

# Public Document Pack



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

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Monday 7 March 2022

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

The **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee** will meet in a **Virtual Meeting - online** at **2.00 pm** on **Tuesday 15 March 2022**.

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', on a light-colored background.

**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 Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee members are:-**

### **Member**

Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)

Councillor Andrew Cooper

Councillor Andrew Marchington

Councillor Harpreet Uppal

Councillor Habiban Zaman

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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**Pages**

**1: Membership of Committee**

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

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**2: Minutes of Previous Meeting**

1 - 4

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.

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**3: Interests**

5 - 6

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 Committee 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.

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

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.

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## **6: Public Question Time**

The meeting will hear any questions from the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

Questions should be emailed to [executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk) by no later than 10.00 a.m. on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

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## **7: Low Carbon Housing Pilot Project**

7 - 20

The Committee is invited to comment on a report in respect of the Low Carbon Housing Pilot Project.

Contact:  
James Hinchliffe, General Manager - Development

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## **8: Local Flood Risk Management - Annual Review**

21 - 34

A report will be presented which considers progress against the Action Plan of the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

Contact:  
Rashid Mahmood, Flood Manager, Planning and Development

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## **9: Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-27**

35 - 68

A report will be received in respect of the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-27.

Contact:  
Jo Richmond, Head of Service, Communities  
Chani Mortimer, Service Manager Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships

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**10: Appointment of Co-optees**

69 - 72

The Committee is asked to appoint an additional number of voluntary co-optees, so they are ready for allocation to the standing scrutiny panels in the 2022/23 municipal year.

Contact:

Richard Dunne, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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**11: Work Programme 2021-22**

73 - 80

The Committee's Work Programme for 2021- 22 is attached for Members' consideration.

Date of next meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Contact:

Sheila Dykes – Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Thursday 3rd February 2022**

Present: Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)  
Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor Andrew Marchington  
Councillor Harpreet Uppal  
Councillor Habiban Zaman

In attendance: Councillor Shabir Pandor, Leader of the Council  
Councillor Carole Pattison, Cabinet Member for Learning,  
Aspiration and Communities

**51 Membership of Committee**

All Members of the Committee were in attendance.

**52 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

The Chair provided updates as follows:

(i) Climate Emergency and Net Zero Road Map (Minute 29)

The Kirklees Air Quality Annual Status Report was due to be published on the Council's website in the next few days.

(ii) Strategic Intelligence Assessment/ Communities Partnership Plan (Minute 37)

The further detail requested by Members, in respect of the domestic abuse figures and mortality related to alcohol and drugs, had been collated and would be circulated prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

**53 Interests**

No interests were declared.

**54 Admission of the Public**

All items were held in public session.

**55 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**56 Public Question Time**

No questions were received.

**57 Leaders' Priorities Update**

Councillor Pandor attended the meeting to discuss his portfolio priorities for 2021/22 and highlighted the following points:

## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 3 February 2022

- The refreshed Council Plan had been approved by full Council in October and set out the vision for the future.
- The previous plan had contained over 100 priority actions, 90% of which had been delivered or were on target.
- Thanks were expressed to all the Council's staff for their hard work, particularly during the pandemic.
- The actions focused on what matters to residents.
- Updates were given under each of the following outcome headings:
  - Sustainable Economy:** the transformation of Huddersfield Town Centre was progressing with Gateway One having been signed off and the move towards Gateway 2; the business case for Dewsbury Town Centre had been submitted to the Government; engagement had been undertaken in relation to funding for smaller town centres; and plans to modernise transport infrastructure were in progress.
  - Best Start:** an inclusion support offer had been delivered in schools; the early intervention service had been widened to parents and carers; and a plan to increase the number of places for children in special schools had been approved.
  - Aspire and Achieve:** a new Learning Strategy had been produced, with a particular focus on children who were most at risk of being marginalised; and an Employment and Skills Strategy was in development.
  - Well:** health checks were being undertaken for those most at risk; work was being undertaken to tackle obesity; and a focus had been placed on mental health using the Community Champions.
  - Independent:** a new Kirklees Care Association had been established to bring together partners; and progress had been made in relation to an improved Aids and Adaptations Policy and the provision of more Extra Care housing.
  - Safe and Cohesive:** fire safety work was ongoing in the high-rise blocks, with a focus on full engagement with tenants.
  - Clean and Green:** the new Waste Strategy had been adopted by Council and was now being delivered, with action having been taken in respect of bulky waste and initiatives in relation to fly tipping and glass collection programmed for later in the year; and progress was being made towards achieving net-zero, with a road map being developed for the next phase.
  - Shaped by People:** the new Homes and Neighbourhoods Service was leading the way in engagement with residents; and Place Standard engagement had been undertaken with communities in Batley, Heckmondwike and Cleckheaton.
  - Efficient and Effective:** a new careers website had been launched; and work had been undertaken to transform Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) services.

Questions and comments were invited from Committee Members, with the following issues being covered:

- The budget would be set by the Council in February and the issues associated with the current cost of living crisis would be addressed within the proposals, through local welfare provision and support for the voluntary and community sector. The Combined Authority would be considering opportunities from levelling-up funding and the Council would work together with the private sector, the Health and Wellbeing Partnership and healthcare agencies to make best use



## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 3 February 2022

of available funding. This was a priority issue that would be given consideration going forward.

- Questions in respect of community safety and the priorities and role of the Council in areas such as the criminal exploitation of young people, and feedback from the Climate Commission could be discussed with the relevant Portfolio Holders.
- In respect of partnership working with other organisations, with particular reference to the regeneration of Huddersfield Town Centre, it was noted that decisions had to take account of impact on local taxpayers. There may be lessons to be learned, and wider engagement and discussions would take place as the programme moved towards Gateway 2.

Councillor Pandor was thanked for attending the meeting to discuss his portfolio priorities and it was noted that he would be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to provide an update.

### 58 **Corporate Safeguarding Policy**

The Committee received a report in respect of the refreshed Cross-Council Corporate Safeguarding Policy.

Councillor Pattison – Portfolio Holder for Learning, Aspiration and Communities introduced and welcomed the refreshed and strengthened policy, which clearly established safeguarding as being the responsibility of everyone across the Council. She looked forward to the policy being disseminated throughout the organisation and the rollout of the associated training.

Alexia Gray – Head of Quality Standards and Safeguarding Partnerships and a member of the Corporate Safeguarding Oversight Group (CSOG) and Carol Gilchrist – Head of Local Integrated Partnerships and Chair of the CSOG attended to introduce the report.

Their presentation covered: the role of the Corporate Safeguarding Oversight Group; the background to the refresh; the key message and focus of the policy; the content and main updates; the engagement undertaken and feedback received; and the forward plan including submission to Cabinet for approval and the development of a communications plan, training programme and performance monitoring.

Questions and comments were invited from Committee Members, with the following issues being covered:

- This policy did not cover the issue of child criminal exploitation and the role of the Council specifically but if a member of staff had a concern in respect of any kind of exploitation they should report it to their line manager. There were a number of initiatives that the Council was undertaking in respect of sexual exploitation and working with the community.
- The National Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation had just released its eighteenth report, which contained a number of recommendations for local authorities. It was suggested that it would be helpful for Elected Members to receive a summary of the report and what Kirklees would do to respond to the recommendations. It was expected that the Safeguarding

## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 3 February 2022

Children Partnership would take a lead in looking at those recommendations, with oversight from the Communities Partnership.

- It had been recognised that the CSOG had a role in sharing learning points from reviews and disseminating messages more widely than those staff that had been directly involved.
- The next full review of the policy was scheduled for 2025. The policy provided the framework for the work with partners and the work programme, which would be reviewed by the CSOG on a regular basis; and if any necessary amendment to the policy was identified as part of this process this would be done.
- The training would include discussion of the role of the Council as a regulator working in the community.
- The Council's Third Sector Team took the lead in respect of volunteers working with the Council and in supporting third sector organisations. The manager of this team attended the CSOG to ensure consistency of approach. The Council's volunteers would be able to access training to the same standards as that provided for staff and work was being done to ensure robust safeguarding policies were in place for volunteers across services and that safeguarding was part of management and supervision. This team also worked with Third Sector Leaders and other anchor organisations to ensure that the necessary information was available and easily accessible to other volunteers. Assurances were required that groups had safeguarding policies and procedures in place as part of the registration process.
- It was noted that the Children's and Health and Adult Social Scrutiny Panels had an ongoing overview of safeguarding responsibilities.

### **RESOLVED -**

- 1) That the detailed and comprehensive policy and the adoption of a corporate approach be welcomed, and that the officers involved be thanked for their work.
- 2) That a further report be provided for the Committee, following the rollout of the refreshed policy, to include an update on how it has worked in practice, the outputs, and feedback in respect of the training.

### **59 Work Programme 2021-22**

A copy of the current Work Programme had been circulated.

The next meeting would take place on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 with the following items scheduled for consideration:

- (i) Annual Review – Local Flood Risk Management
- (ii) Domestic Abuse Strategy.

### **60 Any Other Business**

The Chair reported that an urgent decision had been taken at Cabinet, on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022, in relation to the grant of consent in principle to regulations to provide the Combined Authority with the powers to borrow for non-transport related functions. It had been agreed that call-in could be waived, as it was necessary for the decision to be reported to the Government by 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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

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

## NOTES

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



**Name of meeting:** Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Title of report:** Low Carbon Housing Pilot Project: Former R M Grylls School Site, Liversedge

**Purpose of report:** Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee is invited to comment on the attached report in respect of the Low Carbon Housing Pilot Project.

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> ?	Not Applicable
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd, Strategic Director: 4 March 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston, Service Director for Finance: 4 March 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft, Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning 4 March 2022
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Councillor Cathy Scott

**Electoral wards affected:** Liversedge and Gomersal

**Ward councillors:** to be consulted on Cabinet Report

**Public**

**Has GDPR been considered?**

Yes. The report does not identify individuals or convey personal data.

## 1. Summary

The attached draft Cabinet report is brought to Scrutiny Committee in view of the significance of the climate and energy agenda. The report briefs on the context and background to the Low Carbon Housing Project in relation to fuel poverty, energy price rises, and reducing the carbon footprint in housing. These are issues which will drive significant changes in housing design and standards in order to provide affordable warmth, tackle fuel poverty and to promote public health.

The report also advises of the proposed appointment of specialist designers to support the Council in delivering its outcomes and next steps in developing the project through its design and construction stages. It outlines behavioural changes in managing and living in innovative and resilient homes. Scrutiny Committee comments on the report are invited, prior to its consideration by Cabinet.

## 2. Background

The Low Carbon Housing Project is a direct response to the climate emergency and changes to Building Regulations. It forms part of the Council's development programme to deliver more affordable, warm homes and quality places, and it proposes to develop the former RM Grylls school site at Hightown, Liversedge for 125 homes. It will include a minimum of 20 Passivhaus homes and a zero carbon home, for other units, a minimum 31% carbon savings over current Building Regulations requirements.

Expertise from experienced and qualified designers is required to help the council to deliver its ambitions. Following a competitive process, the report outlines proposals to appoint specialist designers to design, cost and secure planning permission to enable the scheme to be built.

## 3. Recommendation

Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the proposals and is invited to offer comments on the report.

## 4. Contact officer

James Hinchliffe, General Manager- Development.

[James.hinchliffe@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:James.hinchliffe@kirklees.gov.uk)

01484 221000

## 5. Service Director responsible

Naz Parkar, Service Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods

[naz.parkar@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:naz.parkar@kirklees.gov.uk)

01484 221000

Report to: CABINET

**D R A F T**

Date: 15 March 2022

 Title of report: **LOW CARBON HOUSING PILOT PROJECT UPDATE**
**Purpose of report:**

The report is brought to Cabinet as a Key Decision where the proposal involves expenditure of greater than £250,000, and in view of the significance of the climate change and energy agenda. The report briefs on the context and background to the Low Carbon Housing Project in relation to fuel poverty, energy price rises, and reducing the carbon footprint in housing. These are issues which will drive significant changes in housing design and standards to provide affordable warmth, tackle fuel poverty and to promote public health.

The report also advises of the proposed outcomes and next steps in developing the project through its design and construction stages, and behavioural changes in managing and living in innovative and resilient homes. Cabinet is asked to consider the report and the Private Appendix containing details of bids received from organisations bidding to provide specialist design services to design the project and to secure planning permission. Cabinet is asked to approve the bidder recommended in the Private Appendix.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>Yes.</b>  <b>This will incur specialist architect design fees in excess of £250,000</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u></b>	<b>Key Decision – Yes.</b>  A Key Decision Notice will have been published by 3 March 2022 in respect of the Cabinet report.  <b>Public Report with Private Appendix.</b> This contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	<b>David Shepherd</b> , Strategic Director: 4 March 2022
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>	<b>Eamonn Croston</b> , Service Director for Finance: 4 March 2022
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>Julie Muscroft</b> , Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning 4 March 2022
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr Cathy Scott</b>

Electoral wards affected: Liversedge and Gomersal

**Ward councillors to be consulted:** Cllrs David Hall, Cllr Lisa Holmes, Cllr Melanie Stephen

**Public or private:**

The report is public.

The Key Decision Notice has been issued and the subsequent cabinet report will be accompanied by a private appendix in which commercially sensitive information will be provided.

**Has GDPR been considered?**

Yes. The report does not identify individuals or convey personal data.

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The links between housing and health are well documented and the role of housing in the integration of health and social care has become the subject of much debate. The evidence in the Housing Strategy and Strategic Housing Market Assessment emphasises the need to develop more affordable homes, and to promote affordable warmth to ensure tenants and residents realise the health benefits that good quality housing can deliver. Fuel poverty is a recognised problem for over 13% of Kirklees households and enquiries about this problem are increasing. The housing delivery plan agreed by Cabinet in 2018 has led to an ambitious council housing development programme which seeks to deliver 100 new homes per year. The council can drive delivery, sustainable development standards and the change.
- 1.2 The climate emergency declaration and recommendations of the Climate Emergency Working Group have emphasised the need for the council to drive improved sustainability standards into new and existing homes.
- 1.3 The approaching energy price rises from April 2022 and changes to Building Regulations in 2022 and 2025 for energy conservation and ventilation, means that these circumstances cannot be ignored, and a step change is required to move from our reliance on fossil fuelled homes, to reduce the carbon footprint of housing and drive more sustainable places by investing in higher environmental standards.
- 1.4 The Low Carbon Housing Project is a direct response to the cost-of-living crisis, the climate emergency, and the broader regulatory changes. The pilot project, as well as delivering more quality affordable, warm homes and places, will secure learning and best practice – from design and planning right through to occupation and management - this learning will enable the council to identify the skills needed in the workforce to ensure sustainable development becomes mainstream and scalable and will underpin social value outcomes in particular apprenticeships and training opportunities.
- 1.5 Delivering and maintaining homes that meet new and improved standards for construction will need those in planning, construction, housing management and maintenance, as well as residents, to develop new skills and behaviours.
- 1.6 Specific expertise from experienced designers is required to help the council to deliver these ambitions. This report outlines proposals to appoint specialist designers to design, cost and secure planning permission to build 125 homes, including at least 20 certified Passivhaus homes, one zero carbon home and achieve a minimum of 31% carbon reductions over current Building Regulations requirements.
- 1.7 A procurement exercise has resulted in 4 bids to provide specialist design services. Officers propose to report the bids to Cabinet and to secure authority to appoint a design team.
- 1.8 This project intends to develop the former RM Grylls school site at Hightown, Liversedge, a Local Plan site which is allocated for housing. The intention is to start development in 2023, and to complete the scheme in 2026. Cabinet will be asked to authorise the procurement of a



development contractor once planning permission and a detailed, viable cost estimate has been obtained.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

- **Background: Housing need, fuel poverty and climate issues**

- 2.1 The Kirklees Housing Strategy and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment evidence the need to provide 1049 new affordable homes per year to address an affordability gap. The Housing Strategy also identifies fuel poverty as an issue affecting 13.1% of Kirklees households; above the national and Yorkshire and Humber averages (11.1% and 12.1% respectively). Living in a cold damp home presents a significant threat to health and the Housing Strategy identifies the need to do more to improve the conditions of housing stock, for the wellbeing of residents.
- 2.2 Interventions such as the work of the Affordable Warmth Team to invest in retrofitting existing stock (e.g., Abbey Road) are already establishing ways to insulate homes, reducing energy consumption, and ensuring that warmth is retained. The council has also previously promoted national and local initiatives to address poor home insulation and promote the provision of new energy efficient boilers.
- 2.3 The council is also supporting residents through its Money Advice Team to provide advice and support to those who are seeking help in managing their financial commitments and living costs. The team has reported that in the last six months, enquiries about home heating costs have risen to the point where half of the enquiries are now raising concerns about being able to afford to heat homes adequately. This year, the Council expects to launch a wider energy campaign aimed at tackling fuel poverty and carbon reduction.
- 2.4 In the shorter term, inflation in food prices and the cost of living has been escalating, and international volatility of the gas supply market has led to wholesale gas prices increasing. When the OFGEM price caps are raised from April 2022, increases in gas wholesale costs (50%+) will be passed on to consumers, and home heating costs using this fossil fuel will significantly escalate. Whilst the government will be providing recoverable subsidies to reduce this financial shock, this does not address the reliance on fossil fuels and is a short-term mitigation. These factors will put further pressure on housing affordability and fuel poverty.
- 2.5 The housing delivery plan approved at Cabinet on 29 August 2018 underlined the need to reduce fuel poverty and to reduce the carbon footprint of new housing. It proposed trialling the development of low carbon homes as a way of reducing the carbon footprint of housing and developing opportunities for construction skills and training to support new approaches to housebuilding in the future. The focus at that time was on land to be disposed of to secure a market solution.
- 2.6 The council's subsequent declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019 and the recommendations of the Climate Emergency Working Group ('CEWG') confirmed that more needs to be done to tackle the carbon footprint from home energy usage, and to develop homes incorporating Passivhaus principles. These are homes which incorporate passive design and fabric first principles of high thermal insulation, airtightness, and ventilation to reduce energy usage, conserve heat, and manage heating and cooling.
- 2.7 Interest in Passivhaus development and principles has been growing in Kirklees. It is one way to include design elements to reduce fuel and heating costs and reduce the long-term carbon footprint generated by our homes. However, this type of housing requires behavioural and skills changes to construct, run, manage, maintain, and live in the home. It also requires expectations in terms of layout and design to be adjusted to achieve optimum site layouts and to maximise low carbon outcomes.

