

# Public Document Pack



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

**Julie Muscroft**

The Democracy Service

Civic Centre 3

High Street

Huddersfield

HD1 2TG

**Tel:** 01484 221000

Please ask for: Jodie Harris

Email: [jodie.harris@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:jodie.harris@kirklees.gov.uk)

Wednesday 29 December 2021

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel**

The **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Virtual Meeting - online** at **1.00 pm** on **Thursday 6 January 2022**.

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Muscroft".

**Julie Muscroft**

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

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

## **The Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel members are:-**

### **Member**

Councillor Harpreet Uppal (Chair)

Councillor Gwen Lowe

Councillor Yusra Hussain

Councillor Martyn Bolt

Councillor John Taylor

Councillor Robert Iredale

Chris Friend (Co-Optee)

Andrew Bird (Co-Optee)

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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### Pages

**1: Membership of the Panel**

To receive apologies for absence from those Members who are unable to attend the meeting.

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**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 8

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30 November 2021.

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**3: Interests**

9 - 10

The Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interests.

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**4: Admission of the Public**

Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.

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**5: Deputations/Petitions**

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

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of presenting a deputation by emailing [executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk)

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## **6: Public Question Time**

The Board will hear any questions from the general public. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, questions should be emailed to [executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk) no later than 10am on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

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## **7: Small Centres Update**

11 - 34

To provide the Panel with an update on the Small Centres Programme.

Contact:

Simon Taylor, Head of Town Centre Programmes

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## **8: Work Programme 2020/21**

35 - 40

The Panel will consider its work programme for 2021/2022.

Contact:

Jodie Harris, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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## **Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel**

**Tuesday 30 November 2021 at 1.00pm**

### **Present:**

Councillor Harpreet Uppal (Chair)  
Councillor Gwen Lowe  
Councillor John Taylor  
Councillor Robert Iredale

### **Co-optees:**

Andrew Bird (Co-optee)

### **In Attendance:**

Lory Hunter, Commercial and Technical Development Manager  
Will Acornley, Head of Operational Services  
Nigel Hancock, Programme Manager  
Wendy Blakeley, Service Director Highways and Street Scene

### **Observers:**

Councillor Will Simpson  
Councillor Naheed Mather  
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje

### **Apologies:**

Councillor Yusra Hussain  
Councillor Martyn Bolt  
Chris Friend

### **1. Membership of the Committee**

Apologies were received from Councillor Martyn Bolt, Councillor Yusra Hussain, and Chris Friend (Co-optee).

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Panel considered the minutes of the previous meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> October and 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 (special meeting).

### **RESOLVED -**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 19 October and 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

### **3. Interests**

Councillor Taylor declared an interest regarding his position as Alternative Director of Suez Ltd in relation to agenda item 8.

Councillor Mather declared an interest regarding her position as Director of Suez Ltd in relation to the Councils waste management contract relating to agenda item 8.

#### **4. Admission of the Public**

All items were considered in the public session excluding agenda item 10.

#### **5. Deputations/Petitions**

No deputation or petitions were received.

#### **6. Public Question Time**

No questions were received from the public.

#### **7. Work Programme 2020/21**

The Chair of the Panel gave an update in relation to the following items on the work programme.

**Ad-hoc scrutiny Panel on residential housing stock health and safety compliance** - The overview and scrutiny management committee had requested that an ad-hoc Panel be established in March 2021 to consider health and safety compliance across the residential housing stock. Further to a report submitted to Cabinet in respect of fire safety improvements to four high rise blocks, the Panel had met on 5 occasions and had established a work programme that extended to April 2022. The Panel would produce a final report including its recommendations once work had concluded.

**Cultural Heart update** – The Scrutiny Panel had requested regular informal updates. The Chair was briefed on progress, and it was agreed it was important to ensure a clear pathway through scrutiny for recommendations to be made and responded to. There were plans for an update of progress of the Cultural Heart to be presented to the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel in March 2022 and it was agreed the update would include a response to the recommendations given by the Panel in September 2021. The recommendations were also responded to in the Cabinet report which was considered on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Councillor Taylor expressed that the period between the reports presentation to scrutiny and Cabinet was too long and significant progress had been made by the time it was considered at Cabinet.

**Trans Pennine Upgrade** – A report was submitted to full council on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021. It was agreed that the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel would consider the upgrade as part of their work programme. The Panel would be fully informed of the information that contributed to the withdrawal of the formal objection, and due to the nature of the information, it was agreed to be considered in private.

Councillor Taylor noted that April felt too long to consider the upgrade given a decision was taken in October 21.

**RESOLVED** – The Panel noted the Work Programme 2020/21 and it was agreed that:

1. The Panel were clear on the timescale of reports being presented to Scrutiny in relation to consideration at Cabinet.
2. The Chair would consider the timetable with Officers to ensure efficient scrutiny.

3. An additional private meeting of the Panel be held prior to April 2022 in relation to the Trans Pennine Route Upgrade.

## **8. Procurement Options for Waste Management**

The Panel considered the report Procurement Options for Waste Management presented by Lory Hunter, Commercial and Technical Development Manager, Will Acornley, Head of Operational Services, Nigel Hancock, Programme Manager and Wendy Blakeley, Service Director Highways and Street Scene. Councillor Naheed Mather, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment and Councillor Will Simpson, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Culture and Greener Kirklees were also in attendance.

Will Acornley highlighted that the outline business case was the latest in a series of documents that had been presented to Scrutiny which would help the Panel to understand how the Council planned to transition to a new contract for Waste Management.

A presentation was given by Lory Hunter and Nigel Hancock which set out the outline business case and highlighted that:

- The Councils ambition in relation to the waste and recycling strategy was set over the next 12 months to 5 years.
- There had been detailed engagement with residents and these discussions would continue as changes were made.
- There were elements critical to the outline business case which included, more plastics in the green bin, a glass collection trial towards the end of 2022, food waste collection, nappy recycling, improving household waste sites to achieve a 70% recycling rate, free additional garden waste collection and reduce and reuse initiatives.
- There were corporate and district priorities to consider which included, interim contracts, the climate emergency, the district heat network, the Kirklees local plan and the cultural transformation programme.
- Consideration was to be given to related national policies and legislation including the Environment Act 2021.
- The introduction of statutory requirements on local authorities and the ways in which these would affect the budget were still unknown, but there was flexibility within the contract to take account of these.
- That the Interim contract would include, an energy from waste facility, recycling facility, 2 waste transfer stations, 5 household waste recycling sites, 1 transfer pad and 2 closed landfill sites.
- That a conditioned survey had been completed in 2017 which indicated Suez had maintained the facilities well, and an updated survey was in progress.
- That a review by the Department for environment, food and rural affairs (DEFRA) had made some suggestions for re-procurement which had been incorporated.
- The Infrastructure and Projects Authority and Treasury Office were considering the expiry of PFI contracts.

