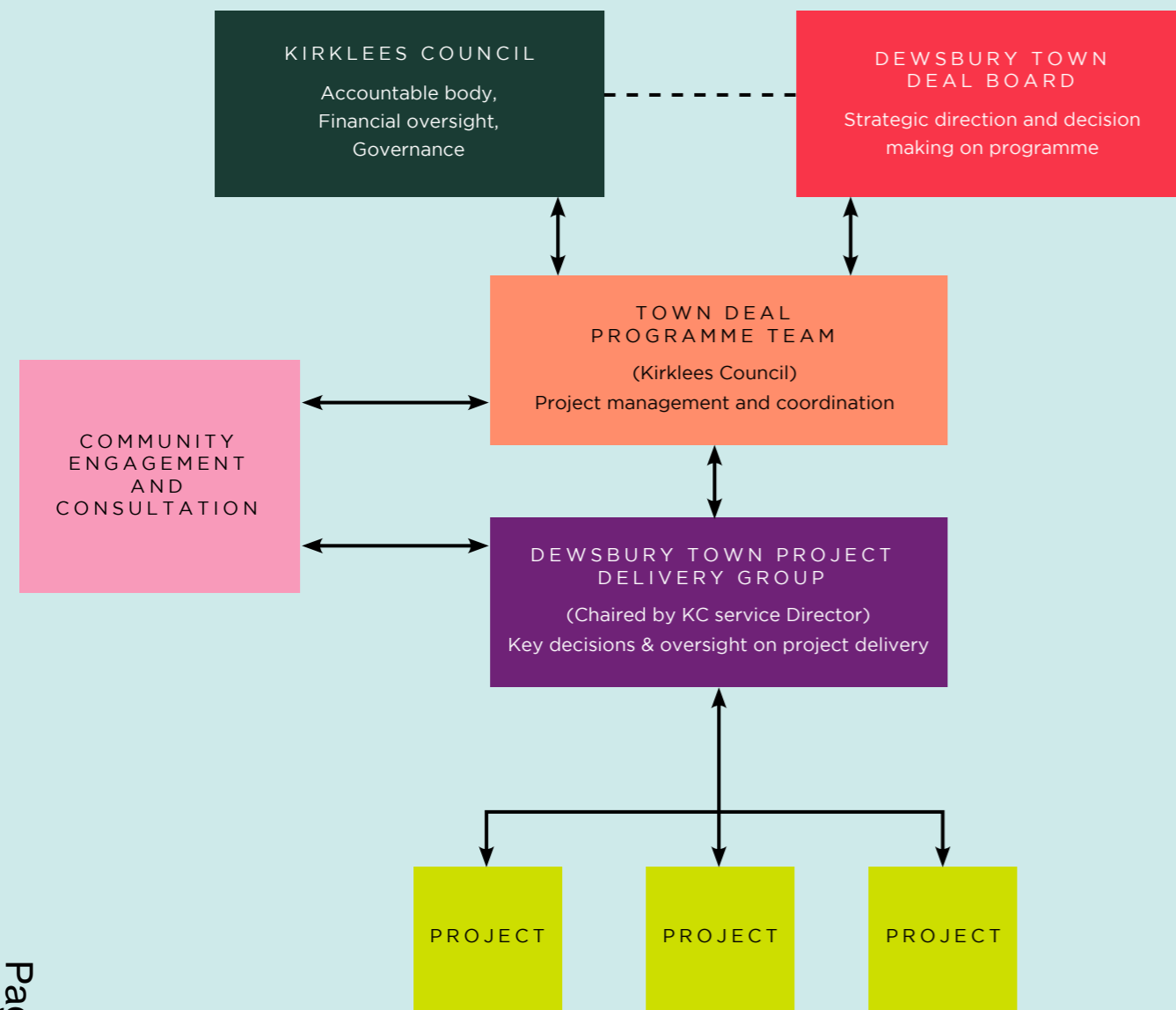
each project. Data will be reviewed quarterly and include feedback via social media, insights and data, website hits, newsletter signups and feedback from the target groups and stakeholders on whether they have seen the communications and are aware of the ongoing projects including direct comments.



GOVERNANCE

The Governance structure for producing this TIP, developing business cases and delivering each project is illustrated in Figure 7. KMC will remain accountable for designing and delivering each project through collaboration from business, stakeholders and communities.

Figure 7: Dewsbury TIP Governance Structure



The Dewsbury Town Deal Board includes fourteen senior representatives of Dewsbury drawn from a wide range of backgrounds. The Board has been the driving forces behind the vision, strategy and projects for the TIP. It includes the Leader of the Council, the local MP for the Dewsbury constituency, the Principal of Kirklees College, alongside representatives from private sector businesses, West Yorkshire Combined Authority (“WYCA”), Historic England, local housing associations, community representatives and the Chamber of Trade. The Board has taken an active role in the engagement process through monthly Board meetings and participating in virtual “drop-in” sessions. The full membership list, meeting minutes and Terms of Reference can be found at Appendix xx.

The Dewsbury Town Deal Board will:

- Agree strategic direction and priorities
- Review progress
- Oversee evaluation activity
- Make recommendations to the accountable body

The Dewsbury Town Deal Board will be supported by the **Town Deal Programme Team**, whose role is to manage the programme, coordinate reports papers, evaluation, engagement etc.

The **Dewsbury Town Project Delivery Group** is where the key decisions on delivery will be taken (within the context of the decisions taken by the Town Deal Board).



BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Our Towns Fund investment programme combines projects for which there is already a strong business case in development with new initiatives that have been developed through the opportunity to develop a Town Investment Plan.

The process we have put in place to develop each business case includes:

- **Confirmation of named individual as project lead and business case sponsor from each project lead organisation;**
- **A business case readiness process for each project that will ensure that the project is sufficiently developed to undertake a robust business case. This will involve:**
 - o Sourcing relevant studies such as market assessments, feasibility, cost projections, income projections etc.
 - o Project designs
 - o Community and stakeholder engagement plans
 - o Funding commitments and plans, including private sector investment and public sector match funding commitments.
 - o Status of delivery plan and roles and responsibilities of key delivery partners.
 - o Outcomes and impacts (including BCR) and related monitoring and evaluation plans.

