

Public Document Pack

Kirklees Council



Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield

Tuesday 4 October 2022

Dear Member

The Council will meet on Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 5.30 pm at Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield.

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

The following matters will be debated:

Pages

1: Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive

To receive any announcements from the Mayor and Chief Executive.

2: Apologies for absence

Group Business Managers to submit any apologies for absence.

3: Minutes of Previous Meeting

To agree and authorise the Mayor to sign the Minutes of Council held on 7 September 2022.

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4: Declaration of Interests

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

5: Petitions (From Members of the Council)

To receive any Petitions from Members of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.

6: Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)

Council will receive any petitions and/or receive any deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also submit a petition at the meeting (any petition should relate to a matter on which the Council has powers and responsibilities).

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

7: Public Question Time

Council will receive any questions from the general public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

8: Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027 (Reference from Cabinet)

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To consider the Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027.

Contact: Jo Richmond, Head of Communities

9: Corporate Governance and Audit Committee - Terms of Reference (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee) 95 - 104

To consider the appointment of an Independent Member.

Contact: Martin Dearnley, Head of Audit and Internal Risk

10: Member Attendance Rules 105 - 108

To consider the waiver of the 6 month rule (Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 refers) in respect of an Elected Member.

Contact: David Stickley, Legal Services

11: Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons

To receive written questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.

A schedule of written questions will be tabled at the meeting.

12: Minutes of Cabinet and Cabinet Committee - Local Issues 109 - 146

To receive the Minutes of (i) Cabinet held on 5 July, 26 July, 9 August and 5 September 2022 and (ii) Cabinet Committee – Local Issues held on 23 March, 21 June and 18 August 2022.

13: Holding the Executive to Account

- (a) To receive a portfolio update from the Cabinet Member for Children's Services - Councillor Kendrick.
- (b) To receive oral questions/comments to Cabinet Members on their portfolios and relevant Cabinet Minutes;
 - The Leader of the Council (Councillor Pandor)
 - The Deputy Leader of the Council / Housing and Democracy Portfolio (Councillor Scott)
 - Children's Portfolio (Councillor Kendrick)

- Corporate Portfolio (Councillor P Davies)
 - Culture and Greener Kirklees Portfolio (Councillor Simpson)
 - Environment Portfolio (Councillor Mather)
 - Health and Social Care Portfolio (Councillor Khan)
 - Learning, Aspiration and Communities Portfolio (Councillor Pattison)
 - Regeneration Portfolio (Councillor Turner)
 - Transport (Councillor E Firth)
-

14: Minutes of Other Committees

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- (i) Corporate Governance and Audit Committee
 - (ii) Corporate Parenting Board
 - (iii) Health and Wellbeing Board
 - (iv) Licensing and Safety Committee
 - (v) Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee
 - (vi) Strategic Planning Committee
-

15: Oral Questions to Committee/Sub Committee/Panel Chairs and Nominated Spokespersons of Joint Committees/External Bodies

To receive oral questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13(4):

- Appeals Panel (Councillor Reynolds)
- Corporate Governance and Audit Committee (Councillor Hussain)
- Corporate Parenting Board (Councillor Kendrick)
- Health and Wellbeing Board (Councillor Kendrick)
- Licensing and Safety Committee - including Licensing and Regulatory Panel (Councillor A U Pinnock)
- Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (Councillor Smaje)
- Personnel Committee (Councillor Pandor)
- Planning Sub Committee - Heavy Woollen Area (Councillor Lowe)
- Planning Sub Committee - Huddersfield Area (Councillor Ullah)
- Scrutiny Panel – Childrens (Councillor Marchington)
- Scrutiny Panel – Corporate (Councillor J Taylor)
- Scrutiny Panel - Economy and Neighbourhoods (Councillor Hussain)
- Scrutiny Panel – Health and Adult Social Care (Councillor Ramsay)
- Standards Committee (Councillor J D Lawson)

- Strategic Planning Committee (Councillor S Hall)
 - Kirklees Active Leisure (Councillor Sokhal)
 - West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Councillor Pandor)
 - West Yorkshire Combined Authority Transport Committee (Councillor Butt)
 - West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Councillor O'Donovan)
 - West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee (Councillor Zaman)
 - West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel (Councillor Sokhal)
-

16: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Tackling Speeding and Reviewing Road Safety Measures

To consider the following Motion in the names of Councillors J Taylor and D Hall;

“This Council notes that:

Concerns about speeding across Kirklees is one of the issues raised most frequently with elected members particularly in villages and other residential areas.

The responsibility for addressing speeding is split with enforcement the responsibility of West Yorkshire Police, whilst the operational priorities are set by the West Yorkshire Mayor.

The criteria for installing a speed camera are set out in the 2007 Department of Transport Circular and implementation of this sits with the West Yorkshire Casualty Reduction Partnership.

The responsibility for monitoring speeds and for road safety sits with Kirklees Council.

A review of speed limits across the district was initiated by the Council in 2019 but the final report has not yet been made public and there have been no indication if any recommendations contained in it have been, or will be, actioned.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- a) Write to the West Yorkshire Mayor and ask her to update the Council on her plans for addressing speeding across Kirklees and to provide quarterly updates on progress.
- b) Write to the Secretary of State for Transport to ask him to review the criteria for the installation of speed cameras under the 2007 Circular to reflect the highlighted concerns locally with regard to continued speeding.

c) Undertake a review of road safety and speeding reduction plans in Kirklees by 31 January 2023 and publish the results of this including proposed outcomes and how these will be measured.”

By Order of the Council

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Geelman".

Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

COUNCIL

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 7 September 2022**

PRESENT

The Mayor (Councillor Masood Ahmed) in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Karen Allison	Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Bill Armer	Councillor Timothy Bamford
Councillor Cahal Burke	Councillor Aafaq Butt
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Moses Crook	Councillor Nosheen Dad
Councillor Paola Antonia Davies	Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Donald Firth	Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Charles Greaves	Councillor Adam Gregg
Councillor David Hall	Councillor Steve Hall
Councillor Tyler Hawkins	Councillor Lisa Holmes
Councillor James Homewood	Councillor Yusra Hussain
Councillor Manisha Roma Kaushik	Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan	Councillor Fazila Loonat
Councillor Jo Lawson	Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Vivien Lees-Hamilton	Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor Gwen Lowe	Councillor Aleks Lukic
Councillor Andrew Marchington	Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Harry McCarthy	Councillor Tony McGrath
Councillor Bernard McGuin	Councillor Matthew McLoughlin
Councillor Alison Munro	Councillor Darren O'Donovan
Councillor Shabir Pandor	Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Mussarat Pervaiz	Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Councillor Kath Pinnock
Councillor Jackie Ramsay	Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Mohammad Sarwar	Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Joshua Sheard	Councillor Will Simpson
Councillor Anthony Smith	Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Richard Smith	Councillor Melanie Stephen
Councillor Mohan Sokhal	Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Graham Turner	Councillor Sheikh Ullah
Councillor Paul White	Councillor Adam Zaman
Councillor Habiban Zaman	

39 Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive

The Mayor made a statement in regards to the recent flooding disaster in Pakistan and expressed condolences on behalf of the Council to those who had been affected. He advised that donations to support the relief effort could be made via the Disasters Emergency Committee website.

40 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Perry, K Taylor Thompson, Warner and Watson.

41 Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

42 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

43 Petitions (From Members of the Council)

Council received petitions from (i) Councillor H Zaman presenting objection to the sale of cars at Yard No.1, to the rear of 4-16 Purwell Lane, Batley and (ii) Councillor A Pinnock requesting the retention of the Oakenshaw Cross in its existing location.

The Mayor advised that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 (3), the petitions would be referred to the appropriate Service Director for investigation.

44 Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)

Council received a deputation and petition from Veronica and Ian Woolin requesting traffic calming measures at Granny Lane / Stenard Lane, Mirfield.

The Mayor advised that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 (3), the petition would be referred to the appropriate Service Director for investigation.

45 Public Question Time

Council received the following questions under Council Procedure Rule 11;

Question from Veronica Woolin

‘Councillor Mather said that the speed limits are appropriate for the area, however, we have recorded on 3 sections of the road, 38.5mph. Is it okay that regularly traffic goes at that speed alongside a riverside that doesn’t have any protection?’

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

Question from Ian Woolin

‘Councillor Mather spoke about not many reports of accidents in the area. When we looked at the accident reports neither of the accidents that we referred to were on there. Are you confident that the information that you have is full and accurate.

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

46 West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes

The Minutes of West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 17 March and 23 June 2022 were received and noted.

47 Financial Outturn Report 2021-2022, to include the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account Outturn Position and Annual Report on Treasury Management (Reference from Cabinet)

It was moved by Councillor P Davies, seconded by Councillor Pandor and

RESOLVED -

- 1) That in relation to the General Fund (i) the revenue outturn position for 2021/22 including COVID impacts be noted; (ii) the application of the Councils flexible capital receipts strategy to the value of £3.1m applied against eligible transformation in 2021/22, in line with the Councils approved budget plans in February 2022 be noted; (iii) the Government's £13.5m funding contribution on 31 March 2022 towards the Council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit be noted; (iv) approval be given to the drawdown from the Council's earmarked demand reserve to offset the Almondbury Community School deficit school balance write-down (£1.954m) to the Council's general fund in 2021/22 in line with DSG guidance; (v) the year end position on corporate reserves and balances be noted; (vi) the proposed use of pre-existing reserves and endorse the proposed use of new reserves as set out in section 1.9 in the report be re-affirmed; (vii) the regular monitoring and review of corporate reserves in 2022/23 to be reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly financial monitoring cycle be noted;
- 2) That the year end position on the Collection Fund including COVID impacts be noted.
- 3) That the Housing Revenue Account revenue outturn and reserves position 2021/22 be noted;
- 4) That in relation to Capital (i) the Council capital outturn position for 2021/22 be noted; (ii) approval be given for the £33.7m capital rollover from 2021/22 to 2022/23; (iii) approval be given to the revised capital plan for the period 2022/23 after taking into account rollover, the re-phasing of schemes and changes to grant assumptions; (iv) approval be given, retrospectively, for the transfer of £1.2m to Spenn Valley Leisure Centre from within the Capital Plan to meet contractually bound payments; (v) approval be given for the additional £350k borrowing for George Hotel for successful phase one completion.
- 5) That the Review of Treasury Management activity for 2020/21 be noted.

During the debate on this item, it was moved by Councillor Pandor, and seconded by Councillor Scott that, under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 15 (11) the question be put. Whereupon, it was requested by Councillor Bolt and supported by at least five Members, that under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 24 (3) the vote on applying Council Procedure Rule 15 (11) be done by recorded vote.

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A recorded vote was taken as follows;

FOR: Councillors Ahmed, Anwar, Butt, Crook, Dad, P Davies, E Firth, S Hall, Hawkins, Homewood, Hussain, Kendrick, Khan, J D Lawson, Loonat, Lowe, Mather, McCarthy, McLoughlin, O'Donovan, Pandor, Pattison, Pervaiz, A U Pinnock, Ramsay, Reynolds, Sarwar, Scott, Simpson, Sokhal, Turner, Ullah, A Zaman and H Zaman (34 votes)

AGAINST: Councillors Allison, Armer, Bamford, Bolt, Cooper, P A Davies, D Firth, Greaves, Gregg, D Hall, Holmes, Lawson, Lee-Richards, Lees-Hamilton, Lukic, Marchington, McGrath, McGuin, Munro, A Pinnock, K Pinnock, Sheard, Smaje, A Smith, R Smith, Stephen, J Taylor and White (28 votes)

ABSTAINED: (none)

48 **Key Discussion - Cost of Living Crisis**

Council held a key discussion on the cost of living crisis, following an introduction by Councillor P Davies (Cabinet Member – Corporate Services).

49 **Council Budget Strategy Update; 2023/24 and Future Years (Reference from Cabinet)**

It was moved by Councillor P Davies, seconded by Councillor Pandor, and

RESOLVED –

- 1) The funding and spend assumptions informing the updated budget forecasts as set out in the report, including the minimum usable reserve requirement advised by the S151 officer, being £47m (para 2.2.7 refers), and the budget gap figures (para 1.3.9 refers), be noted.
- 2) That the current and forecast earmarked reserves and general balances as set out at Appendix A be noted.
- 3) That approval be given to the financial planning framework (section 1.3 refers) for the general fund revenue and Housing Revenue Account (section 1.9 refers).
- 4) That approval be given to the financial planning framework for general fund and HRA capital (section 1.10 refers).
- 5) That the corporate budget timetable, as set out at Appendix D to the report, refers.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate portfolio holder, to consider expression of interest to continue to participate in the Leeds City Region business rate pool for 2023/2024, by the Government deadline of 22 September 2022.
- 7) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Environment and Climate Change) in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Corporate Services), the Service Director (Finance) and the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning), to conclude contract negotiations and, on behalf of the Council, enter into a new contractual arrangement in a timely manner for Council electricity supplies either directly or through a preferred broker, from 1 April 2023 onwards. (Delegated authority is requested to (i) re-procure the Council's electricity supply contract via a call off from a framework from an established central purchasing body and (ii) grant

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authority to award a contract for the Council's electricity supply from April 2023).

- 8) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health) to agree the approach to budget consultation and relevant timescales in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Corporate Services).

50 **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh (Reference from Cabinet)**

It was moved by Councillor Kendrick, seconded by Councillor Pandor and

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the content of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy be received and that it be noted that (i) additional amendments may be necessary subject to feedback from partners and (ii) that a set of materials to help communicate the Strategy was being developed.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health) to make any further minor amendments to the document.
- 3) That the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be adopted, subject to final approval by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

51 **Revised Gambling Policy - Statement of Principles (Reference from Licensing & Safety Committee)**

It was moved by Councillor A U Pinnock, seconded by Councillor Marchington and

RESOLVED - That the revised Gambling Policy – Statement of Principles, as set out at Appendix 2 of the report, be approved to take effect for a period of three years from 30 September 2022.

52 **Revisions to Terms of Reference - Health and Wellbeing Board (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee)**

It was moved by Councillor Hussain, seconded by Councillor J Taylor and

RESOLVED – That the revised Terms of Reference of Health and Wellbeing Board be approved.

53 **Report of Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel (Reference from Corporate Governance and Audit Committee)**

It was moved by Councillor Hussain and seconded by Councillor J Taylor;

- 1) That the recommendations of the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel, as set out at Appendix A and Appendix B of the report, and the draft scheme as set out at Appendix C be noted.
- 2) That the recommendations of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, as set out at paragraph 2.7 of the report, and the draft scheme as set out at Appendix D, be noted.
- 2) That, having considered the recommendations of the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel, and the recommendations of Corporate

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Governance and Audit Committee, the Members Allowances Scheme as set out at Appendix D be approved.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Pandor and seconded by Councillor Scott, by way of AMENDMENT,

- 1) That the following resolution be added 'That thanks be conveyed to the Member's Allowances Independent Review Panel for their work and approach to the review.'
- 2) That approval be given to the implementation of an annual increase for both the basic and all special responsibility allowances on a percentage basis in line with the agreed annual pay award for Council employees.

Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 24(3), it was moved by Councillor Lawson and supported by at least five Members, that a recorded vote be taken on the proposed amendment.

A recorded vote was taken as follows;

FOR: Councillors Ahmed, Anwar, Armer, Bamford, Bolt, Butt, Crook, Dad, P Davies, D Firth, E Firth, Gregg, D Hall, S Hall, Hawkins, Holmes, Homewood, Hussain, Kaushik, Kendrick, Khan, J D Lawson, Lees-Hamilton, Loonat, Lowe, Mather, McCarthy, McGrath, McGuin, McLoughlin, O'Donovan, Pandor, Pattison, Pervaiz, A U Pinnock, Ramsay, Reynolds, Sarwar, Scott, Sheard, Simpson, Smaje, R Smith, Sokhal, Stephen, J Taylor, Turner, Ullah, A Zaman and H Zaman (50 votes)

AGAINST: Councillors Allison, Burke, Cooper, P A Davies, Greaves, Lee-Richards, J Lawson, Lukic, Marchington, Munro, A Pinnock, K Pinnock, A Smith and White (14 votes)

ABSTAINED: (none)

The amendment, upon being put to the vote was CARRIED. The SUBSTANTIVE Motion as amended was therefore put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED –

- 1) That thanks be conveyed to the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel for their work and approach to the review.
- 2) That the recommendations of the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel, as set out at Appendix A and Appendix B of the report, and the draft scheme as set out at Appendix C, be noted.
- 3) That the recommendations of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee, as set out at paragraph 2.7 of the report, and the draft scheme as set out at Appendix D, be noted.
- 4) That approval be given to the implementation of an annual increase for both the basic and all special responsibility allowances on a percentage basis in line with the agreed annual pay award for Council employees.

54 Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons

Item not considered (due to time constraints).

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- 55 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Kirklees Council's Local Plan**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).
- 56 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Tackling Speeding and Reviewing Road Safety Measures**
Item not considered (due to time constraints).

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL				
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC				
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS				
Council				
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: Council

Date: October 12th 2022

Title of report: Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027

Purpose of report:

To provide Council with an overview of the new Communities Partnership Plan for Kirklees and the key priorities to make Kirklees safer and more cohesive.

To seek Council approval of the proposed Communities Partnership Plan and recommend it as a key policy forming a part of the Council's Policy Framework (under Article 4 of the Constitution).

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?	Effects all electoral wards
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?	Key Decision Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs 05/09/2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston 02/09/2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft 07/09/2022
Cabinet member portfoliohttp://www.kirklees.gov.uk/you-kmc/kmc-howcouncilworks/cabinet/cabinet.asp	Councillor C. Pattison , Learning, Aspiration & Communities

Electoral wards affected: All

1. Summary

- 1.1 Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on named “responsible authorities” to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder. The 1998 Act defines Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) as “*An alliance of organisations which generate strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area*”.

Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on CSPs to develop and implement a strategic plan to meet priorities which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents. In Kirklees, this Plan is known as the **Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan**.

The 2018-2021 Communities Partnership Plan has expired, with a newly developed 5-year plan developed using insight, data and analysis from the most recent Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) and engagement with partners and stakeholders.

The Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 was agreed by the Communities Board on 14th June 2022 and developed in consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and partners.

The Council is one of the “Responsible Authorities” with a statutory duty under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act (and subsequent legislation) to develop and deliver a Partnership Plan to make Kirklees safer.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan is one of the plans / strategies that forms the Council’s Policy Framework (under Article 4 of the Constitution). Accordingly endorsement of the proposed Partnership Plan was given by cabinet on September 21st 2022 and now recommends its approval and adoption at full council .

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 The 2018 – 2021 Communities Partnership Plan had four key priorities:

- Reducing crime
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
- Protecting People from Serious Harm
- Improving Place

2.2 Following a review of this plan, new Strategic Intelligence Assessment and engagement with partners, the new 2022-2027 Partnership Plan as set out at appendix 1 contains the following 4 key priorities -

- **Reducing violence and tackling exploitation and abuse** which includes serious violence, violence against women and girls, modern slavery, organised crime and safe town centres
- **Reducing ASB and Neighbourhood Crime** which includes personal, nuisance and environmental ASB, vehicle crime, burglary and criminal damage
- **Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities** which includes Tackling Hate Crime, safeguarding people from radicalisation, asylum, migration and integration, inclusion and belonging
- **Reducing Risk** which includes road safety, reducing reoffending, substance misuse and water safety.

2.3 The vast majority of the priorities are evidence based using data and insight from the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA), a summary is within the Plan and the full document attached at Appendix 3. On occasion, we also address issues where it is public concern that underpins its inclusion, such as road safety, or where we identify emerging issues. The Plan’s development is also informed by engagement and tension monitoring undertaken across the partnership throughout the year.

2.4 The Partnership Plan reaffirms the Safer Kirklees approach (with its focus on prevention and early resolution of issues) and outlines the governance arrangements in place as a result of the continued development of the Communities Board.

2.5 Cross Cutting Themes The Communities Partnership Plan strategic priorities are underpinned by a number of cross cutting themes, these are:

- Victim centred
- Early intervention and prevention
- Tackle inequality and addressing inclusion
- Collaboration and partnership
- Listening to people's lived experience to better respond to community need
- Place based (for example crime profiles are different geographies and require different responses)

The Communities Board is also seeking stronger relationships with the Adults Safeguarding Board and Safeguarding Children's Partnership on shared priorities such as exploitation and violence and is also driving the Inclusive Communities Framework.

The Communities Plan is aligned with the West Yorkshire Mayors Crime Plan and the Partnership is well connected into regional structures.

The Plan covers a 5 year period and will be refreshed on an annual basis.

2.6 Costs As a Partnership Plan there are no costs requiring a specific decision. Different themes and partners involved in delivery receive funding through different sources. The Communities Board via Safer Kirklees acts as a conduit for funding from the West Yorkshire Mayors Office and the Kirklees Communities Plan is aligned to the West Yorkshire Crime Plan 2021-24. The Council acts as budget holder for the Communities Board where partnership funding is received from the West Yorkshire Mayors Office, this currently includes funding from the Violence Reduction Unit. This funding varies year on year and is also received 'in year' and is often directed towards specific priorities.

2.7 Expected impact/ outcomes The Communities Partnership Plan has a set of indicators that are reviewed quarterly that reflect the broad range of responsibilities held by the Board. Supporting the Board in undertaking its responsibilities is the Strategic Delivery Group, this is made up of the Chair or a representative of each of the sub-groups to ensure work is on track and aligned. Each strategic priority has a delivery groups with their own delivery plans and outcomes to meet – some of which include delivery against external funding. The headline indicators can be found at the back of the Plan.

2.8 Services & agencies involved The Board is Chaired by the relevant Portfolio Holder and has broad political representation as well as partners from within the Council Children's and Adults Services, Public Health, West Yorkshire Police, the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (previously CCG), Probation, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Voluntary and Community Sector representatives including Victim Support as well as Adults and Children's Safeguarding Board representatives.

2.9 Implications for the Council The Council are a significant partner in the Communities Board, which is Elected Member Chaired, with the Police lead Vice Chair. The Plan ensures that we are compliant with our responsibility under Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Communities Partnership Plan has oversight of a number of strategically important areas of work that we dedicate significant resources through Council Services, to delivering. It is important that the Council recognises its responsibilities as a key partner in the delivery of these priorities.

3 Working with People

The Communities Partnership Plan will continue to put the victims and witnesses of crime and disorder at the heart of our approach. We want to be better at capturing the lived experience of our most vulnerable residents, alongside our evidence and insight data, to inform future service delivery and ensure we are putting our resources in the right places.

We acknowledge that supporting the victims and witness of crime and disorder, including repeat victims, cuts across all aspects of any Community Safety Plan, and we will continue to work closely with colleagues in Adult and Children's safeguarding to ensure our most vulnerable individuals and communities are supported.

Our restorative approach of working 'with' local people and elected members to solve problems at the earliest possible opportunity underpins our overarching work around prevention and early intervention, building on the positives within communities.

We will be using the Inclusive Communities Framework to underpin our approach to working alongside communities to address the priorities within the four strategic priorities of Violence and Exploitation, Neighbourhood Crime, Building Resilience and Risk, underpinning the commitment to the Shaped by People outcome. Prevention remains at the heart of the partnership approach and where issues do occur, intervening and working with victims and communities at the earliest opportunity.

4 Working with Partners

The Pandemic has further embedded working practices and relationships with key partners across the system as well as improving relationships with other partners fundamental in tackling crime and disorder, such as Public Health.

The Communities Partnership Plan will continue to build upon these relationships, utilising approaches from Public Health to tackle issues around crime and disorder, for example, adopting a Public Health approach to serious violence and to substance misuse. Partnership is core to the delivery of the priorities within the plan and to work collaboratively is essential.

The Kirklees Communities Board will have greater clarity and focus on its priorities in the coming years, providing a greater platform for strategic collaboration and interconnectivity that will reduce duplication and make best use of our resources.

The cross-cutting nature of crime, disorder and community resilience means that collaboration with other Boards is essential in achieving successful outcomes. Issues such as Exploitation and Youth Violence are priorities for both the Communities Board and the Children's Partnership therefore continuing to build collaboration and identifying shared outcomes and approaches is essential to our success moving forward.

At a wider level, it is critical that there are effective relationships and strategic alignment with the priorities in the West Yorkshire Mayors Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 and cross border working between partners to address issues.

5 Place Based Working

The Partnership, for a number of years has recognised and responded to the diverse geography of Kirklees and as such organised itself into a four-district model. This model was significant in our response to Covid19 and the development of the Covid response hubs. These hubs have increased the commitment and engagement across the partnership and will continue to evolve to support the delivery of the new Partnership Plan as our working practices adjust following our ongoing recovery from Covid19.

Our approach to tackling violence has utilised our place-based approach, using data and intelligence to highlight key areas for engagement and activity. Through the development and delivery of local action plans, areas will see enhanced service delivery to tackle the current issue and to prevent future issues. Our response to challenges in neighbourhoods is now focused and coordinated at a place level, including the Place Based Domestic Abuse work that is underway.

We will review crime and tailor our local response recognising different areas and communities may experience different crime types, this is to be central to our neighbourhood crime theme.

6 Climate Change and Air Quality

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.

As part of our commitment to climate change and air quality Safer Kirklees continue to use electric vehicles which enables our Community and Environmental Support Officers to travel across the district in an environmentally friendly way.

Covid19 has changed the way in which the partnership meets operationally and strategically with virtual meetings reducing travel across Kirklees and West Yorkshire, much of this has been retained.

Virtual working has resulted in a significant decrease in the use of paper and reduced environmental impact of travel for partnership meetings with most if not all meetings being paper free. The Partnership does however still acknowledge the need and benefit of meeting face to face, especially with local communities, residents and the most vulnerable and continues to increase its visibility post restrictions to a pre pandemic level. Safer Kirklees staff remained on the front line with communities throughout.

We do not anticipate any significant change as a result of the new Plan

7 Improving outcomes for children

The Partnership Plan works on the principle that the best way to tackle community safety issues is to address them at the earliest opportunity – ideally by preventing them in the first place. The Plan recognises that children and young people are similarly at risk of experiencing community safety issues - therefore it is critical that risks are reduced, and protective (including family / community strengths/assets) factors are harnessed to deliver better and more sustained outcomes.

The strategic themes within the Partnership Plan all have an impact upon children and young people who are a part of our communities in Kirklees. We have made significant investment in children and young people in our approach to Domestic Abuse and our work to reduce violence in under 25s in partnership with the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit, which should reduce the numbers of young people becoming involved in/or being the victim of serious crime.

The Partnership are engaging in new and emerging issues such as water safety where we will look to reduce this risk at the earliest opportunity through education, prevention and early intervention. Each of our strategic priorities has a focus on prevention which can involve work with children and young people and effective working with the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Partnership.

8 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

The Communities Plan enables a partnership approach to a wide range of issues. The current cost of living and wider financial pressures on people locally and nationally impact on many of the priority areas including crime, domestic abuse, reoffending, exploitation and more broadly on peoples; resilience and wellbeing.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan has prevention and early help at its heart and ensuring people can access services, get the help they need and build local connections and resilience in neighbourhoods will contribute to the wider financial challenges that communities face currently.

Alongside our commitment to intervene early and work in a trauma informed way, is our commitment to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour where this manifests, and during period of financial hardship acquisitive crime, amongst other crime types, can go up. Our new theme group focusing on Neighbourhood Crime brings the Police and partners together to ensure we can address this in a coordinated and timely way.

9 Legal/Financial or Human Resources

The Partnership is required under Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) regulations 2007 (as amended) to prepare an annual PSIA (regs 5-7) and annually prepare and implement a Community Safety Plan (regs 10-11) . For the purposes of preparing the PSIA and implementing the Community safety Plan, the strategy group are required to carry out community engagement under regs 12-13

The adoption of a new Communities Partnership Plan as part of the Council's Policy framework under Article 4 of the Constitution and schedule 3 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 is a decision for full council.

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council (as a public authority) has a duty to have 'due regard' to the need to: - eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act, - advance equality of opportunity between persons with a protected characteristic and those without - foster good relations between persons with protected characteristics and those without.

The 'protected characteristics' are age, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

An Integrated Impact Assessment (IAA), has been carried out and is attached at appendix 2 and indicates that there should be a positive impact on communities including people as having a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. The Plan is committed to tackling inequality as a cross cutting theme and leads a number of workstreams whose focus is to foster good relations and eliminate harassment and victimisation. The impact on the environment is assessed as neutral.

The partnership will be required to prepare and implement a strategy to tackle serious violence with the introduction of a new statutory duty expected in 2023, currently progressing through parliament. The requirements at a local level will become clear over the coming months and the Council, on behalf of the Communities Board, are working with the West Yorkshire Mayors Office to ensure an appropriate response. Currently, it is expected that the Communities Board will be required to produce a strategy document setting out our approach to serious violence, though a West Yorkshire strategy is also being developed.

The Legal challenges and demands associated with tackling our most prolific offenders and offences continues to be time consuming and costly.

The Partnership has oversight of a range of activities where the Council or its partners have a Statutory Duty, for example Prevent, Modern Slavery and Domestic Abuse.

10 Consultees and their opinions

- 10.1 The Plan is primarily intelligence and insight led and is high level. Many of the strategic priority areas have effective service user engagement as part of their planning and delivery and the Board have committed to all new strategies and plans involving local people with lived experience of the issues.
- 10.2 The Plan is a Partnership Plan and members of the Communities Board, including Elected Members on the Board, and its sub-groups have been fully engaged in its development and consulted on the final version. This includes the Police, Health colleagues, Fire and Probation Services and the wider partnerships engaged in the Board structures. We have also attended a variety of Partnership Forums including the Youth Development Board, Adults Safeguarding Strategic Delivery Group and Children's Safeguarding Executive for views, as well as Portfolio Briefings with Adults, Children's and Resources Portfolio Holders. We have also offered to attend Political Group meetings.