- **Policy, Climate change, skills gaps in building innovative resilient homes**

- 2.8 The Government's 'Construction 2025' industrial strategy [launched in 2013] sought to achieve a 50% reduction in construction costs, delivery timescales, greenhouse gas emissions from construction, and trade gap between imports and exports. The subsequent Farmer Review of construction sector labour in 2016 highlighted poor training models, a lack of innovation and collaboration as well as a weak research and development culture.
- 2.9 The Government's consultation on the Future Homes Standard (2019) and the Future Buildings Standard response (2021) set out the Government's proposals to further reduce the carbon footprint of new homes, by changing Building Regulations Part L (conservation of fuel and power) and Part F (ventilation). By 2025, this will require all new homes to produce 75%-80% less carbon emissions than houses built under the current regulations.
- 2.10 Technical guidance consultation on the Future Homes Standard is not expected until 2023 and consequently, interim changes to Part L for homes built from June 2022 require a 31% reduction in carbon emissions.
- 2.11 This requires some step changes in the way that homes are built, such as improved airtightness, and it also requires anticipation of higher standards and performance. This highlights the need for training and skills development and sharing best practice to build resilient and innovative low carbon homes, and to tackle poorly performing existing homes in an affordable way.
- 2.12 Adapting to build resilient low carbon housing to address climate change will also require creative thinking and flexibility from the planning system, particularly where new housing types or materials and site requirements and layouts may challenge current policy expectations.

- **Project development and options**

- 2.13 In response to the climate emergency declaration and the CEWG recommendations, officers have been working up proposals to develop a Low Carbon Housing Pilot project, as part of the Council's broader housing delivery programme and carbon reduction response.
- 2.14 This project aims to develop new homes using modern methods of construction (such as modular or panelised systems) and Passivhaus, and to share learning and practice to raise standards, reduce carbon emissions and living costs in Kirklees.
- 2.15 Preparatory work on the project was endorsed in June 2020 by Cllr Scott, Cllr McBride, former Cllr Rob Walker (and subsequently Cllr Simpson) as Portfolio Holders for Housing, Regeneration and Environment.
- 2.16 On the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, the Housing Growth Board endorsed the management and development of the Low Carbon Housing Pilot Project by the Homes and Neighbourhoods Development Team, and authorised tenders for a Design Team to be issued.
- 2.17 As part of this work, an assessment of a range of sites was undertaken by an architect with Passivhaus design and delivery experience. This exercise concluded that the elevation, topography, and aspect of the former RM Grylls school site off Second Avenue, Hightown, Liversedge would be a suitable fit. This Local Plan housing site is in the ownership of the council and has an allocation for 125 homes. It also sits in a locality within the worst 10-20% index of multiple deprivation and is a strategic fit to develop homes which will reduce carbon emissions, living costs and where the council can promote quality and raise standards.

- **Project objectives**

2.18 The objectives of this project are to:

- To construct 125 homes, a minimum of which 20 homes will be designed and built to a certified Passivhaus standard.
- To include at minimum one zero carbon house
- To achieve a 31% reduction in carbon emissions compared to current Part L Building Regulations for the remaining homes.
- Incorporate modern methods of construction.
- To share learning on costs, construction, and tenants' experience, to raise design standards for future housing sites.

2.19 This is also an opportunity to develop new homes and to incorporate social value outcomes for jobs and training in developing skills for future building techniques which will be required across the development sector. The construction tender stage will also allow the council to work with local construction design and contractors and support local supply chains and training.

2.20 The council has already procured architectural consultancy services through its established framework. However, this project requires specialist expertise and experience in a design team. Officers have assessed other local authorities' interest in Passivhaus and have liaised with the City of York Council in relation to their approach to developing a programme of low carbon homes over several sites.

2.21 The project has been broken down into two phases, each of which will need to pass through approval stages.

- **Phase 1:** Procuring an experienced Design Team led by a Principal Architect to undertake RIBA Stages 1-4 (scoping, design and obtaining an implementable full planning permission)
- **Phase 2:** Procuring a construction partner, to build the scheme once detailed planning consent is secured.

Phase 1 is broken down into a two-stage process:

- (1) A pre-qualification exercise to sift out organisations who do not have the required experience and knowledge of developing Certified Passivhaus home, and
- (2) Detailed submissions from short-listed organisations.

2.22 The Stage 1 process [administered through the YOR tender procurement portal] secured 9 eligible bids ('requests to participate') by close in October 2021. The sift led to 5 bidders being invited to submit detailed tenders by 31 January 2022 in the second stage.

2.23 Four bidders have submitted bids to this stage of the process and the evaluation and score moderation process has been undertaken during February and early March. The bids have been assessed against quality, cost, and social value criteria.

2.24 **Private Appendix 1** lists the bidding organisations in each stage. Further clarification has been sought in relation to the cost of services and reports to be provided, and the final recommended bidder will be presented to Cabinet.

2.25 To support the development of the project and the evaluation of bids, and future programme development, links have been forged with the Passivhaus Trust, and the School of Architecture at Huddersfield University, to act as 'critical friend' to the project.

- **Cost breakdown**

- 2.26 Build cost analysis will be developed as part of the design and specification process and will be reported to cabinet for consideration. Professional consultancy costs will be incurred in designing the scheme, as with any proposed development.
- 2.27 The Stage 1 procurement exercise to tender for professional design consultancy services require a principal architect/designer, mechanical and electrical consultant, quantity surveyor, planning consultant, and structural and civil engineer. Bidders have also been asked to price for a range of specialist services and reports including although not limited to Passivhaus advisors, ecologists, highway specialists, resident engagement support. The council would need to appoint an independent Passivhaus assessor to assess and certify the Passivhaus homes.
- 2.28 The latest construction cost estimates will be reported to Cabinet for approval, prior to proceeding with any construction tender exercise.
- 2.29 As part of the formal tender process, the four bidders have submitted detailed information on their range of services, professional fees, and staff forming each design team. Bidders have also set out their indicative principles for designing the scheme. Bidder's information includes commercially sensitive and personal information and will be summarised in a private appendix.
- 2.30 Pending final assessment and clarification, it is estimated that professional fees for the design process may be up to £1m. It should be noted that whilst significant costs will be incurred for the specialist professional design services, this project is buying in expertise to enable learning and skills improvements in specialist Modern Methods of Construction [MMC] and Passivhaus design and construction that will help us to develop our strategy and approach for future programmes. This will benefit the council and hopefully inspire other developers to follow this lead. Buying in the right expertise will provide the council with a platform to develop, learn, demonstrate, and replicate good practice.
- 2.31 Based on an estimated £17-£20m scheme of this scale, the architects' fees would typically incur 5% of fees on costs and it is a necessary cost which is incurred as part of the development process. In this case, the team will also be providing cost analysis, and the role of the Principal Designer for pre-development health and safety Construction Design and Management regulations, as well as a range of specialist services in relation to Passivhaus, low carbon and MMC design.
- 2.32 This project and design fees will help the council to scale up design, carbon reduction, affordability, and fuel poverty outcomes in developing the council's wider housing development programme. This will lead to the design and delivery of resilient, quality homes and places of the future. This learning can also be shared and applied to partners and other developers outside the council, with the aim of helping to raise housing standards, and reduce the carbon footprint of homes across Kirklees.

- **Timescale**

- 2.33 The indicative timescales advised to bidders are set out in the table below. This will need to be adjusted to account for the Cabinet meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, which is 2 weeks beyond this indicative timetable. Contract award may also need to be moved into June to account for the extent of services and specifications required.

<b>STAGE 2: INVITATIONS TO TENDER ISSUED TO SELECTED CANDIDATES</b>	<b>12 November 2021</b>
Deadline for the Council to Respond to Clarification Questions	<b>10 December 2021</b>
Submission Deadline	<b>12 noon 31 January 2022</b>
Submission Deadline for Social Value Portal	<b>12 noon 31 January 2022</b>
Evaluation Period Ends	<b>7 March 2022</b>
Internal approval process:	<b>31 March 2022</b>
10 Day Standstill Period Ends	<b>12 April 2022</b>
<b>Contract(s) Award</b>	<b>12 April 2022</b>
<b>Contract Start Date</b>	<b>1 May 2022</b>

- 2.34 It is expected that following appointment, the successful design team will work up detailed proposals. From this point, the indicative development timescale is as indicated below:

<b>Design and planning</b>	
Revised Contract start date and design project team inception meeting	Late May / early June 2022
Design process and stakeholder input	June 2022 - October/November 2022
Detailed scheme and indicative costs	October/November 2022
Internal approval process prior to submission of planning application	November 2022/January 2023
Submission of full planning application	January/February 2023
Grant of full planning permission (prepare revised cost analysis)	May/June 2023
Internal/Cabinet approval to proceed to tender	June 2023
Preparation of draft construction tender	March - May 2023
Construction tender period	May-June 2023
Evaluation of tender submissions	June-July 2023
Internal approval process and Cabinet	July/August 2023
<b>Construction phase: training/skills development throughout</b>	
Contract let	August 2023
Mobilisation and start on site	September/October 2023
Practical completion and handover into management	March 2026
Management /Maintenance and living skills training	January – March 2026

- **Expected impact/ outcomes, benefits & risks (how they will be managed)**

- 2.35 Delivering homes which help communities and future generations to reduce their energy use and costs, that are warm, healthy, and adaptable will contribute to our achievement of the Kirklees Shared Outcomes.

- 2.36 In addition, the environment around the homes will also see a step change in terms of waste water management and access to landscaped localised amenity areas and existing woodland.

be access for electric vehicle charging, promoting less reliance on the use of fossil fuelled vehicles. Biodiversity net gain opportunities will be considered and integrated into scheme designs.

- 2.37 For residents, there will be a need to learn to live differently, adapting to heating technologies such as air or ground source heat pumps, and energy and heat conservation approaches. This will require advice and training for residents to help them to get the best from their new home, and it will also require consideration of local letting or sales policies to ensure that residents will be engaged and inspired to adapt to living differently. This is very much about working with our communities and learning with them, and not imposing new ideas on them.
- 2.38 This new approach will also require advice, learning and development for housing management and maintenance colleagues to understand the different types of building techniques and maintenance regimes needed for these types of homes.
- 2.39 The learning and training opportunities during the design and subsequent construction phase represent an opportunity to deliver social value for our residents and local economy. A significant outcome will be to achieve interest and input from local suppliers and manufacturers associated with modern methods of construction and Passivhaus.
- 2.40 The impact of this project is expected to have a ripple effect in informing and influencing others. The council will use learning and experience from this project to inform current and future new developments and retrofit schemes, using the lens of innovation, quality and place shaping to meet and exceed changing regulatory requirements. The council's development programme may be impacted by the changes to regulatory standards and costs if learning and preparation is not implemented sooner than in 2025.
- 2.41 Wider learning from this project will be shared with the University and the Passivhaus Trust, partners in the Combined Authority, and other colleagues and developers to promote higher standards and the changes that are required to achieve resilient, low carbon homes for the future.
- 2.42 Key risks arise from knowledge gaps and cost escalation which will be mitigated in the robust procurement exercise. Bidders have been required to describe their professional teams, service and design delivery approaches and principles, and are required to undertake value engineering throughout.
- 2.43 Following the approval of a successful bidder to undertake the design and consultancy services, the project will be managed by a Development Manager within the Homes and Neighbourhoods Service, supported by other team members. A project team will drive the scheme with governance overseen by the New Build Housing Board. Updates to the Executive Team, Senior Management Team and the Housing Growth Board will be provided as appropriate. This will allow the consideration of highlighted risk areas and provide strategic direction for the project where significant design or risk issues are highlighted.

- **Evaluation**

- 2.44 The evaluation process in this and future projects will principally consist of 4 stages:
- design and planning
  - construction methodology, skills and learning
  - occupation – ease of living and managing a modern home
  - future skills and workforce needed to manage and maintain these homes
- 2.45 The first stage is currently being undertaken through the conclusion of the tender evaluation process which has sought to balance quality (60%) cost (30%) and social value outcomes (10%). This project will be an exemplar cross-cutting project which will deliver across many policy strands for the council, in housing, environment and health themes. The scheme will be informed by local need and community and stakeholder input and engagement which has been a key part of the consultant procurement process.

- **Sustainability**

- 2.46 This pilot project embraces sustainable development at its heart, and it will be expected to comply with national and local policy in this area. Its objectives are clearly aligned to reducing the environmental impacts of new development and in addressing the climate emergency. It will also ensure that the homes are sufficiently flexible to ensure that a sustainable, stable mixed economy community can be integrated with existing communities, and that people have homes that support them throughout their life.
- 2.47 The development of this site is likely to challenge some established design expectations in view of the need to optimise solar gain on the one hand and to manage overheating on the other, and this will inform access and layout and the spatial orientation and appearance of dwellings. This will need close links with the Planning and Building Control teams.

- **Services & agencies involved**

- 2.48 This project will involve Sufficiency Group and link to the council's Accessible Homes Team, together with internal housing management, assets team and the affordable warmth team. It also involves the Passivhaus Trust and the Huddersfield University school of Architecture which can use this a learning opportunity. It will see the expanded involvement of the Combined Authority in supporting development costs from the Brownfield Housing Fund- the prospectus is being launched as this report is prepared.

- **Implications for the Council**

- 2.49 The Low Carbon Housing Pilot project will address many policy strands because the initiative is cross-cutting. Providing resilient, quality homes for the future, which will help to address affordability, fuel poverty, secure carbon reductions, and help to promote healthier housing conditions and life chances. Additionally, external infrastructure such as water management infrastructure, open space and access infrastructure will help to encourage less reliance on fossil fuelled vehicles and encourage active travel.

- **Working with People**

- 2.50 This project is fundamentally about working with people to build high quality homes and places where people will feel safe and have a sense of belonging. It is also a platform to learn and to develop skills in construction techniques, and to cascade these into future developments for the council and others. The project will include resident engagement and participation and the iterative design process will be designed to include the tenant and resident 'voice'. The competitive tender exercise has specifically included provision for bidders to ensure that stakeholder's views and inputs are included, and the social value portal requires bidders to set out how they can add value to their services by including opportunities for local skills and training.

- **Working with Partners**

- 2.51 Learning from the retrofit measures at Abbey Road will feed into this work, and officers are working with the University of Huddersfield School of Architecture in respect of their 'critical friend' role and informal advice for the programme. A link has also been made with the Passivhaus Trust in relation to training opportunities for staff involved in the project, which could include a variety of cross-service colleagues.
- 2.52 The Combined Authority and have provided revenue support for due diligence in investigating the site. In the longer term, revenue funding from the Brownfield Housing Fund is available, particularly given the affordability and carbon reduction issues. These are priorities for the West Yorkshire

Mayor. Combined Authority colleagues are inviting the council to submit outline and full business cases to secure revenue funding.

- **Place Based Working**

2.53 In directly developing this site, the council will be able to drive and lead improved standards and incorporate local intelligence and input from local residents and members. The council will directly respond to local housing market information and housing need evidence in developing a mixed tenure approach to the development. This will help to address gaps where a wholly market solution may otherwise 'lead' the housing types and tenure, meeting only part of local needs and aspirations.

2.54 Care will need to be taken to avoid imposing principles and new living approaches on households and it will be important to work with the local community to consider opening a list of residents who are interested and inspired in living differently and learning to run a home which in many cases will be very different to where they have lived before. Their knowledge and feedback will be important to improving standards for the future and feeding into the design process.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

2.55 Tackling the climate emergency, reducing emissions, and improving air quality are key long-term priorities for the Council to improve the quality of life for our residents and create a borough that is healthier, more sustainable and fairer for everyone.

2.56 This project is at the heart of addressing climate change and carbon reduction issues and significantly reducing the environmental impact of new homes. It will require change, learning and improvements on the part of the council and residents to adapt to new ways of living. It will reduce the impact on air quality through relying on renewable energy, encouraging active travel, and cutting out fossil fuel reliance for the home and for means of travel.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

2.57 Providing safe, affordable and warm homes and spaces for families and their children will help to give children their best start in life and to live as well as possible for as long as possible. It will also ensure that learning and living in energy efficient homes becomes second nature, as well as potentially inspiring the next generation of designers and builders.

2.58 The scheme could also provide educational benefits through providing skills training and linking in with school children in the development/construction to stimulate interest in construction training.

2.59 It will also provide an opportunity for the council and partners to listen to children and their families on the way that they live, learn and work.

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

2.60 The site will need to be valued, prior to its appropriation into the Housing Revenue Account from Children and Young Persons Service and the council will need to publish a notice under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 in terms of the use of 'open space' that is used informally on this site.

There is provision for the low Carbon Housing Project within existing headline HRA capital plan approvals, incorporating the use of RTB capital receipts etc. The HRA business plan sets out the overall affordability context for all HRA spend and funding proposals, but the approval is the capital plan not the HRA Business Plan.

2.61 The financial costs of developing the scheme will come from the 30-year HRA business plan, supplemented using Right to Buy capital receipts in re-investing funds from previous property sales. The use of the right to buy funds is currently capped at 40% in FY 2023-24, and it will decrease to 30% in FY 2023-24 onwards. This will require careful financial profiling and planning in respect of



committing finances to this scheme, subject to Cabinet agreeing to proceed to contract after competitive tender.