Following agreement of Heads of Terms, the Town Deal Board will develop full business cases for each agreed project. KMC will act as the accountable body and will develop the business cases in partnership with scheme promoters where applicable.

The responsibility for developing the individual business cases will be designated Project leads who will report to the Dewsbury Town Project Delivery Group which is chaired by [KC Service Director]

Once business cases have been through this process, they will be presented to the Towns Hub with a summary which provides assurance that the business case approval process has been robust, along with details of the delivery arrangements, including financial commitments.

Concurrently, the Town Deal Board via the **Dewsbury Town Project Delivery Group** will also progress project design, planning actions, and set in place delivery agreements for the projects which are not yet shovel ready. The Town Deal Board will also consult with potential private investors and secure funding agreements with external partners.



KMC TRACK RECORD IN DELIVERY

KMC has a strong track record of facilitating growth and delivering major capital projects and programmes. It delivers numerous capital programmes year on year with an annual Capital budget of circa of £80m with schemes that range in scale, size and complexity. Examples of recent capital projects delivered by KMC include:

- **Huddersfield Sports Centre development in 2012, this £36m purpose-built Leisure facility offers a range of sporting facilities, including a state-of-the-art splash park.**
- **Dewsbury Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) a £3.7m regeneration programme, jointly funded and delivered by KMC on behalf of the National Lottery Heritage Fund completed.**
- **Pioneer House. KMC has invested £7m overall towards the £14m project in total, which included compulsory purchase and subsequent works to make the building secure and water-tight back in 2011. Since then it has worked in partnership with Kirklees College and the LCR LEP to redevelop the historic building which has just opened up to students as Kirklees College Higher Skills Centre and is a key asset to the town.**
- **Dewsbury Heritage Action Zone, a £2.5m regeneration programme on behalf of Historic England, which includes the key building of Field House, opposite the train station.**



DEVELOPING THE PROPOSALS

The Board has worked collaboratively to develop the narrative and the priorities in the Investment Plan, identifying the opportunities and challenges, based on the extensive evidence base, setting the objectives of the Plan and identifying suitable projects that align to those objectives.

In October 2020, the Board reviewed and agreed the prioritisation process to take the projects from a longlist of seventeen (with a combined Towns Fund ask of circa £40m) to a shortlist for the TIP submission. The long list of projects was a combination of existing ideas or well-developed concepts or via Towns Deal Board members reaching out to their local networks.

The overall process of identifying and prioritising projects was applied in line with Green Book, summarised below in Figure 2, with more details at Appendix xxx. The assessment of projects was based on scoring each of the projects against a set of town specific criteria and deliverability criteria that followed Treasury “Green Book” appraisal methodology.

Each project was assessed against the criteria set out in figure 8 below

Figure 8: Project Appraisal Criteria

Town specific criteria 50%		Score	Deliverability criteria 50%	Score
1	Increasing footfall in the town centre		Value for money (likeliness to deliver social value in terms costs, benefits and risks)	
2	Bringing vacant buildings and sites back into productive use		Affordability (financing and affordability given existing budgets)	
3	Improvements to public realm and green spaces that will encourage dwell time and creative expression		Achievability (deliverability given organisational capability and capacity)	
4	Enhancing the creative and cultural offer and a vibrant night time economy (dining/leisure)		Commercial viability	
5	Improving access to quality, high value jobs through improvements to education and skills		Stakeholder support	
6	Providing the environment to attract business and create new start-ups			
7	Providing a high quality digital network			
8	Reconnecting Dewsbury with more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycle routes, pedestrian walkways, electric vehicle infrastructure etc)			

The prioritisation process that we undertook was complimented by the Towns Hub and is being used as a model of best practice. A summary presentation of the project prioritisation process can be found at Appendix 4.



The findings of the assessment and the selected nine projects were endorsed by the Town Deal Board.

FUNDING AND PROJECT DELIVERY

Table 3 provides an overview of each project's Towns Fund funding requirement, the match / co-funding as well as our overall Towns Fund funding requirement.

Table 3: Summary of funding by project

Project	Project Cost	Town Fund Capital	Town Fund Revenue	Total Town Fund Ask	Council Contribution	Third party (approved in principle)	Third party (Ask)
The Arcade	£3.68m	£1.00m	£0.31m	£1.31m	£1.77m	£0.6m WYCA	
Dewsbury Market	£15.50m	£6.60m		£6.60m	£8.90m		
Building Revival Scheme	£6.40m	£3.15m		£3.15m	£1.25m	£2.00m private sector	
Full Fibre / Digital	£0.50m	£0.25m		£0.25m	£0.25m		
Urban Realm	£14.93m	£6.25m		£6.25m	£8.68m		
Build Construction Skills	£2.25m	£1.50m		£1.50m	£0.75m		
Creative Culture Programe	£3.40m	£1.68m	£0.515m	£2.195m	£0.15m (building)	£0.755m (Arts Council)	£0.3m (Arts Council)
Daisy Hill	£11.00m	£3.00m		£3.00m	£5.30m	£2.75m private sector	
Sustainable Transport	£3.00m	£2.00m		£2.00m	-	£1.00m (LCR Transforming cities fund)	
Town Fund Ask	£60.66m	£25.43m	£0.825m	£26.255m	£27.05m	£7.055m	£0.3m

Table 4 illustrates the proposed spend profile for our Towns Fund investment programme:

Table 4: Town Deal Spend profile

	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	
Project Cost	£2.67m	£10.78m	£25.30m	£9.03m	£11.01m	£1.88m	£60.66m
Council match	£2.52m	£5.42m	£9.66m	£3.38m	£5.28m	£0.80m	£27.05m
Third part match	-	£1.85m	£4.20m	£1.13m	£0.18m	£0.00m	£7.36m
Town Fund Ask	£0.15m	£3.51m	£11.44m	£4.53m	£5.56m	£1.08m	£26.255m

The overall costs of delivering the projects that comprise our TIP are £60.66m. The Towns Fund investment of £26.255m represents 43% of the total project costs.