Feedback ensured neighbourhood crime by place, water safety and violence against women and girls were highlighted in the Plan. We have also identified the need to strengthen the voice of

children and young people, and this will be built into the refresh and into identified themes of interest to young people.

- 10.3 The West Yorkshire Mayors Office have given views via the Violence Reduction Unit and feel it is well aligned with the region's priorities.
- 10.4 Elected Members were made aware of the development of the new plan in October – December 2021 via Safer Kirklees briefings and again in March at Neighbourhood Policing Team briefings, which included an on-line survey asking for the views from all ward Councillors. This has been followed up in further ward briefing sessions with elected members in July and August 2022 and emerging themes for the Plan were discussed with the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in November 2021 and again in June 2022.
- 10.5 Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in June 2022 on the new format was positive, that it was easy to read and accessible. Further comments were as follows:

- Road Safety was emphasised as a community priority, with a view that it should be given a higher priority.

The Road Safety workstream sits within the Risk strategic priority and is within the plan as a result of recognised community concern, but without the data to underpin its inclusion as with other priority areas. In response to the comments at Scrutiny the language has been strengthened and updated to reflect concerns around speeding. Road Safety currently sits at the same priority level in the Plan as Domestic Abuse, violence, and substance misuse and this has not changed as there is not a level of priority within the Plan above where it currently sits. Additional feedback regarding community speed-watch has been highlighted to the Road Safety Partnership and the Communities Board have identified Road Safety as a priority for its next meeting. The Communities Board agrees that Road Safety is one of their key priorities and the next Board meeting has this as its key focus.

- Ensuring Councillors were at the heart of the development of the Plan.

We fully expect to work closely with Elected Members in the delivery of the Plan whilst reviewing how we engage with members strategically in the annual refresh and beyond. It has been agreed with the Chair of Scrutiny that we will offer attendance at Group Meetings at an early stage to share the data and insight that underpins the priorities and enable a strategic conversation.

To supplement this ward member engagement described at point 12.4, an offer was made to provide a briefing to all political groups on the new plan during August 2022. Learning from elected member engagement will inform a new approach to further embed elected member ongoing engagement, so the views, insight and intelligence from elected members continues to inform the annual strategic impact assessment as we move forward throughout the 5 year plan period.

We will continue to provide opportunities for comment at Safer Kirklees briefings and Neighbourhood Policing Team briefings.

- The challenges of managing neighbourhood based and neighbour on neighbour disputes was highlighted.

This will be further considered as part of the ASB review which is currently underway and acknowledged as a key operational challenge. This area was previously identified in the plan and remains within the body of the document as an important area of business.

- More information on progress and positive action was requested.

This report recommends that in addition to quarterly performance reports to the Communities Board, that an annual report on progress is produced and published in response to Scrutiny's comment. This will align with the annual refresh of the SIA.

10.6 The Plan has also been discussed at Leadership Management Team (LMT) on 20th June 2022 and an Integrated Equality Assessment has been undertaken and attached at appendix 2.

11 Next steps and timelines

- The Plan was approved by Cabinet September 21st 2022, and as an article 4 document, the Plan has progressed to Council for adoption.
- The Communities Board will meet quarterly to review progress.
- There will be an annual review of the Plan by Communities Board in response to a refresh of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment each year after approval at Council.

12 Officer recommendations and reasons

12.1 It is recommended that Council adopt the proposed Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 containing new priorities attached at appendix 1.

12.3 Reasons: The Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 discharges the Council's statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and regulations thereunder to carry out a PSIA and produce a community safety plan. The council's current plan expired 31 March 2021.

13 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

I welcome the newly developed 5-year Communities Partnership Plan, which has been effectively developed in partnership to ensure strategic buy in and implementation with partners and stakeholders.

The priorities set out in the plan are evidence based and responsive; this built-in ability to address issues of public concern and emerging issues is particularly welcomed and an approach strongly endorsed by partners that will only benefit residents and communities.

I therefore recommend that Full Council adopt the proposals as outlined in the above report.

14 Contact officer

Jo Richmond, Head of Communities, 07580719213 / jo.richmond@kirklees.gov.uk

15 Background Papers and History of Decisions

The previous Communities Plan and PSIA can be found on the Council's website here

[Safer Kirklees | Kirklees Council](#)

Scrutiny reports and minutes can be found on the Council's website here

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=135>

Hard copies can be requested from [Communities@ Kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Communities@Kirklees.gov.uk)

16 Service Director responsible

Jill Greenfield, Service Director for Communities and Access

17 Appendices

- (1) The Kirklees Communities Plan 2022-2027 (unformatted version)
- (2) Integrated Equality Assessment
- (3) Strategic Intelligence Assessment

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Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan

2022 - 2027



Our Vision

People in Kirklees live in cohesive communities, feel safe and are protected from harm

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Kirklees Partnership Plan 2022

Foreword – Councillor Carole Pattison

Hello and welcome to the updated Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan. In March 2020, we faced the greatest challenge of our lifetime. The response from residents, partners and the council to the Covid-19 pandemic was incredible. I was so proud to see the hard work and dedication that went into protecting each other and our wider communities.

One positive of the pandemic was that it strengthened our partnerships in Kirklees, which will only benefit us as we begin our recovery from the crisis. Our recovery from Covid-19 must be one of inclusion. We saw how the pandemic cruelly exposed the inequalities in society and we want to ensure our recovery leaves no one behind. Our updated Council Plan explains how we intend to do this.

This partnership plan outlines our key strategic community safety priorities for Kirklees. We will review these priorities annually to ensure they reflect the needs of our residents and our communities. For example, violence against women and girls in society has been tragically brought back into the spotlight. The safety of women and girls is of paramount importance to myself, our residents and our partners and we have therefore incorporated this into our key strategic priorities. While we can't tackle these issues alone, we are fortunate to have such excellent partners here in Kirklees. Our colleagues in the public, education, third and faith sector are exceptional to work with and they are committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for our residents.

During the pandemic our residents played a vital role in protecting their communities. They did this by looking out for their neighbours, contributing to the community response, and following the guidance to protect family and friends. Residents are central to this plan, and we must seize this opportunity to work closer and more efficiently with them to help us deliver safer communities.

By working with residents and partners our approach in Kirklees is one of prevention and early intervention. Through shared knowledge, expertise and intelligence we can prevent issues or address them immediately to ensure they do not escalate to wider community safety issues. Kirklees residents deserve to live, work and study in safe communities that they are proud of. I'm determined to ensure the council and its partners work tirelessly to deliver this.

Cllr Carole Pattison

Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspirations and Communities.



Foreword – Chief Supt Jim Griffiths

Having worked in Kirklees for a number of years, I am aware of how many fantastic partnerships there are at both a strategic and practitioner level. This has undoubtedly improved over the last few years with great strides in working together to solve problems and issues that affect the people of Kirklees.

Significant progress has been made in reducing issues of real concern for residents such as violent gang related crime, firearms offending and non-recent sexual offending. The strong links we have forged together are continuing to put suspects before the courts and provide victims with the help they need.



At a local level, close co-operation between the police and Safer Kirklees has resulted in extra police officers in Huddersfield and Dewsbury town centres, and extra funding for recent work in Batley and Spen to combat anti-social driving.

The successes that have been made over the past few years does not mean that there isn't still work to be done, in fact quite the opposite, there remains a great deal of progress to be made. I am sure that the strength of both strategic and individual partnerships within Kirklees will make this possible.

Increasing the safety of women and girls and reducing domestic abuse in all its forms is just one of these challenges, as is modernising our capabilities for tackling growing threats such as cybercrime. Tackling and adapting to these challenges provides new considerations and opportunities for all of us to support each other in identifying those at risk.

Those committing crime do not stop at the borders of Kirklees or West Yorkshire, making it imperative that we work with our neighbouring Districts to prevent threats including protecting vulnerable people often forced to operate outside of local areas.

My own personal drive has always been to prevent crime from happening but when it does, it is incumbent on all of us to try and identify those who have committed offences so that we can take action to prevent them from offending again.

It is often very difficult for groups or individuals to stand up and provide evidence but by working together, we can gather vital intelligence that allows all of us to make the live so those in communities better and safer.

The strategic priorities within this plan align with those within Policing. They allow us to focus our resources and efforts on key areas where we can make the most impact in improving the experiences of the communities and residents across Kirklees.

Chief Superintendent Jim Griffiths
Vice Chair Kirklees Communities Board

Introduction

About the Partnership Plan

The Kirklees Communities Partnership plan sets out our local community safety partnership priorities for action for the coming 5 years. Kirklees is a great place to live, work, study or visit and we will build on all that is good to address the local challenges that we have. We will tackle violence on our streets where it occurs and disrupt exploitation; we will work together to stop violence against women and girls; work alongside communities to make neighbourhoods safer, and we will focus on working upstream to address the causes of crime. We want everyone to feel they belong and are safe.

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships to develop a **strategic plan** which addresses multi-agency issues affecting the quality of life for residents. The **Kirklees Communities Partnership Board** (our CSP) fulfils the statutory duty of the Community Safety Partnership for Kirklees and has responsibility for ensuring we deliver our services and programmes of work in line with the principles and approaches emerging from the development of our Inclusive Communities Framework

Our previous Communities Partnership Plan (2018-2021) identified 4 strategic priorities, Reducing Crime, Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Protecting People from Serious Harm and improving the Place. This plan was reviewed in October 2020 to develop our new plan which reflects the Kirklees experience of, and learning from, the Covid pandemic. Covid significantly changed both how local people experienced crime and their local neighbourhoods; and also showed us how communities, the Council and our partners can work better together.

Our Approach

Kirklees is committed to working alongside communities. We want to hear local peoples' voices and develop inclusive, safe communities where people want to live, work, study, and visit. For communities to be inclusive, for people to feel they belong, they must feel safe and be safe. Co-producing local solutions to priorities with local people and our elected members is key to the success in our delivery of the Plan. Working upstream as a Council, and addressing systemic inequalities underpins our approach to safe communities. Our emerging Inclusive Communities Framework will support our delivery of this ambition.

Working Regionally to stop Crime

Cross border partnerships with neighbouring authorities and partners help us to do our job better and keep people in Kirklees safer. Joining up resources and funding where appropriate, to tackle our common issues, that do not stop or start at our boundaries is an essential part of the work of the Communities Partnership. Working with the West Yorkshire Mayors Office, in particular via the Violence Reduction Unit

enables us to tackle issues in a cooperative and coordinated manner and contribute to the 2021 – 2024 West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan¹

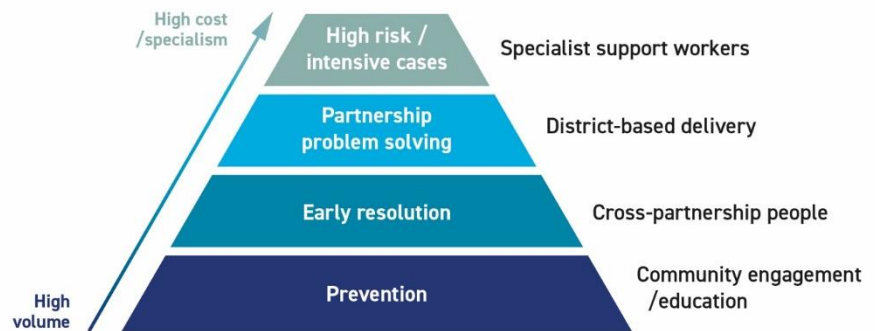
The online challenge

The internet is an integral part of everyday life for so many people. Nearly nine in ten UK adults and 99% of 12 to 15 year olds are online. As the internet continues to grow and transform our lives, often for the better, we should not ignore the very real harm which people face online every day.

In Kirklees we acknowledge the cross-cutting risk posed within the online world and how the internet can be used to spread terrorist and other illegal or harmful content, undermine civil discourse, and abuse or bully other people. Our approach in Kirklees is to work with our partners to raise awareness and build resilience, particularly amongst young people, to the threat posed online, whilst supporting regional and national attempts to reduce risk.

Prevention

The Kirklees Inclusive Communities approach to creating safer communities is based on the principle that the best way to tackle community safety issues and reduce the fear of crime is to prevent issues happening in the first place and where they do occur, address them at



the earliest opportunity alongside local people, before issues become more difficult to tackle and harmful to individuals and communities.

Our approach focuses on prevention, early resolution and help at the initial stages, working with communities to identify potential solutions. We will use all the tools at our disposal to stop crime impacting on people’s lives.

To deliver safer communities in a sustainable and effective way, it is critical that partners, communities and elected members are working together in an integrated way to solve shared problems. Stakeholders and communities need to be fully engaged and actively involved in delivering this plan if we are to achieve our aim of developing Kirklees as a better place to live, work, visit and study.

In some areas of our work the complexities of people’s lives and experiences can make the victim and perpetrator relationship fluid, we are exploring how a trauma informed approach can improve outcomes in complex cases. Drawing on good practice from across the region and our own local expertise in contextual safeguarding

¹ [police-and-crime-plan-online-version.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/policy-and-strategy/policy-and-strategy-reports-and-consultations/policy-and-crime-plan-online-version.pdf)

we intend to develop new ways of working to apply to stop anti-social behaviour that affects people's quality of life.

How We Identify our Priorities

The **Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan** identifies the strategic community safety priorities for the district in collaboration with a wide range of statutory partners (including the Council and its Elected Members, Police, Fire and Rescue Authority and Probation Services) and non-statutory partners (such as community and voluntary sector providers, the wider health sector and housing).

The priorities within this plan are informed by an in-depth analysis of data from a range of sources which are detailed in a Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) for Kirklees.

On occasion, the data and intelligence does not fit with public concern, but the concerns might be so deep rooted, that we include an issue in the Plan, to dig deeper and better understand why this is the case and establish what can be done to improve the situation.

The Partnership SIA brings together a wide range of data sources relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental issues and substance misuse alongside insight into public confidence and perceptions of safety, inequality, elected member engagement and community feedback. The SIA considers the changing socio-economic and demographic profile of Kirklees to contextualise some of the community safety challenges in the borough. It can be found here²

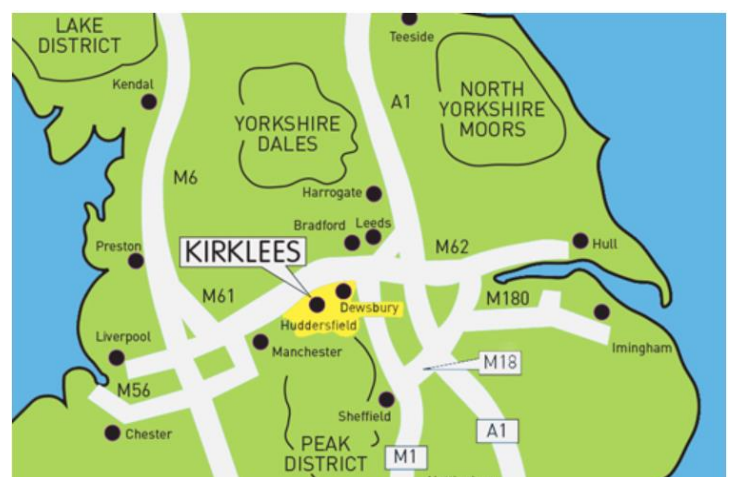
Moving forward our approach to priority setting will embed lived experience of local people and better engage our local places in an inclusive way.