- 2.62 The development cost is expected to be supplemented by funding from the Combined Authority, subject to the submission of outline, and final business cases once development cost analysis has been firmed up when planning permission has been granted.
- 2.63 The management/oversight of the project will be undertaken by a Development Manager within the Homes and Neighbourhoods development team, reporting to the Head of Service and Service Manager, supported with other staff including a development officer and graduate officer. Governance and reporting will come from the New Build Housing Board, reporting when required to H&N senior management team, or to Housing Growth Board. The day-to-day design consultancy services will be led and managed by the principal architect and designer.

### **Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?**

- 2.64 As this project will impact across multiple themes, the IIA tool has helped to assess the positive benefits and contributions across policy themes and outcomes.

## **3. Consultees and their opinions**

- 3.1 Consultation has been undertaken with Cllr Cathy Scott as lead portfolio holder and previously also with Cllrs Peter McBride and former Cllr Rob Walker, and subsequently Cllr Will Simpson.
- 3.2 It is also intended that Liversedge and Gomersal Ward Councillors will have been fully briefed and their opinions sought, prior to progressing to Cabinet, and thereafter as part of the community and member engagement which will come as part of the iterative design process, once a successful bidder/consultant team has been appointed.
- 3.3 Consultation has also been undertaken with the Chief Executive and the Service Directors for Finance, and for Legal, Governance and Monitoring.
- 3.4 [Overview and Scrutiny Committee \(15 March 2022\).](#)

Comments from the Committee to be noted here:

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

- 4.1
- 4.2 Subject to Cabinet considering and approving the appointment of a successful bidder to provide specialist architectural and consultancy services, it is expected that the consultant will be in place in May/June and that proposals can be worked up for submission to planning in the early part of 2023.
- 4.4 Final cost estimates would be provided once an implementable planning permission has been granted, for referral back to Cabinet to secure approval to tender for and appoint a development contractor.
- 4.5 It is expected that a start on site would be achieved in autumn 2023, and the development completed in 2026. The detailed indicative timescale is set out in the 'Timescales' section above, at paragraph 2.34.

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

5.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (i) Note and endorse the project and proposed appointment of a specialist design team, as outlined in this report and in the Private Appendix.
- (ii) Agree to the appointment of the specialist design team from the bidding organisations as recommended in the Private Appendix
- (iii) Delegate authority to the Strategic Director, Growth and Regeneration, and the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into contract with the recommended specialist design team to provide design, cost, and planning services to the council in developing the proposals and securing an implementable planning permission.

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

6.1 Cllr Scott has been fully briefed on the proposals and has endorsed the project and its progression to Cabinet for consideration and approval of the appointment of the principal architect/designer and supporting consultancy services.

## **7. Contact officer**

James Hinchliffe, General Manager- Development.

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01484 221000

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

Housing Delivery Plan: Cabinet report approved on 29 August 2018.

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6273>

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s24283/Item%2010.%202018-08-29%20Housing%20Delivery%20Plan%20report%20for%20Cabinet.pdf>

Declaration of a Climate Emergency: 19 January 2019

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=5651&Ver=4>

## **9. Service Director responsible**

Naz Parkar, Service Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods

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01484 221000

**Name of meeting:** Overview and Scrutiny Management

**Date:** 15 March 2022

**Title of report:** Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management - Annual Review

**Purpose of report:** To consider annual progress against the action plan of the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy),

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	N/A
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	N/A Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	N/A
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	N/A
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr Naheed Mather

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** No consultations have been carried out

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes

## 1. Summary

- £1 million DEFRA Property Flood Resilience Grant Support was put in place for flood victims in 2020 following Storm Ciara/Dennis in February 2020. The scheme will help to better protect 73 properties.
- £1.3 million EA Kirklees Culvert Programme is on track to complete by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. It has better protected 800 properties (see Appendix A)
- £550K Kirklees Debris Screen Study 22/24 was granted approval to review our high-risk debris screen assets.
- MAP Rain has been purchased to enhance our Local Flood Warning System by setting flood alerts based on historic data.
- A West Yorkshire Flood Innovation Programme (WY FLIP) has received £160K springboard funding. Aim to scale up funding for five themes: Integrated Water Management; Community Voluntary Sector, Property Flood Resilience, Natural Flood Management and Local Flood Warning Systems.
- Community flood risk education programme completed reaching 1000 properties.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

The Local Strategy was refreshed in 2019 to provide an up-to-date evidence base to support the measures identified in the action plan. The details of progress against the action plan are outlined in a “**Progress and Implementation Plan**” included in Appendix B, which summarises the work carried out in support of the Action Plan. It is proposed to remove measures 4.2 and 7.1 as the outcomes have been achieved (highlighted green).

The progress being made align with the themes within the government’s current National Strategy, these include:

- Emphasis on nature based solutions
- A greater focus on creating resilient communities
- Adaptive pathways – being agile to new climate hazards
- A build-back better approach
- Extend the support to local communities
- Align incident response and recovery strategy

We had planned to start to renew the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in 2021/22. This has now started and the tender for this commission has been issued and we hope to have a new strategy in place in around 12 months’ time from award of contract. Considerable amount of time is spent in data collection, review and in undertaking a district wide stakeholder consultation.

Whilst the strategy review is in progress; the remaining measures and actions will continue into the next financial year 22/23. It is felt that these measures remain adequate and align with the existing strategy and themes within the new National Strategy.

As part of our tactical response to severe weather warnings, a best endeavour commitment is being made to attend to known high-risk gullies that have caused property flooding. Also, to enhance our support to communities, sandbags maybe deployed in advance to known high-risk locations.

National warnings can be issued at short notice which present a difficult resource challenge and the extent of the support that can be provided. It therefore cannot be guaranteed if these can be always undertaken.

### ***Storm Dudley, Eunice, Franklin***

The triple storm week commencing the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 had brought strong winds and rain to the district. Currently we have 133 reported incidents of flooding of which 30 are internal property

flooding (including residential/businesses); others mainly are car parks and road flooding. The numbers are likely to rise as we work through the data and as new information arrives. Please note this data has not been validated until it is fully reviewed and often includes contacting the occupiers. Debrief sessions are being undertaken and lessons learnt will be fed back into our operational plans.

We continue to work with our partners like the Environment Agency in trying to secure funding and look for long term solutions. This is especially around areas that are prone to flooding linked to main rivers (e.g. River Calder, Mirfield). We continue to work with National Trust, River Trusts and Peak District National Park Authority to support Natural Flood Management projects in our more rural areas to slow the flow into our more built-up areas.

### 3. Implications for the Council

- **Working with People**

We will continue to work with communities and aim to improve resident preparedness. Many of the actions in the current Strategy, under the umbrella of “Community Engagement”, involve information exchange with residents, businesses and ward councillors, explanation of responsibilities and encouragement of self-help to enable householders and business to understand, and manage, the flood risk they face.

- **Working with Partners**

The Council will continue to work proactively with other Risk Management Authorities, including the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water, to share information and good practice with neighbouring authorities, develop joint initiatives and provide clarity on the responsibilities for the management of flood risk.

- **Place Based Working**

The work we do continues to recognise the diversity of the district and the actions identified in the Strategy pay regard to the needs of each community. The assessment tool which has been developed to prioritise the areas at higher levels of flood risk recognises local infrastructure and prioritises investment in deprived communities. The community engagement programme has been designed as a bespoke process, tailored to the requirements of a variety of communities.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

We will deliver a local approach to managing the impacts of climate change in relation to flooding. Flood mitigation improvement schemes, funded by national flood grant, include allowances for increased rainfall from the impact of future climate change.

Our approach will make further emphasis on the need for Natural Flood Management techniques that can store and slow water running off land in response to a rainfall to help reduce flood levels downstream. This can include ponds, tree planting and use of leaky dams which have wider sustainability benefits such as biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

No impact.

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

N/A

#### **Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?**

N/A

### 4. Consultees and their opinions

No specific consultation has been carried out on this annual report. Extensive public, member and general stakeholder consultation was carried out for the original 2013 Strategy. Proportionate levels of consultation are carried out when implementing actions.

**5. Next steps and timelines**

To continue to progress the measures in the action plan and to consider the views expressed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

Members are asked to note the progress in 2021/22 and planned actions for 2022/23. Note measures 4.2 and 7.1 are complete and will be removed from the Action Plan. This is because they can now be picked by another measure or have been implemented and can form part of routine monitoring.

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

This has been supported by the Portfolio Holder.

**8. Contact officer**

Rashid Mahmood, Flood Manager, Planning and Development

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Tel: 01484 221000

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

Original Strategy <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/flooding-and-drainage/pdf/FloodRiskStrategy.pdf>

**10. Service Director responsible**

Edward Highfield, Service Director for Skills and Regeneration

Email: [Edward.Highfield@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Edward.Highfield@kirklees.gov.uk)

Tel: 01484 221000

## Kirklees Culverts Project Summary

**Contact: *Adrian Gill***

**Contact: *Rashid Mahmood***

The Kirklees Culverts Project is a £1.3 million pound scheme that is currently on track to achieve its OM2 target of 800 properties better protected.

Pre 2010 very few councils had detailed records of the location and condition of culverts within their district. The estimated length of culverts within Kirklees is 350km-400km (the real length may never be known). 25% of these culverts are assumed to be 'ancient', stone built and over 150 years old. Most of these are inaccessible for inspection and maintenance. As a result of this, maintenance of council and privately owned culverts has not been carried out.



A detailed survey of over 50 were highlighted to pose a risk to residential properties and have potential condition issues. £50k of Local Levy funding was used (Plus £20k council match) to carry out a comprehensive CCTV survey of these 50 culverts to determine their conditions. This information helped to provide a strong base for a successful Environment Agency capital Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (GiA) bid.

The project was delivered using the inhouse council resources over a 6 year programme. Some culverts were completely replaced, but some required isolated repairs/replacement and improved access points



The scheme is due to end in April 2022 and is currently expected to be completed on time, on budget and meet the OM2 targets.

## Appendix B

### Progress and Implementation Plan 2020/21 – 22/23

#### The “Annual Progress and Implementation Plan”

Progress against the 32 actions in the 2013 Strategy have previously been reported annually through the Councils Overview and Scrutiny process using a “traffic light system”. A substantial amount of work has been carried out over the last few years which has improved both the Councils evidence base and the local infrastructure to help manage local flood risk. Much of this work has not been reported through the annual review and it is appropriate now to highlight progress made with such initiatives. The approach, since 2019, has been to move away from rigid reporting against the action plan to summarising the work carried out in the previous year, with reference to the action plan. The annual reporting mechanism is now through this ‘**Annual Progress and Implementation Plan**’. The plan provides more specific details on

- The current understanding of the location and extent of local flood risk
- progress against the Local Strategy objectives
- a record of works and studies carried out in the previous year, which are relevant to the Local Strategy objectives
- Working with Planning colleagues to influence planning decisions to take account of flood risk
- priorities for the forthcoming year

**The Plan gives a clearer appreciation of what the council needs to do, how it intends to do it and what it has actually done.**

#### 1. Last Analysis of the Location and Size of Flood Risk in Kirklees (on a ward basis)

**Note:** Numerous datasets are available which provide information on flood risk and are based on high-level assumptions which may under or over-estimate flood risk in some locations. However, the table gives an overview of our current assessment of the numbers of properties at risk from rainfall events that have a 1% chance of occurring in any given year (1% AEP). **The 1% AEP flood is the level of risk that the Government currently judges to be an “acceptable” level of risk.**

The actual risk to individual properties can only be determined through detailed local flood studies. A significant number of additional properties are also at risk from flooding from blocked or collapsed underground drainage systems, particularly in urban areas.

Although many properties will be at risk from both river and surface water flooding, it is possible that flooding from each source could happen during different rainfall events. The “Total” numbers at the right hand side of the table provide an indication of the maximum number of properties at risk but, inevitably, includes some double-counting of properties.



Ward	Fluvial (river) risk		Surface Water risk		Total at risk from both Sources	
	Homes	Businesses	Homes	Businesses	Homes	Businesses
Almondbury	130	6	251	13	<b>381</b>	<b>19</b>
Ashbrow	72	11	198	38	<b>270</b>	<b>49</b>
Batley East	9	54	237	94	<b>246</b>	<b>148</b>
Batley West	0	6	198	49	<b>198</b>	<b>55</b>
Birstall and Birkenshaw	31	2	242	47	<b>273</b>	<b>49</b>
Cleckheaton	236	30	249	73	<b>485</b>	<b>103</b>
Colne Valley	88	28	462	84	<b>550</b>	<b>112</b>
Crosland Moor and Netherton	1	4	229	39	<b>230</b>	<b>43</b>
Dalton	651	172	347	81	<b>998</b>	<b>253</b>
Denby Dale	6	11	197	36	<b>203</b>	<b>47</b>
Dewsbury East	3	73	242	129	<b>245</b>	<b>202</b>
Dewsbury South	2	7	181	34	<b>183</b>	<b>41</b>
Dewsbury West	69	77	343	33	<b>412</b>	<b>110</b>
Golcar	16	27	336	68	<b>352</b>	<b>95</b>
Greenhead	22	9	425	58	<b>447</b>	<b>67</b>
Heckmondwike	52	18	279	35	<b>331</b>	<b>53</b>
Holme Valley North	130	61	341	55	<b>471</b>	<b>116</b>
Holme Valley South	42	38	304	73	<b>346</b>	<b>111</b>
Kirkburton	30	11	192	30	<b>232</b>	<b>41</b>
Lindley	0	0	197	10	<b>197</b>	<b>10</b>
Liversedge and Gomersal	122	26	251	28	<b>373</b>	<b>54</b>
Mirfield	58	38	407	24	<b>465</b>	<b>62</b>
Newsome	164	91	193	115	<b>357</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1934</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>6301</b>	<b>1246</b>	<b>8235</b>	<b>2046</b>

## 2. Progress against the Actions Delivering the Objectives

**Note:** The outstanding measures from the 2013 Strategy form the basis of the action plan in the updated 2019 Strategy and are outlined below:

Ref.	Measure	How will we measure success?	Timescale for the Action	Actions from February 2021	Planned Actions up to March 2023
1.1	Assessment of High Flood Risk Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the assessment of the highest risk locations</li> <li>• Have a clear understanding of the type and size of flood risk at each location</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review completed studies, options considered viable are on EA Medium Term Plan.</li> <li>• Cluster study areas 6 (Kirkheaton, Upper/Lower Hopton/Gomersal) and 7 (Thornhill Lees, Thornhill, Overthorpe and Highburton) are complete. Viable options are being progressed onto the EA MTP Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue recommended works from all area assessments to be collated into work packages that can be put forward for EA funding</li> <li>• Continue to undertake flood studies at known locations on the highway network.</li> </ul>
1.2	Improve Skills and Knowledge of FRM Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a multi-skilled team</li> <li>• Encourage knowledge transfer from technical consultants</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training undertaken includes SUDS and modelling.</li> <li>• Seminar training with the Met. Office.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with staff training and development</li> <li>• Employ a new substantive Planning Technician</li> </ul>
2.1	Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection/ resilience etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify programme of community engagement</li> <li>• Produce information templates</li> <li>• Complete programme of community engagement</li> </ul>	Ongoing (2018-23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community/ member engagement programme has now completed all 23 wards. This included distribution of Member booklets and leaflets for residents. A reach of 1000 properties.</li> <li>• Kirklees Twitter Account was used during severe rain events to inform and warn.</li> <li>• Draft guide has been developed with ICASP (based in Leeds University) to issue to local landowners in how to protect a nearby watercourse.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise a Communication Plan to provide meaningful and timely information to flood communities.</li> <li>• Complete guide and work with ICASP to facilitate an engagement exercise with homeowners/ businesses.</li> <li>• Improvements to Council flood risk management website.</li> </ul>
2.2	Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an engagement programme which encourages information exchange (assets and flood incidents) with residents</li> </ul>	See above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivering the DEFRA Property Flood Resilience Grant is nearing completion.</li> <li>• Ongoing dialogue with businesses and residential communities in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to deliver the DEFRA PFR grant (ends 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022).</li> </ul>

				<p>conjunction with the Environment Agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A water level monitoring trial has started to assess debris load with a local business to monitor debris loads on debris screens to develop a local enhanced warning system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence the trial of local storage of sandbags at two locations.</li> <li>• Seek opportunities to have flood community groups in key areas.</li> <li>• Continue to engage with local members/residents and businesses</li> </ul>
3.1	Identify highest risk open and culverted watercourses, highway drains and other drainage/flood features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a prioritisation process to rank watercourses and other drainage systems/assets</li> <li>• Develop a program of condition surveys on high priority assets</li> <li>• Compile a list of highest risk council-maintained drainage systems</li> </ul>	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA grant funded culvert improvement project will successfully complete by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Improved 50 highway culverts.</li> <li>• Investigation and surveys being carried out throughout the district to enhance asset and flood risk knowledge.</li> <li>• A Debris Screen Asset Performance Study has been approved £550K.</li> <li>• A list of high-risk highway flood hotspots has been established that caused flooding to infrastructure. The tender for these has been issued.</li> <li>• Kirklees have commenced a new initiative for a modern Asset Management System for flood and drainage asset data – ongoing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence the 2-year Debris Screen Asset Performance Study. It will review the debris screen asset conditions and risk to flooding.</li> <li>• Consultant to commence the design work for the high-risk highway asset for design and costings. Review funding sources and establish a delivery programme.</li> <li>• Develop an assessment process which highlights surface water drainage systems which are under capacity – ongoing.</li> </ul>
3.2	Develop an affordable cyclical and reactive maintenance regime based on risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document the inspection/maintenance regime for trash grilles</li> <li>• Document the cleansing process for road gullies including performance management</li> <li>• Document an affordable inspection/maintenance process for significant highway culverts</li> </ul>	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-risk gullies have now been added onto our Pre-Flood Operational Plan in response to severe weather warnings.</li> <li>• A larger list of highway gullies that have led to flooding have been identified. Aim is to annually clean them as part of the Winter Preparedness.</li> <li>• A site trial has begun on debris screens to monitor debris loads on debris screens to develop a local enhanced warning system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete debris load site trials and review next steps.</li> <li>• Establish a periodic low-cost inspection regime for higher priority culverts.</li> </ul>
4.1	Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document a process to record and risk-assess significant private drainage assets</li> <li>• Compile a list of highest risk privately maintained drainage systems</li> </ul>	Oct 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assets continue to be recorded.</li> <li>• Difficult to resource a planned programme of inspections.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a process to record private drainage assets when resources allow</li> </ul>