The additional funding required across the programme comprises a mix of KMC funding, other public funding sources and private sector. It includes:

- **£27.05m from KMC** (£26.9m from its capital programme and £0.15m as in-kind contribution)
- **£2.7m proposed investment** from the private sector developer of the Field House building refurbishment.
- **£2m of match funding from private sector** participants in the Building Revival Scheme.
- **£0.6m is being sought from the WYCA Getting Building Fund** allocation to support the redevelopment of the Arcade. The fund application is pending final approval in March 2021.
- **£0.5m funding ask has already been secured** towards cultural / arts project with an additional £0.55m being sought from the Arts Council of England (ACE) to support the project.
- **£1m will be provided by the Leeds City Region Transforming Cities Fund** as part of the sustainable transport modes project.

HIGH LEVEL DELIVERY PLAN

The Town Deal Board is confident that all nine projects will be delivered by end of 2025/26 financial year Table 5 below sets out the phased delivery of each project over the term of the TIP.

Table 5: Key tasks and milestones for TIP delivery plan

Project	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
The Arcade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BDP appointed as design team (Dec 20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey & design completion (Apr 21) Stabilisation/soft strip commence (Jan 21) Refurbishment commences (Feb 2022) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refurbishment complete (early 2023) Centre manager / business advisor recruited (Summer 22) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arcade reopens (Spring 2023) 		
Dewsbury Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial engagement and consultation already taken place BDP appointed as multi-disciplinary design team - (Dec 20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet approval (March 2021) Public/Key stakeholder consultation Summer 2021 Construction to start Spring 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of construction works and opening in Spring 2023 			
Building Revival Scheme		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete first 2 applications, approve 4 currently being worked-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Yearly Action Plan: Relaunch scheme Circulate Conservation Area Guidance and Design Guide and potential enquiries Setting budget profile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Yearly Action Plan: Deliver, monitor and review on a quarterly basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Yearly Action Plan: Review scheme and ensure on track to spend, identify other opportunities if required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Yearly Action Plan: Complete scheme and Evaluate
Digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of implementation plan (summer 2021) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence first phase of construction (Early 2022) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of works (Dec 2022) 			
Urban Realm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial feasibility and technical survey for Town Park completed (Dec 2020) Public consultation on Town Park concepts commence (April 2021) Feasibility & design of other projects (2021-2022) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start Library forecourt scheme (Feb 21) First public artwork installed Spring 21 Dewsbury Sports Centre and Public Realm - go out to tender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning approval - Town Park (Aug 22) Commence Dewsbury Sports Centre and other Public Realm projects 2022 Consultation of art installations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Town Park commences Summer 2023 Completion other Public Realm project Continuation of art installations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Town Park complete 2024 Market Place feasibility / design complete Continuation of art installations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market place - commence work on site Art installation
Build Construction Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete feasibility and business plan (march 21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme design complete (summer 21) Planning app. submitted (Summer 21) Planning approval (Autumn 21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site works completed (June 22) Facility operational (September 2022) 			
Creative Culture Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial 'creative hub' (Phase 1) created at 15 Union St by April 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union - Scoping of phase 2 works, community consultation, additional funding applications (May - Dec 21) Woven 21 festival takes place Year of Music delivery plan underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union - Design of Phase 2 completed, Planning permission secured (summer 2022) Acquisition of adjoining flats and works commence (winter 2022/23) Woven 22 festival Year of Music - year round programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union Creative/ Cultural Centre opens (autumn 2023) Year of Music to end of year Festival of conversations Meanwhile / pop up creative activity / Woven 23 festival 		
Daisy Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed planning permission already granted for Field House scheme Structural and external surveys completed by Jan 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RBA Stage 4 designs complete (summer 2021) Commence construction of Field House scheme (early 2022) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land assembly Field House scheme (23 apartments) completed by Dec 23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daisy Hill Land Assembly completed (spring 2025) 	
Sustainable Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public consultation completed Aug20 Wellington St walking zone design completed (Jan 21) Sustainable route feasibility (Jan 21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington St scheme completed Summer 2021 Bond St walking zone design completed Dec 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bond St walking zone construction commence Dec 22 Leeds Rd / Bradford Rd cycleway construction commence Dec 22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schemes completed (Summer 2023) 		

Appendices

Appendix 1 Socioeconomic assessment

Appendix 2 Kirklees Draft Economic Recovery Plan

Appendix 3 Our Town Dewsbury consultation report

Appendix 4 Project prioritisation process

Appendix 5 Dewsbury Town Board membership list

Appendix 6 Dewsbury Town Board terms of reference

Appendix 7 Dewsbury Town Board Area Map





Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 19th January 2021
Title of report: Locality based unclassified road improvement programme

Purpose of report: To approve the methodology designed to engage with Councillors and allocate funding for the delivery of a £15M locality based unclassified road programme, and the resulting detailed programme of councillor ward priorities

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?	Yes Spending more than £250k and impacting across all wards.
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Colin Parr - 11.01.21
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 5.01.21
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 7.01.21
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Councillor Naheed Mather – Environment

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward Councillors consulted: All

A place-based approach has been designed to engage with all Councillors in the context of COVID related restrictions on face to face meetings. The outcome of the process has established a deeper understanding of the local ward context and Councillors' unclassified road and pavement priorities. Enabling the development of a locality based unclassified roads programme of improvement with delivery starting in Spring 2021.

Private or Public: Public

Has GDPR been considered? The report contains no personal data.

1. Summary

A £15m 3-year locality based unclassified roads and pavement improvement budget was approved as part of the 2020/21 annual budget report on 13th February 2020. This provided additional funding in the Highways Capital Plan to help to address the backlog of unclassified roads in Kirklees that require immediate repair, currently estimated to be £152 million.

This network of unclassified roads is over 1440 km long. These roads and pavements providing an important part of the place-based infrastructure in our local communities, particularly as more people are walking and cycling in response to the Pandemic and restrictions in place.

This funding uplifted the two-year Highways Capital Plan to over £44 million which provides for investment in the highway asset including all 1900 km of roads, pavement, street lighting, structures, road safety, encouraging walking and cycling, flood management and drainage, traffic signals (UTMC), car parks and public transport provision.