- A strategic business case was developed to consider 3 options for waste management.
- This had included liaison with Central Government, the appointment of a technical, legal financial consultant (who specialised in waste PFI contracts) an update of the conditions survey and workshops all of which informed the outline business case options.
- Option 1 was not the preferred choice due to limited market opportunities. It would involve the re-procurement of all facilities and the treatment to food waste.
- Option 2 considered splitting the facilities into smaller specialist companies, creating 5 separate contracts including, core facilities, household waste sites, closed landfills, processing food waste and garden waste collection. All would need to be reprocured separately and would need separate management.
- Option 2 was not the preferred choice due to the complexity of procuring 4 or 5 contracts and managing those contracts, which was difficult and didn't provide any advantage.
- Option 3, the preferred option had been refined following the strategic business case. This option considered reprocuring on the energy and waste facility and bringing the majority of other services in-house.
- Option 3 was the preferred choice because it provided the flexibility and efficiency that was needed in relation to changes made by central Government
- The workshops identified a strong ambition to bring services in-house, giving the Council greater control over the contract.
- Significant issues were highlighted through the COVID-19 pandemic regarding the lack of control the Council had over services.
- Additional work was to be carried out to consider in-house delivery of household waste sites, processing of food waste, MRF Provision and Close Alignment with District Heat Network.
- A variety of elements were assessed as part of the development of the preferred option which included, workshops with the public and councillors, a technical specialist, DEFRA representatives, and consultation with the market.
- There were also opportunities to implement public facing roles i.e., apprenticeships, employee development protocol etc...
- There was a reduced appetite and market for household waste sites, therefore bringing the service in house would improve attractiveness and value for money.
- In relation to procurement, there was still lots of work to be done over the next 12 months, which included writing a whole specification and scoping out the elements the Council wanted to deliver in line with Corporate ambitions.
- The plan over the next few years was to be presented to scrutiny around August / September 2022 including a more detailed specification and the results of detailed studies.
- In October 2022, the Council would move forward with procurement and introduce outline solutions to tenderers, then select a preferred bidder around Spring 2024.
- Spring 2024, the proposal would go back to scrutiny with a key decision on a full business case with a view to starting new contracts 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.



The Panel acknowledged the comprehensive information provided and valued that open and full engagement had been ensured throughout the process. The Panel also expressed that clear and transparent reasoning had been presented for the preferred option and were supportive of the chosen approach. The Panel highlighted the need to continue good communication with members and the public and Councillors.

The importance of educating children on the new approach to waste and recycling through engaging with schools was noted, and the Panel were also keen to help share information within local communities and schools. Councillor Mather highlighted strong dedication of staff involved throughout the process, noting how this could be used as an exemplar of good decision making.

Lory Hunter acknowledged Panel Members comments in relation to transparency and good decision making and welcomed the offer from the councillors to pilot schemes.

The Panel asked about the process for nappy recycling and about whether the brown bin collection (garden waste) would be a no cost option to residents, and if so, what challenges this would bring?

Lory Hunter responded to the question in relation to nappy recycling, advising that there were 2 facilities and the procedure involved separating the materials found within nappies before recycling them. Lory highlighted that the council were keen to support the scheme and confirmed that the Council would continue to monitor how nappy recycling progressed and improved over time.

Responding to the question regarding garden waste, Lory Hunter advised that there was a proposal by Central Government within the 2018 National Resources and Waste Strategy which consulted on free garden waste across England. The Council were awaiting a response in relation to this but were keen to include the potential for a free collection should it be mandated by Government and should the correct funding be provided.

Will Acornley also added that introducing a free garden waste would put a taxable burden on each household, including those without a garden. A chargeable service would only apply to those who required the service.

The Panel noted that most processes in option 3 were being outsourced and questioned how the specific expertise needed would be obtained. The Panel also asked a question in relation to the energy from waste facility (incinerators), querying that if input into the incinerator was changed, would the emissions from the chimneys change and what were the plans to avoid further pollution.

In response, Will Acornley explained that the energy from waste facility was heavily regulated and controlled by the Environment Agency through live feeds which monitored very specific (dangerous) emissions. Baseline modelling had also been carried out which would be combined with the materials identified in option 3 to provide an estimate of input and output from the incinerator. The Council had also invested early in BREATH which was the next set of air quality regulations.

Responding to the question about obtaining the required specialist expertise, Will Acornley advised that the majority of services not brought in-house required specialist expertise and could only be delivered by specialist contractors. Household waste sites were the only proposed service to be brought in-house, but capacity and expertise were a current issue. A detailed business case would help to understand what the business model would look like, the cost incurred and how it could be delivered long-term.

Will Acornley responded to a question from the Panel in relation to the plans for engagement and communication with the public and the management capacity to deliver this. It was advised that there was a programme of communication planned for early 2022 which involved speaking with councillors to identify how some issues, such as contamination could be resolved, as well as writing to residents and providing them with information booklets. 64 recycling champions had also been trained to deliver this information directly to the community.

Regarding management capacity, Will Acornley shared that the existing team had increased in capacity and had been re-shaped ready for the re-procurement. There was also external consultant capacity which included technical specialists. Will highlighted the importance of not using a wholly outsourced staff model and that retaining the experience and journey of the re-procurement was valuable knowledge.

Will Acornley responded to a question regarding how the energy from waste facility would link into the district heat network. Will acknowledged this was a different project and shared work was on-going to determine what the model would be. Will advised that the mechanisms would be written into the specification to allow for variation and change moving forward.

Will highlighted the facility to date was one of the best performing in the SUEZ group across Europe and had been maintained very well. The Council were keen to secure the facility to provide confidence and stability moving forward into a new contract. Lory Hunter added that the district heating specification would reflect the requirements of the contract.

Councillor Smaje highlighted the long period of time between Cabinet reports from 2021 to 2024. Councillor Smaje acknowledged that large projects take a number of years but suggested that interim Cabinet updates be presented at key points of development.

Councillor Mather noted the need for public Cabinet updates and shared that Scrutiny would be updated with developments, and other regular updates would be provided at leadership management team meetings.

Wendy Blakeley highlighted that the project was of public interest and agreed on the importance of including the public in the process. Wendy also shared there would be a Members Panel established to involve all members in the process.

Lory Hunter added that there would be lots of public updates throughout the development of the Waste Strategy, but highlighted that caution needed to be taken in relation to procurement and evaluating bids against each other.

Lory Hunter responded to a question relating to staff engagement and advised that there was a very rigid legal process to follow. Lory shared that some elements were redacted from the report to ensure staff confidentiality. It was advised Suez were regularly briefing staff and that they were kept up to date as the business case developed.

Lory Hunter responded to a question in relation to food waste and advised that in the Waste Strategy this was planned for 2025, but in the short term there would be a composting scheme starting in 2022. Lory shared there were 3 disposal options to be considered and these would be included in the business case.

## **RESOLVED:**

The Panel noted the Procurement Options for Waste Management report and thanked all officers and Cabinet members involved in the process, highlighting that the information provided was clear and transparent which helped members to understand the process that identified the preferred option. The Panel commended the approach taken noting it as an exemplar of good pre-decision scrutiny and decision making.

It was agreed the following comments and recommendations raised be referenced and responded to:

1. That clear timescales be set in relation to communication and public engagement.
2. That engagement with residents continued to be a key focus moving forward, including the education of children and communities in the changing approaches and attitudes to waste.
3. That further monitoring was undertaken around the energy from waste facility and any changes to emissions.
4. That further investigation was undertaken to provide clear details of the connection between the energy from waste facility and the district heat network.
5. Where there was a long period of delegated authority, public updates should be provided to the Cabinet.
6. That visits to waste sites be arranged for Panel members.

## **9. Exclusion of the Public**

The Panel noted 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.

## **10. Procurement Options for Waste Management**

The Panel considered the report Procurement Options for Waste Management in private session as per the above reasons.

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

Signed: ..... Dated: .....