About Kirklees

Part of the Yorkshire and the Humber region, Kirklees is set in the heart of West Yorkshire with 425,500 residents, we are a vibrant and diverse place made up of towns and villages with strong local identities and distinct needs, working with a Place Based approach enables us to work at a hyper local level alongside our communities . This Plan breaks down Kirklees into 4 areas (Batley & Spen, Dewsbury & Mirfield, Huddersfield and Rural). For more information on the Kirklees district please visit [Visitors | Kirklees Council](#)

[Add link to Kirklees stats](#)

[Add link to JSNA](#)



² [Safer Kirklees | Kirklees Council](#)

Kirklees Strategic Priorities 2022-2027; - A Five Year Plan

The 2022-2027 Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan (KCPP) contains 4 **strategic priorities** which will be updated on an annual basis to ensure they remain relevant.

The plan details what we will do, as a partnership, to reduce crime and tackle issues that matter to local people and impact on quality of life in Kirklees.

We will include local communities more effectively in our planning and delivery at a local level, with an approach that will facilitate a clearer focus on the places people live and/or the communities they are a part of. Developing local solutions with our Elected members and local people will be core to our delivery.

For each strategic priority, the Partnership have specific **delivery/ action plans** that detail **multi-agency interventions** to tackle the issue, along with additional performance measures for each. Partners are committed to better communication and engagement, with a stronger focus on lived experience and co-production to ensure effectiveness and sustainability as we move forward. We want to work inclusively with our partners and local people guided by the **Inclusive Communities Framework**.

Within each strategic priority are a number of actions the Communities Board will oversee, along with xx key performance measures.

Underpinning each strategic priority is the Communities Board commitment to:

1. **Develop coordinated** partnership responses to tackling each strategic priority, through the lens of **Prevention and Early Intervention and lived experience**.
2. Be **intelligence, insight and data informed** and give strong oversight and scrutiny to our workstreams.
3. **Embed a place-based approach** working with our partners and ward members to tackle our strategic priorities, recognising the differences and commonalities within our communities and localities, and working alongside local people.
4. Develop stronger strategic links between the **Safeguarding Partnerships for Adults and Children and wider Health partnerships** to ensure a joined-up approach is in place in the delivery of the KCPP.
5. **Identify and address inequalities as part of core business**
6. **Ensure that our statutory duties are met** as a partnership, further developing our shared planning and accountability processes as a Board.



Strategic Priority 1 - Tackling Violence, Abuse & Exploitation

The Partnership in Kirklees will focus on keeping people safe, tackling violence, abuse and exploitation and disrupting organised crime groups. The causes and factors associated with serious violence, abuse and exploitation are wide and far reaching. We will work collaboratively across multiple agencies and geographical boundaries to affect change and tackle the root causes. We will work alongside communities who are disproportionately affected ensuring we have a clear approach to prevention, disruption and enforcement.

What this includes:-

- **Tackling Domestic abuse**
- **Reducing Violence inc.**
 - Youth Violence
 - Serious Violence
 - Violence against women & girls
 - Organised Crime
 - Safer Town Centres
- **Tackling Exploitation**
 - County lines and youth exploitation
 - Modern Slavery

The Kirklees Communities Board will:-

- Disrupt Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and use enforcement against those that exploit individuals including our children and young people.
- Work with the [West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit \(VRU\)](#) to reduce serious violence, and give sharp focus to those involving weapons, working upstream to tackle the causes that draw people into violence.
- Stop violence against women and girls by working together to change attitudes and behaviours that undermine safety
- Work closely with the [Huddersfield](#) and [Dewsbury](#) Blueprint, to develop a vibrant night-time economy free from violence and fear.
- Develop a clear approach to reducing domestic abuse with an additional focus on work with perpetrators and children and young people.
- Safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults who are being exploited, breaking down the barriers that exist to prevent, identify and report crimes
- Deliver services that meet the needs of victims and survivors, getting the initial response right first time, every time.
- Embed a trauma-informed approach across our work to ensure services are sensitive, empathetic and understand the impact of lived experiences
- Work with our third sector partners and with local communities to deliver locally developed solutions to local priorities
- Increase intelligence reporting to help us tackle Modern Slavery
- Work with our regional partners aligned to the [West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan](#) to use our resources most effectively

Key Performance measures

- Reduction in violent offences resulting in injury below figure for 2021/22 (4,404 offences).
- Reduction in Violence against women and girls (target to mirror that in the WY Police and Crime Plan)
- Reduction in Knife Crime (target to mirror that in the WY Police and Crime Plan)
- Reduction in the number of repeat Domestic Violence incidents reported to West Yorkshire Police below figure for 2021/22 (47.9%).
- Increase in reports of Modern Slavery to the National Reporting Mechanism (NRM)

Strategic Priority 2 - Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) & Neighbourhood Crime

We know that incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour and crime in our neighbourhoods adversely affects communities, we know it can have a significant impact on people's lives and wellbeing. All partners have a role to play, alongside the Police and the criminal justice system, in ensuring our local towns and villages feel safe. To address the root causes of these issues, we must adopt an approach that works with our Housing and Substance misuse service providers as well as increasing our engagement with our third sector partners. We want to develop locally based solutions with our communities. Our approach 'victims first' will remain at the forefront of our delivery around this priority, whilst developing a trauma informed approach to community safety.

What this includes:-

- **Reducing Anti – Social Behaviour (ASB)**
 - Personal i.e. neighbour disputes, threats, intimidation
 - Environmental i.e. graffiti, litter, fly tipping
 - Nuisance i.e. speeding vehicles, rowdy behaviour
 - Arson
- **Tackling Neighbourhood crime**
 - Vehicle Crime
 - Theft
 - Criminal damage
 - Domestic Burglary

The Kirklees Communities Board will:-

- Work with partners to review our ASB process through a trauma informed lens, to improve outcomes for local people and explore better options for neighbour disputes.
- Improve our approach to [Community Triggers](#) to make sure the victims of anti-social behaviour (ASB) receive a high quality, consistent problem solving approach
- Use our full range of partnership tools and powers to enforce and hold perpetrators of crime to account.
- Work with local people to increase a sense of belonging and pride in local areas and build resilience to crime, working with community groups, Neighbourhood watch and elected members.
- Design out crime at the earliest opportunity adopting specialist advice where necessary, using physical measures to keep our communities safe. i.e. Environmental Visual Audits, target hardening.
- Work in partnership to protect those most vulnerable to Cyber-crime including fraud, online abuse and exploitation.
- Using a combination of prevention / early intervention and use of enforcement tools, create places that are clean, free from fly tipping, of which communities can be proud of.
- Develop a team of mediators that can resolve neighbour disputes at the earliest opportunity to reduce further harm and escalation.
- Work with local people to keep their homes, cars and neighbourhoods resistant to crime

Key Performance measures

- Reduce the % of Kirklees Respondents who identify Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) as a Community Safety Concern in their area below 60%.
- Reduce the number of nuisance incidents reported to the Police below the figure for 2021/22 (5,131 incidents)
- Reduce the number of fly tipping incidents reported to the Kirklees Council below the figure for 2021/22 (6,017)
- Increase the percentage of people living in homes and neighbourhoods estates who are satisfied with services provided by Kirklees Council (2021 : 68% said they were satisfied)
- To reduce the number of deliberate fires (primary and secondary) recorded by WY Fire and Rescue Service below the figure for 2021/22 (1,054 incidents)
- Reduce vehicle offences below the figure for 2021/2022 (1,971 offences)
- Reduce Total Crime below the figure for 2021/2022 (45,418 offences)
- Reduce residential burglary offences below the figure for 2021/2022 (1,307 offences)

Strategic Priority 3 – Building resilient and inclusive communities

Communities in Kirklees continue to show great resilience in the face of the challenges presented by the Covid pandemic, with mutual aid groups, the voluntary and community sector and individuals stepping up from all areas of the borough and all communities to offer kindness and support.

We know that factors such as inequality and hate crime undermine community confidence and that national and international issues can undermine our sense of belonging and of fairness. As a partnership committed to driving forward our Inclusive Communities Framework, we want to

work with local communities to ensure people feel they have a voice and are listened to; that people have confidence they will be treated fairly and that all communities feel engaged and supported to build communities that they want to be a part of, in places they feel safe.

What this includes

- **Tackling Hate Crime**
- **Prevent** - Safeguarding against radicalisation
- **Supporting integration and new communities**, including Asylum Seekers and Migrants
- **Building inclusive communities**, strengthening a sense of belonging

The Kirklees Communities Board will:-

- Reduce hate crime by building inclusive communities, whilst holding perpetrators to account and raising awareness of the impact of hate crime.
- Provide leadership and oversight of the Inclusive Communities Framework (ICF) program of work to enhance cohesion and inclusion.
- Ensure communication, engagement and collaborative working with Elected Members, aligned with our Place based approaches, to develop effective neighbourhood solutions, harnessing local knowledge and community connections.
- Listen to and work with local communities in neighbourhoods to build trust and confidence to report issues at the earliest opportunity.
- Work with communities to build transparency and strong partnerships in our delivery of Prevent, reducing the threat of extremism in Kirklees and safeguarding those most vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Develop our partnership infrastructure around inclusion and cohesion to improve coordination and collaboration
- Enable effective support and integration of new and emerging communities, including Asylum Seekers and refugees.
- Celebrate and promote the diversity of communities and faiths within Kirklees with a programme of positive communications, events, commemorations and celebrations.
- Deliver services that meet the needs of victims and survivors, getting the initial response right first time, every time for people of all backgrounds and from all communities.

Key Performance measures

- Reduce the number of repeat victims reports of Hate Crimes to West Yorkshire Police below the figure for 2021/22 (25.9% repeat rate)
- Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who are satisfied with their local area above 72% (CLiK Survey)
- Increase the % Young People who report that they feel safe in their neighbourhood above 75%
- Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who report feeling safe in their local area above 80%
- Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who report that they feel people from different backgrounds get along from above 55%.
- Insert ICF Measures when available

Strategic Priority 4- Reducing Risk

Within this priority are themes which cut across the whole of the Partnership Plan, in addition to emerging areas of work prioritised to reduce risk to local communities. We know that reducing risk at an early stage will help us to reduce the likelihood of critical incidents occurring that have significant impact on communities, such as water safety. Whilst the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads continues to reduce it remains a priority and concern for local communities. Each of these areas of work has a focus on prevention alongside enforcement. Drugs and Alcohol is often a driver behind many types of crime, by focusing on supporting people away from offending behaviour we will reduce the numbers of people who become victims of crime.

What this includes

- **Reducing Reoffending**
- **Reducing the impact of Substance Misuse**
- **Reducing Water related fatalities**
- **Addressing Road Safety**

The Kirklees Communities Board will:-

- Work with partners such as Yorkshire Water, Kirklees Active Leisure and the Canal and River Trust to reduce the risk of drowning in open water
- Develop more effective collaborative work with specialist services that can help us deal with underlying issues (such as mental health, unemployment and substance misuse) that present challenges to our success in a range of areas including ASB, Domestic Abuse, Neighbourhood Crime and Reducing Re-offending.
- Improve and increase our work with communities to address road safety. This includes both continuing reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads but also to tackle the issues of key concern for communities including speeding, anti-social parking and dangerous vehicles.
- Ensure the development of a Kirklees Drugs and Alcohol Strategy, acknowledging the impact Drugs and Alcohol can have upon Community Safety issues, addressing prevention, early help and treatment as well as enforcement.
- Refresh the Kirklees reducing re-offending Strategy, with a focus on holistic support to change behaviour
- Working with education settings and providers to reduce school exclusions and the vulnerabilities this creates for our children and young people.
- Deliver services that meet the needs of victims and survivors, getting the initial response right first time, every

Key Performance measures

- Reduction in the number of first-time entrants in the CJS
- Reduce the number of People Killed and Seriously Injured – reduce by 10 Killed or Seriously Injured per year
- Reduction in demand on partnership resources associated with risky behaviours around open water
- Reduce reoffending rates for drug related crime
- Increase the number of offenders referred to drug treatment services

Governance and delivery arrangements

The Kirklees Communities Board, which is elected member led, oversees the implementation of the Partnership Plan and works alongside Kirklees Health and Well Being Board, Children’s and Adults Safeguarding Boards to address shared strategic issues such as serious violence, exploitation, inclusion, wellbeing and equality. The Communities Board makes recommendations to the Councils Cabinet as well as to decision making structures in other partner organisations. The Kirklees Communities Board has a Strategic and legal requirement to:

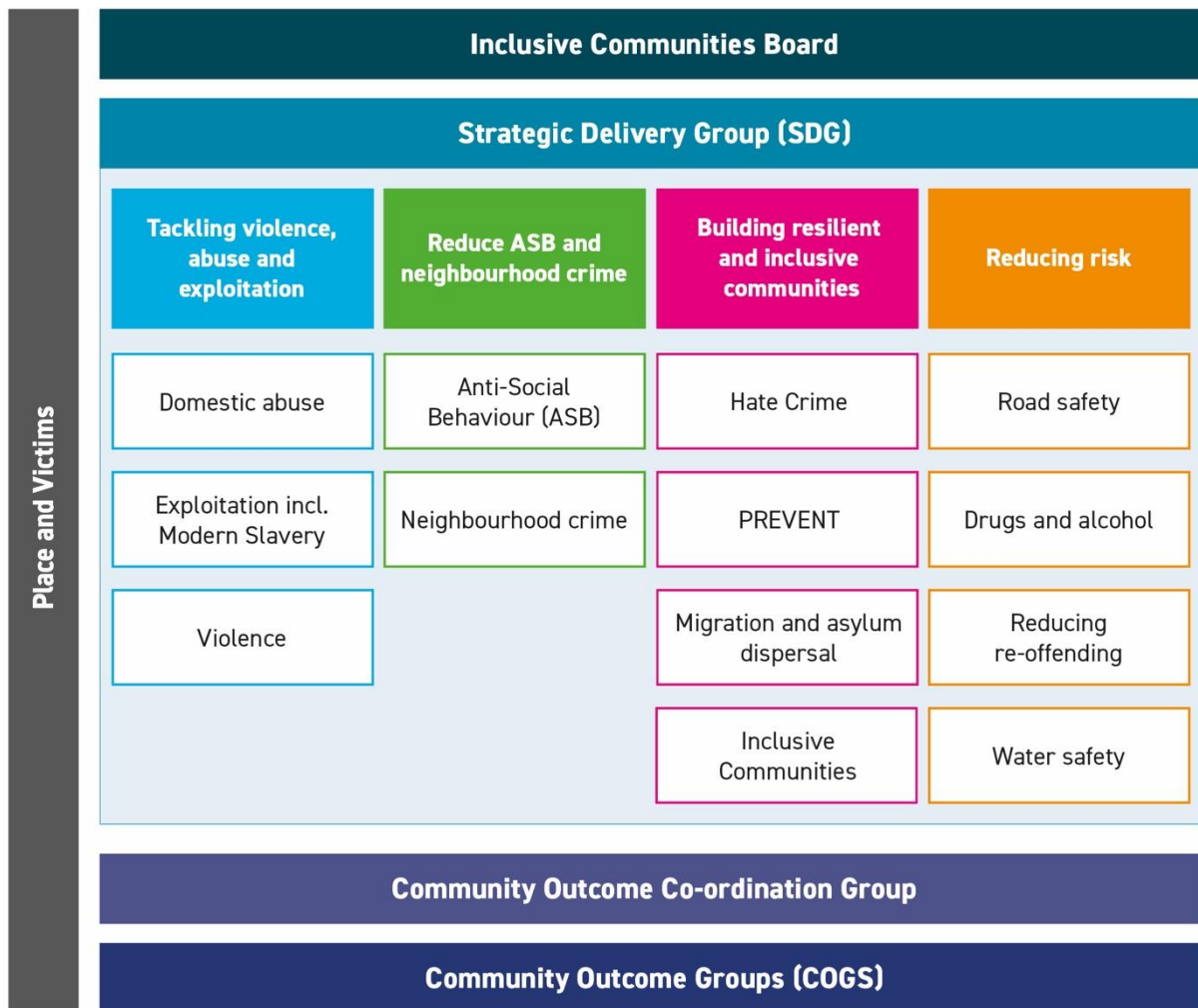
Prepare an annual Partnership Strategic Assessment (SIA)	Prepare and implement a Partnership Community Safety Plan, including how we monitor progress
Prepare and implement a Reducing Reoffending Strategy	Conduct duties relating to community engagement and consultation in development of strategies
Have in place an information sharing protocol	Conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews and apply learning
Review the persons who attend the CSP to ensure they have the requisite knowledge and skill to exercise the functions	Review expenditure of any partnership monies

The Kirklees Communities Board and its Partners work closely with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, who are core members of the Board, to ensure there is strategic alignment between policies and priorities and the sharing of best practice. This includes supporting the delivery of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 and its associated outcomes which are strongly linked within this plan.

The Councils overview and Scrutiny function acts as a check and balance for the work of the Communities Board, providing appropriate challenge on performance.

The Kirklees Strategic Delivery Group (SDG) sits underneath the Kirklees Communities Board and provides co-ordination, challenge and support for the delivery of each of the strategic priorities including identifying resources for thematic areas in the Partnership Plan, bringing success and/or challenges to the attention of the wider Board as required.

The Community Outcome Groups (COGs), provide a platform for multi-agency problem solving to take place within each of the 4 localities, using the strong partnership we have in Kirklees to tackle complex issues that cannot be resolved by one single agency alongside the developing approach to ward partnerships and local action planning.



To measure success, the Kirklees Communities Board has a suite of strategic performance indicators for the Partnership Plan and monitor these on a regular basis, in addition to clear deliverables and indicators in each delivery plan. These are detailed at the end of each priority and brought together on page 16 - Partnership Plan Outcome Framework.

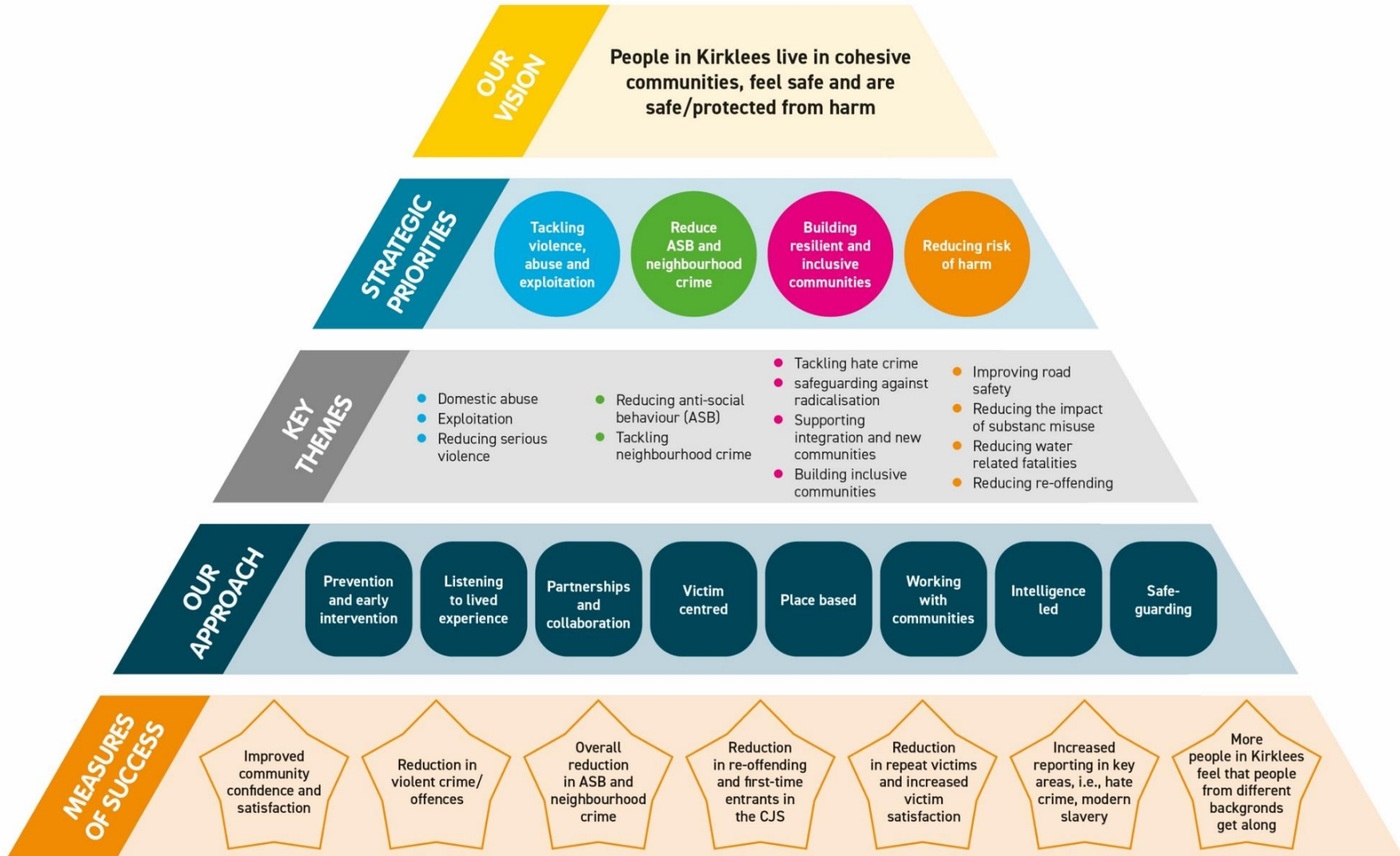
Priority leads will report on progress to the Communities Board and publicly through the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Communities Board will ensure that the Partnership Plan is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains current and reflective of the concerns and lived experience of local people and emerging threats.

Minutes of the Communities Board are published on the Community Safety Page of the Council's website.

Partnership Plan Outcome Framework

Reducing Serious Violence	Neighbourhood Crime & ASB	Building Resilient & Inclusive Communities	Reducing Risk
Reduction in violent offences resulting in injury below figure for 2021/22 (4,404 offences).	Reduce the % of Kirklees Respondents who identify Anti-Social Behaviour as a Community Safety Concern in their area below 60%.	Reduce the number of repeat victims reports of Hate Crimes to West Yorkshire Police below the figure for 2021/22 (25.9% repeat rate)	Reduction in the number of first-time entrants in the CJS
Reduction in Violence against women and girls (target to mirror that in the WY Police and Crime Plan)	Reduce the number of nuisance incidents reported to the Police below the figure for 2021/22 (5,131 incidents)	Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who are satisfied with their local area above 72% (CLiK Survey)	Reduce the number of People Killed and Seriously Injured – reduce by 10 Killed or Seriously Injured per year
Reduction in Knife Crime (target to mirror that in the WY Police and Crime Plan)	Reduce the number of fly tipping incidents reported to the Kirklees Council below the figure for 2021/22 (6,017)	Increase the % Young People who report that they feel safe in their neighbourhood above 75%	Reduction in demand on partnership resources associated with risky behaviours around open water
Reduction in the number of repeat Domestic Violence incidents reported to West Yorkshire Police below figure for 2021/22 (47.9%).	Increase the percentage of people living in homes and neighbourhoods estates who are satisfied with services provided by Kirklees Council (2021: 68% said they were satisfied)	Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who report feeling safe in their local area above 80%	Reduce reoffending rates for drug related crime
Increase in reports of Modern Slavery to the National Reporting Mechanism (NRM)	To reduce the number of deliberate fires (primary and secondary) recorded by WY Fire and Rescue Service below the figure for 2021/22 (1,054 incidents)	Increase the % of Kirklees respondents who report that they feel people from different backgrounds get along from above 55%.	Increase the number of offenders referred to drug treatment services
	Reduce vehicle offences below the figure for 2021/2022 (1,971 offences) inc by place	Insert ICF Measures when available	
	Reduce Total Crime below the figure for 2021/2022 (45,418 offences)		
	Reduce residential burglary offences below the figure for 2021/2022 (1,307 offences) inc by place		



Appendix 1

Summary of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment

Kirklees Strategic Intelligence Assessment

We have developed our priorities with due regard to our data and intelligence, consultation with partners and through on-going community engagement. The priorities are informed by work throughout the year with our Elected Members. We have considered a wide range of data including crime, anti-social behaviour and public perceptions which can be seen in the [Kirklees Strategic Intelligence Assessment](#). The next section of the Partnership Plan identifies key themes emerging from this analysis.

The SIA highlights how lockdown restrictions had a significant impact on recorded crime with overall offences not sure what overall offences means? reducing by 13% in 2020 compared with 2019 (the trend for the 5 years prior to 2019 was year-on-year increases), which is a similar trend to other West Yorkshire authorities. Nationally as well?

Having said this, the overall reduction did not apply to all offence types:

- Offences where Covid restrictions meant there were fewer opportunities to commit crimes (more people at home / town centres largely closed) saw significant **decreases** – for example theft offences (from person / vehicles), shoplifting and burglary offences.
- However, there were **increases** in recorded drugs offences (attributed to more proactive and targeted policing), stalking / harassment offences and online offending (such as fraud).

A further theme emerging from the SIA relates to the impact of Covid and associated restrictions on ways of working and individuals / communities more generally.

Many of our services adapted to new ways of working in the pandemic. Reduced face to face contact with our communities has meant that the prevention and early help approaches we would usually have in place were not always possible, and some issues escalated more quickly that we would have seen pre-pandemic. The increase in people being at home for longer periods of time also created some increase tensions. ASB and hate crime reports were much more focused on where people lived (neighbour disputes), as opposed to town centres.

Covid 19 and associated restrictions has resulted in significant changes to how people live their lives and interact with others in their neighbourhood. The SIA recognises the impact on communities which saw a significant increase in volunteering and neighbourliness, although there have also been examples of division and blame over issues such as following rules and vaccination take up. At an individual level, the SIA suggests people being more connected with their neighbourhoods but also recognises the risks relating to physical and mental health which include negative perceptions of the area and fear of crime.

The next section groups together some of the key findings from the SIA that has led to the 4 priority areas for action in the Plan.

Tackling Violence, Abuse & Exploitation

The SIA tells us that violence against the person accounts for 44% of overall crime although nearly 80% of these offences do not involve any physical injury being sustained (such as assaults without injury, malicious communications and harassment).

Using a combination of local analysis and informed by wider policy development, the SIA recommends the need to focus on particular types of violence against the person – namely violence against women and girls and tackling serious violence.

The SIA restates the fact that victims of **domestic abuse** typically experience abuse for several years before coming forward, often going to several agencies before accessing the right support services.

Although domestic abuse (which now includes coercive and controlling behaviours) can affect both men and women, the most prevalent abuse remains that men are the perpetrators and women are victims/survivors. Link to DA strategy? Needs assessment

Analysis in the SIA shows the number of recorded cases of **Modern Day Slavery** (where someone is trafficked for forced labour, sexual exploitation or domestic servitude) in Kirklees remains static, although significant spikes associated with targeted operations and historic cases were evident. The SIA also recognises the likelihood of significant under recorded as the issue is often “out of sight” with lower levels of public awareness. Modern Day Slavery often has significant links to organised crime and does not stop or start at the Kirklees boundaries and the priorities we have detailed in the Plan reflects some common themes with our neighbouring boroughs that are brought together in the West Yorkshire Mayors Community Safety Plan

Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) & Neighbourhood

The SIA provides a comprehensive assessment of current risks relating to **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**. When this is broken down by the 3 main categories, the key issues identified are:

- **Personal ASB** (which is targeted towards individual or household e.g. noise / neighbour disputes) – more people at home combined with less in person mediation contributed towards an increase in noise complaints and neighbour disputes.
- **Nuisance ASB** (impacting on the wider community e.g. rowdy behaviour / fireworks) – more people at home for longer period meant increased experience of these issues resulting in more reports of issues such as nuisance motorcycles

- **Environmental** (impacting on the physical environment e.g. fly-tipping / graffiti) – significant increase in fly-tipping (in the first lockdown) which reduced over time although repeat hotspots remain.

The SIA highlights that crimes and ASB are clustered in neighbourhood hotspots, most commonly in more deprived areas with higher unemployment, poverty and less quality greenspaces. The SIA suggests a combination of more opportunities and more people spending time in their own neighbourhoods has contributed to the higher incidences of neighbourhood issues.

Building resilient and inclusive communities

The SIA spotlights how COVID and associated restrictions has seen both positive (increased volunteering) and negative (scapegoating) impacts on **community tensions**. A wide range of factors impact on tensions – both national and international issues and policy as well as local incidents which impact on people's lives. Alongside the connectivity it offers, the on-line space can also play a part in increasing tensions, spreading misinformation and fuelling prejudice.

The reporting of the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent Black Lives Matter protests has raised the profile of anti-discrimination activities and the impact of racism on our communities. Over the summer of 2021, there were a number of racially motivated online abuse cases targeted at high profile individuals in particular football players and Black politicians. In Kirklees we saw peaceful protests in support of this and other movements such as environmental causes. This shone a light on local inequalities, amplified the need to focus on lived experience and to better listen and understand communities, this has informed the emerging Inclusive Communities Framework.

In common with the national picture (which saw an 8% increase over the last year), Kirklees saw a 10% increase in recorded hate crimes. This could be interpreted as a positive sign of increased confidence in partnership responses but needs closer assessment, and the SIA does highlight that repeat incidents were more frequent in transphobic and disability related incidents.