The process developed builds on the Councils' place-based approach to engagement in delivering services in our diverse communities and will influence delivery of other Highways services in the future.

Approval is sought for the methodology used to develop the programme, following Councillor engagement to identify local priorities within wards. Also, approval for the detailed programme of ward priority pavement and road resurfacing schemes which will be delivered by March 2023 (Appendix A).

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 Background

A £15m 3-year locality based unclassified roads and pavement improvement budget was approved by emergency decision April 23rd, 2020. This provided additional funding in the Highways Capital Plan to help to address the backlog of unclassified roads in Kirklees that require immediate repair, currently estimated to be £152 million. The Council has committed to a place-based approach to developing services, and the Highways Service has built on this approach to engage with Councillors to create the locality unclassified roads programme for delivery by March 2023.

This funding uplifts the two-year Highways Capital Plan to over £44 million which provides for investment across the whole highway asset including road and pavement surfacing, street lighting, structures, road safety, encouraging walking and cycling, flood management and drainage, traffic signals (UTMC), car parks and public transport provision. This has helped meet concerns expressed about the level of funding provided by the Department of Transport for investment in the unclassified road network.

In addition to this investment through the Highway's Capital Programmes, the Council has also committed to substantial multi-million-pound investment

programmes including those funded through the Huddersfield and Dewsbury Blue Prints, Transporting Cities Fund and the West Yorkshire Transport Fund.

2.2 Councillor engagement process

A place-based approach was designed to engage with all Councillors in response to restrictions on face to face meetings imposed by the COVID pandemic. This was delivered by way of:

Webinar - A webinar was arranged for Councillors in August 2020 hosted by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment. This provided an overview of asset led Highways management; and outlined a place-based approach for Councillor engagement to inform the development of a locality based unclassified roads programme.

Ward meetings - Twenty-three online ward meetings were hosted over a period of five weeks which enabled Highways officers to engage with ward Councillors to establish an understanding of the local ward context; the extent of Councillors' understanding of asset management principles and to learn Councillors unclassified roads and pavement priorities.

2.3 Councillor feedback

Councillors response and engagement in the process has been very positive. This process provided a forum for Councillors to gain a better understanding of Highways asset management and officers to have a deeper understanding of the place-based context and Councillor priorities for their wards.

The feedback indicated that Councillors were reassured that delivery of Highways services would be improved by this model of place-based engagement, that this fits well with the Council's general model for place-based working, would therefore provide a more united and holistic approach to asset management and, will enhance the future delivery of Highways services.

2.4 Ward priorities

Councillors identified a total of 450 priority unclassified roads and pavement sites, with a value of more than £41 million. The value of these priorities is more than the total programme of £15m, and the remaining available programme of £11.8m (£3.2m already committed through Hotspots and Targeted Investment 20/21 and described below) over 3 years. This unmet demand at a local level demonstrates the value of this investment in unclassified roads and a potential opportunity to extend this programme beyond the current 3 years.

2.5 Methodology for allocation of funding and programme development

It is recognised that the unclassified road network in need of immediate repair is not evenly distributed across the borough. The technical assessment of the asset shows that the length of unclassified road requiring immediate repair varies between wards from 15km up to 55km.

To reflect this variation in the quantum of unclassified roads requiring treatment across the 23 wards it is proposed to use a needs-based methodology which uses the length of road to inform the allocation of funding. This methodology has been used to establish funding allocation of between £450k and £700k per ward.

A number of other options were considered in the development of the programme, including:

- the funding of the top 3 sites identified by Councillors in each ward.
- an equal funding split across all 23 wards.

However, it is considered that a needs-based methodology reflects the variation in network length more appropriately than the other options considered and enables the programme to address the higher priorities identified by Councillors in their wards.

The proposed programme is developed from Councillors' top priorities to deliver a minimum of three schemes per ward and invest on (or near) the allocated funding for each ward. This provides a programme of over 120 schemes to a value of £11.8 m which are detailed in Appendix A.

2.6 Hotspot and other targeted investment

On 28th July 2020, Cabinet approved programmes of work from the locality based unclassified roads budget to the value of £3.2m to enable work to continue despite delays caused by the pandemic. This ensured that delivery could be achieved in year 1 of the programme and work has been successfully delivered across the wards during the summer and autumn months to provide more protection to these lengths of road network before the winter season.

The "hotspot" programme comprises small surfacing sites distributed across the unclassified road network where road condition data identified locations with a high level of defective road surface, as well as residents and Councillor/MP complaints identified.

The recycling (Retread) and inlay programme is particularly suitable for more rural areas with fewer accesses to surrounding properties and was carried out in the summer months. It enables the road surface to be recycled insitu and re-laid with a minimum of extra material and binder added.

Investment in locations which provide modest improvements to the road network to support the running of major events such as the Tour de Yorkshire were also delivered. The Covid pandemic has resulted in these events being postponed but the works were continued as they provide wider community and economic benefits and completed in readiness for the events being held in future.

3. Benefits and risks

The programme of over 120 proposed schemes will provide:

- Improvements in the condition of roads by reducing the overall backlog in unclassified roads in need of immediate repair and improve pavement condition as well as addressing the higher priorities of Councillors across the 23 wards.
- A more attractive streetscene and improve the public realm in local areas.
- Road and pavement surfaces that are easier to use as a pedestrian and cyclist at a time when these modes of travel are being encouraged and are experiencing increased participation.
- Potential reduction in the number of 3rd party claims in relation to road and pavement condition.

There will be a need to co-ordinate the delivery programme alongside 3rd party works, notably utility company works (both planned and emergency), which could potentially delay the commencement of some individual schemes. There will also be a need to minimise disruption to the network and ensure that Covid compliant measures are in place e.g. outside schools and businesses. The ward priority schemes will be developed to minimise the main risks highlighted above and delivered over the remaining two years of this three-year programme.

4. Implications for the Council

4.1 Working with People

The locality based unclassified roads programme has been developed in close collaboration with Councillors.

4.2 Working with Partners

Maintenance and improvements to the transport network are vital for the development of local businesses and helps develop Kirklees as a quality place where people want to live, work and visit.