## NOTES

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Title of report: Small Centres Update**

**Purpose of report:** To provide the Panel with an update on the Small Centres Programme.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not Applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	No Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	20 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 - David Shepherd
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	N/A
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr Eric Firth – 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2021 Cllr Peter McBride – 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Electoral wards affected: Batley East and West: Cleckheaton; Heckmondwike; Holme Valley South**

**Ward councillors consulted: No**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes**

## 1. Summary

This report provides the Panel with an update on the Small Centres programme. In particular:

- Background and recommendation to Cabinet in March 2021
- Progress on engagement through place standard exercise
- Progress on Master/Investment planning
- Anticipated Next Steps

## 2. Information

### Background and Introduction

- 2.1 In March 2021 Cabinet considered a report which proposed investing in town and village centres outside of Huddersfield and Dewsbury. The report was based upon an initial investment of £10m across the district.
- 2.2 The Initial Cabinet report proposed that 4 key centres – Batley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Holmfirth be the focus for the initial round of investment – each being allocated £1.5m each.
- 2.3 The proposal was matched with a clear process to follow. Essentially the key elements are:
- Ward members at the heart of the programme
  - Place Standard exercise to be undertaken
  - Investment/Master plan to be prepared for each centre with sign off by Strategic Director and portfolio holder
  - Projects to a value of £1.5m to be agreed
- 2.4 In addition to the above the report set out the types of project that could be funded. This includes:
- supporting retail, employment, community, and local centre activity;
  - sustainable travel and climate change measures;
  - improved community safety;
  - culture, art, and leisure activities; and,
  - public realm/landscaping, heritage, conservation, and better design
- 2.5 The cabinet report can be found by following this link:

[V5 Final Small Centres Cabinet Report 16th March 2021.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)

### Engagement – Place Standard

- 2.6 Part of the process to assemble a programme of investment for each of the identified small centres has been to undertake a stage of community engagement. To ensure that this is consistent across the



four towns the Place Standard tool has been utilised. This encourages conversations about any place, using some simple questions. The questions help build up a picture across a number of themes. There are 14 themes in all ranging from moving around through to play and recreation to social contact and feeling safe. The link to the Council's work in this area can be found below:

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/our-places/>

2.7 The table below sets out the key dates for undertaking the exercise in each of the four centres and participation rates:

Centre	Dates for Place Standard	Number Taking Part	Initial Member Discussion Workshop/Walkabout
Batley	12 <sup>th</sup> July to 9 <sup>th</sup> August	253	5 <sup>th</sup> October 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Cleckheaton	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept to 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	312	29 <sup>th</sup> October
Heckmondwike	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	157	2nd November
Holmfirth	6 <sup>th</sup> Sept into Early Nov	466	Anticipated January 2022

Analysis of the process does take some time and our Citizen Engagement team is working towards completing that element. The following sections set out progress to date.

2.8 Batley Emerging Issues – There were 253 responses. The latest version of the feedback report is attached as Appendix 1.

2.9 Cleckheaton – There were 312 responses to the exercise. In terms of engagement methods a wide variety were used. This included:

- Posters and postcards delivered to town centre shops and town centre banners
- Letter to town centre businesses & contact with Spenningsdale Chamber of Trade
- Town centre presence: Cheapside, Library, Indoor market stall; Sykes Fold Coffee morning and Springfield House/Church Grange session, Wellness Bus, Farmer's Market
- Social media posts, emails to community group contacts,
- Cllrs networks.
- Batley and Spenningsdale place based working frontline staff network.
- College open day, and information distribution with Cleckheaton foodbank boxes

The outcomes from this are still being analysed and a report will be produced before the end of January 2022.

2.10 Heckmondwike – 157 responses have been received. Here the engagement methods included:

- Posters and postcards delivered to town centre shops.
- Town centre banners
- Letter to town centre businesses
- Town centre presence: Library, Wellness Bus, Morrisons entrance, Brighton Street Community Centre,
- Green Park event,
- Social media posts,
- emails to community group & mosque contacts,
- Cllrs networks.
- Batley and Spennings Dale place based working frontline staff network.

The outcomes from this are still being analysed and a report will be produced before the end of January 2022.

2.11 Holmfirth – 466 responses have been received. For the first 2 weeks the focus was on promoting the engagement in the town centre (local businesses, library, community venues) and surrounding villages (noticeboards and general stores). All 200 town centre businesses were sent a letter encouraging them to take part and were visited by council staff. In addition it was promoted via local social media networks and council staff contacts with local groups, events, schools and parents, library users, Holme Valley parish council.

2.12 From week 3 drop-ins for the public were held at Holmfirth Library (weekly) and at Holmfirth Market (weekly on alternate days). On one day the Wellness Bus was parked at Crown Bottom car park. Promotion and conversations also took place on-street in Holmfirth centre.

2.13 During November, when groups were comfortable meeting again, there were in person group conversations with representatives of local groups; Holmfirth Business Association, River Holme Connections, HOTT (Holmfirth Transition Town), Holmfirth Festival organisers, Holmfirth Civic Society and the 8-12 years youth club at the Phoenix Centre.

2.14 The paid Facebook adverts had the following reach in Holmfirth: 418 clicks on the Holmfirth place standard page, 3,786 people were reached (saw the content on Facebook), and 13,007 impressions were made (number of times content on Facebook was displayed to people).

#### Master/Investment Planning

2.15 As part of the process of developing projects and delivering the small centres programme Cabinet required master/invest plans to be developed for each of the four identified small centres. This approach will help set projects in a wider context and help create a plan for the

future. This will in turn help to identify projects for delivery both as part of the small centres programme and for the life time of the plan.

- 2.16 The Place Standard results and the other engagement are important for informing the investment/master plans moving forward. We will need to create a clear link between engagement, planning and delivery.
- 2.17 It is our aim to use the master/investment plans to create a vision for each centre with clear objectives. Where projects identified as part of the plan are unfunded the presence and agreement of the plan will help in future funding bids.
- 2.18 Officers have appointed two sets of consultants to take this process forward. One – ARUP – has been appointed to lead the exercise in North Kirklees – Batley, Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike. The other – Steers – will work on Holmfirth.
- 2.19 An important part of this stage is to ensure that all funding – both existing and future opportunities – is in full view. This approach will enable officers to maximise opportunities and improve both quality and deliverability of projects.
- 2.20 The master planners aim to work between January and June 2022 on this part of the process.
- 2.21 Once the masterplan has been completed it will need to be agreed by the Strategic Director and the lead Cabinet portfolio holder.

### The Anticipated Next Steps

#### *Engagement*

- 2.22 Completion of the Place Standard reports is an essential first step as this information is required to inform the investment/master plan work and also helps to start to identify potential projects.
- 2.23 In addition it is intended that a plan of continuous engagement with ward Members is put in place as we move through the stages of delivery. This will not only be beneficial in terms keeping Members informed it will also be a valuable way of feeding in local knowledge at all stages.

#### *Investment/Master Planning*

- 2.24 The development of the investment/master plans is also an important next step in this process as outlined above this will run until Summer of this year.

### *Developing Projects*

- 2.25 Alongside the investment/master plan stage are officers are opening up dialogue with ward members on potential projects to be developed. At this stage it clear that it is important to understand where other funding is being committed to those centres so that the small place funding can complement and add value.
- 2.26 In Batley there is feedback on Commercial Street and Market Place. As a result the small centres team is liaising with Major Projects on how best to join up funding secured through West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Streets for People (SfP) and Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) - to deliver a more impactful project.
- 2.27 In Heckmondwike TCF will help deliver a new bus station and some improvements to the highway network. There are also aspirations to bring the library into a more central space. Joining up funding will help connect the projects and ensure the changes are meaningful.
- 2.28 A similar approach will be taken in Cleckheaton and Holmfirth.

### *Attracting Future Funding*

- 2.29 An important part of the small centre programme will be utilising the Council's investment to attract funding from other resources. Officers are already looking at current national level funding streams such as Levelling Up. In addition it can also help support the enhancement current planned projects.

### *Remaining Small Centres Funding*

- 2.30 The cabinet report from March 2021 allocated £6m to the four key centres identified above. This means that a further £4m will be available to deliver changes in other town and village centres in district. A further Cabinet Report will be required to outline how this will be administered. This is likely before the end of June 2022.