The SIA highlights that Kirklees sits in the top quartile of most deprived districts in England and that this disadvantage is concentrated in urban neighbourhoods around Huddersfield and parts of North Kirklees. Residents living in these deprived areas are more likely to experience multiple inequalities such as crime, anti-social behaviour and wider health outcomes.

The current **counter terrorism / extremist** national threat level was raised to substantial for a significant period, meaning that a terrorist attack is judged as a strong possibility. The most significant threats to national security are assessed by Government as Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups, extreme right-wing groups and an increasing threat from other individuals/groups with no particular ideology.

Reducing Risk

The SIA identifies several areas where people can be at risk without sustained intervention and/or prevention – this includes accidental fire deaths, water safety,

road safety and re-offending. It also highlights issues that affect other cross cutting priority areas such as drugs and alcohol that cause harm to individuals, families and communities.

Road traffic casualties have decreased by 58% over the past decade, the majority of which sustain slight (as opposed to serious / fatal) injuries. This trend was particularly noticeable over the lockdown period, generally associated with a large reduction in traffic volume. Having said this, road safety remains a key concern for local people which is demonstrated through consistently showing as the top priority emerging from perception surveys and more recently through local campaigning about dangerous driving and protecting vulnerable road users.

Covid and associated restrictions has impacted on work to address **drug and alcohol misuse** in terms of health (increased misuse) and links to other community safety issues including violent crime, domestic abuse and organised criminal gangs. The SIA recognises both immediate (such as drug related deaths) and longer term (impacting on health services and quality of life) issues relating to problematic use of drugs and alcohol.

Contact and further information

Safer@Kirklees.gov.uk

01484 221000

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/community-safety-partners/kirklees-community-safety-partnership.aspx>



EIA STAGE 1 – SCREENING ASSESSMENT

PROJECT DETAILS

Name of project or policy:	
Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027	
Directorate:	Senior Officer responsible for policy/service:
Customers and Communities	Jo Richmond
Service:	Lead Officer responsible for EIA:
Communities Service	Lee Hamilton/ Chris Walsh
Specific Service Area/Policy:	Date of EIA (Stage 1):
Safer Kirklees	17th June 2022

Brief outline of proposal and the overall aims/purpose of making this change:

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan identifies the strategic community safety priorities for the district through engagement and consultation with a wide range of statutory partners (including the Council and its Elected Members, Police, Fire and Rescue Authority and Probation Services) and non statutory partners (such as community and voluntary sector providers, the health sector and housing). This is a new plan, based upon the most recent Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) for the district, outlining the key community safety priorities to be tackled over the next 5 years.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Theme	Calculated Scores						Stage 2 Assessment Required
	Proposal	Impact	P + I	Mitigation	Evidence	M + E	
Equalities	6	2.4	8.4	0	0	0	No
Environment		4.2	4.2	0	8	8	No

NATURE OF CHANGE

WHAT IS YOUR PROPOSAL?	Please select YES or NO
To introduce a service, activity or policy (i.e. start doing something)	YES
To remove a service, activity or policy (i.e. stop doing something)	NO
To reduce a service or activity (i.e. do less of something)	NO
To increase a service or activity (i.e. do more of something)	NO
To change a service, activity or policy (i.e. redesign it)	NO
To start charging for (or increase the charge for) a service or activity (i.e. ask people to pay for or to pay more for something)	NO

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Kirklees Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2021

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Executive Summary

The purpose of the PSIA is to provide a robust evidence base of these issues to inform the partnership priorities in the Communities Partnership Plan. The assessment is developed through analysis of multi-agency data, perceptions and wider research including socio-economic factors.

Kirklees as an area is made up from distinct areas which have range from rural villages to urban towns, some of which have higher (and in some cases increasing) levels of deprivation which in general experience more community safety issues.

The overall population in Kirklees is increasing (with noticeable increases in older age groups) and becoming more diverse although there has been a decrease in registrations from EU citizens. Huddersfield has a fairly significant transient population with over 17,000 people studying at the University.

Recorded Crime

Lockdown restrictions had a significant impact on recorded crime with overall offences reducing by 13% in 2020 compared with the previous year – the level of crime in Kirklees is in line with other similar areas.

However, this reduction did not apply to all offence types –

- Offences where lockdown meant there were fewer opportunities (more people at home / town centres largely closed) there were significant **decreases** – for example theft offences (from person / vehicles), shoplifting and burglary offences.
- However, there were **increases** in recorded drugs offences (attributed to more proactive and targeted policing), stalking / harassment offences and online offending (such as fraud).

Violence against the person accounts for 44% of crime – although approaching 80% of offences do not involve any physical injury being sustained (such as assaults without injury, malicious communications and harassment).

The SIA highlights particular risks to be considered relating to both violence against women and offences committed in the online space.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Personal ASB is targeted towards an individual or household – for example noise and neighbour disputes. Personal ASB increased over the lockdown period – caused by more people being at home for longer periods but also because remote working meant issues not addressed at early stage. This was compounded by tools such which threatened eviction not being available over the lockdown period.

Nuisance ASB impacts on the wider community and covers issues such as rowdy behaviour and fireworks. Although there were spikes in nuisance behaviour over the summer months of 2020, incidents are generally decreasing although there remains a seasonal dimension and risks with the reopening of the night-time economy.

Environmental ASB relates to issues such as graffiti and fly-tipping which impact on fear of crime and tend to increase if not dealt with quickly. Fly-tipping saw a significant increase over the lockdown period – a combination of more rubbish generated as a result of people at home, recycling centres closed and people walking round their local area and therefore reporting issues (which also included pro-active clearances in the figures for the first time).

Deliberate Fires are often connected with fly-tipping (where items are not removed). Fires are broken into Primary (where property such as buildings or vehicles are involved) or secondary (where the target is most frequently grassland or outdoor furniture such as bins). The majority of **primary fires** targeted vehicles (65%) and sheds / garages (26%) and tend to peak over night. **Secondary fires** were most associated with bins (61%) or grassland (16%) – these fires tends to have a seasonal dimension although there are spikes (which as a result of partnership work are far less apparent) at times such as Halloween / Bonfire night.

COG Priorities – within Kirklees, multi-agency problem solving groups called COGs bring together partners to collectively address shared issues. Some of the recurring themes across the 4 areas in Kirklees include: Youth ASB including off road motorcycles, environmental ASB – particularly around fly-tipping hotspots and ASB / criminal behaviour in some Estates through the District.

Homes & Neighbourhoods Estates – Whilst there was 20% reduction in reported incidents, housing officers worked remotely over a large part of the lockdown (and associated restrictions) period meaning there were fewer opportunities to pick up (and deal with) incidents. The main types of incidents reported over the past 3 years were noise, verbal abuse / threats and hate incidents.

Perceptions

Based on **National Research** (Opinions and Lifestyles Survey), people tend to feel less safe in busy public places during the day but least safe in parks and open spaces after dark. This is particularly noticeable for people aged over 75 and younger women who also reported higher levels of harassment such as catcalls and sexualised comments.

Latest results (March 2021) from the “**Your Views**” survey conducted by the West Yorkshire Mayor’s Office 76% of Kirklees respondents felt safe in their local area and 66% were satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live. The top 3 priorities identified are dangerous driving, litter and problem parking.

These fairly positive results are supported by those which emerged from the consultation **Homes and Neighbourhoods** undertook with its tenants. This showed that 3 of 4 respondents were satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live.

Analysis of **Place Standard** results highlighted common concerns relating to gangs / ASB, petty crime and drugs issues. The two most frequently cited solutions are activities for young people and improvements to local greenspace.

Road Traffic Collisions

In common with the national picture, numbers of road casualties has decreased significantly over the past decade (down 58%). Whilst the figure for 2020 is broadly in line with previous reductions, it is true to say that traffic volumes were significantly reduced over the lockdown period which impacts on these figures.

Of the 607 people who sustained an injury as a result of a Road Traffic Collision in Kirklees, the majority of these (84%) were slight as opposed to serious or fatal. It is important to note that vulnerable road users including pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists remain a priority.

Accidental Dwelling Fires

Analysis of dwelling fires show increased numbers at times where cooking is likely to happen (between 3 and 5) although there is some evidence of peaks later in the evening. There have been decreases in smoking related fires and more incidents in more deprived wards.

PREVENT

The current threat level remains at substantial, meaning that a terrorist attack is judged as a strong possibility. The most significant threats to national security are from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups, extreme right-wing groups and increasing from other causes with no particular ideology.

Lockdown has increased the range of threats evident with the emergence of civil liberties (around lockdown) groups, environmental protests, possible risks connected with the return of the Taliban in Afghanistan and Extreme right wing (which has started to see an increased anti-Semitic narrative evident).

Community Tensions

The experience of COVID and associated restrictions has seen both positive (increased volunteering) and negative (scapegoating) impacts on communities and associated tensions. There were example of communities blaming others for not following rules or vaccination take up – at time this had a racial dimension for example on social media platforms.

The reporting of the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent Black Lives Matter protest has raised the profile of anti-discrimination activities. Over the summer of 2021, there were a number of racially motivated online abuse cases targeted at high profile individuals in particular football players.

Hate Crimes

In common with the national picture (which saw an 8% increase), Kirklees saw a 10% increase in recorded hate crimes. This is generally regarded to be a positive sign of increased confidence although the number of incidents recorded is still likely to be significantly less than the actual number of incidents recorded.

Broken down by incident characteristics, proportionately more were racist incidents (70%), although repeat incidents were more noticeable with transphobic and disability related incidents. Restrictions associated with COVID meant that there were proportionately less incidents in town

centres with more closer to where people live including an increase in neighbour related incidents which intensified over the lockdown period.

Domestic Abuse

The definition of domestic abuse continues to include a wide array of coercive and controlling behaviours including physical and mental abuse, threats and restricting financial independence. Although domestic abuse can affect both men and women, the most common forms are with men subjecting women to some form of abuse.

Some of the key messages in the SIA emerging from analysis of local and national data sources are:

- Victim's typically experience domestic abuse for a number of years before coming forward, meaning the first report is highly unlikely to be the first time the abuse happened.
- Victims often go to several agencies over a prolonged period of time before accessing the right support services.
- Experiencing domestic abuse has significant financial costs and pressures on support services
- Perpetrators of domestic abuse often have a history of negative life experiences including abusive childhood, anti-social behaviour and instable employment, housing and substance misuse
- Within Kirklees, domestic abuse incidents have increased steadily over the past 3 years with noticeable spikes over summer months and Christmas / New Year (although COVID restrictions meant this was far less evident in 2020).
- Closer analysis of incidents in Kirklees highlighted: majority of victims female / majority of suspects male, peak ages in 20s & 30s and a repeat victim rate of 47%.

Modern Day Slavery (MDS)

MDS involves forcibly moving or trafficking people for the purposes forced labour, sexual exploitation or domestic servitude. Within Kirklees, the number of MDS offences is fairly stable although there are significant spikes associated with targeted operations and historic cases coming to light. It is recognised that MDS is significantly under recorded as it is often "out of sight" – therefore training and awareness for front line workers and communities remains a priority.

Drugs & Alcohol

Key issues emerging from the recent Drug and Alcohol assessment in Kirklees were:

An increase in **drug** related deaths with an increase in psychoactive substance and prescription medicines. In terms of treatment, the majority of referrals were self-made with the majority of interventions being delivered in the community.

Drawing on the same assessment, the SIA highlights health risks (including deaths) associated with alcohol misuse which is most frequently associated with males who are middle aged and over (although problematic use by females (often citing mental health issues) is increasing).

Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA)

About the PSIA

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and other subsequent legislation places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships to develop a strategic Plan which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents. The purpose of the PSIA is to provide a robust evidence base of these issues to inform the partnership priorities in the Communities Partnership Plan.

The PSIA pulls together a wide range of data sources relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental issues and substance misuse alongside perceptions information concerning public confidence and reassurance. The PSIA considers the changing socio-economic and demographic profile of Kirklees to contextualise some of the community safety hotspots in the district.

Contextual Information

In terms of socio-economic characteristics, Kirklees (map 1 in the appendix shows the geography) may be best viewed in three distinct areas:

- North Kirklees, which includes the urban centres of Mirfield, Dewsbury, Batley and Cleckheaton along with the more rural Spen Valley:
- Huddersfield; the largest town in Kirklees with about 143,200 residents
- The rural and semi-rural area south and west of Huddersfield, including small towns such as Holmfirth, Slaithwaite and Denby Dale.

According to the 2019 Index of Deprivation, Kirklees is the 62nd most deprived district of 317 districts in England. In 2015 using the same 'extent' measure Kirklees was 82nd out of 326 districts; Kirklees has therefore become relatively more deprived.

The PSIA highlights increased levels of crime and other community safety issues in many of these areas.

Population

The latest (2020) population estimates suggest there are around 441,300 people living in Kirklees.

Kirklees' minority ethnic communities make up 20.9% of its resident population with the majority living in the District's urban centres. Kirklees' Muslim population of 61,280 is one of the highest in the country.

Since 2004, there has been a significant arrival of people from the EU Accession States (mostly from Poland) coming to work in the district, and there are also refugees and asylum seekers from Africa, the Middle East and parts of the former Yugoslavia.

However, the latest (2020/21) National Insurance Number figures showed a sharp decline in registrations, nearly half that of the previous year. Registrations from the European Union declined by 59%. However, increased registrations did occur for a few nationalities; Nepal, Nigeria and El Salvador were highest.

According to the 2018 Subnational Population Projections, the population of Kirklees is projected to grow by 6% by 2043 - below the regional (7%) and national averages (10%). The number of people of aged 65 and over is the only age group which is expected to grow significantly, those aged 0-15, 16-24 and 25-44 are expected to decrease, while numbers in the 45-64 age band show a small increase of around 1%.

In addition to the usually resident population, Kirklees has a significant transient population of 17,305 people studying at the University of Huddersfield. This includes 12,315 full time undergraduate students of which approximately 15% are from overseas (many of which from non-EU countries). This has a potential impact for community safety both in terms of victims of crime and also possible anti-social behaviour.