4.3 Place Based Working

A place-based approach, engaging with Councillors to understand the local ward context and priorities is at the heart of the process to develop the locality based unclassified roads programme.

This engagement process will inform a more holistic place-based approach with integration into the Council's model for place-based working so improving delivery of the Highways Service at a local level.

4.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The improvement in road and pavement surfaces will have a positive impact on encouraging walking and cycling; a more sustainable mode of transport leading to a potential reduction in emissions.

Whilst works are taking place the permit scheme will help the Council minimise delay and disruption from works, including: a reduction in the average duration of works on

permit streets and days of disruption saved through permit application assessments. The reduction in average works days and days of disruption contribute to the Council's response to the climate emergency as it provides a reduction in carbon through reduced numbers of works vehicle movements and less congestion and disruption during works.

5. Improving outcomes for children

Investing in our roads and pavement infrastructure in and around our district can improve opportunities for children to enjoy their environment and opportunities for active travel to access their schools and local facilities.

6. Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

The locality based unclassified roads programme is part of the Highways Capital Plan so will be managed and monitored by the service in accordance with Council Financial Procedure Rules that delegates authority to manage the Plan at Service Director level.

7. Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An IIA stage 1 screening assessment was undertaken for the March report and the summary indicated that no Stage 2 assessment is required.

Whilst this has been undertaken for the detailed Highways Capital Plan, by its nature the plan is made up of many varying schemes so an aggregated approach for the overall plan has been used with all schemes in the locality unclassified road programme falling below the threshold of £250k which require their own assessment.

8. Consultees and their opinions

A place-based engagement process with Councillors has been at the heart of the development of this programme with feedback on the process described in section 2.3.

This report has been prepared in consultation with Strategic Directors, Service Directors, Heads of Service, Portfolio Holder for Environment, through discussion at Senior Leadership Team and Portfolio Briefing.

9. Next steps and timelines

The proposed programme of ward priority schemes will undergo detailed development and procurement with delivery starting in Spring 2021 and completion by March 2023. Delivery of the HotSpot, Retread and event support programmes have been ongoing during the summer and autumn.

Cabinet will be informed of progress as part of the regular reporting of the Highway's Capital Plan process. This engagement process will also inform a more holistic place-based approach with integration into the Council's model for place-based working so improving delivery of the Highways Service at a local level.

10. Officer recommendations and reasons

That Cabinet approve:

1. The methodology for place-based Councillors engagement described in this report.
2. The funding allocation and the creation of the detailed locality unclassified roads programme to the value of £11.8m as shown in Appendix A.
3. The delegation of powers to the Service Director in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment to enable amendments in accordance with the Council financial regulation for the purposes of expediting efficient delivery of this programme.

11. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder endorses the officer recommendation that Cabinet approve:

1. The methodology for place-based Councillor engagement described in this report.
2. The funding allocation and the creation of the detailed locality unclassified roads programme to the value of £11.8m as shown in Appendix A.
3. The delegation of powers to the Service Director in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment to enable amendments in accordance with the Council financial regulations for the purposes of expediting efficient delivery of this programme.

12. Contact officer

Kathryn Broadbent - Operational Manager
Tel 01484 221000
Email kathryn.broadbent@kirklees.gov.uk

13. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Papers:

Appendix A - the detailed locality based unclassified roads programme 2021 to 2023

Decisions which impact on this Capital Plan:

Emergency decision 23rd April 2020.

Capital Plan amendments 28th July 2020

14. Service Director responsible

Sue Procter - Service Director Environment
Tel: 01484 221000
Email sue.procter@kirklees.gov.uk

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APPENDIX A - LOCALITY BASED UNCLASSIFIED ROADS PROGRAMME

WARD	SCHEME TYPE CARRIAGEWAY (CW) FOOTWAY (FW)	UNCLASSIFIED ROAD NAME	ESTIMATED COST OF WORKS
ALMONDBURY	CW	HOLME AVENUE, MOLDGREEN	£4,070
ALMONDBURY	CW&FW	FOREST ROAD, MOLDGREEN	£161,518
ALMONDBURY	CW	CREST AVENUE, DALTON	£14,462
ALMONDBURY	CW&FW	GREENHEAD AVENUE	£82,313
ALMONDBURY	CW	MANOR PARK WAY J/W WOODLANDS RD EAST , LEPTON	£31,680
ALMONDBURY	CW&FW	COMMON END LANE	£80,991
ALMONDBURY	CW	FIELDS ROAD	£68,723
ALMONDBURY	CW	FENAY DRIVE	£17,397
ASHBROW	CW&FW	BRADLEY BOULEVARD FROM ASHBROW ROAD TO NEW HOUSE ROAD	£341,330
ASHBROW	CW&FW	WIGGAN LANE FROM DEIGHTON ROAD TO END ASHBROW	£216,920
ASHBROW	CW	TUBBY LANE FROM ALDER STREET TO FARTOWN GREENHEAD ROAD ASHBROW	£7,152
ASHBROW	CW	BROOKS YARD FROM BRADLEY ROAD TO END ASHBROW	£7,318
BATLEY WEST	CW	FOUNTAINS AVENUE	£75,625
BATLEY WEST	CW	EASBY AVENUE	£16,170
BATLEY WEST	CW	ABBAY ROAD	£78,650
BATLEY WEST	CW	TICHBOURNE STREET	£26,276
BATLEY WEST	CW&FW	NORFOLK AVENUE	£187,000
BATLEY WEST	CW	SOUTH BANK ROAD	£36,850
BATLEY WEST	CW&FW	MEADOW CLOSE	£37,950
BATLEY EAST	CW&FW	MILL ROAD	£254,980
BATLEY EAST	CW	UPPER MOUNT STREET	£33,264
BATLEY EAST	CW	OXFORD STREET	£148,500
BATLEY EAST	CW	CROSSLEY TERRACE	£11,743
BATLEY EAST	CW	SALTER STREET	£8,316
BRISTALL & BIRKENSRAW	CW	QUEEN STREET, GOMERSAL	£71,500
BRISTALL & BIRKENSRAW	CW&FW	RAIKES LANE - DARK LANE TO HOWARTH ROAD	£129,223
BRISTALL & BIRKENSRAW		SCHEMES TO BE IDENTIFIED	£255,896
CLECKHEATON	CW&FW	PROSPECT ROAD	£104,630
CLECKHEATON	CW&FW	HORNCastle STREET	£51,485
CLECKHEATON	CW	BOOTH STREET	£125,447
CLECKHEATON	CW	NORTHGATE	£155,326
CLECKHEATON	CW	HIGHFIELD TERRACE	£24,316
COLNE VALLEY	CW&FW	WOODS AVENUE/WOODS MOUNT/ WOODS TERRACE	£270,743
COLNE VALLEY	CW	LOW WESTWOOD LANE	£115,964
COLNE VALLEY	CW	WEST SLAITHWAITE ROAD/CROW TREE ROAD.	£308,903
CROSLAND MOOR & NETHERTON	CW&FW	MIDWAY	£251,872
CROSLAND MOOR & NETHERTON	FW	BUTTERNAB ROAD (PAVEMENTS)	£144,668
CROSLAND MOOR & NETHERTON	CW&FW	YEW GREENHEAD AVENUE	£83,466
DALTON	CW&FW	KINGSTON AVENUE FROM GROSVENOR RD TO MAYFIELD AV DALTON	£189,992
DALTON	FW	MAYFIELD AVE - PART	£47,165
DALTON	CW&FW	ORCHARD ROAD KIRKHEATON	£291,670
DENBY DALE	CW	CARR HILL ROAD, UPPER CUMBERWORTH	£397,691
DENBY DALE	CW	DEARNE DIKE LANE/BROADSTONE ROAD, BIRDSEDGE	£144,034