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

### **3.1 Working with People**

As part of the Small Centres process the Council has undertaken a series of engagement events through the Place Standard exercise to seek information to feed into this process. The methods for this are set out in section 2 above

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

The Place Standard exercise set out to be as inclusive as possible and reach out to a wide range of audiences. Individual projects will engage partners as required

to ensure that delivery is aligned with community expectations. The potential for overlapping working with external funding partners has already been identified.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

Place-based Working is a core element of Kirklees Council's Corporate Plan. The process of supporting our town and village centres is an important part of strengthening communities and place in a way that is informed by our citizens. To ensure that we deliver the right projects the Place Standard approach and the ensuing master planning process will help us to assemble a range of local information and intelligence to help us achieve the best outcomes. This will assist in understanding areas better, their networks and the assets within them and then will be used to deliver solutions and outcomes.

### **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 will be assessed on a case by case basis to ensure that the right principles are applied to ensure they achieve or come as close to this objective as possible.

### **3.5 Improving outcomes for children**

The regeneration of town and village centres requires a family friendly emphasis. The projects being delivered should reflect the need encouraging families back into the towns.

### **3.6 Other (Legal, Financial or Human Resources)**

The bringing forward of projects involves considerable financial, legal and human resources to achieve. The service is reliant on a skilled core group of council staff working alongside numerous other council service areas, bringing in other specialist skills where appropriate.

## **4. Next steps and timelines**

Sections 2.17 to 2.23 set out the anticipated next steps.

## **5. Officer recommendations and reasons**

Officers recommend that this update is noted and that work continues to develop investment/master plans and projects for the identified centres.

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

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder has been consulted with regard to the contents of this report and supports the officer recommendation.

## **7. Contact officer**

Simon Taylor – Head of Town Centre Programmes  
01484 221000 - [simon.taylor@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:simon.taylor@kirklees.gov.uk)

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

Cabinet Paper – Small Centres – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
Appendix 1 – Batley Our Town

## **9. Strategic Director responsible**

David Shepherd – Strategic Director Growth and Regeneration

DRAFT

# Batley - Our town centre



## Batley – our town centre - 12th July to 9th August 2021

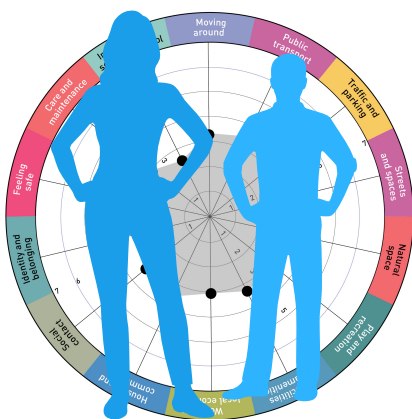
### What we did

Batley ward councillors and Kirklees Council staff asked local people what they think of Batley town centre now, and what they'd like to see in the future. We used a tool called the "Place Standard" which encourages conversations about any place, using some simple questions. Working with local partners, we will use the results in planning how to invest in Batley town centre, to reflect local people's priorities.

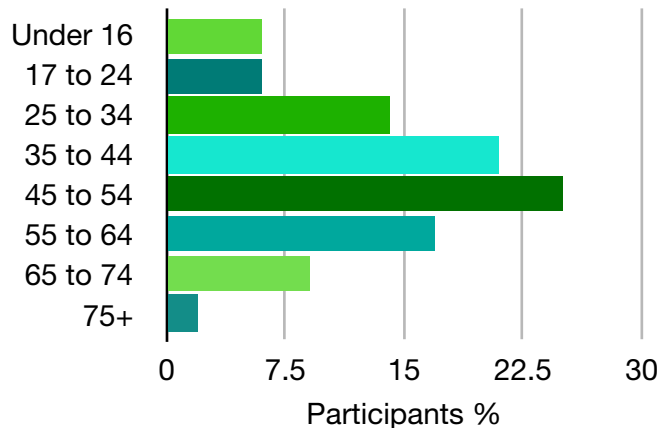
### Who participated?

People who visit, work in or live in Batley town centre took part. Most people participated online, but there were also opportunities for face-to-face conversations with youth groups and individuals. We ran library drop-in sessions and a Friday market stall, where people could either talk through the questions or collect a paper copy of the questionnaire to complete. Each business in the town centre received an engagement pack. This included a letter, the full Place Standard questionnaire, a postage paid return envelope and web links. We used posters, banners, social media and digital communications to promote the activities more widely. Batley - our town centre was also featured in The Batley News.

253 citizens took part, each completing a Place Standard assessment.

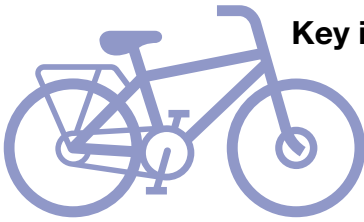


Female 57% Male 39%  
Other / unknown 4%



## What participants said

### Moving around



**Key issues:** Lots of the people who commented about moving around in Batley town centre said there are not enough facilities for cycling. People mentioned having cycle paths, safe places to cross and being able to store equipment.



Lots of comments said that people don't feel safe to cycle on the roads.

A high number of comments were negative about parking in the town centre, as it prevents people from moving around the town centre easily. Areas of concern include parking on pavements, restricted parking areas (yellow lines) and double parking. Participants mentioned several roads in particular: Market Place, Commercial Street and Bradford Road. (For more information see the [Batley – Streets for People](#) map.)

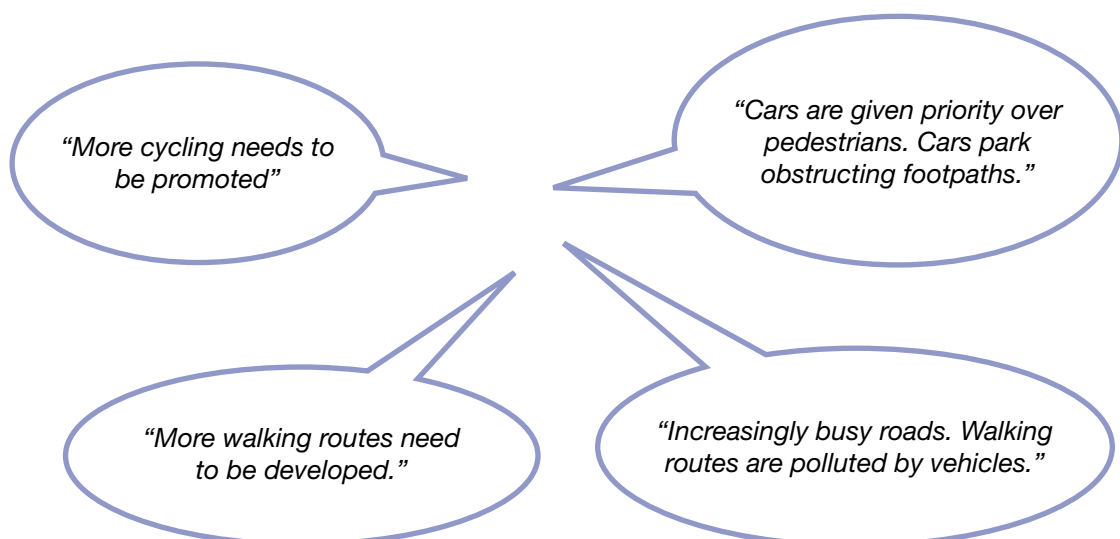
People are also concerned about the maintenance of footpaths and cycle path for accessing the town centre, over-hanging trees, vegetation, litter and damaged surfaces.

Other issues mentioned often include: speeding cars, people driving in an anti-social way, the condition of roads, footpaths and pavements, the volume of traffic on roads both in the town centre and feeding into the town centre, and several general safety concerns.

A smaller number of people said that crossing specific junctions and roads within the town centre is difficult, especially as some of the crossings do not have appropriate equipment.

**Suggestions:** Cycling needs to be promoted more. Lessons could be offered to those who don't know how to cycle. Developing more walking routes.