Analysis of Multi-Agency Issues

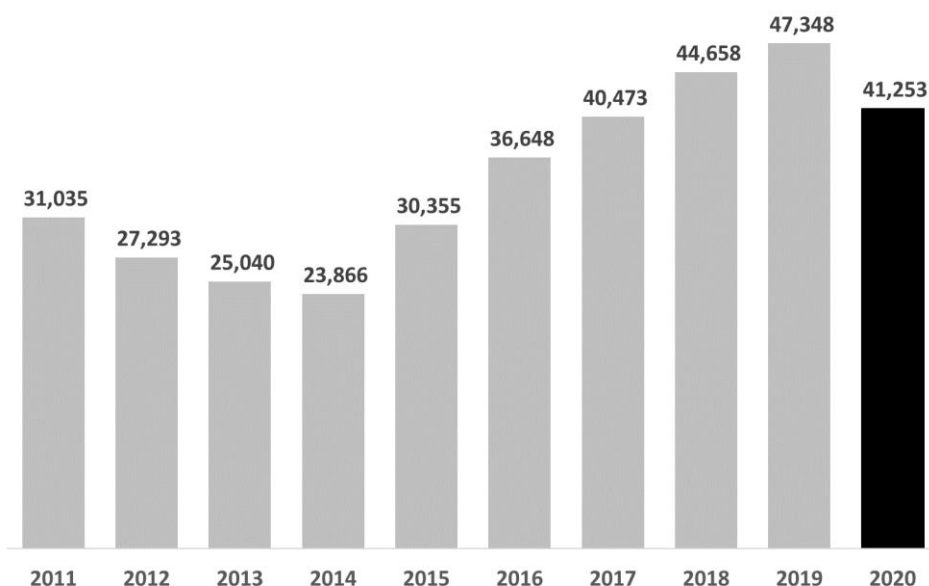
Police Recorded Crime

Chart 1 shows the long-term trends in recorded crime In Kirklees and highlights the number of crimes recorded in 2020 reduced by 13% compared with the previous year.

In common with the national picture, this reduction did not apply to all offences and as will be explored later in the SIA, this varied by offence type:

- There were **increases** in recorded drugs offences (attributed to more proactive and targeted policing), stalking / harassment offences and online offending which is detailed later in the report.
- There were significant **decreases** in offences where lockdown led to reduced opportunities such as theft offences (from person / vehicles), shoplifting and burglary offences.

Chart 1 – Long Term Trends in Recorded Crime



When this annual trend is studied in more detail (as shown in chart 2), there is a noticeable increase in offending to July 2020 which then decreases to January 2021 before increasing to the

summer of 2021. These trends are largely explained by fluctuations in public order and in particular non-injury violence which account for a significant proportion of overall crime.

Chart 2 – Seasonal fluctuations in Recorded Crime

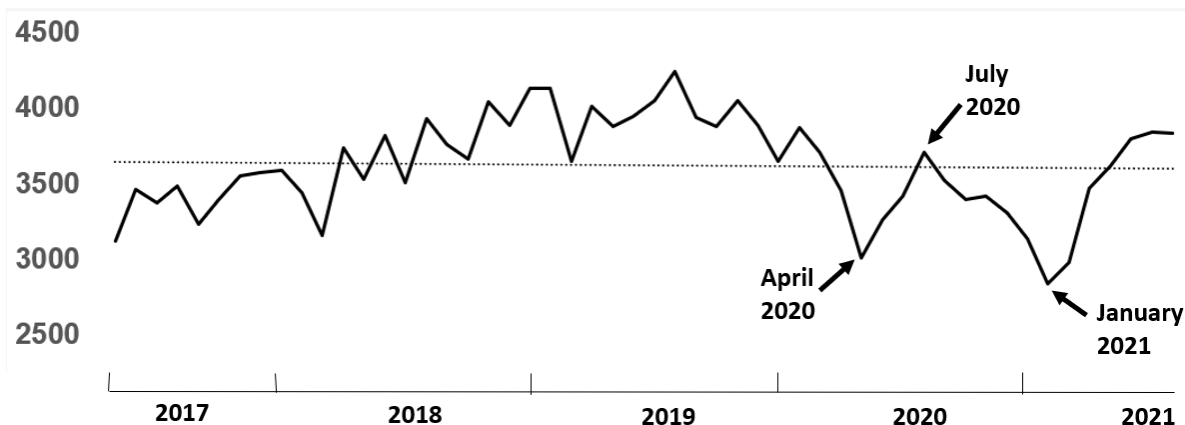


Chart 3 shows that the level of crime in Kirklees is broadly similar to that of comparable areas in the IQUANTA¹ family.

Chart 3 – IQUANTA Family Position – Total Crime

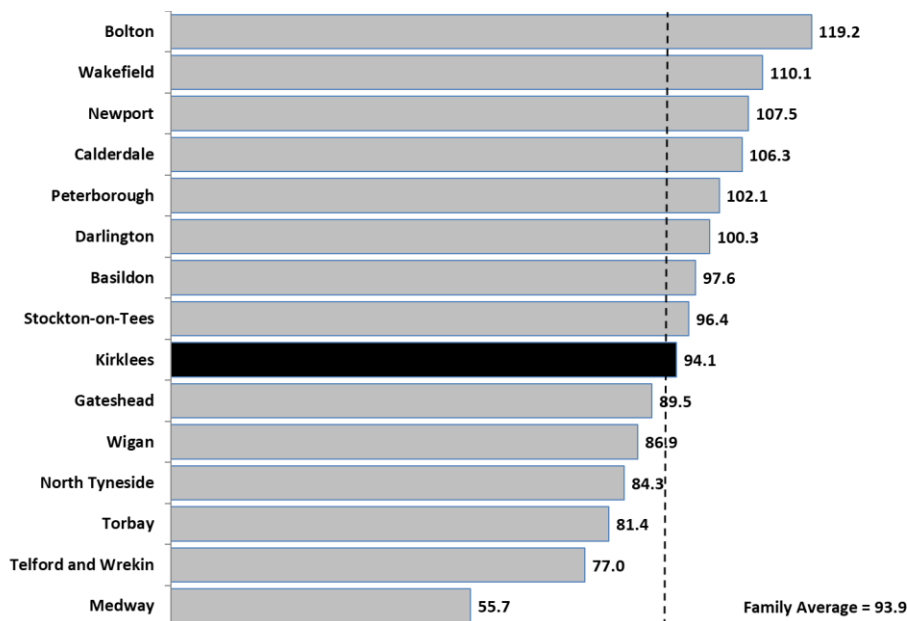
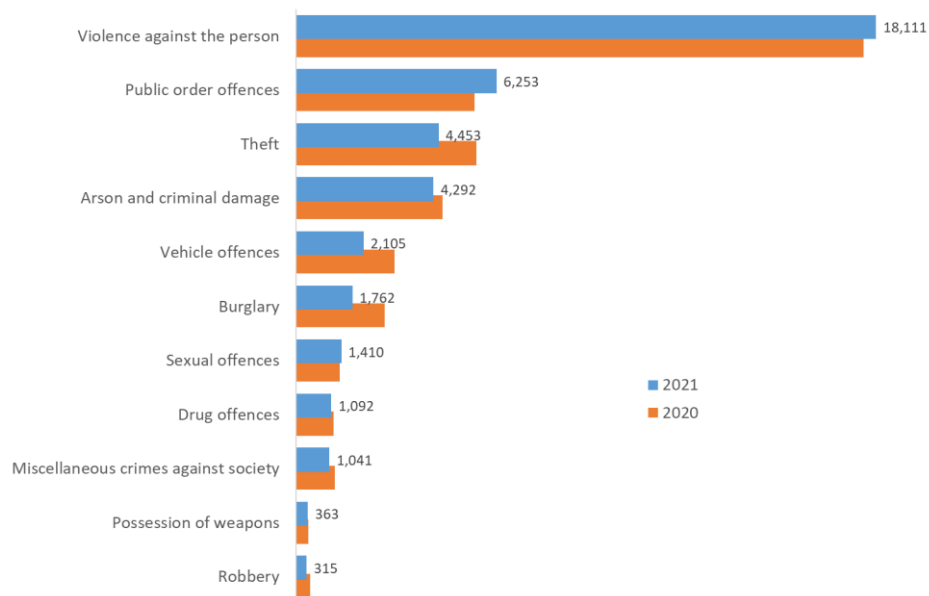


Chart 4 provides a breakdown of recorded crime by offence type with a second bar showing the previous year's figure. This shows that the majority of offences saw fewer offences recorded although public order and violence against the person (mainly non-injury) saw the largest increases and account for nearly 60% of all recorded crime.

¹ IQUANTA groups together similar areas based on socio-economic characteristics to benchmark levels of crime

Chart 4: Recorded crime in Kirklees (12 months to July 2021 vs previous year)



The next section of the SIA will take a more in-depth look at property and personal crimes to highlight key risks.

Property Based Offences

The next section of the PSIA considers key themes relating to crimes against property (as opposed to people). The Crime Survey for England and Wales indicates that property crimes are more concentrated in areas / households which most commonly have:

- High unemployment areas
- Household income (lower than £10,000 or less)
- High incivility in the area
- Urban rather than rural area

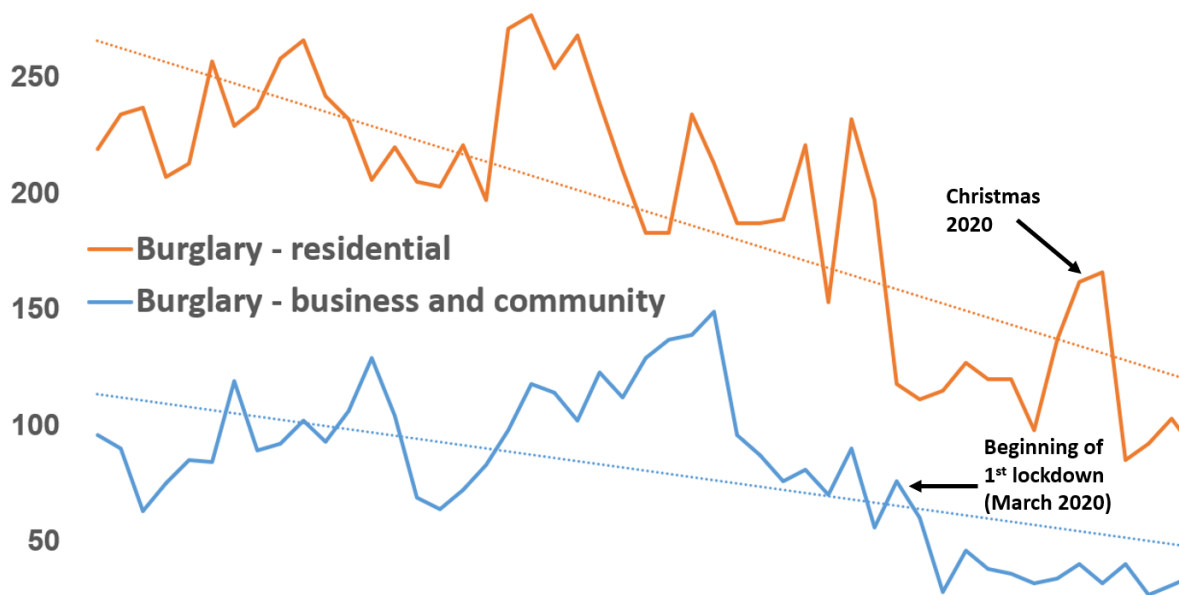
Burglary Offences

Burglary offences involve an offender entering a building with the intent of stealing something or with some other criminal intent. Burglary offences are divided into residential burglary where a home or other residential property (including sheds within the boundary of a property) is entered or business / community offences where the building is used for purposes such as shops, community centres and storage units on a building site.

It is also worth highlighting that attempt burglaries (where entry to the property is unsuccessful) are included in the count of burglaries and multiple offences can be recorded against the same building (for example if an offender gains access to a hall of residence and burgles (or attempts to burgle) 4 rooms, 4 burglary offences are recorded).

Chart 5 highlights the fluctuations in burglary offences by month and the overall reducing trends in offences.

Chart 5 – Fluctuations in Burglary Offences



When compared with other similar Community Safety Partnership areas in the IQUANTA family (shown in chart 6), Kirklees is better than average (6th lowest of 15) for overall burglary. Performance is better for Commercial / Community Burglary (4th lowest) compared with residential burglary (9th lowest) – having said this, performance in all areas is better than the average for the group.

Chart 6 – IQUANTA Family – Burglary Offences

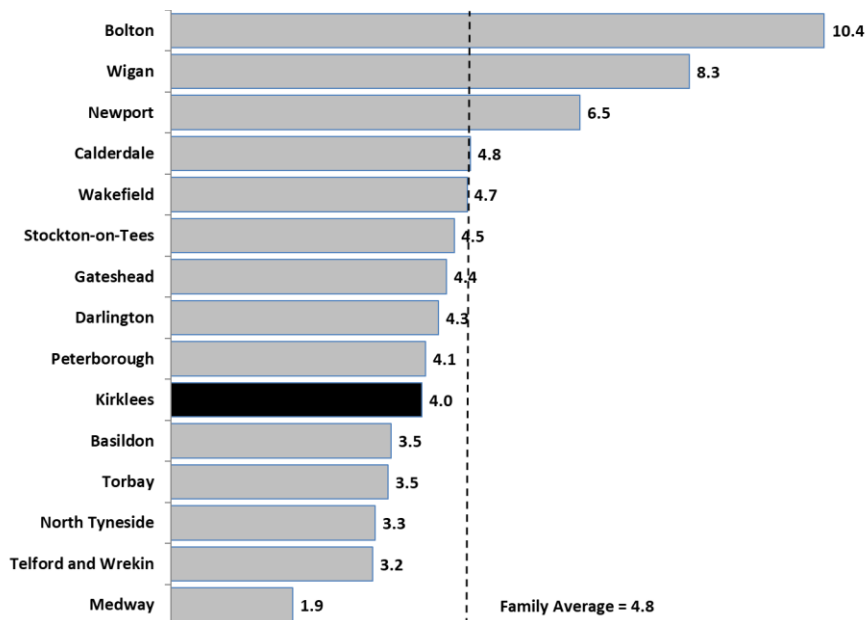
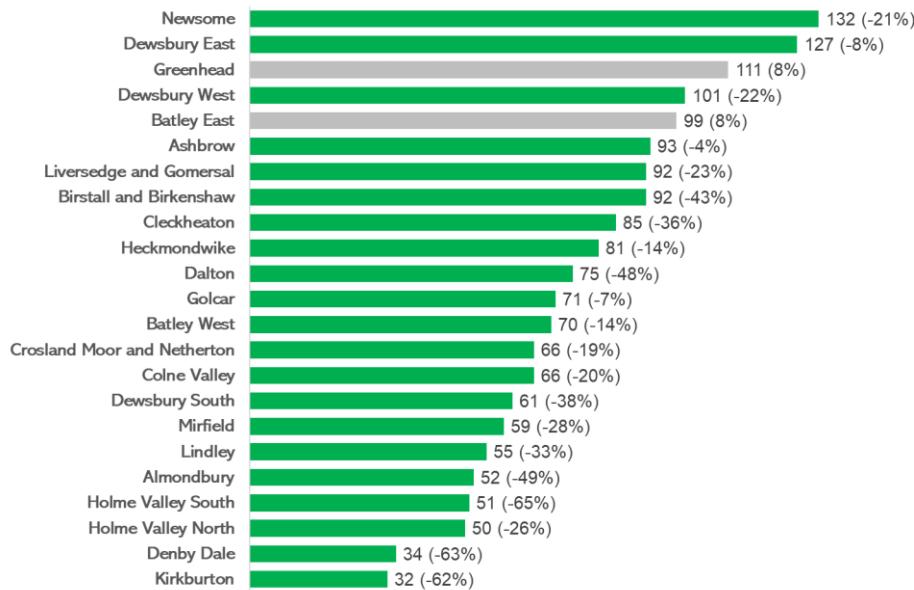


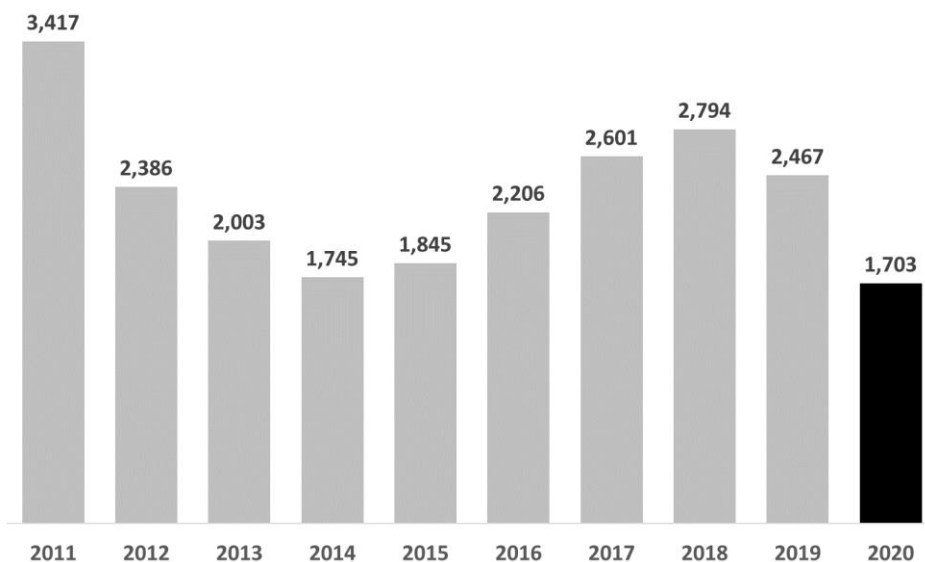
Chart 7 – Burglary by Ward



Residential Burglary

Chart 8 shows how residential burglary has reduced year on year since 2018. It should be noted that lockdowns and more people working from home during 2020 meant there were more “eyes and ears” to spot suspicious behaviour and also offenders would recognise the increased risks of being caught which would also serve as a deterrent.