APPENDIX A - LOCALITY BASED UNCLASSIFIED ROADS PROGRAMME

WARD	SCHEME TYPE CARRIAGEWAY (CW) FOOTWAY (FW)	UNCLASSIFIED ROAD NAME	ESTIMATED COST OF WORKS
DENBY DALE	CW&FW	COALPIT LANE, UPPER DENBY DALE	£69,693
DEWSBURY EAST	CW&FW	MOORLANDS AVENUE	£70,312
DEWSBURY EAST	CW&FW	MOORLANDS AVENUE (NORTH)	£62,040
DEWSBURY EAST	CW&FW	MOORLANDS AVENUE (WEST)	£18,167
DEWSBURY EAST	CW	BYWELL ROAD FROM BYWELL CLOSE TO WAKEFIELD RD	£86,031
DEWSBURY EAST	CW	NORTHFIELD PLACE	£39,848
DEWSBURY EAST	CW&FW	SWINDON ROAD	£47,121
DEWSBURY EAST	CW	NORTHFIELD ROAD	£90,090
DEWSBURY EAST	CW&FW	GRANVILLE STREET	£75,349
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	OVERTHORPE AVENUE	£42,112
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	OUZELWELL LANE	£66,894
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	OUZELWELL ROAD	£58,079
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	OUZELWELL CRESCENT	£49,231
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	COWPER STREET	£48,510
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	FALCON ROAD	£42,966
DEWSBURY SOUTH	FW	GREEN WOOD STREET FOOTWAYS	£67,760
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	ORCHARD STREET	£12,510
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	SANDIWAY BANK, SECTION STARTING FROM OVERTHORPE ROAD, TILL END OF JUNCTION.	£50,242
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW&FW	MORTON GROVE	£27,830
DEWSBURY SOUTH	CW	BACK SLAITHWAITE ROAD	£24,255
DEWSBURY SOUTH	FW	SOVEREIGN'S WAY FOOTWAYS	£27,646
DEWSBURY WEST	CW	ST JOHN PARADE	£38,500
DEWSBURY WEST	CW	GREENHEAD LANE	£119,350
DEWSBURY WEST	CW&FW	THE CRESCENT	£167,409
DEWSBURY WEST	CW	BURGH MILL LANE	£156,750
GOLCAR	CW&FW	WARNEFORD ROAD / RISE, COWLERSLEY	
GOLCAR	FW	"	£267,262
GOLCAR	CW&FW	MANSE DRIVE	£92,937
GOLCAR	CW	BRIDGE CROFT - MILNSBRIDGE	£31,135
GOLCAR	FW	NEW STREET FOOTWAY (PART)	
GOLCAR	FW	"	£78,650
GREENHEAD	CW&FW	HALIFAX OLD ROAD FROM C664 WILLOW LANE TO C6107 SPAINES ROAD	£342,219
GREENHEAD	CW	KING CLIFF ROAD FROM BLACKER RD NORTH TO HALIFAX OLD RD	£124,388
GREENHEAD	CW&FW	ROSEBERY STREET FROM SUFTON STREET TO CRESCENT ROAD	£30,814
HECKMONDWIKE	CW&FW	WESTFIELD ROAD FROM NEW NORTH ROAD UP TO JEREMY LANE	£100,485
HECKMONDWIKE	CW	FAIRFIELD ROAD FROM HOLLINGBANK LANE TO FAIRFIELD AVENUE.	£49,500
HECKMONDWIKE	CW&FW	CHAPEL LANE	£156,816
HECKMONDWIKE	CW	LINCOLN AVE	£51,480
HECKMONDWIKE	CW&FW	CURWEN CRES	£73,876
HECKMONDWIKE	CW	CANNON GROVE	£21,780
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW&FW	MARSH GARDENS, HONLEY	£94,095
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW	MATTHEW LANE, MELTHAM	£55,052
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW	SOUTHGATE, HONLEY	£27,942
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW	COLDERS LANE, MELTHAM	£22,985
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW	HAGG WOOD ROAD, HONLEY	£48,033