**144 people** commented on this theme.





## Public transport



**Key issues:** People gave mixed feedback about bus services, but consistently said that bus routes do not meet the needs of local people. Participants mentioned services that have been removed and changes to the frequency of some bus routes. People made similar comments about train timetables.



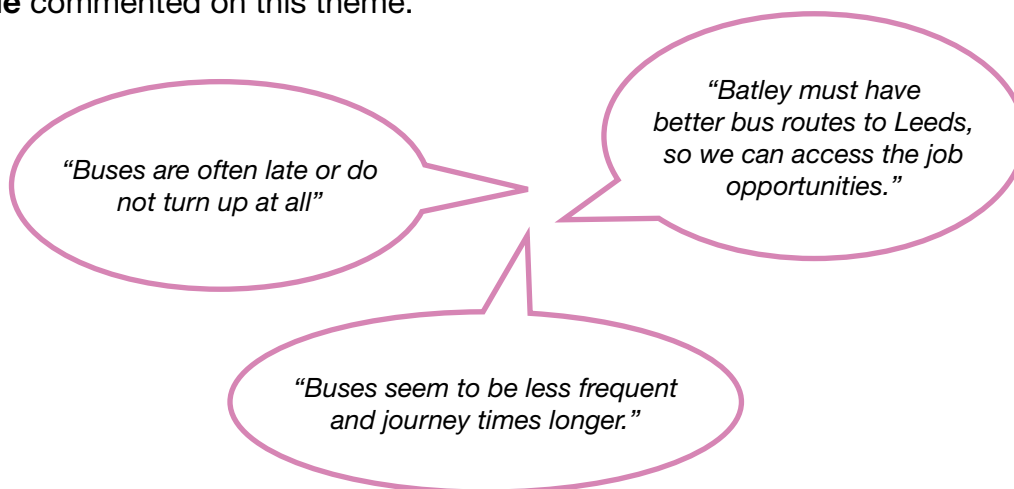
The next most common response was 'I don't use public transport', with people highlighting specific places and routes that don't meet their needs.

Lots of the people who commented said the cost of using public transport is too high, which limits social and employment opportunities for people. Several people compared this with the cost of using local taxi services.

Others comments from people who use public transport included issues such as poor time keeping, lack of a reliable service and a lack of facilities at both train and bus stations.

**Suggestions:** A bus service running from the town centre to the train station would make commuting to the larger cities much easier.

**161 people** commented on this theme.



## Traffic and parking



**Key issues:** This theme received the highest number of comments from participants. Many people focused on inconsiderate parking, such as parking on yellow lines, double parking, vehicles blocking roads and parking on pavements. Some participants said that several of these parking issues are directly related to takeaways which are open in the evenings.



People gave mixed comments about formal parking, with people saying that there is a good range and that free parking is beneficial to Batley town centre. However, others said that there isn't enough long stay parking (possibly due to Covid testing), that spaces are tight and that there isn't enough suitable disabled parking.

There were comments regarding specific car parks having time limitations, and people said that this contributes to inconsiderate parking.

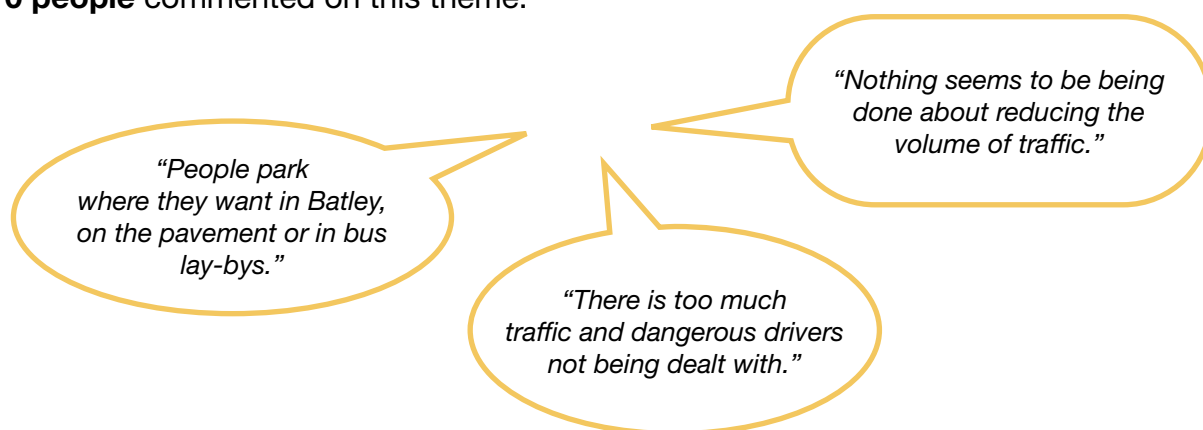
Other issues raised by participants include speeding and anti-social driving, with people commenting that the area is a racetrack at times. Participants identified several places as being a problem. You can see these on the [Batley – Streets for People](#) map.

Participants feel there is a lack of parking enforcement, with some saying they would like to see more enforcement, including the use of CCTV or speed cameras.

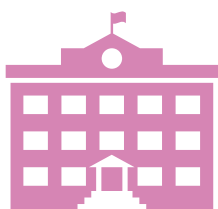
Other people said they would like to see some pedestrianised areas or a change in some of the road priorities.

**Suggestions:** Making the town centre better for pedestrians. Making Commercial Street pedestrian only from 6pm to 6am. Uber and delivery drivers to use the taxi lane behind Commercial Street. Stop people using pavements to park on when collecting food from takeaways, to reduce dangers for other road users. Better policing and on the spot fines for illegal or bad parking on Commercial Street and around schools. Keeping free parking in Batley town centre - this is a major asset. The option of using the market area for parking (especially as there aren't really market days, as such).

**170 people** commented on this theme.



## Streets and spaces



**Key issues:** Participants made a wide range of comments on this theme. Lots of people spoke about the history of Batley town centre and its remarkable architecture. The most common issue is buildings that have fallen into disrepair or are no longer attractive. There were similar comments regarding empty shops.



Many of the people who commented talked about litter and fly tipping. People often linked this with takeaway rubbish and requested more litter bins and more street cleaning.

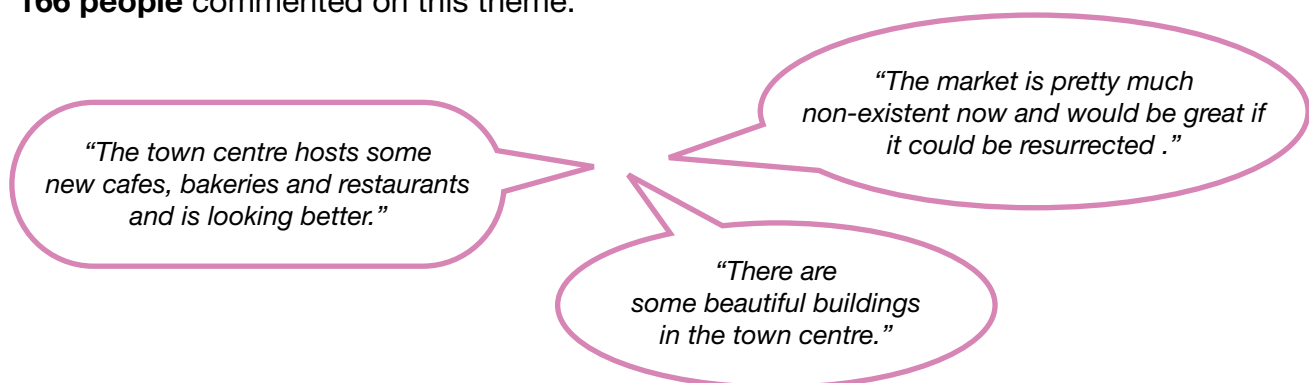
Lots of people feel that the town centre would be improved with more green spaces and that public spaces need to be maintained better. Several people suggested the town centre needs more recreation space, with areas for seating, outdoor events and activities.