4.2	Develop technical advice for owners to guide them in preparing local maintenance plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop standard maintenance recommendations and a template for the plan</li> <li>• Distribute maintenance plans to asset owners identified in Item 2.1</li> </ul>	Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance advice developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice to be embedded within community engagement programme</li> </ul>
5.1	Develop proposals to engage with landowners to embrace land management techniques and initiatives which help to reduce the rate of surface water run-off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support council and regional initiatives to implement NFM measures</li> <li>• Identify local landowners in higher priority areas and offer encouragement/advice and support to help them to reduce surface water run-off.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working closely with community led groups in the Holme and Colne valleys to support where possible.</li> <li>• WY FLIP has secured £160K of funding to develop innovative flood solutions with local partners.</li> <li>• Continue to support Our Future Landscapes Strategy partners.</li> <li>• White Rose Forest programme engaging with landowners to develop NFM – Landscapes for Water.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop longer term plans to engage with smaller landowners to share advice on implementing low-cost, high-impact NFM measures.</li> <li>• Work with partners NEIRF bid with National Trust, Yorkshire Water and Woodlands Trust</li> </ul>
6.1	Develop and deliver a pragmatic programme of schemes and initiatives which are likely to be funded through the National Programme or Local Levy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate the outputs of the studies carried out in Item 1.1 into an affordable long-term works programme</li> <li>• Deliver the programme, optimising the use of council budgets to attract external funding</li> </ul>	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the priority schemes has been established in the EA programme with a value of £30m put aside subject to viability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop the identified works in the programme into business cases that can be submitted through the grant funding process.</li> </ul>
7.1	Embed the LFRMS into response and recovery plans and use developing knowledge on flood risk to “tune” emergency procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the Pre-Flood Operational Flood Plan to reflect highest risk locations requiring most support</li> </ul>	Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Flood Risk and Response Policy has been revised.</li> <li>• Pre-Flood Operational Plan review is completed and updated.</li> <li>• Map Rain has been installed to support Emergency Planning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor and ensure new data is reflected in our plans.</li> </ul>

### 3. Summary of Flood Management Initiatives carried out in 2021/22 to support the Strategy

Many of the actions outlined in the 2013 Strategy involved establishing new council procedures to investigate flood events, introduce more robust data collection processes and to establish the LLFA as the main point of contact for the management of local flood risk.

A number of other actions in the 2013 Strategy involved improving the council's understanding of the location and size of local flood risk and developing a programme of mitigation measures to manage the risk. Some progress has been made on these actions through a variety of studies and works which have provided information and drainage infrastructure improvements. Some projects have been opportunistic, resolving immediate issues and others have formed part of a broader programme to better understand local flood risk. The latter is part of an iterative process to, ultimately, provide interventions at a local level in an informed and prioritised way.

The initiatives carried out in the last year are detailed below:

Initiative	Date Completed	Purpose	Cost (£,000's)	Funded by (Council or External)	Benefits
Map Rain Software	2021	To enhance local flood warning system by setting virtual flood alerts	5	Council	Support Emergency Planning and our tactical response during severe weather events
Property Clusters#6	2021	To aggregate small clusters of issues into single projects	20	Local Levy	Detailed assessment of risk
Property Clusters#7	2021	To aggregate small clusters of issues into single projects	20	Local Levy	Detailed assessment of risk
Gully Blitz	2021	Winter Preparedness Nov/Dec annual initiative to clear high gullies to have caused flooding	15	Council	To reduce likelihood of property and infrastructure from flooding.
Community Engagement – 5yr	2022	Education leaflet to flood risk communities	N/A	Council	To support communities in understanding flood risk in their areas
DEFA PFR Grant Scheme	2022	To install property level protection to reduce internal flooding	£300	DEFRA	Detailed assessment of risk
EA Highway Culvert Programme – 5yr	2022	To improve asset condition of high-risk culverts.	£1, 300	EA	Improving the asset condition will prevent blockages/collapses which ensure neighbouring properties don't flood.
Water Level Monitoring trial in ordinary watercourses	Ongoing	To identify higher risk locations and mitigation options	N/A	Council	Detailed assessment of risk
WY FLIP Programme – 2 yrs.	Ongoing	Seek funding to deliver innovative list of flood management projects in West Yorkshire	160	Local Levy	Provide funding to undertake nature based solutions, community and voluntary initiatives and develop integrated water management solutions in flood risk areas.
Sandbag Pre-Deployment Trial	Ongoing	To support flood risk communities in advance of severe weather	£5K	Council	To better protect high risk communities from property flooding
Gully Cleansing telemetry	Ongoing	To record gully cleansing operation – gully visits and gully condition	N/A	Council	Electronically recorded data can be used to better understand gully condition, gully outputs and gully round efficiency. Several cycles of data will be needed before gully rounds can be made more efficient.

A couple of additional studies have been completed to understand the surface water flood risk (cause of the flooding in the areas) with outline recommendations being made. A programme of mitigation measures can now be developed to address the locations at highest risk with greatest impact. These will require further detail assessments and grant funding for these will be sought but often do not generate all the funding required.

In broad terms, the risk of flooding is such that major flood defence schemes to reduce the risk to property are likely to be unaffordable. Whilst a substantial number of residential properties in the district are at risk from river flooding, and a significant amount of historic industrial buildings lie adjacent to the river, the funding formula for the national Flood Grant in Aid programme is such that it won't generate significant amounts of grant funding to make such schemes affordable.

Funding opportunities are regularly considered and developed where resources permit as alternative funding means to bridge funding gaps or to act as standalone initiatives. A West Yorkshire wide Innovative Resilience Fund bid was made for £9.8 million but was not successful. However, the bid was recognised for its quality, so it was rebranded as West Yorkshire Flood Innovation Programme (WYFLIP). WY FLIP is a **collaborative programme** which aims to enable local authorities, academia, industry and the third sector to increase the **resilience of the region to flooding** and the impacts of climate change. The focus of the Programme will be to collaboratively develop innovative funding bids to attract significant funding to West Yorkshire over the next 6 years, bringing resource to the region as a national flagship for collaborative working, innovation and resilience. It has secured £160K springboard funding to establish and develop the Programme over the next 2 years. More information can be found [here](#).

Natural Flood Management is key part of the solution to flood risk management and compliments wider Council and partner organisations priorities. Hence, the approach being taken is done on a catchment wide basis using a multi-agency approach to gain multiple benefits such as flood risk mitigation, supporting biodiversity, carbon sequestration, impact on Climate Change. The key partners include Environment Agency, River Trusts, White Rose Forest (covering West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire) and Our Future Landscapes Partnership (covering the Holme and Colne catchments).

Improved management of the Councils own drainage systems (culverted watercourses and highway drainage) has continued to make optimum use of limited budgets. As part this priority gullies list has been established that records indicate have historically resulted in property flooding and in high-risk areas.

#### 4. Priorities for 2022/23

Much of the groundwork to establish information, assessment and performance management processes has been completed and future work will concentrate on making best use of our greater knowledge base. Remain abreast of emerging new climate science to ensure the Council is in the best position to respond. It is important to not only respond to flood mitigation using engineering defences but seek out sustainable options such as opportunities to slow the flow. National priorities and policies for flood risk management are developing with an emphasis on managing flooding at source (natural flood management), ensuring that new developments minimise flood risk and that current climate change predictions are factored into hydraulic assessments. Enhancing community resilience is a key part of the solution to the managing local flood risk so building volunteering capacity in our flood communities is key.

The main priorities for 2022/23 are therefore:

- Review the Council's Flood Risk Management Strategy following the release of the National Strategy and Policy.
- Continue our efforts in S19 and flood investigations to enhance our flood risk and asset knowledge.
- Continue the high-level area flood risk assessment programme to help understand the location and size of flood risk in our highest risk areas
- Continue with our engagement/information-sharing programme with local ward members and at-risk communities
- Continue planning compliance on recent development sites in flood risk areas.
- Support regional initiatives around developing discussions with major landowners on land management practices which minimise surface water run-off
- Work with communities to building resilience by establishing local flood groups.
- Map out NFM opportunities in Kirklees with partner organisation.

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**Name of meeting:** Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee  
**Date:** 15 March 2022

**Title of report:** Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2027

**Purpose of report:** The Strategy provides a framework for our Domestic Abuse Partnership, which includes voluntary/community, council, health, education, housing and criminal justice agencies from the Criminal Justice System to coordinate the broadest possible response to domestic abuse – from prevention and early intervention to dealing with crisis and long-term recovery and safety. Our vision for Kirklees is to have a range of services that are accessible and available to anyone who may need them, working together around individuals, families and communities to prevent, respond to and repair the damage caused by domestic abuse.

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
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name  Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?  Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Service Director Jill Greenfield  Strategic Director Mel Meggs
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr Carole Pattison

**Electoral wards affected:** ALL

**Ward councillors consulted:** N/A

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes

## 1. Summary

The existing Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy (2019-2021) is drawing to a close. The existing Strategy was endorsed by Cabinet on 10 September 2019.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership has reviewed achievements under the 2019-21 Strategy, and notes that:

- partners have attracted significant investment and commissioned a range of interventions to support our work across individuals, families and communities;
- we also have a range of robust multi-agency working arrangements that aim to coordinate victim safety and hold perpetrators to account for their behaviour;
- we continue to face barriers with working together to engage some victims and survivors in support – given that domestic abuse is a complex social problem that has an impact on local council services (across children's, adults, housing and community based services), the third sector, health organisations, housing providers and the Criminal Justice System, survivors and their children may be caught within local structures, unclear of how to navigate services to get the help they need, and may receive conflicting messages.

To strengthen our response, the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership agreed that it would be useful to incorporate a 'whole system' response to delivering services, to ensure that all agencies that provide services to victims of domestic abuse, perpetrators and their children respond in a consistent and coordinated way.

To support this work, Kirklees worked with national charity *Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse*, which have pioneered a Coordinated Community Response – a framework for all partners to commit to shared objectives and the broadest possible response to domestic abuse, addressing prevention, early intervention, dealing with crisis, risk fluctuation, and long-term recovery and safety. It works across a wide range of services, pathways, agencies and systems, and places meaningful co-production at the centre of its approach.

With support from Standing Together, the Partnership has:

- Mapped our existing provision and response – including specialist domestic abuse services, non-specialist community/voluntary sector services and statutory and universal services responses; existing consultation/feedback opportunities for those with lived experience; and partnership and governance structures with a view to highlighting good practice, gaps and challenges;
- Benchmarked Kirklees against the standards established in the Coordinated Community Response and working with the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership to identify strategic priorities; and
- Produced a new domestic abuse strategy with stakeholders to ensure the final document reflects our local expertise and is owned by the Partnership.

The Strategy clearly outlines how outcomes will be measured, the principles that underpin our approach, strategic priorities for the Partnership and how governance arrangements will drive the work of the Strategy forward.

Crucially, the Partnership has identified the work to be shared with the public through the Strategy as a public facing document. A more detailed workplan, which clearly identifies gaps in our current provision and intelligence and activities to drive the strategy forward, will support the strategy and be monitored on a quarterly basis. The workplan will include arrangements for an annual review of the strategy, with constructive challenge to be sought from regional partners.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy is intended to be a broad strategy that captures activity delivered by all partners to improve our response to domestic abuse, including those that are driven forward and delivered by single agencies in addition to those commissioned by the Partnership.

With this in mind, the Strategy includes:

- A foreword by Councillor Pattison in her capacity as Chair of the Communities Board, with statements of support to be provided by West Yorkshire Police and the Kirklees Health and Care Partnership;
- An overview of the impact of domestic abuse, with the focus on understanding the harm caused by perpetrators and how this may ripple across multiple victims, children and the broader community;
- Our shared vision and strategic aims, which include responding to voices of lived experience, intelligence, supporting our workforce, supporting our specialist services, working with our communities and our partnership commitment to tackle domestic abuse through internal processes in addition to participating in broader partnership activities;
- Principles that underpin our work, including working with the whole person (recognising intersectionality and the impact of trauma), whole families, whole communities, influencing the whole society and recognising domestic abuse as a form of violence and girls;
- Outcomes that partners are working towards, both strategic and at case management level;
- Strategic priorities, each of which will be supported by a working group to drive forward activity:
  - Priority One: Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse
  - Priority Two: Supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour
  - Priority Three: Partnership response to victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics
  - Priority Four: Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing
  - Priority five: Multi-agency working arrangements
- Governance arrangements, setting out the oversight of the Domestic Abuse Partnership through the Communities Board, links with other strategic boards and arrangements for commissioning, monitoring performance and opportunities for learning.

The Strategy also includes Annexes to outline achievements under the previous strategy; an overview of prevalence data; our approach to developing the new strategy; and a link to the Kirklees Early Help vision.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

The draft Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy is provided for comment by the Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee. The Strategy will be submitted to Cabinet following review by this Committee.

## 3. Implications for the Council

### 3.1 Working with People

The Strategy outlines how our whole system, including the third sector, health organisations, housing providers, social care and the Criminal Justice System, works in a consistent and coordinated way to:

- See and respond to the **whole person**, whether that be victims and survivors (including children), perpetrators or others affected by domestic abuse
- Work with the **whole family** to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and build resilience
- Work with the **whole community** to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and support victims and survivors to live the lives they want; and
- Influence the **whole society** through the media, politicians, employers, key opinion formers and commentators by challenging victim blaming and damaging gender stereotypes.

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

The Strategy has been developed in partnership with colleagues from voluntary and community services, health agencies, housing providers and criminal justice agencies. Partnership commitment for the strategy is to be demonstrated through statements of support to be provided by both health and police colleagues. This is a partnership strategy and the delivery plan will reflect the contribution and collaboration across the system.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

The Strategy refers to the work we do in Places, recognising our partnership arrangements to respond to local communities, including Place Partnerships, Primary Care Networks, community hub models of working and Local Neighbourhood Policing teams.

### **3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

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

The Partnership is committed to improving outcomes for children and has identified supporting children affected by domestic abuse, through the Council's established Whole Family Approach, as the first key priority of the Strategy.

### **3.6 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions**

#### Legal

The Strategy includes reference to a newly introduced statutory duty to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation. The Partnership will monitor service delivery, including through commissioned arrangements, to ensure continuing compliance with our new statutory obligations.

#### Financial

The 2022-2027 Domestic Abuse Strategy has no immediate financial implications for the Council.

Over the course of the strategy, the Council will be working with partners to establish joint commissioning arrangements and the Strategy includes an aspiration to develop pooled funding arrangements.

In addition to Council funding, we expect to receive an annual grant from Government that will aid delivery, the amount has not been confirmed as yet and the current short term (annual) nature of funding presents challenges to our commissioning, grant making and to the security of services, particularly for our voluntary sector partners. This is currently 'ring fenced' to domestic abuse, but this may change moving forward.

#### HR

The 2022-2027 Domestic Abuse Strategy has no immediate HR implications for the Council.

The Strategy includes a partnership commitment to:

- Provide domestic abuse training to support our employees to respond appropriately to people who report domestic abuse, including arrangements for routine and/or targeted enquiry as appropriate; and
- Implement a domestic abuse policy and procedure/guidance for how the organisation will respond to employees who are victims/survivors, or perpetrators, of domestic abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership will monitor compliance with these commitments over the course of the strategy.

From a Council point of view, our approach to domestic abuse training is being finalised in partnership with workforce development, work around corporate safeguarding, Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership and Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships team is currently working with HR to develop guidance outlining how we as an organisation can support employees who may be experiencing domestic abuse and where managers can access further advice and support. It is anticipated that this guidance will be subject to consultation with trade unions and through employee networks.

### Communications

The Strategy provides a comprehensive framework for gathering feedback and intelligence, which will highlight the need for targeted campaigns on specific issues and/or within specific communities.

The Strategy itself will be formatted by the Council's graphics team to ensure that the document is accessible and has a consistent look and feel to other Council policies. We are doing this work in conjunction with ongoing work on the Communities Plan to avoid duplication of effort.

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

The Partnership will commence activity under the Domestic Abuse Strategy Workplan following the Councils scrutiny and decision-making processes. The Strategy will also be shared with local partnership boards, including our Safeguarding Children Partnership, Safeguarding Adults' Board and Health and Wellbeing Board.

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

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee is invited to comment on the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2027 and highlight any particular priority areas for update.

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

Scrutiny is asked to comment on the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2027 and highlight any particular priority areas for update.

## **7. Contact officer**

Jo Richmond, Head of Service, Communities  
Chani Mortimer, Service Manager Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships

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

The previous domestic abuse strategy was presented to Scrutiny in 2019.

## **9. Service Director responsible**

Jill Greenfield - Service Director Communities and Customers

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**Name of meeting:** Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee  
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- Produced a new domestic abuse strategy with stakeholders to ensure the final document reflects our local expertise and is owned by the Partnership.

The Strategy clearly outlines how outcomes will be measured, the principles that underpin our approach, strategic priorities for the Partnership and how governance arrangements will drive the work of the Strategy forward.