APPENDIX A - LOCALITY BASED UNCLASSIFIED ROADS PROGRAMME

WARD	SCHEME TYPE CARRIAGEWAY (CW) FOOTWAY (FW)	UNCLASSIFIED ROAD NAME	ESTIMATED COST OF WORKS
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW&FW	RIDINGS FIELDS/STEEP RIDING	£165,310
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	CW	MARSH (SQUARE), HONLEY	£15,634
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	FW	BIRMINGHAM LANE FOOTWAY, MELTHAM	£39,804
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	FW	WHINGROVE AVENUE FOOTWAY, MELTHAM	£50,444
HOLME VALLEY NORTH	FW	MATTHEW GROVE FOOTWAY, MELTHAM	£33,841
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW	SOUTH LANE FROM DUNFORD ROAD TO CINDERHILLS ROAD	£87,085
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW	WALL NOOK LANE & GATEFOOT LANE, SHEPLEY (COMBINED).	£202,611
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW&FW	DEAN AVENUE / DENHAM DRIVE / HOLMDALE CRESCENT	£206,848
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW	UNDERBANK OLD ROAD FROM DUNFORD ROAD TO SOUTH LANE	£113,430
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	FW	HEYS ROAD	£42,195
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW&FW	BEECH AVENUE	£25,740
HOLME VALLEY SOUTH	CW	LIME AVENUE	£21,753
KIRKBURTON	CW	CLEVELAND WAY SHELLEY	£13,123
KIRKBURTON	CW	BURTON ACRES WAY, HIGHBURTON HILL TOP/HAWTHORNE CLOSE/HAZEL GROVE/RUTLAND ROAD/ASH BROW	£1,589
KIRKBURTON	CW	FLOCKTON	£14,465
KIRKBURTON	CW	KNOWLE PARK AVE, SHEPLEY	£4,796
KIRKBURTON	CW	WESTERLEY LANE, SHELLEY	£108,008
KIRKBURTON	FW	BARKHOUSE LANE FOOTPATH	£36,167
KIRKBURTON		SCHEMES TO BE IDENTIFIED	£275,467
LINDLEY	CW&FW	WELLFIELD ROAD	£231,201
LINDLEY	CW&FW	CHESIL BANK	£121,889
LINDLEY	FW	LOW HILLS LANE	£97,820
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	LAVERHILLS	£107,250
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW&FW	LISTERDALE	£24,008
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW&FW	LINCOLN GROVE	£25,399
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	ASTON CLOSE	£12,705
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	HIGHFIELD DRIVE	£19,250
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	LANDS BECK WAY	£63,525
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	CRAVEN DRIVE	£51,480
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	PROSPECT VIEW	£74,938
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	SHIRLEY ROAD	£105,105
LIVERSEDGE & GOMERSAL	CW	SPRINGFIELD DRIVE	£16,979

APPENDIX A - LOCALITY BASED UNCLASSIFIED ROADS PROGRAMME

WARD	SCHEME TYPE CARRIAGEWAY (CW) FOOTWAY (FW)	UNCLASSIFIED ROAD NAME	ESTIMATED COST OF WORKS
MIRFIELD	CW&FW	NORTHORPE LANE	£205,563
MIRFIELD	CW	JILL LANE	£75,999
MIRFIELD	CW	ELMWOOD CLOSE	£2,970
MIRFIELD	CW	WILSON AVENUE	£81,125
MIRFIELD	CW&FW	FRANCIS STREET	£171,600
NEWSOME	CW&FW	BARCROFT ROAD: FROM CLOSE HILL LANE TO LOCKWOOD SCAR	£161,898
NEWSOME	CW&FW	DAY STREET FROM COLNE VALLEY STREET TO END	£20,922
NEWSOME	CW&FW	ROBINSON STREET FROM COLNE VALLEY STREET TO END	£20,922
NEWSOME	CW&FW	COLNE VALLEY STREET FROM WAKEFIELD RD TO END	£136,620
NEWSOME	CW&FW	GARFORTH STREET FROM COLNE VALLEY STREET TO END	£21,670
NEWSOME	CW&FW	CROWTHER STREET FROM FIRTH STREET TO ROBINSON STREET	£31,680
NEWSOME	CW&FW	ELM STREET: FROM NEWSOMEME ROAD TO MANOR STREET	£54,814
		TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF WORKS	£11,736,972



Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 19th January 2021
Title of report: Kingsgate Phase 2 - funding from the Property Investment Fund

Purpose of report

To consider a request for loan support from the Property Investment Fund towards the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre

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?	Yes
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Yes
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd – 18/12/20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)?	Eamonn Croston – 21/12/20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft – 21/12/20
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Peter McBride – Regeneration Cllr Graham Turner - Corporate

Electoral wards affected: Newsome

Ward councillors consulted: Cllr Karen Allison, Cllr Andrew Cooper, Cllr Susan Lee Richards

Public or private: Public (Appendix 2 in private)

Appendix 2 of this report is in private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as it contains information relating to the financial and business affairs of a third party. It is considered that disclosure of the information would adversely affect WD Ltd and therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption, which would protect the rights of an individual or the council, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the council's decision making.

GDPR – GDPR has been considered and there is no personal data contained in this report

1. Summary

- 1.1 Cabinet are asked to consider a request for support, via a loan from the Property Investment Fund, towards a scheme to remodel the Kingsgate shopping centre to provide a cinema, food and leisure facilities in addition to existing retail units. A scheme of support was approved by Cabinet on 22nd January 2019, but as there have been changes to the proposals and the retail environment in the last 2 years, this report updates information and seeks a new authority.