Other people raised issues such as concerns about anti-social behaviour, drugs, dog fouling and cluttered pavements (for instance, stock kept on pavements or A boards).

More comments and information is available on the [Batley – Streets for People](#) map.

**Suggestions:** For Kirklees Council to be more forward thinking and progressive when it comes to Batley town centre (people feel that neighbouring towns like Morley, Ossett, Cleckheaton and Brighouse are all thriving). Introducing bistro cafes or micro pubs, along with nice office buildings to attract more businesses and with it more jobs. People want more greenery, flower beds and colour, not more shrubs. People clearly want more green space, better maintenance, more litter bins and improvements to safety for people of all ages in public spaces.

**166 people** commented on this theme.



## Natural space



**Key issues:** Participants said they appreciate the natural space around Batley, with people commenting on various local parks (including Wilton Park, Batley Memorial Park, Oakwell, Jessops and Staincliffe). Lots of people who commented asked for better maintenance and investment in natural spaces, play areas and parks.



People feel that these spaces are currently unsafe. There were several comments from people who do not feel safe due to local anti-social behaviour, motorbikes and a general fear of crime.

People would like to see more green space within the town centre, with spaces for seating and outdoor activities.

Some people commented about litter, fly tipping and traffic issues, also about the valuable work of volunteers in keeping green spaces looking good.

**Suggestions:** There are a host of suggestions about having more green spaces, more variety of natural space, and that all aspects of the town need to be greened, with permanent planting, butterfly friendly. With no cars and underused buses swapped for smaller buses, the air quality will immediately improve. Along with more planting, trees and flowers, using spaces for more outdoor performances and shows for all ages, will create better use of space and places.

**155 people** commented on this theme.

*"People race around on untaxed motorbikes and quad bikes."*

*"People throw litter on the ground and if people try to saying anything they intimidate you."*

*"I don't feel safe going to the town centre as there are groups of people hanging around."*

## Play and recreation



**Key issues:** People recognise that local play and recreation opportunities - including parks, sports centres, library, skate park and community lead provision - are available in Batley. However, participants also said there is currently a lack of maintenance and investment in these facilities.



People highlighted a need for more space in the town centre for activities of all ages, but also stressed the need for space for young people in particular.

Some people also commented on anti-social behaviour, vandalism, speeding and the fear of crime.

**Suggestions:** Using the marketplace in a more flexible way - running boxing, football or skateboarding sessions are some ideas shared, and more generally converting the market square to encourage play and recreation activity. Making better use of Market Square as a play area or more teen friendly area may encourage people into the town centre, allowing the possibility of a fun few minutes for children whilst shopping with their parents. In Memorial Park, swings and slides may encourage more family time in the town centre. More local fitness activities for older people would encourage those with low levels of physical activity to do more.

**142 people** commented on this theme.

*"Like most towns, more could be done to create spaces and opportunities for young people."*

*"There is no play area in the town centre."*

## Facilities and amenities



**Key issues:** Lots of people commented on the current range of shops within the town centre. People feel that the emergence of a so many takeaway businesses has changed the town centre in a negative way. Participants also shared some public health concerns related to this.



There were also some negative comments about the number of supermarkets and hair studios.

Many of the people who commented said the town centre needs more independent small businesses, including local butchers and greengrocers, also banks and mainstream high street brands. People feel that there could be opportunities for other local business such as crafts, gaming or technology.

There were many comments about public toilets. People identified that there is limited access from Commercial Street and around the marketplace to a public toilet. This restricted access is discouraging to people who visit the town centre.

People said clearly that it is difficult to access health services in Batley, with comments including difficulties seeing a doctor or accessing dental services.

People are concerned about the closure of the police station raised.

There were several positive comments regarding the library as a community space. People feel that more community space would be useful, with more planned community activities for all sections of the community. People suggested that it would be good to see some development of the general market and possibly some specialist markets.

People mentioned that the local infrastructure needs to be developed in line with the growing number of houses being built. As mentioned in other themes, people are concerned about safety and inconsiderate parking.

**Suggestions:** Need to diversify. Make better use of empty shops by putting up displays by local artists or using them as collaborative spaces for small business to support local enterprise. Give people a reason to visit Batley town centre, such as a French market or farmers market, even a fashion show or pedestrianising the precinct to hold a mini-football tournament. These activities should be supported by more practical aspects such as providing more recycling bins, public toilets, more benches and tables for people to use. More shops opening, rather than takeaways, would also be better.

**156 people** commented on this theme.

*"I feel like we miss a local shop for everyday amenities."*

*"I like Batley for food shopping. It has the edge over its neighbour, Dewsbury."*

## Work and local economy



**Key issues:** Many people who commented on this theme said that there are local job opportunities for people. These jobs are in manufacturing, retail and the service industry. People see this as both positive and negative. There is limited opportunity for higher paying roles.



People said that traveling out of Batley for work is acceptable, especially if you are working in other fields of industry.

Some people talked about the closure of the Job Centre and how this can limit opportunity, saying they want to be able to access more community information.

Participants made several suggestions about having some type of support or incentive for people to open a business in Batley town centre, possibly looking at technology start-ups. Others suggested repurposing buildings to allow a broader range of business spaces. Alongside this, people want to see more training and apprenticeship programmes targeting the young population.

People who took part gave recognition for the work of local volunteers, and the skills that volunteering can offer to people in terms of employment opportunities and wellbeing.

**Suggestions:** Make better use of empty shops and buildings - allow small businesses to advertise in the windows, help start-ups and pop-up shops using the old Woolworths building, for instance. Encourage local crafters to showcase their work and have the town centre become a hub for the many creative folk in Batley, through support from Kirklees Council. Encourage local businesses to take on apprentices and work experience opportunities, creating an atmosphere of support and success, whilst also recognising the value of volunteering as a path to employment. More should be done to improve links with big cities such as Leeds, as there are limited work opportunities in Batley (there isn't a lot of varied industry).

**138 people** commented on this theme.

*"Need to attract other businesses to Batley, IT and tech based."*

*"We need to invest in cheap office space to attract companies."*

*"We have a young and clever youth who can work in Batley. A lot go to work in Leeds in call centres, why can't they have that in Batley?"*

*"The village does not provide work to support the local economy."*

## Housing and community



**Key issues:** People made a broad range of comments about housing, with improved access to affordable homes being the most common. Suggestions include the need to replace social housing that has been sold off in previous years.



People mentioned the lack of maintenance and upkeep of community spaces. They talked about 'caring' for local spaces, which seems to suggest both the council and residents taking care.

People raised concerns about the cost of local rental properties.

There were some positive comments about the variety of quality homes, which meet peoples needs.

Participants highlighted their concerns about the development of housing and about protecting green spaces, indicating a preferred use of brownfield sites and the use of empty buildings as alternatives.

Other comments were about anti-social behaviour in communities and a lack of cohesion or neighbourliness. Several people said they are concerned about mixing of younger and older people in social housing, and how this has a negative impact on residents.

**Suggestions:** Protecting the greenbelt and green spaces from housing development is important - developing brownfield sites would be better. Housing developments for families should include affordable housing, and better travel links for getting into and out of town would help. Resurfacing some roads and more attention to keeping the streets clean. Upgrading current social housing and more council homes. A mix of this and private developments may dilute the the level of anti-social behaviour.

**122 people** commented on this theme



## Social contact



**Key issues:** People who commented about social contact feel that developing community spaces and places is very important - along with making sure that people have access to these spaces. There is strong support for increasing community activities and events across all age groups. People also feel it's difficult to find out what's going on, suggesting that more local notice boards, for instance, might help.