Crucially, the Partnership has identified the work to be shared with the public through the Strategy as a public facing document. A more detailed workplan, which clearly identifies gaps in our current provision and intelligence and activities to drive the strategy forward, will support the strategy and be monitored on a quarterly basis. The workplan will include arrangements for an annual review of the strategy, with constructive challenge to be sought from regional partners.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy is intended to be a broad strategy that captures activity delivered by all partners to improve our response to domestic abuse, including those that are driven forward and delivered by single agencies in addition to those commissioned by the Partnership.



With this in mind, the Strategy includes:

- A foreword by Councillor Pattison in her capacity as Chair of the Communities Board, with statements of support to be provided by West Yorkshire Police and the Kirklees Health and Care Partnership;
- An overview of the impact of domestic abuse, with the focus on understanding the harm caused by perpetrators and how this may ripple across multiple victims, children and the broader community;
- Our shared vision and strategic aims, which include responding to voices of lived experience, intelligence, supporting our workforce, supporting our specialist services, working with our communities and our partnership commitment to tackle domestic abuse through internal processes in addition to participating in broader partnership activities;
- Principles that underpin our work, including working with the whole person (recognising intersectionality and the impact of trauma), whole families, whole communities, influencing the whole society and recognising domestic abuse as a form of violence and girls;
- Outcomes that partners are working towards, both strategic and at case management level;
- Strategic priorities, each of which will be supported by a working group to drive forward activity:
  - Priority One: Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse
  - Priority Two: Supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour
  - Priority Three: Partnership response to victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics
  - Priority Four: Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing
  - Priority five: Multi-agency working arrangements
- Governance arrangements, setting out the oversight of the Domestic Abuse Partnership through the Communities Board, links with other strategic boards and arrangements for commissioning, monitoring performance and opportunities for learning.

The Strategy also includes Annexes to outline achievements under the previous strategy; an overview of prevalence data; our approach to developing the new strategy; and a link to the Kirklees Early Help vision.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

The draft Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy is provided for comment by the Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee. The Strategy will be submitted to Cabinet following review by this Committee.

## 3. Implications for the Council

### 3.1 Working with People

The Strategy outlines how our whole system, including the third sector, health organisations, housing providers, social care and the Criminal Justice System, works in a consistent and coordinated way to:

- See and respond to the **whole person**, whether that be victims and survivors (including children), perpetrators or others affected by domestic abuse
- Work with the **whole family** to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and build resilience
- Work with the **whole community** to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and support victims and survivors to live the lives they want; and
- Influence the **whole society** through the media, politicians, employers, key opinion formers and commentators by challenging victim blaming and damaging gender stereotypes.

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

The Strategy has been developed in partnership with colleagues from voluntary and community services, health agencies, housing providers and criminal justice agencies. Partnership commitment for the strategy is to be demonstrated through statements of support to be provided by both health and police colleagues. This is a partnership strategy and the delivery plan will reflect the contribution and collaboration across the system.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

The Strategy refers to the work we do in Places, recognising our partnership arrangements to respond to local communities, including Place Partnerships, Primary Care Networks, community hub models of working and Local Neighbourhood Policing teams.

### **3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

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

The Partnership is committed to improving outcomes for children and has identified supporting children affected by domestic abuse, through the Council's established Whole Family Approach, as the first key priority of the Strategy.

### **3.6 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions**

#### Legal

The Strategy includes reference to a newly introduced statutory duty to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation. The Partnership will monitor service delivery, including through commissioned arrangements, to ensure continuing compliance with our new statutory obligations.

#### Financial

The 2022-2027 Domestic Abuse Strategy has no immediate financial implications for the Council.

Over the course of the strategy, the Council will be working with partners to establish joint commissioning arrangements and the Strategy includes an aspiration to develop pooled funding arrangements.

In addition to Council funding, we expect to receive an annual grant from Government that will aid delivery, the amount has not been confirmed as yet and the current short term (annual) nature of funding presents challenges to our commissioning, grant making and to the security of services, particularly for our voluntary sector partners. This is currently 'ring fenced' to domestic abuse, but this may change moving forward.

#### HR

The 2022-2027 Domestic Abuse Strategy has no immediate HR implications for the Council.

The Strategy includes a partnership commitment to:

- Provide domestic abuse training to support our employees to respond appropriately to people who report domestic abuse, including arrangements for routine and/or targeted enquiry as appropriate; and
- Implement a domestic abuse policy and procedure/guidance for how the organisation will respond to employees who are victims/survivors, or perpetrators, of domestic abuse.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership will monitor compliance with these commitments over the course of the strategy.

From a Council point of view, our approach to domestic abuse training is being finalised in partnership with workforce development, work around corporate safeguarding, Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership and Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships team is currently working with HR to develop guidance outlining how we as an organisation can support employees who may be experiencing domestic abuse and where managers can access further advice and support. It is anticipated that this guidance will be subject to consultation with trade unions and through employee networks.

### Communications

The Strategy provides a comprehensive framework for gathering feedback and intelligence, which will highlight the need for targeted campaigns on specific issues and/or within specific communities.

The Strategy itself will be formatted by the Council's graphics team to ensure that the document is accessible and has a consistent look and feel to other Council policies. We are doing this work in conjunction with ongoing work on the Communities Plan to avoid duplication of effort.

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

The Partnership will commence activity under the Domestic Abuse Strategy Workplan following the Councils scrutiny and decision-making processes. The Strategy will also be shared with local partnership boards, including our Safeguarding Children Partnership, Safeguarding Adults' Board and Health and Wellbeing Board.

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

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee is invited to comment on the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2027 and highlight any particular priority areas for update.

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

Scrutiny is asked to comment on the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-2027 and highlight any particular priority areas for update.

## **7. Contact officer**

Jo Richmond, Head of Service, Communities  
Chani Mortimer, Service Manager Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnerships

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

The previous domestic abuse strategy was presented to Scrutiny in 2019.

## **9. Service Director responsible**

Jill Greenfield - Service Director Communities and Customers

Title page

## CONTENTS

Foreword – chair communities board .....	4
Statement of Support – West Yorkshire Police .....	4
Statement of Support – Kirklees Clinical Commissioning Group .....	4
Acknowledgements .....	5
A note on language .....	6
the impact of domestic abuse .....	7
Shared vision for Kirklees .....	8
Strategic aims .....	8
Principles that underpin our work .....	11
Working with the whole person .....	11
Working with whole families .....	12
working with whole communities .....	12
Influence the whole society .....	12
Recognising Domestic Abuse as a form of violence against women and girls .....	13
Outcomes .....	14
Strategic outcomes .....	14
Priority One: Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse .....	15
Scope .....	15
Key Activities .....	15
Priority Two: Supporting perpetrators to change behaviour .....	16
Scope .....	16
Key Activities .....	16
Priority Three: Partnership response to victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics .....	17
Scope .....	17
Key Activities .....	17
Priority Four: Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing .....	18
Scope .....	18
Key Activities .....	18
Priority five: Multi-agency working arrangements .....	19
Scope .....	19
Key Activities .....	19
Governance .....	20
Domestic Abuse as a Priority for the Kirklees Communities Board .....	20

Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership .....	20
Commissioning arrangements .....	21
Monitoring performance .....	21
Opportunities for learning .....	21
Annexe A: achievements under the 2019-2021 strategy .....	22
investment across the partnership .....	22
widening the response to domestic abuse .....	23
Supporting victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation .....	23
Supporting victims and survivors during covid .....	24
Workforce development .....	25
Annexe B: Process for 2022-2027 strategy development .....	26
Annexe C: Whole Picture Approach Championed by Safelives ....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Annexe D: Coordinated Community Response .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Annexe E: Kirklees Early Help .....	28
Annexe F: Terms of Reference for the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership .....	Error!
Bookmark not defined.	
Purpose .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Legislation .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Membership .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Member responsibilities .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Quoracy .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Purpose and Functions .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Governance and oversight .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Role of the Chair .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Lived experience .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Frequency of meetings .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Performance and Review .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

## FOREWORD – CHAIR COMMUNITIES BOARD

To be confirmed

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT – WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

To be confirmed

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT – KIRKLEES HEALTH AND CARE PARTNERSHIP

To be confirmed

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kirklees has drawn on the expertise of two highly regarded national charities in the development of this Strategy, which was developed in partnership with [Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse](#) and with ongoing support from [SafeLives](#).

Domestic abuse is a complex social problem that impacts people, communities and services, with support provided by the third sector, local council services, health organisations, housing providers, education settings and the Criminal Justice System. It can be difficult for survivors and their children to get the help they need – each organisation may only be responding to one aspect of the issue, and sometimes different organisations have different processes, responsibilities, and measures of success. Survivors and their children may be caught within these structures, unclear of how to navigate services to get the help they need; may receive conflicting messages; and end up being blamed for the abuse perpetrated against them.

Since 2019, Kirklees has been working towards the [Whole Picture Approach](#) championed by SafeLives, which recognises that domestic abuse is never all of someone's experiences or situation and sets out a framework for working with the whole person (rather than a series of issues), the whole family (considering the needs of everyone that may be at risk from a perpetrator), the whole community and whole society to end domestic abuse, for good. Through the Whole Picture Approach, the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership has attracted significant investment and commissioned a range of interventions to support our work across individuals, families and communities. Our achievements under the 2019-2021 Domestic Abuse Strategy are provided in Annexe A.

A needs assessment undertaken in 2021, which included feedback from victims and survivors, indicated that our Partnership continues to face barriers with working together to engage some victims and survivors in support. As a result, the Partnership commissioned Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse to support Kirklees to strengthen the way our local agencies work together, aiming to shift responsibility for safety away from individual survivors to the community and services existing to support them.

Through this ongoing support from SafeLives and Standing Together, Kirklees aims to create a domestic abuse informed system where local agencies work together to keep victims, survivors and their families safe, hold abusers to account, and end domestic abuse by changing the way local communities, organisations and individuals think about, prevent, and respond to it.

This Strategy is the result of ongoing collaboration between:

- Kirklees Council – Communities Service, Adults Services, Children's Services, Public Health, Housing
- West Yorkshire Police
- Kirklees Clinical Commissioning Group
- Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust NHS
- The Mid Yorkshire Foundation Trust
- South and West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust
- National Probation Service
- Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership
- Kirklees & Calderdale Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre
- WomenCentre Calderdale and Kirklees
- Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme
- Locala Health and Wellbeing
- Choices for Health in Addiction Recovery and Treatment (provided by Change, Grow, Live)



We wish to thank all the victims and survivors that have shared their stories with us, and those that continue to influence our work in other ways. Speaking out about their own often traumatic experiences, and how local services have supported or hindered their recovery, has helped us to identify what we need to do to provide safety for victims, survivors and their children, to support their longer-term recovery, and to hold perpetrators to account for their behaviour. We hope that our work will continue to improve access to support for everyone affected by domestic abuse.

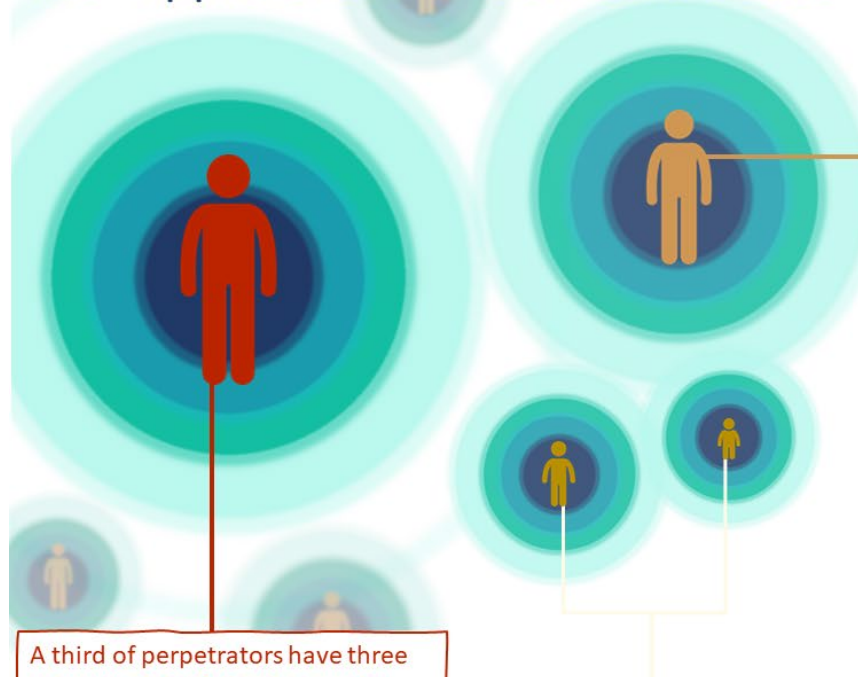
We also wish to thank:

- all staff employed in our partnership organisations for contributing to this strategy, and for continuing to work tirelessly to support individuals, families and communities affected by domestic abuse;
- the Kirklees community more broadly, who have contributed to this strategy through the voices of community leaders and representatives;
- other organisations that continue to support us on our journey of continuous improvement, including:
  - Safe and Together
  - For Baby's Sake
  - West Yorkshire Mayor
  - Regional partners in Bradford, Calderdale, Leeds and Wakefield

#### A NOTE ON LANGUAGE

The terms 'victim' and 'survivor' are both used throughout this strategy, as there is some variation in how people who are living with or recovering from domestic abuse prefer to be referred to. In this context, victims and survivors include children living in households where there is domestic abuse. This strategy also refers to 'people affected by domestic abuse', which includes victims and survivors (including children) and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

## The 'ripple effect' of domestic abuse



### Impact on victims (may be more than one):

#### RISK OF HOMICIDE

A woman is killed by a current or ex-partner every 3 days in the UK. 40 in 10,000 are believed to be at risk of death or very serious injury from domestic abuse (In Kirklees, approx. 862 people).

#### RISK OF SUICIDE

Almost a quarter of Refuge's clients felt suicidal. Domestic abuse is believed to contribute to over a third of women's suicides.

#### MENTAL HEALTH

Over 70% of victims report clinical levels of psychological distress, with more than three quarters (77%) of victims suffering PTSD in addition to high levels of depression and anxiety.

#### RISK OF DESTITUTION

Fear of destitution cited as #1 reason victims chose not to leave abusive relationships. Research indicates that leaving an abusive partner costs around £10,080. Post-separation abuse, particularly through family courts, can be astronomical.

#### HOUSING

One in three survivors of abuse said they had to give up their home because of the abuse they had experienced. 32% of homeless women said domestic abuse contributed to their homelessness.

A third of perpetrators have three or more of the following needs:

- 28%** alcohol misuse
- 27%** employment difficulties
- 27%** housing
- 23%** mental health
- 18%** relationship issues with children
- 18%** difficulties with parenting
- 18%** relationship issues with family members
- 17%** drugs substance misuse
- 16%** financial difficulties
- 14%** social and community ties
- 11%** poor physical health
- 2.2%** other addictions

### Impact on children:

- One in five children experience domestic abuse growing up.
- Risk of serious harm - domestic abuse has been identified by the NPSCC<sup>[viii]</sup>, Ofsted<sup>[ix]</sup> and the Department for Education<sup>[x]</sup> as the most common characteristic of situations where children are at risk of serious harm.
- Risk of other forms of abuse - a third of children affected by domestic abuse also experience other forms of abuse<sup>[xi]</sup>. Recent research also highlights the link between parental domestic abuse and exploitation (including sexual, criminal and for the purposes of violent extremism)<sup>[xii]</sup>.
- The impact of 'witnessing' domestic abuse on children<sup>[xiii]</sup> has been linked to:
  - direct physical harm,
  - greater behavioural and emotional problems, neurological differences<sup>[xiv]</sup>, more disordered attachments<sup>[xv]</sup> and learning problems<sup>[xvi]</sup>;
  - risk of poor mental health, school absence and additional academic support needs, youth offending, criminality and addiction issues<sup>[xvii]</sup>.
- More recent research highlights similar impacts from non-physical forms of domestic abuse on children, and there is an increasing professional recognition of the ongoing, cumulative impact of coercive control

### Impact on communities

- Housing e.g. possible increase in the number of rent arrears, vacant properties, pressure on local housing authorities for re-housing
- Increase in homelessness e.g. increase in homelessness applications, more rough sleepers and people seeking emergency accommodation
- Poor mental & physical health may contribute to a community's poor health status
- Education e.g. underachievement, absenteeism
- Safety of women and children e.g. at work, at school, in public & at contact centres
- Neighbourhoods e.g. sights and sounds, resident turnover, poverty, breaking up of extended family and/or community groups
- Anti-social behaviour e.g. criminal damage, substance misuse, violent crime, increase in children and young people loitering, at risk of exploitation
- Local business and employment e.g. unemployment, high job turnover, absenteeism, anti-social behaviour such as vandalism and theft
- Increased pressure on local agencies for support such as Criminal justice, social care, Housing, Health and the Voluntary Sector

## SHARED VISION FOR KIRKLEES

Our vision for Kirklees is to have a range of services that are accessible and available to anyone who may need them, working together around individuals, families and communities to prevent, respond to and repair the damage caused by domestic abuse.

### STRATEGIC AIMS

Our local Domestic Abuse Partnership, which includes voluntary and community services, local council services, health organisations, education settings, housing providers and agencies from the Criminal Justice System, will coordinate the broadest possible response to domestic abuse – from prevention and early intervention to dealing with crisis and long-term recovery and safety, working to keep survivors and their families safe and challenge abusers to change their behaviour.

#### RESPONDING TO VOICES OF LIVED EXPERIENCE:

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The Partnership will provide a range of opportunities for people with lived experience to share their stories with us, and develop a feedback loop so that victims and survivors can be informed about what services have done in response.

Victims, survivors and others with lived experience of domestic abuse are our most valuable source of information and insight to the support people need to help them recover from abuse.

Recognising that speaking about personal experiences of abuse can be traumatic, we will invite victims and survivors to participate in our collective response to domestic abuse in a way that feels right for them.

We will also seek feedback from perpetrators of domestic abuse, including those who have successfully completed programmes to change their behaviour, about the attitudes and personal experiences that may underpin their abusive behaviour, and what has helped them to change their behaviour.