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 The Kingsgate Centre is a focus for retail activity in the town centre and houses many of the “big name” retailers such as Next and Waterstones.
- 2.2 The retail market has seen significant changes in recent years as much retail activity has moved online. This has had a significant impact on many town and city centres including Huddersfield and Kingsgate. Their challenges have been exacerbated by the global pandemic, as seen in recent events as Debenhams and Arcadia group face collapse.
- 2.3 In order to secure the future of the large retail space occupied by House of Fraser within the Kingsgate centre, the developer is proposing a comprehensive redevelopment of the space to create a mixed leisure development within the existing House of Fraser unit. This would consist of a premier quality cinema, restaurant complex and other leisure uses.
- 2.4 The Kingsgate Centre is a key focus of the retail offer for Huddersfield Town Centre. It is also adjacent to complementary leisure uses. The offer provided by Kingsgate also needs to be viewed in the context of the Huddersfield Blueprint, which includes public realm improvements to Cross Church Street. Kingsgate is therefore very likely to remain a key development within the town centre for the foreseeable future and is arguably inextricably linked with the overall future health and sustainability of the town centre.
- 2.5 Full Council at its meeting held on 15 November 2017, agreed to support the creation of a Property Investment Fund (PIF) of £25m, the intention of which was to allow the Council to support redevelopment schemes with loan funding. Such schemes would be focussed on supporting proposals which provided wider benefits to support the Council’s regeneration objectives. Loan funding would be provided on equivalent commercial terms on a scheme by scheme basis, that would ensure the Council at least covers its own cost of borrowing inclusive of an appropriate risk contingency. The nature of the PIF means that the Council would be prepared to fund priority capital schemes that meet wider strategic regeneration benefits in a way which a purely commercial lender would not be prepared to do as part of their overall risk assessment of proposals.
- 2.6 The standard banking finance available to support the cost of remodelling of Kingsgate is very limited due to the overall uncertainty in the retail market. The details of the requested funding are set out in the private appendix to this report.
- 2.7 The importance of Kingsgate to the retail offer in Huddersfield, combined with its strategic location in the town centre near other leisure uses, thus creating a retail and leisure hub, supports the case for funding from the Property Investment Fund. The proposal to remodel the centre to include a cinema and restaurant complex and other leisure uses will increase the time and money that people spend in the town centre – it has been demonstrated by research that a strong catering offer will have this effect.

The proposal will help to stabilise the uncertain retail environment in which the Kingsgate Centre is currently operating.

- 2.8 Research undertaken by WD, the developer, indicates that the redevelopment of the Kingsgate Centre will increase sales of comparison goods (i.e. non-food retail) by 8%, and that a catering “user” will spend 37% more than a non-catering “user”.
- 2.9 The Portfolio Holders for Corporate and Regeneration have been consulted and are supportive of the proposals brought forward by WD Kingsgate. They feel that diversifying the use of the Kingsgate centre is strategically important for the town centre, and links to other leisure uses in the area and that it responds positively to changes in the retail environment.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

This is a proposal for the Council to work with the developer of the Kingsgate Centre in an enabling role by providing development finance, rather than the Council undertaking direct works. WD are working proactively to respond to changes in the retail environment and diversify the uses of the Kingsgate Centre. In turn this has the benefit for Kirklees citizens of aiming to ensure the sustainability of the town centre, and a vibrant leisure offer which is open to everyone.

A further benefit is that WD has committed to using a local contractor and a local supply chain, subject to overall tender costs, and to utilising local labour as far as possible during the construction. There is therefore a positive impact for the economy of Kirklees.

3.2 Working with Partners

As set out in 3.1 above, developer WD is working with the Council to respond to changes in the retail environment. The Kingsgate Centre is a focus of retail activity in the town centre, adjacent to complementary leisure uses. This proposal will help to stabilise the current retail environment, by diversifying the use of the anchor unit within the shopping centre, which might otherwise be likely to close. The proposals will contribute and link to delivery of the Huddersfield Blueprint, including proposals to improve Cross Church Street. It will add to the vibrancy of the town centre and help provide more varied uses, including a quality cinema which has the potential to serve as a destination for visitors.

3.3 Place Based Working

Not applicable

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The Kingsgate Centre is in a sustainable location in the town centre, which can be accessed via public transport, avoiding the need for customers to travel to out of town locations by car.

As part of the Huddersfield Blueprint vision of developing living town centres, it's sustainability will be increased by the proposed development of residential uses within the town centre, which will enable people to live, shop and enjoy leisure opportunities without relying on the car for transportation.

Electric vehicle charging points will be provided in the car park as part of the redevelopment scheme.

It is more energy efficient to redevelop the existing centre for leisure use, than start a brand new development with the associated call on construction materials.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children and young people

No direct impact

3.6 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

Subdivision of the House of Fraser unit is likely to result in an increase in rateable value, thus increasing the income being received by the Council.

Appropriate legal and finance resources will be required to carry out detailed due diligence and enter in to the necessary legal documentation for the loan.

The offering of a loan by the Council inevitably involves some financial risks, and these are considered in the private appendix. These risks need to be considered in the context of the strategic importance of the Kingsgate Centre to the town centre.

4 Next steps and timelines

4.1 If Cabinet is minded to support the proposal, officers will then carry out appropriate due diligence and prepare the necessary legal documentation to facilitate the loan with a view to construction work starting in mid 2021.

5 Officer recommendations and reasons

- That Cabinet agrees to a loan from the Property Investment Fund for the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre in accordance with the details set out in the private appendix.
- That the Strategic Director, Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, having sought appropriate advice from the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning, and the Service Director Finance be authorised to carry out appropriate due diligence on the proposal to offer a loan from the PIF, including due diligence on WD's latest business plan.
- That the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning be authorised to enter into any documentation required to agree the Property Investment Fund loan and to protect the Council's position as lender.

The reasons for this recommendation are that the loan will support the ongoing sustainability of the Kingsgate Centre by diversifying the uses in the Centre. This in turn will support the long term health of Huddersfield town centre, and the delivery of the Huddersfield Blueprint, which is a Council priority.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

Councillor Graham Turner said "I support these proposals to diversify the use of the Kingsgate centre to respond to changes in the retail environment. The proposals will contribute to the creation of a leisure hub in an area which is strategically important to the town centre and with strong pedestrian links to the University. It is important that

we work with partners to ensure we have the best possible offer for our residents in our ever changing town centres”.

Councillor Peter McBride said “I support the proposal to offer a loan to diversify the uses in the Kingsgate Centre. The strategic importance of the district’s town centres cannot be understated and I am pleased that the Council is able to support schemes such as this with loan finance”.

The Cabinet portfolio holder recommends:

- That Cabinet agrees to a loan from the Property Investment Fund for the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre in accordance with the details set out in the private appendix.
- That the Strategic Director, Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration,, having sought appropriate advice from the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning, and the Service Director Finance be authorised to carry out appropriate due diligence on the proposal to offer a loan from the PIF, including due diligence on WD’s latest business plan.
- That the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning be authorised to enter into any documentation required to agree the Property Investment Fund loan and to protect the Council’s position as lender.

8. **Contact officer**

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

Cabinet – 22nd January 2019
Council – 7th November 2017

10. **Service Director responsible**

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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