People recognise the community spaces that are available, mentioning places such as Batley Park, Batley Library, Batley Town Hall, community centres, Tesco, Red Brick Mills, and Memorial Park. People said there's a need for access to better outdoor spaces (including green space), with seating and child friendly resources.

Participants often commented about feeling safe and the fear of anti-social behaviour.

People have mixed feelings about their ability to socialise, with some people feeling there have been a loss of social opportunities due to the closure of pubs and traditional cafés.

In contrast, several people commented on the number of new food places, and said that these offer places to socialise.

There were a few comments about the lack of community spirit, the effects of the pandemic and other local issues impacting on the community generally.

**Suggestions:** Create spaces for people to see and engage with others. More seating in the marketplace. Making the town centre safe and welcoming, considering people's needs. Creating a drop in centre for pensioners who need advice on various matters, or a community café where people could play chess or snakes and ladders, while chatting seated around communal tables. A real push on inclusion and finding common ground.

**125 people** commented on this theme

*"We all need to start embracing our cultural difference with delight, not mudslinging."*

*"Communities often segregated from each other. This results in very few true community projects."*

*"There are no community cafes and no areas where community involvement is encouraged."*

*"I think what is on offer could be better publicised. There is plenty happening in Batley."*



## Identity and belonging



**Key issues:** Participants' comments reflect very strong feelings about a lack of cohesion and a real feeling of division across the community. People said that Batley has a long and strong heritage and history, that they are proud of being from Batley. People also have very strong feelings that the area has lost some of its tradition and identity, with recent issues reflecting very poorly on Batley. Participants feel that, from the outside, people's perception of Batley is poor.



People said that they would like to see more community events and opportunities, with work undertaken to present Batley in a more positive way.

People also reflected on a lack of investment and maintenance in the area. There were comments about Batley no longer feeling safe, with concerns regarding anti-social behaviour and low police numbers.

People feel that this is evidence of a lack of leadership, from the council and councillors.

**Suggestions:** More should be taught about Batley's heritage in local schools, so it is appreciated and not lost. Cleaning up Batley's exceptional architecture and preserving its buildings. Having events recognising Batley's multiculturalism and creating an identity people can be proud of. There is clearly an underlying pride in Batley that people don't want to lose. People want more activities that will help everyone to feel part of the community.

**144 people** commented on this theme.

*"I think Batley needs to work on its identity to give people a reason to be proud."*

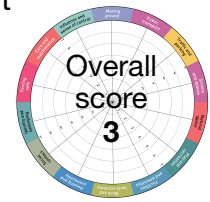
*"Its strengths of a multi-cultural town can also cause issues, but promoting harmonious events where people can mix and share, will help breed a positive belief."*

*"We need to make it great, so everyone feels proud to come from Batley, to look after Batley to attract people and businesses."*

## Feeling safe



**Key issues:** It's clear that people are very concerned about feeling unsafe. This comes through very strongly in the comments about this theme, and feeling safe was mentioned in several of the other themes.



People clearly feel there is not enough police support in Batley, with issues mentioned including response to call times, never seeing police in the town centre and difficulty with reporting issues.

Lots of people who commented talked about a fear of crime in Batley, with people relating this to recently reported historic crimes and also social media stories.

As in other themes, many people commented about anti-social behaviour (including loud music) and issues with driving, including speeding, dangerous driving and parking issues.

Some people commented about groups congregating in the town centre, with some comments specifically about young people.

Several people raised concerns about drug dealing and usage..

Some participants commented on night-time safety, suggesting that the quality of lighting in the town centre contributes to people not feeling safe.

Some people specifically said that they do feel safe in Batley.

**Suggestions:** Improving street lighting to help people feel safer - once improved, this needs to be advertised properly to encourage more older people to leave their houses. Targeted lighting would help on some pathways, making them more accessible. Updating the town's CCTV system and increasing staffing using the system would enable a degree of live monitoring, which could also be advertised. Having more people living in the town centre also makes people feel safer.

**162 people** commented on this theme.

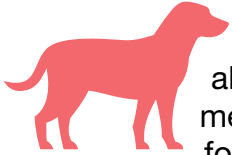
*"There are too many groups of youths hanging around street corners and local shops."*

*"When walking I sometimes feel unsafe due to men who make me feel uncomfortable, especially after dark."*

*"The town centre can be unsafe on an evening due to local youth acting in an anti-social way."*

*"Generally feel safe, but there is a distinct lack of police in and around the town centre."*

## Care and maintenance



**Key issues:** People raised a wide variety of concerns about care and maintenance, many of which are also mentioned in other themes. Lots of people who commented focussed on litter and fly tipping in Batley. People feel there are not enough litter bins and there are few opportunities to recycle. Participants said there's a lack of investment from the council in the area. Some people feel there are different levels of maintenance in different parts of the community.



People are concerned about the empty shop spaces and buildings that suffer from a lack of ongoing maintenance. Some people shared wider concerns about general maintenance around the town centre and asked whether there is a programme of planned maintenance, to prevent areas becoming eyesores.

There were lots of comments about the condition of local roads and the number of potholes. It's difficult to identify whether these are about the town centre specifically or about the wider road network in and around Batley. Some people commented on the lack of maintenance of pavements and footpaths, with some specifically highlighting overgrown trees and weeds on the footpath network.

**Suggestions:** Making better use of the empty shops and buildings, as places for schools and for local groups to make displays. Some buildings not used for more than 20 years could be pulled down to make better use of the space or new buildings built for different purposes. Landlords should be held more accountable for their tenants' upkeep of buildings. Making sure buildings with smashed glass or trees growing out of them are repaired, so they make the town feel nicer.

**136 people** commented on this theme.

*"Who wants to come to a town that feels uncared for and unloved?"*

*"Buildings, roads and pavements are in a poor state of repair. There's overhanging vegetation, litter and dog fouling ."*

*"Some people have the attitude of 'it's not mine, why should I care', someone else will clear it up."*

## Influence and sense of control



**Key issues:** Many participants said they feel that Kirklees Council and local councillors are not listening to local people's concerns and views. Some said that when people do try to act, there is little follow up or support to help them. People also feel that decisions have already been made, so there is no point trying to offer a view or share ideas.



Some people said that taking part in 'Batley - our town centre' is the first time they have had a voice or been asked to influence a decision. People feel they have limited opportunity to participate, and that there is not a clear process to make comments on local issues and receive feedback.

A small number of participants said they feel that the council puts more resources into Huddersfield, and makes too many decisions in Huddersfield.

People feel that there should be more opportunities locally to hold public meetings, possibly focus groups, with less focus on elections and more things at other times. Some participants said they hope that the new MP will make a difference.

Some people feel disconnected from the council and councillors, but participants made positive suggestions on how this could be improved.

**Suggestions:** Focus groups or local public meetings would help to better connect people in the area. People need to feel like they are being listened to locally and that not all decisions are taken by people who don't live in or know the area. Improving opportunities for local people to have a voice, take part in discussions and receive feedback on why decisions are being made.