We know that many of our employees have lived experience of domestic abuse, as do many people who live in our communities. Whether or not individuals wish to share their personal experiences with us, we know that their lived experience of domestic abuse will shape their interactions with our services. We also recognise that people are not single issues, and that everyone has unique experiences, so hearing a diversity of voices will provide the best opportunity for us to engage people in the support they need to recover from abuse.

#### INTELLIGENCE:

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The Partnership will continue to build a robust evidence base to inform decision making.

We use a range of mechanisms to gather evidence and intelligence about our communities, our services, and what works in other areas that may usefully be applied in Kirklees. These mechanisms include data, domestic homicide reviews and other multi-agency case reviews, multi-agency audits and research from local, regional, national and international sources.

Using intelligence from a variety of sources, in addition to the stories of local victims and survivors, we have a variety of evidence to guide how we allocate resources.

Drawing intelligence from a variety of sources helps us to understand:

- the prevalence of domestic abuse in our communities;
- how our various geographical communities and/or communities of identity report their experiences of domestic abuse;
- the needs of victims and survivors (including children) and issues that perpetrators may need support with; and
- the impact of domestic abuse on local services, and how successful local services are in engaging people affected by domestic abuse in support.

### SUPPORTING OUR WORKFORCE:

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The Partnership will provide a range of opportunities for learning, development and support to establish a workforce with the skills, knowledge, and systems needed to respond effectively to domestic abuse.

Through our Partnership and ongoing work with communities, we have a significant workforce committed to supporting people affected by domestic abuse.

Our Partner organisations have their own workforce development commitments that support their employees to develop the skills, knowledge and experience they need to excel in their roles. Many partners also have their own policies for supporting staff that may be experiencing domestic abuse and provide pastoral care for staff that may have experienced trauma.

As a Domestic Abuse Partnership, are committed to providing a range of opportunities for learning, including skills-based training, regular briefings and knowledge exchange, and work with all partners to provide support for staff that are affected by domestic abuse, whether through personal experience or the impact of supporting people in the community.

### SPECIALIST SERVICES:

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The Partnership will support specialist services to be innovative, adequately resourced and embedded across the local community.

Kirklees benefits from well-established and experienced specialist services for victims/survivors and perpetrators, including adults, children, and young people. The Partnership will continue to support specialist services to work together around individuals and whole families, recognising the whole of their experiences, responding in a non-judgemental and trauma informed way, and be accessible and available to anyone who might need them.

Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership provides refuges, a crisis intervention service and community-based services. This benefits victims and survivors through not requiring them to move between services according to risk.

WomenCentre has expertise in responding to the needs of women facing multiple disadvantage, including mental health needs.

Yorkshire Children's Centre delivers behaviour change perpetrator programmes, supporting the to respond safely and appropriately to those who harm.

Connect Housing provide a refuge and dispersed accommodation, forming an important part of the partnership response.

There are domestic abuse specialists providing a response from within a range of settings, including Children's Social Care, Adult Social Care and health settings, as well as community engagements specialists located within the Council's Domestic Abuse Team.

## WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES:

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The Partnership will support communities of geography, identity, online spaces and businesses/employers to understand the risks posed by those who abuse and their role in protecting the safety and wellbeing of those at risk.

Many people who experience domestic abuse may turn to their families, friends and wider community for support before they approach local services. Some people in our communities, in turn, may feel ill-equipped to support victims and survivors to achieve safety and wellbeing, and to help perpetrators access support to change their behaviour.

We will also continue to work with local community leaders and representatives to understand the local picture of domestic abuse, barriers to accessing services and what more is needed to keep victims, survivors and their families safe and hold abusers to account for their behaviour.

## PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENT

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All partners are committed to working internally and in partnership to respond to domestic abuse.

Our Partnership recognises that no one agency can effectively deal with domestic abuse on its own; it requires a coordinated effort by all agencies in our local community. Many of our Partnership agencies are not domestic abuse specific and provide services that need to be accessible for and responsive to whole communities. To help us work together to make victims, survivors and their children safe, and hold perpetrators to account, partner agencies have agreed to:

- Collate and share feedback from local people about their experiences of domestic abuse and local services;
- Provide domestic abuse training to support our employees to respond appropriately to people who report domestic abuse, including arrangements for routine and/or targeted enquiry as appropriate;
- Implement a domestic abuse policy and procedure/guidance for employees that explains how staff will respond to people who report domestic abuse;
- Implement a domestic abuse policy and procedure/guidance for how the organisation will respond to employees who are victims/survivors, or perpetrators, of domestic abuse;
- Gather and collate appropriate data that can be shared with the Partnership to highlight the demand For the Domestic Abuse Partnership; and
- provide appropriate resources to enable services to be commissioned, training to be delivered and multi-agency working arrangements to operate effectively.

## PRINCIPLES THAT UNDERPIN OUR WORK

In developing this strategy we have drawn on the expertise of two nationally recognised frameworks for responding to domestic abuse: the Whole Picture Approach championed by SafeLives; and the Coordinated Community Response pioneered by Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse.

Our approach to domestic abuse is simple:

Our whole system, including the third sector, health organisations, housing providers, social care and the Criminal Justice System, works in a consistent and coordinated way to:

- See and respond to the whole person, whether that be victims and survivors (including children), perpetrators or others affected by domestic abuse
- Work with the whole family to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and build resilience
- Work with the whole community to minimise the harm caused by perpetrators and support victims and survivors to live the lives they want; and
- Influence the whole society through the media, politicians, employers, key opinion formers and commentators by challenging victim blaming and damaging gender stereotypes.

## WORKING WITH THE WHOLE PERSON

We recognise that people are not single issues and our services aim to respond to the whole person. In this context, the complexity of domestic abuse, and how it links to other adverse experiences, are explored and understood.

Harmful behaviour is addressed by proactively identifying all motivating factors and consequences (such as different types of violence and abuse and other criminality); and the services offered to people proactively check that all risks have been addressed, not just the initial presenting issue.

## INTERSECTIONALITY

Our services aim to be responsive to minoritized protected characteristics, taking account of intersecting inequalities and factors that impact on a person's experience of abuse and access to support services.

Taking an intersectional approach allows us to recognise that a person's identities and social positions are uniquely shaped by several factors simultaneously, which could include among others, race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender identity, disability, age, class, immigration status, caste, nationality and faith.

## RECOGNISING THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA

The Domestic Abuse Partnership is part of a broader partnership committed to working from a 'trauma-informed' perspective – understanding the impact of trauma on those needing support; how people who have experienced trauma may present to services; and how services can respond appropriately and effectively, with compassion and empathy, building collaborative relationships between professionals and people accessing services.

## WORKING WITH WHOLE FAMILIES

Kirklees is committed to a Whole Family Approach that improves a family's resilience and outcomes or reduces the chance of a problem getting worse. In the context of domestic abuse, a Whole Family Approach works with families to strengthen protective factors for those at risk of abusing or being abused; appropriately assess the risk that perpetrators pose to all family members; and to enhance the safety and wellbeing of victims, survivors, children and perpetrators.

Kirklees is working with [Safe and Together](#) to improve the way we engage with families affected by domestic abuse. By working with adults and children harmed by a perpetrator's behaviours, and recognising the efforts that non-abusing parents are already making to keep themselves and their children safe, we hope to encourage more families to engage with support and be open about their daily lived experiences. Through this approach we also seek to encourage consistent, positive and meaningful change in perpetrators, given their ongoing role as parents.

## WORKING WITH WHOLE COMMUNITIES

Kirklees recognises the unique identities of local places, their strengths and aspirations. Across the district, our Partners have established a variety of arrangements to respond to local communities, including Place Partnerships, Primary Care Networks and Local Neighbourhood Policing teams.

These arrangements have been established to tailor services to respond to the needs of local populations, recognising that our communities are best placed to know their own strengths and challenges. By bringing local services closer to people and putting communities and their representatives at the heart of our response, we aim to achieve the best outcomes for individuals and communities in a way that is appropriate for them.

## INFLUENCE THE WHOLE SOCIETY

The Domestic Abuse Partnership is well connected to local, regional and national networks that can shape opinions and drive change on issues of national significance, including the types of services that are available, how they can be more accessible to a broader range of people and what arrangements we have in place for commissioning. Domestic abuse is a key priority for the Kirklees Communities Board and linked to ongoing work in the Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and Safeguarding Children Partnership. The Partnership is also linked in with:

- West Yorkshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Board
- West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership
- Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse
- Safe Lives
- Women's Aid Federation
- Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance
- Safe and Together
- For Baby's Sake

## RECOGNISING DOMESTIC ABUSE AS A FORM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Anyone can be a perpetrator or victim of domestic abuse, from every possible segment of society.

Traditional approaches to domestic abuse, which either frame domestic abuse as a form of violence against women and girls, or try to remain gender neutral, may not adequately recognise the experiences of our lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans communities.

In domestic abuse situations, women are more likely to be victims and men perpetrators. This is represented within British Crime Survey findings<sup>1</sup>, Domestic Homicide Reviews<sup>2</sup> and throughout academic research<sup>3</sup>. Women are more likely to be victims of repeated patterns of controlling and coercive control, experience higher levels of fear and are significantly more likely to be killed by their partners or former partners than men.<sup>4</sup> The domestic abuse women face is more frequent, more extensive, and tied to broader social and structural barriers.

The Domestic Abuse Partnership recognises domestic abuse as a form of violence against women and girls, that is, ‘violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately’<sup>5</sup>. The focus on violence against women and girls does not detract from abuse that men also face, whether from other men or from women, or exclude from this dialogue and model other forms of abuse such as abuse in wider family contexts, and child to parent abuse.

We also recognise that lesbian women, gay men and bisexual people experience similar or higher levels of domestic abuse when compared with heterosexual women; and that prevalence rates of domestic abuse may be higher for transgender people than any other section of the population<sup>6</sup>. Research also suggests that men and women with physical impairments are at much higher risk of domestic abuse<sup>7</sup>.

Kirklees Partnership therefore commits to taking a differentiated approach to domestic abuse that recognises the different experiences of victims/survivors according to their gender, race/ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation, including where these characteristics intersect; and recognising that these are not homogenous groups. A ‘one size fits all’ approach is not appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> [ONS, Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales: year ending March 2019](#)

<sup>2</sup> Bear Montique, Standing Together, [London Domestic Homicide Review \(DHR\) Case Analysis and Review of Local Authorities DHR Process](#)

<sup>3</sup> Walby, S and Towers, J, Untangling the concept of coercive control: Theorizing domestic violent crime, 2018

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/successful\\_commissioning\\_guide.pdf](https://www.womensaid.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/successful_commissioning_guide.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> CEDAW 1992

<sup>6</sup> [LGBT-Commissioning-Guidance-final-2.pdf \(galop.org.uk\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> Drill Toolkit: Tackling Violence Against Disabled Women and Girls. <https://avaproject.org.uk/types/policy/>



## OUTCOMES

Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership uses the [Outcomes Star](#) to measure how people in our communities are affected by the work our local services do. The Outcomes Star provides an effective way of putting our person-centred, strengths-based and co-production approaches into practice:

- Taking a person-centred approach, the Star is designed to be used in partnership with service users, informed by their perspectives and priorities;
- As a strengths-based framework, the Outcome Star includes a holistic assessment that focuses on aspects of life that are going well in addition to areas of difficulty; and
- As a form of co-production, the service user is seen as an active agent in their own life and a valuable source of expertise and knowledge rather than a passive recipient of services delivered by a professional.

Outcomes Stars are designed to demonstrate the impact of frontline services and provide data to offer insight into what services are achieving, early warning signs when services are under pressure and highlights good practice that may be replicated elsewhere.

The Stars that are most relevant to our work include:

- Change Star for perpetrators
- Empowerment for victims and survivors:
- My Star for children and young people

## STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

Over the course of this Strategy, the Partnership will be working towards creating a sustainable system to coordinate the broadest possible response to domestic abuse – from prevention and early intervention to dealing with crisis and long-term recovery and safety, working to keep survivors and their families safe and challenge abusers to change their behaviour.

To measure our progress, the Partnership will review and continuously improve the:

- range of quality interventions that are available to support:
  - victims and survivors of domestic abuse (including children) to be safe and well;
  - perpetrators of domestic abuse to change their behaviour;
  - early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse;
- sustainability of services to support victims, survivors and perpetrators, facilitating sufficient resources to meet demand;
- accessibility of services, so victims, survivors and perpetrators with a range of needs and protected characteristics can engage with the support they need;
- effectiveness of local multi-agency working arrangements; and awareness of local services, so people living and working in our communities know where to access support.

## PRIORITY ONE: WHOLE FAMILY APPROACH TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

Our Domestic Abuse Strategy reflects the Early Help vision for working with the whole family (provided as Annexe C):

### SCOPE

The Partnership has identified four strands to supporting whole families where there is a perpetrator of domestic abuse:

- Supporting children and young people that have been affected by parental domestic abuse;
- Supporting young people that are victims or survivors of domestic abuse in their own relationships;
- Supporting young people that perpetrate abuse against other people, whether in intimate partner relationships or against family members; and
- Direct, preventative work with children and young people to support the development of healthy relationships.

### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Increase the range of effective interventions to support children and young people affected by parental domestic abuse; that are victims or survivors of domestic abuse in their own relationships; that perpetrate abuse against other people, whether in intimate partner relationships or against family members; and that is being done on a more preventative level to support the development of healthy relationships.
- support the workforce, through training and other development opportunities, to identify, assess the needs of and respond appropriately to children and young people affected by domestic abuse;
- identify emerging programmes from other areas that have led to good outcomes for children and young people affected by domestic abuse; and
- develop community engagement activities that support children and young people to access the support they need.

## PRIORITY TWO: SUPPORTING PERPETRATORS TO CHANGE BEHAVIOUR

Learning from national initiatives like the [Drive project](#), which advocates for changes so that perpetrators posing all levels of risk can no longer get away with abusive behaviour and can access the help they need to stop, the Domestic Abuse Partnership is committing to increasing the support available to support perpetrators to change their behaviour. This support will sit alongside comprehensive services for all victims and survivors.

### SCOPE

Our work with perpetrators will focus initially on perpetrators of domestic abuse that have come forward seeking help; or been identified by professionals as needing some support. We will consider perpetrators posing all levels of risk.

This work will link closely with the following identified priorities:

- Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse – who will lead on early intervention and prevention work with young people;
- Multi-Agency Working Arrangements – who will consider the approach taken in some other areas to establish multi-agency working arrangements specifically targeting perpetrator interventions.

### KEY ACTIVITIES

The Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership will establish a working group to:

- increase the range of effective interventions to support perpetrators to change their behaviour;
- improve access for this group to existing services that may meet their needs, including mental health and wellbeing;
- support the workforce, through training and other development opportunities, to engage with perpetrators and provide constructive challenge to their abusive behaviour;
- identify emerging programmes from other areas that have led to good outcomes in a broader range of relationships and across different demographics;
- consider opportunities for co-production of interventions, particularly for lower risk level interventions; and
- develop community engagement activities that support perpetrators to access the support they need.

## PRIORITY THREE: PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE TO VICTIMS WITH MULTIPLE NEEDS AND/OR PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Many people experiencing domestic abuse have a wide range of other support needs, some of which will be as a result of the abuse they have experienced, or exacerbated by the abuse.

Research indicates that some victims may be less recognisable when they approach services for support, particularly those with high levels of need related to mental health, substance misuse, engagement in criminal activity and/or known for perpetrating violence and abuse against others.<sup>8</sup> Similarly, services face barriers in identifying and responding appropriately to some victims and survivors in our communities<sup>9</sup>, particularly those with protected characteristics.

### SCOPE

As a Partnership we want to respond to the interconnected experiences victims and survivors face when experiencing violence and abuse in addition to:

- mental health problems;
- problematic substance use;
- offending behaviour;
- insecure housing;
- destitution;
- disability, learning difficulty and health needs; and
- insecure immigration status.

Given the intersections between these experiences and protected characteristics, the Partnership will consider these together in consideration of the whole person.

This work will link closely with the following identified priorities:

- Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing; and
- Multi-Agency Working Arrangements.

### KEY ACTIVITIES

The Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership will establish a working group to:

- increase the range of effective interventions to support victims and survivors with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics;
- improve access for this group to existing services that may meet their needs, including mental health and wellbeing;
- support the workforce to identify, assess the needs of and respond appropriately to victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics;
- identify emerging programmes from other areas that have led to good outcomes in addressing multiple needs and across different demographics;
- consider opportunities for co-production of services; and
- develop community engagement activities that support victims and survivors with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics to access the support they need.

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<sup>8</sup> [Cry for Health full report.pdf\(safelives.org.uk\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> Helpfully brought to light by organisations such as IMKAAN and Mankind

## PRIORITY FOUR: SUPPORTING VICTIMS TO MAINTAIN OR ACCESS SAFE AND STABLE HOUSING

Home can be the most dangerous place for victims and survivors of domestic abuse. There are concerted efforts in both our housing and domestic sectors to support victims and survivors to access safe and stable housing, but these efforts could be better connected to address the range of housing needs for those experiencing domestic abuse, regardless of their tenure type, to achieve stable housing, live safely and overcome their experiences of abuse, including where perpetrators can be responded to and held accountable to improve victim/survivor safety.

### SCOPE

In addressing the housing needs of all victims and survivors of domestic abuse, we will work towards the [Whole Housing Approach](#) which considers all tenure types (social, private rented and private ownership) and temporary accommodation settings (refuge services, supported accommodation) alongside housing options and support initiatives needed to help people experiencing domestic abuse to either maintain or access safe and stable housing. This priority also incorporates our statutory duty to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation.

This priority connects with all other priorities, as insecure or unsafe accommodation can be a barrier to accessing support for victims and survivors, including children, and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

### KEY ACTIVITIES

The Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership will establish a working group to:

- map the available support for victims and survivors across housing and domestic abuse services, and consider ways to improve access for this group to existing services that may meet their needs;
- support the workforce, through training and other development opportunities, to identify, assess the needs of and respond appropriately to victims and survivors;
- identify emerging programmes from other areas that have led to good outcomes in addressing multiple needs and across different demographics; and
- develop community engagement activities that support victims and survivors with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics to access the support they need.

## PRIORITY FIVE: MULTI-AGENCY WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

The Domestic Abuse Partnership has developed a number of processes to support professionals from different agencies to share information, assess risk and increase safety for victims and survivors (including children).

### SCOPE

Our Multi-Agency Working Arrangements incorporate all partnership arrangements to respond to domestic abuse, including our Daily Risk Assessment Management Meeting, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences, Standards Screening and Operation Encompass notification process.

Activities will link closely with all other identified priority areas to ensure that our multi-agency working arrangements:

- Support perpetrators to change their behaviour;
- Respond appropriately to victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics;
- Support whole families affected by domestic abuse; and
- Support victims to maintain or access safe and suitable housing.

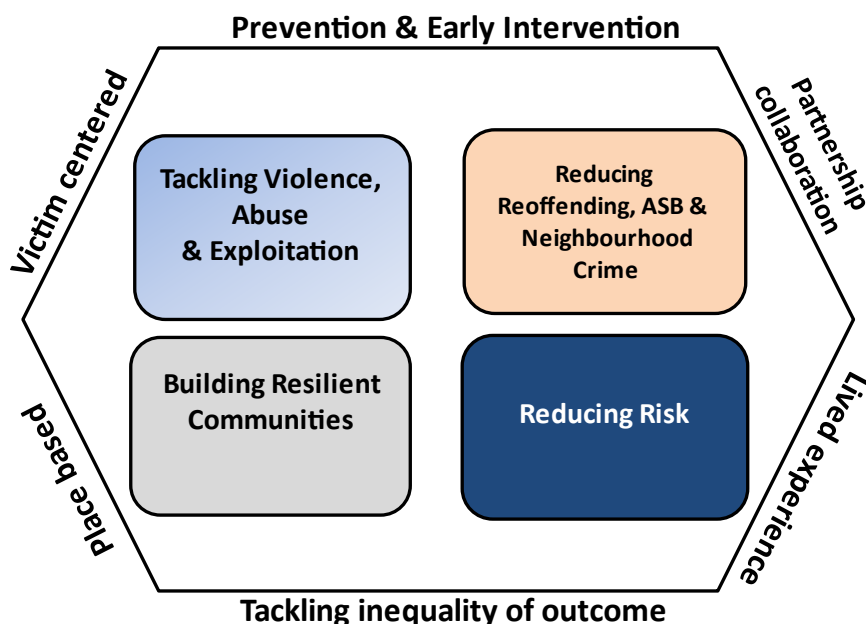
### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Implementing new systems to provide better data and more streamlined information sharing between partners;
- Supporting partners to provide adequate resources to participate in multi-agency processes;
- Develop a process to conduct multi-agency audits of cases that are discussed through the Daily Risk Assessment Management Meetings and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences to consider practice issues and explore themes identified by the Partnership;
- Develop a process to conduct multi-agency case reviews in a variety of contexts, such as suicides or sudden unexplained deaths that feature a history of domestic abuse; near misses; and/or case examples of good practice; and
- Establish mechanisms for continuous improvement of our multi-agency arrangements through responding to learning that emerges from feedback from people with lived experience, partnership feedback, data and learning from case reviews and audit.

### DOMESTIC ABUSE AS A PRIORITY FOR THE KIRKLEES COMMUNITIES BOARD

Further detail to be provided in this section as the Communities Plan is drafted.

#### PROPOSED STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2022-2025



The Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership is an umbrella term for all multi-agency partnership groups that work together to have a range of services that are accessible and available to anyone who may need them, working together around individuals, families and communities to prevent, respond to and repair the damage caused by domestic abuse.

The Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership incorporates the:

- Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership, which drives progress against this strategy;
- A commissioning group, which meets twice a year to discuss budget priorities and commissioning arrangements;
- Priority Working Groups:
  - Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse
  - Supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour
  - Partnership response to victims with multiple needs
  - Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing
  - Multi-Agency Safety Planning Arrangements

- Domestic Abuse Network, which encourages practitioners working at an operational level to meet and discuss practice, trends, and changes
- Specialist services operational group, led by the voluntary sector: to enable a safe space for discussing service provision and provide a collective voice at the DASP.

Each partnership group has distinct terms of reference with clearly articulated reporting arrangements.

## COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS

A specific commissioning group will be established to develop pooled budgets and determine priorities for resource allocation. This group will also explore opportunities to support the development of coproduced services.

This group will ensure that all commissioned services are working towards consistent outcomes and meet standards established by sector specialist (including Safelives and WomensAid) and refer to specialist commissioning advice produced by organisations representing victims and survivors with protected characteristics (such as GALOP).

## MONITORING PERFORMANCE

The Partnership will establish arrangements to monitor progress against this strategy through a combination of:

- Monitoring outcomes in commissioned services;
- Data from a variety of partnership sources, including police, provider services, social care and housing; and
- Feedback from people with lived experience, community representatives and staff.

It is envisaged that the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership will monitor performance on a quarterly basis and publish an annual summary, providing an opportunity to refresh the priorities identified in this strategy to respond to emerging themes.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

### DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS

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The Domestic Abuse Partnership will disseminate the learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews as widely as possible through a combination of training, briefing notes and participation in regional events. The Partnership is also committed to learning activities 12 months after the publication of Domestic Homicide Review reports to consider how the learning has changed practice across the Partnership.

### MULTI-AGENCY CASE REVIEW AND AUDIT

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This Strategy has identified activities for the Multi-Agency Working Arrangements Group to explore options for conducting multi-agency case reviews and audits. The Partnership will disseminate the learning from these processes as widely as possible and reflect the findings of these activities in training and development activity.



## ANNEXE A: ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER THE 2019-2021 STRATEGY

The Kirklees vision for the 2019-2021 Domestic Abuse Strategy was: 'For everyone to understand their responsibility and contribute to tackling domestic abuse in Kirklees.'

This gave us the impetus to work far more with our communities, elected members, schools, health providers, businesses and voluntary sector services to raise awareness of domestic abuse, increase confidence for people to report domestic abuse to local services and to instil confidence in our workforce to respond when a report is made. Our work with community leaders, voluntary sector services and local partners showed that local people wanted to strengthen our support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse, so this has also been a focus of our ongoing work in 2019-2021. Further details are provided in the sections below.

It is also important to note that, during the 2019-2021 Strategy, there were a number of opportunities and challenges to deliver the work that we set out to achieve in 2019. Specifically:

- Record levels of investment in domestic abuse services and our partnership response;
- The introduction of a statutory duty to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation (with supporting funding); and
- The impact of Covid-19 and associated restrictions.

### INVESTMENT ACROSS THE PARTNERSHIP

#### 2019

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- Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership secured funding for commissioning an Independent Domestic Abuse Adviser service.
- Kirklees Place Partnerships identified domestic abuse as a key priority and allocated £400,000 to tackle domestic abuse.
- Through funding available through the (then) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, West Yorkshire secured funding for advanced practitioners to be based within refuge.

#### 2020

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- Additional resources were provided to the Independent Domestic Abuse Adviser service to support the increasingly complexity of cases being managed by the services as a result of Covid-19 and associated restrictions.
- Local providers were able to access resources to support their transition to Covid Safe services

#### 2021

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- The (then) Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government allocated £918,922 to support Kirklees to meet new statutory obligations to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation.

- Through funding available through the Department for Justice:
  - Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership successfully secured funding for two additional Independent Domestic Abuse Advisers to work specifically with children and young people and male victims
  - Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Trust secured funding to recruit an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Through funding available through the Home Office:
  - Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme secured funding to deliver the Recognise, Reflect and Change programme for medium risk perpetrators of domestic abuse
  - Kirklees Council secured funding to deliver a perpetrator intervention for fathers.

## WIDENING THE RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

Our Whole Picture Approach provides for a wider response to domestic abuse, encouraging geographical communities, online spaces and employers/businesses to recognise domestic abuse, the risks posed by those who abuse and the role of local communities in protecting people at risk of harm.

In Kirklees, this approach provided an opportunity to work far more with our communities, elected members, schools, health providers, businesses and voluntary sector services to raise awareness of domestic abuse, increase confidence for people to report and instil confidence in our local workforce to respond when a disclosure may be made.

The Place Partnership investment in tackling domestic abuse enabled Kirklees to employ staff that could work alongside local communities to reduce barriers to engaging in existing support and to develop innovative new ways of supporting victims, survivors and their children to keep safe and recover from abuse; and hold perpetrators to account for the harm they cause. These staff started their roles in October 2021 and their work will be instrumental in driving the work of the 2022-2027 Domestic Abuse Strategy forward.

## SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE, AND THEIR CHILDREN, IN SAFE ACCOMMODATION

In 2021 the Domestic Abuse Act introduced a new statutory duty for local authorities to establish arrangements to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation. Funding was provided by the (then) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to support local areas to implement the new duty. Key programmes funded through this investment are summarised below.

## WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT

The investment of funding to support the new duty provided an opportunity to strengthen our provision of services and support for children and young people affected by domestic abuse, specifically children and young people workers based within refuge; targeted family support for families recovering from domestic abuse; and commissioning a new therapeutic support service for children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

## SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

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The investment of funding by the (then) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government provided an opportunity to strengthen our provision of services and support for victims and survivors with complex needs, specifically:

- Advanced practitioner roles based within refuge (12 months funding 2019-2020);
- Complex needs workers based within refuge (2021 onwards);

## SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS DURING COVID

From the start of restrictions introduced as a result of Covid-19, the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership recognised that the circumstances created by lockdown would present unique challenges, and potentially increase risks for those experiencing domestic abuse. The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership responded quickly, coordinating the following actions in response to the national restrictions:

- Providing regular supplies of PPE and supporting refuge and accommodation-based services to operate safely and in line with social distancing requirements
- Making arrangements for staff (including those in provider services) to have the technology and support to be able to work from home to continue to provide virtual support and risk management for victims and families
- The Domestic Abuse Workers within Adults and Children's Social Care were supported to do crisis face to face work safely (such as meet in a socially distanced way to be able to physically check immigration documents or provide food parcels)
- The fortnightly Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference meetings for assessing risk and safety planning high risk cases of domestic abuse was moved to a virtual meeting
- The Daily Risk Assessment Management Meeting continued as a virtual meeting that could be accessed online
- Data on domestic abuse reports and the engagement with local services was monitored on a weekly basis, enabling the Partnership to monitor the impact of Covid-19 on our communities and local services
- All partners heavily promoted local services available, as well as rolling out the national campaign messages
- Frequent meetings were held regionally and through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's office to ensure that any risks around volume or service delivery could be acted on. Kirklees also linked in with the Local Government Association and the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's office to ensure any national best practice could be considered
- Specific Covid-19/Domestic Abuse training was rolled out across the Partnership, with a focus on the Community Response Teams, within Health settings and across testing and vaccination sites.
- A specific campaign targeting the risk of domestic abuse amongst our older population was rolled out in June 2021, to coincide with the International Day for Elder Abuse and the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. The campaign was supported by information and training to a range of settings, including health settings, charity shops, faith institutions and cafes.

## MONITORING

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From the introduction of lockdown restrictions week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, weekly monitoring was set up from a range of sources to enable analysis to take place and identify any trends or key areas of concern. The data suggested that referrals across the partnership remained stable over the lockdown period, with only a 4% increase on police call outs over a 12 month period. As there is usually a gradual year on year increase reported, this could not be directly attributed to Covid-19. The most significant increase was in with Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership's Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor Service, who had to hold cases for longer than normal due to their complexity and delays within the criminal justice system. The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership agreed to fund additional staffing to address the increased pressure on the service.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

During 2019-2020, the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership delivered a range of multi-agency training on domestic abuse, coercive controlling behaviour, the impact on children and our local multi-agency risk assessment processes. As classroom based courses, many were ceased as Covid-19 restrictions were introduced, and there was a shift in emphasis to provide domestic abuse awareness training to our community response teams.

In 2021 the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership introduce the Safe and Together approach to engaging with families affected by domestic abuse in Kirklees. Safe and Together provides skills-based training and tools for practitioners working with families to increase accountability for perpetrators as parents, reduce victim-blaming and ultimately improve outcomes for children and families.

Safe and Together Core Training was delivered to 40 professionals across the partnership, including children's social care and early help services; health services; and in the voluntary sector. An overview day was also delivered to an audience of 64 people across the Partnership.

## ANNEXE B: DOMESTIC ABUSE IN KIRKLEES

### ***National, Regional and Local Prevalence***

The main sources for accessing national prevalence data about domestic abuse are the Office for National Statistics (ONS); and the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW).

#### **For the year ending March 2021, figures show that:**

The Police recorded a total of **845,734** domestic abuse-related crimes nationally, which is an increase of **6%** from the previous year (ONS).

Nationally, domestic abuse related crimes make up **18%** of all recorded crimes.

In West Yorkshire domestic abuse related crimes make up **21%** of all recorded crimes. West Yorkshire Police statistics show an increase of **2%** in 2020/21 to **53,508** domestic abuse related crimes.

In terms of outcomes as a result of reporting of incidents of domestic abuse to West Yorkshire Police it is noted that for the period April 2020 to November 2021 across West Yorkshire there were:

**58.6%** Victim Declines/Withdraws Support

**29%** Evidential Difficulties (Police)

**4.1%** Charged

**3.5%** Evidential Difficulties (Crown Prosecution Service)

Furthermore, there was an attrition rate regionally of **23.6%** (Kirklees rate is **21.2%**). The reasons for the attrition were attributable to:

Victim fails to attend in **60.8%**

Acquittal after trial **12.1%**

Victim refuses to give evidence or retracts **6.5%**

Administration finalised **4.8%**

Undermining evidence received or evidence ruled inadmissible **3.9%**

### ***Priority One: Supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour***

In order for the partnership to support as many perpetrators as possible it is important to understand who is likely to commit domestic abuse, challenges they face, and likelihood to accept support.

Between April 2019 and March 2021 **94** high / medium risk males attended the Domestic Abuse Prevention Programme (DAPP) sessions, which is available to male perpetrators.

Attendees are **60% White** and **40% BME** and likely to be aged **30 to 39**

Perpetrators, of victims supported with securing housing were likely to have mental health issues (**48%**), drug issues (**69%**), or alcohol issues (**69%**)

Of the reports made into the Police between January 2019 and October 2021 the perpetrators were more likely to be aged between **21 – 40 (48%)** and **male**.

### ***Priority Two: Partnership response to victims with multiple needs***

A **third** of victims supported with securing housing had **mental** and /or **physical** disabilities. Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership (**PDAP**) are commissioned to deliver the IDA Service in Kirklees. From January 2019 to October 2021, PDAP have summarised that:

**709** victims have accessed support.

**34%** of victims supported by PDAP have physical and or mental health disabilities.

**40%** of victims supported were in receipt of income support.

**KRASAC** offers support and advisory services for people, aged 13+, who have experienced rape, sexual and domestic abuse, at any time in their lives, living in Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield.

Between February 2019 to April 2021 **192** survivors of abuse through domestic violence accessed support.

Over **80%** of survivors have mental and/or physical disabilities.

### ***Priority Three: Whole Family Approach to domestic abuse***

“Living in a home where domestic abuse happens can have a serious impact on a child or young person's mental and physical wellbeing, as well as their behaviour. And this can last into adulthood.” - NSPCC

**23%** of referrals of children into Early Support have been impacted by domestic abuse.

**24%** of domestic abuse related incidents and crimes occurred when children were present.

**18%** of survivors engaging with RASAC present with current or historic cases of Child Sexual Abuse.

### ***Priority Four: Supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable housing***

During the period September 2019 to October 2021 **105** homes have been made more secure

PDAP provide refuge accommodation for women in need of emergency protection between January 2019 and October 2021, **1,031** referrals for emergency refuge accommodation were received.

### ***Priority Five: Multi-agency working arrangements***

Between Jan 2019 and October 2021 the Kirklees Daily Risk Assessment Management Meetings (DRAMM) dealt with **5,989** medium and high risk cases. Of these, 48% were considered high risk and referred to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). In cases referred to MARAC:

over **90%** were **female** and **31%** were **BME**

Less than **1%** of DRAMM and MARAC cases were LGBT+

**37%** of MARAC cases were repeats.

Date provided by Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership (who support victims through the criminal justice system)

**541** charges were made by the Police and **251** victims have been supported through the criminal justice process.

**56** perpetrators received custodial sentences and **79** restraining orders were granted.

Since 2019, Kirklees has been working towards the [Whole Picture Approach](#) championed by SafeLives, which recognises that domestic abuse is never all of someone's experiences or situation and sets out a framework for working with the whole person, the whole family, the whole community and whole society to end domestic abuse, for good. Through the Whole Picture Approach, the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership has attracted significant investment and commissioned a range of interventions to support our work across individuals, families and communities.

In 2021 the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership undertook a needs assessment to inform the development of our approach to meeting the new statutory obligations to support victims of domestic abuse, and their children, in safe accommodation. The needs assessment, which included feedback from victims and survivors, indicated that our Partnership continues to face barriers with working together to engage some victims and survivors in support.

The Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership agreed that the 2019-2021 strategy provides a good framework as it has resources around victim, family and the community and that the Partnership would not want to move away from this approach. However, it needs to also include the system as a whole and how it is able to respond as a partnership to aid victims to navigate their way through the various agencies that they need to contact for support regarding domestic abuse. With this in mind, Kirklees commissioned Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse, who have pioneered the [Coordinated Community Response](#) to support organisations to work in partnership in identifying and responding effectively to domestic abuse. These agencies include the police, criminal justice partners, housing associations, local authorities, social services, healthcare workers, faith communities and charities.