**131 people** commented on this theme.

*"No chance for people to have their say with the current council."*

*"There are some groups locally who love involvement and you can feel like you're making a difference, but a lot of things feel like they're out of our hands."*

*"People feel many decisions are made by non-local people, who do not live in the area and have no idea what it's like to live here."*

*"Who agrees what businesses can open locally? Lots of people complain about the amount of takeaways, but who allows them?"*

## Batley - our town centre score sheet

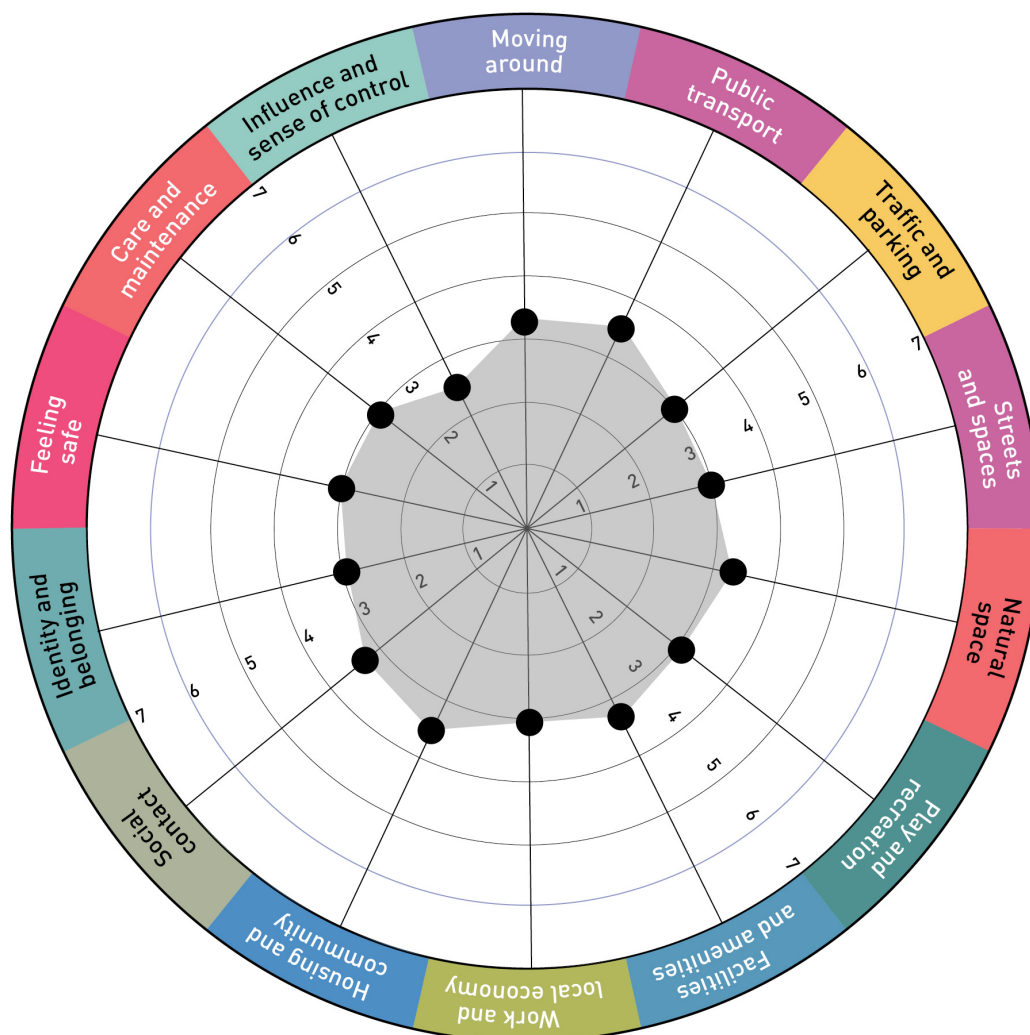
How people in Batley town centre scored their place, on a scale of 1 to 7, whilst talking about 14 different themes:

	Overall	Age 25 to 44	Age 45 to 64	Age 65 to 75+	Male	Female
Moving around	3.2	3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
Public transport	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5
Traffic and parking	3	3	3.1	3	3.1	3
Streets and spaces	3	2.9	3	3	3	3
Natural space	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2
Play and recreation	3.1	3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
Facilities and amenities	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Work and local economy	3.1	3	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Housing and community	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Social contact	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Identity and belonging	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8
Feeling safe	3	2.9	3	3	3	3.1
Care and maintenance	2.9	2.7	2.9	3	2.9	2.9
Influence and sense of control	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5

**253** people participated in the 'Batley - our town centre' conversations, completing **253** assessments.

The overall scores are the **Mean average** of the **253** assessments.

## Overall scores for Batley - our town centre



Housing and community	3.6
Public transport	3.5
Natural space	3.3
Facilities and amenities	3.3
Social contact	3.3
Moving around	3.2
Play and recreation	3.1

Work and local economy	3.1
Traffic and parking	3
Streets and spaces	3
Feeling safe	3
Identity and belonging	2.9
Care and maintenance	2.9
Influence and sense of control	2.5

Full data is available at:  
[www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk](http://www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk)

# ECONOMY & NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY PANEL

## Agenda Plan 2021/22

	Items	Officer Contact	Notes
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	<b>Kirklees Resource and Waste Strategy</b>  The Panel will consider a report which sets out the draft Kirklees Resource and Waste Strategy prior to full council in September 2021.  <b>Dewsbury Town Centre Update</b>  To provide the Panel with an update on Dewsbury Town Centre projects and their programmes for delivery.	Sue Proctor/Will Acornley /Lory Hunter/Natalie Stone  Simon Taylor/ Peter Thompson,	
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Cooper Bridge Update</b>  Update to Panel ahead of Cabinet Meeting in September	Keith Bloomfield	

<p><b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b></p> <p><b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August</p>	<p><b>Review of Winter maintenance services including the link to planning</b></p> <p><b>Cultural Heart</b></p> <p>Scheduled to go to Cabinet in November</p> <p><b>Waste Disposal Interim Arrangements (private)</b></p>	<p>Sue Proctor / Kathryn Broadbent/ Mark Scarr</p> <p>David Glover /David Shepherd</p> <p>Nigel Hancock/Lory Hunter</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b></p> <p><b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October</p>	<p><b>Hot Food Takeaway SPD</b></p> <p><b>Kirklees Housing and Neighbourhoods update including estate management</b></p>	<p>Mathias Franklin /Hannah Morrison/ Johanna Scrutton Steven Wright</p> <p>Naz Parker</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b></p> <p><b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</p>	<p><b>Procurement of Waste Treatment Services</b></p>	<p>Nigel Hancock/ Lory Hunter / Will Acornley</p>	<p>Cabinet December</p>



<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Smaller Towns Programme</b>	Simon Taylor	
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Place Partnership Leads – Active Travel Update</b>  <b>Kirklees Council Inclusive Economic Refresh Strategy</b>	Vina Randhawa  Jonathan Nunn	
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>Huddersfield Blueprint Update</b>  <b>Cultural Heart</b>	Simon Taylor  David Glover	To include Station to Stadium Corridor
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b>  <b>Agenda Publication:</b> Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Play areas</b>  <b>Affordable Housing and Housing Mix SPD</b>	Steven Wright /Mathias Franklin /John Buddle	

## Items for consideration

### Scheduled

- Waste Strategy (July)
- Dewsbury Town Centre Update (July)
- Cooper Bridge (August)
- Cultural Heart (September)
- Review of Winter maintenance services including the link to planning (September)
- Overview of SPD's (October)
- Kirklees Housing and Neighbourhoods update including estate management (October)
- Procurement of Waste Treatment Services PRIVATE (November)
- Smaller Towns Programme (January)

### Items provisionally scheduled (may be subject to some change):

- Economic Strategy Refresh (February)
- Place Partnership Leads – Active Travel Update (February)
- Huddersfield Blueprint Update (including Station to Stadium corridor) (March)
- Cultural Heart Update (March)
- Play Areas – (April Linda/Will Acornley )
- Affordable Housing Mix SPD's (April)

### Items not yet scheduled:

- Inward Investment Strategy (postponed due to Covid)
- Travellers accommodation

- Air Quality Action Plan 2021 plan
- Digital Update
- Skills: Training and Apprenticeships
- Green Space Strategy, Biodiversity
- Highways capital funding programme
- Huddersfield Market
- Place Based Working – focus on stability
- Energy Saving Trust recommendations on future fleet procurement
- KC Housing Allocations Policy Review

Chair Briefed on:

- Cultural Heart
- Huddersfield Markets

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