Standing Together supported Kirklees by:

- Mapping provision and responses across the partnership: specialist domestic abuse/violence against women & girls' services; non-specialist community/voluntary sector services working with people subject to/perpetrating abuse; statutory and universal services;
- Gathering information on delivery, partnership working, commissioning through surveys, meetings, and desktop review. Informed by the Coordinated Community Response (In Search of Excellence) and Whole Housing Approach;
- Gathering examples of 'what works' nationally and from research to inform views on current local provision and responses, and how gaps can be addressed;
- From information collected in mapping exercise and consultations, benchmark Kirklees against the Coordinated Community Response (In Search of Excellence) and the Whole Housing Approach; make recommendations;
- Conducted workshops with Strategic Leads to present findings, gain consensus, identify strategic priorities; and
- Supporting with the development of the new strategy, the Partnership structure for responding to domestic abuse and the vision that Kirklees Domestic Abuse Partnership could work towards for 2022-2027.

## ANNEXE D: KIRKLEES EARLY HELP VISION

1. I trust the professionals working with me and my family – they understand us better

2. We only tell our story once. I get offered help much earlier now and everyone works together. There is someone in my life listening to and caring for me and my family, and appreciating our strengths

3. I set the outcomes in my family plan with my lead worker. I know how to improve our lives, navigate the system and get support if there are problems. Improving outcomes make a difference to our lives

4. When things get tough, I know the relationships I have with my friends and community will help me

1. Local leaders trust each and share responsibility to improve all outcomes for the place and population across the life course, with evidence and quality assurance of collective impact

2. Trust is underpinned by governance with shared responsibilities, e.g. Combined Authority, Public Service Board, Alliances

3. Local coordination of the family support system ensures needs are met, often matchmaking between demand and local resources and assets

4. There is an ambitious strategy that is transforming the local families support system and reducing demand to acute services. Prevention focussed initiatives are coordinated and seen as interdependent, such as crime, serious violence, child poverty, obesity, integrated communities

Early Help is the total support that improves a family's resilience and outcomes or reduces the chance of a problem getting worse

FAMILIES

COMMUNITIES

Family Outcomes

LEADERS

WORKFORCE

1. In my community and networks, people know each other better and look out for how they can help

2. Our community and public services agreed to work together to promote and develop community resources, spaces and activity

3. There are local projects and groups in our neighbourhood connected to family support services. Businesses play an important role in the community

4. We help to design our local services. Any work with my community or family is done in partnership

1. There is a professional family support service. Whole family working is the norm for all people-facing public services through a shared practice model. And early help and family support is seen as everyone's responsibility

2. Public services work together in integrated hubs based in the community with a common footprint

3. Universal services such as schools and nurseries are supported to help local families and vulnerable people, with access to intelligence and common case management across the early help system

4. Data sharing across partners enables joint intelligence and risk-based analysis of families' needs, including finding and offering support to families with hidden needs





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**Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

**Date: 15 March 2022**

**Title of report: Appointment of Voluntary Scrutiny Co-optees**

**Purpose of report:** To ask the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) to formally appoint an additional number of voluntary co-optees so they are ready for allocation to scrutiny panels in the 2022/23 municipal year.

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 <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	N/A
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 portfolio	N/A

**Electoral wards affected: N/A**

**Ward councillors consulted: N/A**

**Public or private: Public**

**Has GDPR been considered? Yes.**

## **1. Summary**

**1.1** At the start of the municipal year 2021/22 there were a total of eight co-optees involved in scrutiny six of which are serving the final year of their appointed 4-year term.

**1.2** In light of the significant number of co-optees that will be stepping down at the end of the municipal year a recruitment campaign was launched in November 2021 aimed at attracting a new cohort of volunteers to work in scrutiny.

**1.3** The recruitment campaign attracted 15 applicants from which 10 applicants went forward to the appointment stage of the process. This included attendance at one of two workshop sessions that were held during February 2022 that included input from Cllr Liz Smaje, Cllr Andrew Marchington and an existing co-optee.

**1.4** All 10 applicants who attended a workshop session have been deemed suitable to be appointed as a voluntary scrutiny co-optee and OSMC is asked to appoint the following members of the public as co-optees:

- Helen Clay
- Jane Emery
- Oliver Gibson
- Garry Kitchin
- Jonathan Milner
- Ramzan Mohayuddin
- kristina Parkes
- James Ryan
- Graeme Sunderland
- Kim Taylor

**1.5** All of the appointments are subject to the signing of the code of conduct, completing an induction programme and a successful probationary period. Allocation to scrutiny panel's and potentially a co-optee pool will be considered at the start of the municipal year 2022/23.

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

As outlined in section 1.

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

Section 4 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules states that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will agree the appointment of non-voting co-optees for Committee or panels.

### **3.1 Working with People**

N/A

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

N/A

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

N/A

### **3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality**

N/A

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

N/A

- 3.6 Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**  
N/A
- 4 Consultees and their opinions**  
Cllrs Liz Smaje and Andrew Marchington have been involved in the recruitment process and have considered the suitability of applicants. They are recommending that the applicants are appointed as co-optees subject to the conditions outlined in section 1.5.
- 5 Next steps and timelines**  
Following the appointments applicants will be invited to participate in an induction programme that will include observing panel meetings and attending a workshop that will focus on working in a political environment. Support and training will be provided based on identified need.
- 6 Officer recommendations and reasons**  
That OSMC formally appoint the ten applicants set out in section 1.4 as new co-optees in preparation for allocation for involvement in scrutiny in the 2022/23 municipal year.
- 7 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**  
N/A
- 8 Contact officer:**  
Richard Dunne, Principal Governance Officer, Tel: 01484 221000  
Email: [richard.dunne@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:richard.dunne@kirklees.gov.uk)
- 9 Background Papers and History of Decisions**  
N/A
- 10 Service Director responsible**  
Julie Muscroft - Legal, Governance & Commissioning

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22**

**MEMBERS: Councillors; Elizabeth Smaje (Chair), Andrew Cooper, Andrew Marchington, Harpreet Uppal and Habiban Zaman**

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

<b>FULL PANEL DISCUSSION</b>		
<b>THEME / ISSUE</b>	<b>APPROACH / AREAS OF FOCUS</b>	<b>OUTCOMES / ACTIONS</b>
<b>1. Leader's Priorities 2021/22</b>	The Leader will attend to set out his portfolio priorities for 2021/22	<p><u>OSMC – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021</u></p> <p><u>3rd February 2022</u> Councillor Pandor was thanked for attending the meeting to discuss his portfolio priorities and it was noted that he would be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to provide an update.</p>
<b>2. West Yorkshire Combined Authority</b>	Links with the West Yorkshire Mayor and Combined Authority and relationship with Kirklees	<p>Informal meeting held with Chair of Scrutiny and WYCA Scrutiny Committee Members, October 2021 Next meeting scheduled for April 2022</p>
<b>3. Inclusion</b>	<p>Monitor work in relation to inclusion; including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inclusion and Diversity Strategy</li> <li>- Inclusion Commission</li> </ul>	<p><u>OSMC – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021</u></p> <p>The Committee recommended that the following points be considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Representation.</li> <li>2. The importance of independent voices and the engagement of expert knowledge and experience.</li> <li>3. The importance of hearing the voice and experience of children and young people.</li> <li>4. Influence and control.</li> </ol> <p>and requested a further update report later in 2021 to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. more detail in relation to the process for engagement; how this will work and encompass the whole of Kirklees.</li> <li>2. the life course strand of work.</li> </ol>

		Informal 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 (Cabinet 14/12/21)
<b>4. Inclusive Communities Framework</b>	<p>Early input to, and scrutiny of, the development of an Inclusive Communities Framework.</p> <p>The approach aims to build on the experiences of the pandemic and reflect the shift in thinking from cohesion to a broader inclusion agenda.</p>	<p>Informal February 2022</p> <p><u>OSMC – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021</u> Further reports to be submitted as the work progresses.</p>
<b>5. Our Council Plan</b>	<p>Pre-decision scrutiny in respect of the development of the latest version of the Council Plan.</p> <p>(Plan last approved by Council 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020)</p>	<p><u>OSMC – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Officers were asked to take account of the points made by Members of the Committee in working on the refresh of ‘Our Council Plan’ and it was requested that further information in respect of how the citizen’s outcome will be measured be provided, once the work had been further developed.</li> <li>- It was noted that the draft would be submitted to the Corporate Scrutiny Panel for consideration, prior to submission to Cabinet/Council for formal adoption.</li> </ul> <p>(Informal Corporate Scrutiny Panel – 27/9/21; Cabinet – 12/10/21; Council – 13/10/21)</p>
<b>6. Climate Commission/ District-Wide Net Zero Target</b>	<p>Monitor the development and establishment of the Climate Commission.</p> <p>The establishment of the Commission was agreed in November 2019, as one of a package of projects, further to the declaration of a climate emergency by the Council in January 2019.</p> <p>To include scrutiny of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council’s ‘road map’ to achieving district-wide ‘net zero’ carbon emissions target by 2038.</li> <li>• Annual internal emissions reporting.</li> </ul>	<p><u>OSMC - 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021</u> Chair to be updated re road map and AQAS report 2021; to facilitate further consideration as appropriate.</p> <p><u>OSMC - 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020</u> The Committee recommended that the following points be considered and used to inform the development of the Climate Change Commission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The need for the Commission to be progressed as soon as possible.</li> <li>2. The adoption of a wider global perspective of action on climate change.</li> </ol>



		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. The benefits of working with the Local Government Association.</li> <li>4. Recognition of the need to consider carbon capture/offset.</li> <li>5. The need for the Commission to be aware of, and take account of, the timescales associated with Council budget setting.</li> <li>6. The need for consideration of how the recommendations made by the Commission will feed into Council decision making and how they will be monitored.</li> <li>7. The importance of developing mechanisms to provide: effective feedback to the community/stakeholders on outcomes to ensure transparency and wider buy-in; and robust engagement particularly with young people and the voluntary sector.</li> <li>8. The potential for the use of Passivhaus standards, particularly for Council owned sites/projects.</li> <li>9. The potential for the development of a district heating system.</li> </ol> <p>and requested the submission of further progress reports on a regular basis, to include the proposed approach to achieving the 2038 net zero target</p>
<p><b>7. Peer Review</b></p>	<p>Monitor implementation of the recommendations of the LGA Peer Challenge undertaken in July 2019.</p> <p>Action Plan approved by Council January 2020</p>	<p><u>21<sup>st</sup> December 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agreed that future reporting against the 2019 Peer Challenge be incorporated within the reporting against the 2021/23 Council Plan, with an annual progress report being brought to OSMC for information, and that different elements be taken forward, as appropriate, by relevant Panels with the Chair of Scrutiny maintaining an overview.</li> <li>- Officers were requested to take account of the comments made by the Committee in moving forward with the work to respond to the key recommendations raised by 2019 Peer Challenge.</li> </ul>

<p><b>8. Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan (Crime and Disorder) and Domestic Abuse Strategy</b></p>	<p>Annual scrutiny of the Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan in accordance with statutory requirement under Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.</p> <p>Community Safety Partnerships have a duty to develop a strategic plan to address multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents including crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Pre-decision scrutiny of the refreshed Domestic Abuse Strategy</p>	<p><u>9<sup>th</sup> November 2021</u></p> <p>Officers were asked to take account of all the points made by the Committee, in the development of the Communities Partnership Plan 2022-25, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The importance of early intervention and prevention.</li> <li>- The visibility of partnership working and early intervention and prevention at ward level.</li> <li>- The need for improvements in the mechanisms to facilitate the involvement of Ward Councillors, to keep them informed and to engage them in respect of setting local priorities.</li> <li>- Improvement in tension monitoring documents and involvement of and feedback to Ward Councillors in respect of incidents of serious violence.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, it was requested that the results of the ‘Your Views’ survey be circulated to Elected Members and that the following further detail be provided to Committee Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Domestic abuse figures</li> <li>(ii) Underlying detail in respect of mortality related to alcohol and drugs</li> </ul> <p><u>15<sup>th</sup> March 2022</u></p>
<p><b>9. Corporate Safeguarding Policy</b></p>	<p>Pre-decision scrutiny in respect of the refresh of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy.</p> <p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work undertaken since inception of the policy (October 2019).</li> <li>• Proposals for the refresh.</li> <li>• Engagement with partners.</li> <li>• Legal requirements.</li> <li>• Governance arrangements/scrutiny.</li> </ul>	<p><u>3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The detailed and comprehensive policy and the adoption of a corporate approach was welcomed, and officers thanked for their work.</li> <li>• A further report was requested following the rollout of the refreshed policy, to include an update on how it has worked in practice, the outputs and feedback in respect of the training.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Local Flood Risk Management</b></p>	<p>Annual Review of the Council’s Flood Risk Management Plan including:</p>	<p><u>15<sup>th</sup> March 2022</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress against the Action Plan.</li> <li>• Revision of local strategy to ensure consistency with National Strategy (August 2020)</li> </ul>	<p><u>18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (Minute 125)</u> Officers were asked to give consideration to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision of an easily accessible supply of sandbags in particular localities, to reduce any delay in deployment to areas of need.</li> <li>• Improvements in preventative work.</li> <li>• Reviewing the Action Plan to assess if any improvements can be made to existing targets/timelines.</li> <li>• The development of an engagement strategy in relation to the review of the local flood risk strategy.</li> <li>• Ensuring that the local flood risk management strategy aligns with and links in with other Council strategy and planning documents.</li> </ul> <p><u>15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Min 130)</u> Update provided in relation to gully clearing.</p>
<p><b>11. Heritage, Culture and Tourism Strategies</b></p>	<p>Pre-decision scrutiny in respect of the development of the Heritage, Culture and Tourism Strategies</p>	<p><u>11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (Minute 116)</u> The Committee requested that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft documents for each strategy be submitted to the Committee for further consideration, in due course.</li> <li>• The Head of Culture and Tourism be asked to respond to, and engage with, the groups that made submissions to the Committee.</li> <li>• The points and suggestions raised by the Committee be given consideration and that they be used to inform the development of the Culture, Heritage and Tourism Strategies.</li> </ul> <p><u>18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (Min 120)</u> Update provided in respect of response to the groups who had made submissions.</p> <p><a href="#">LM Briefing 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022</a></p>

<b>12. Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel – Residential Housing Stock, Health and Safety Compliance</b>	<p>Establishment of Ad Hoc Panel to consider the Council’s policies, procedures and arrangements for managing the health and safety of its tenants and its residential property portfolio, with a particular focus on high rise and multiple occupancy blocks.</p> <p>The Panel will produce a Final Report including its recommendations upon completion of its work.</p>	<p><u>18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (Minute 127)</u>  ToR and membership agreed  <u>15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (Minute 12)</u>  Re-established for 2021/22</p>
<b>13. Overview of Scrutiny Work Programmes</b>	<p>Maintain an overview of the Work Programmes of the four Panels:  Children’s / Corporate / Economy and Neighbourhoods &amp; Health and Adult Social Care</p>	<p><u>3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021</u>  Work programmes agreed.</p>
<b>14. Armed Forces Covenant</b>	<p>Monitor the Council’s work in relation to the Armed Forces Covenant including the potential impact of new legislation (anticipated to come into force in 2022)</p>	<p><u>21<sup>st</sup> December 2021</u>  It was requested that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further information be provided for the Committee in respect of the development of the concept of Armed Forces Champions within services.</li> <li>• The Cabinet Member be requested to consider resourcing, particularly in light of the upcoming changes to legislation, to support and build on the work already undertaken in respect of the Armed Forces Covenant.</li> </ul>
<b>15. Voluntary and Community Sector – Shared Values and Ways of Working</b>	<p>Input to the development of a shared values approach with the Voluntary and Community Sector</p>	<p><u>9<sup>th</sup> November 2021</u>  Officers were asked to take account of the points raised by the Committee, in the development of the Kirklees Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Investment Strategy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reach across communities.</li> <li>• Better understanding of communities and covering all demographics.</li> <li>• Communication and engagement with Ward Councillors.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding about funding and how people can find out what available</li> <li>• Sustainability of the Strategy and actions.</li> </ul>
LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES		
THEME/ISSUE	APPROACH / AREAS OF FOCUS	LEAD OFFICER/NOTES
1. Social Inclusion/Loneliness	Develop scope for scrutiny work in relation to social isolation and loneliness, with specific reference to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic	Briefings: 26 <sup>th</sup> July, 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2022
2. Inclusion	Update on approach to inclusion	Briefings: 25 <sup>th</sup> October and 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
3. Democracy Commission	Update on work related to the Democracy Commission	Briefing: 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
4. Future Arrangements for the Council's Housing Stock	Monitor implementation of recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel in its Final Report (Cabinet 21 May 2020) <i>(Note: The separate Ad Hoc Panel in respect of health and safety compliance is to monitor progress in relation to the recommendation that an Assurance Board be established focussing on housing compliance.)</i>	Briefings: 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
5. Risk		Briefings held approximately every 6 to 8 weeks with the Council's Head of Risk
6. Performance Reporting		Briefing: 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
7. Place Based Working	Completion of Action Plan requested	OSMC 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
8. Planning Service		Briefings: 11 <sup>th</sup> August and 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2021
9. Grant Funding Distribution to Anchor Organisations	Update on contract	Briefing: 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 <a href="#">Provisional – Work Programme for 2022-23 (September)</a>
10. WYMCA - Scrutiny Function - Working with the CA	Meeting with Kirklees Members of WYMCA Scrutiny Committees	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2021  Briefings: 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2022, <a href="#">16<sup>th</sup> March</a> and <a href="#">25<sup>th</sup> March 2022</a>
11. Regeneration		Briefings: 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
12. Budget Engagement		Briefing: 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2021

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