Chart 8 – Longer Term Trends in Residential Burglary

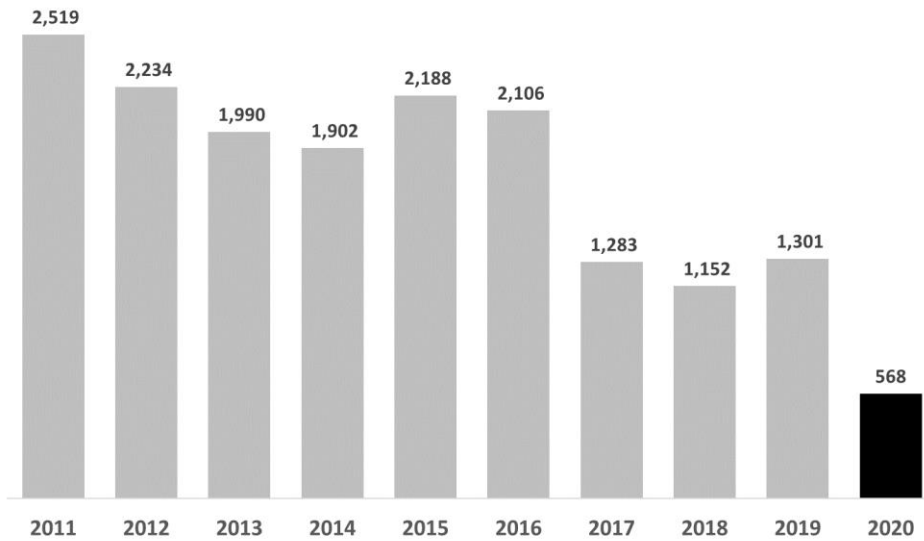


Burglary (business and community)

Chart 9 shows the trends in business and community burglaries over the past decade. Two significant reductions are evident:

- (1) In 2017 the category of “Burglary Other” changed to “Business & Community Burglary” – this resulted in burglaries of sheds and outbuildings within the boundary of a property was recorded under residential burglary (a similar increase in residential burglary is evident)
- (2) A significant reduction in 2020 when lockdown restrictions were in place and many businesses were closed. This significant reduction (56%) has been attributed to some proactive targeting of key nominals, restrictions in town centres meaning people more noticeable and possible switch in offending from burglary to other offence types.

Chart 9 – Longer Term Trends in Business and Community Burglary

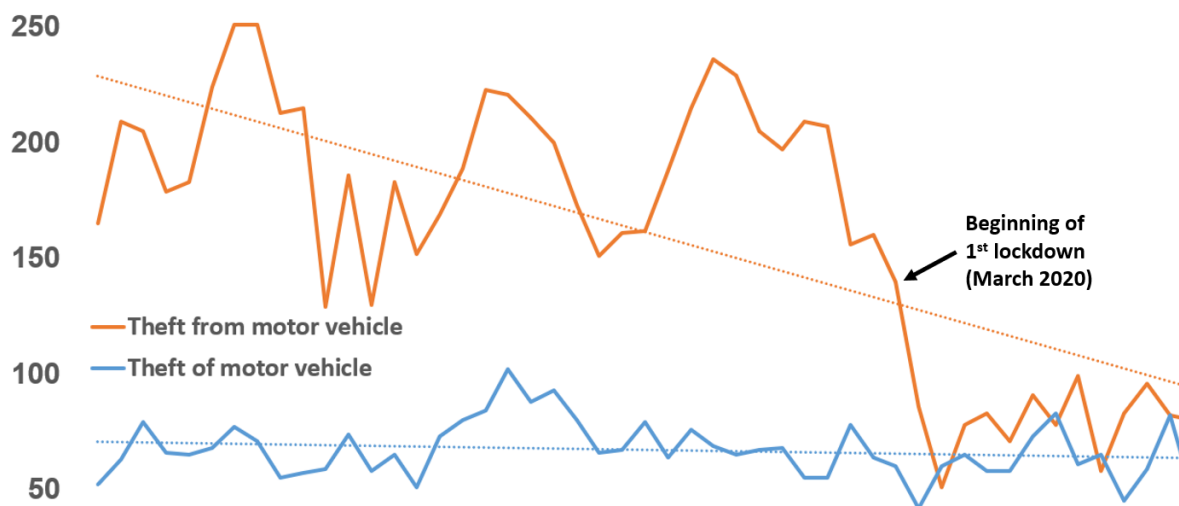


Vehicle Crimes

Vehicle crimes involve unlawful theft of vehicles or property from vehicles. Traditionally, the majority of offences have related to thefts from vehicles (such as bags, tools etc) as opposed to thefts of vehicles.

However, as shown in Chart 10, lock down restrictions had led to an unprecedented fall in thefts from vehicles (due to less use of vehicles which were often at home) which for a few months was under the number of thefts of vehicles.

Chart 10 – Fluctuations in Vehicle Offences



In comparison with other similar Community Safety Partnership areas (shown in chart 11), Kirklees is better than average (5th lowest of 15) for all vehicle crime. When this is broken down by type, performance is better for thefts from vehicle (6th lowest) compared with thefts of vehicle (11th lowest) which is slightly above average for the family.

Chart 11 – IQUANTA Family – Vehicle Offences

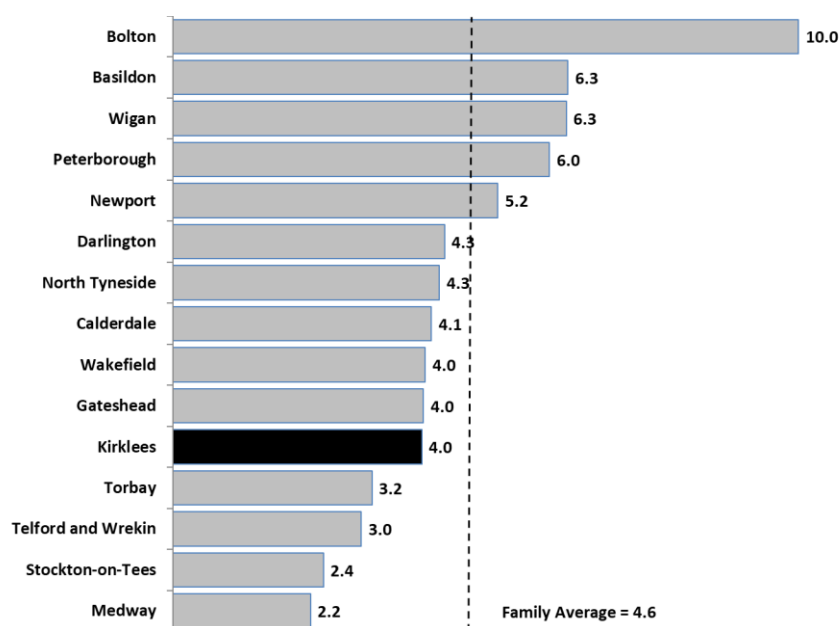
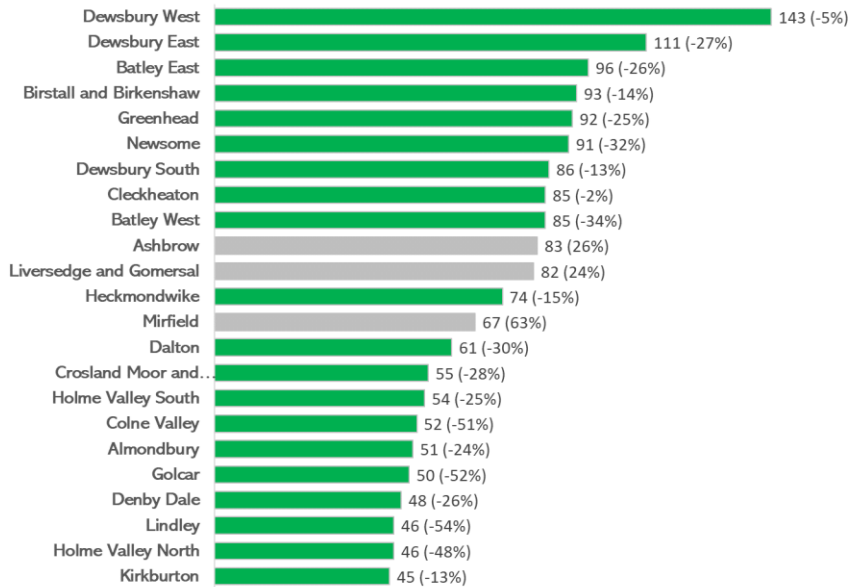


Chart 12 below shows the breakdown of vehicle offences at a Ward level. The chart shows how the majority of areas have seen a reduction in offences although the top 4 highest areas are all in North Kirklees. When the Ward level figures are investigated in more depth, there are some area based offences such as targeting of 4x4 and prestige vehicles.

Chart 12 – Vehicle crime by Ward (12 months to September 2021 vs previous year % change)

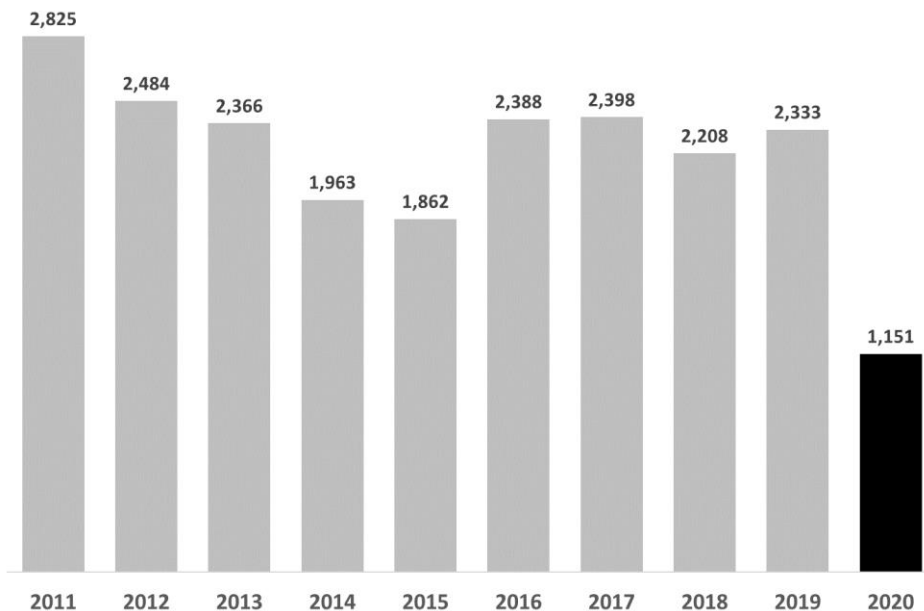


The next section of the SIA will explore vehicle offences in more depth.

Theft from Vehicles

As Chart 13 shows, figures since the end of 2020 have started to increase slightly but changes in commuting and travel more generally appear to still having an impact on levels of recorded offences.

Chart 13 – Longer Term Trends in Thefts from Vehicles



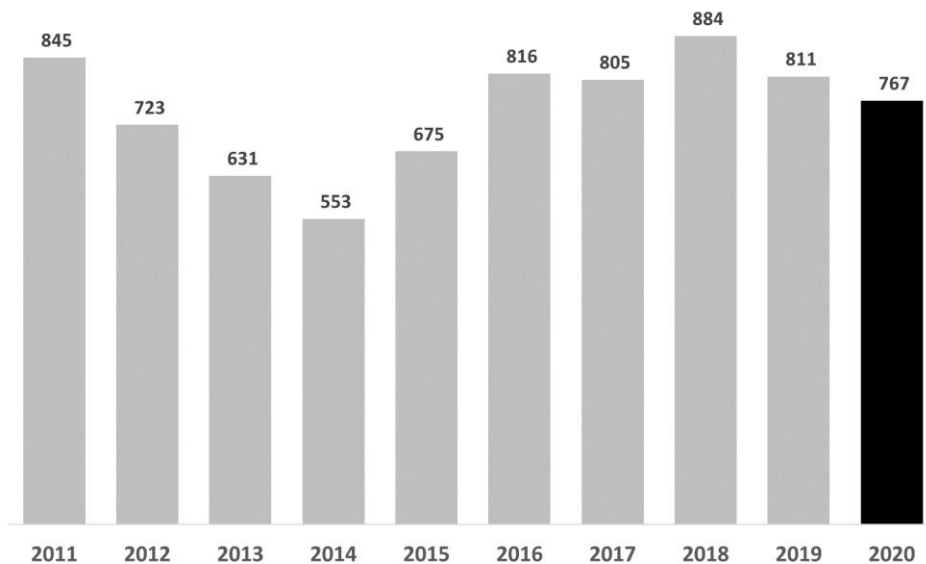
Where vehicles are targeted, it is usually where items have been left in the vehicle (sometimes on display) such as bags and power tools from commercial vehicles although there have been instances of theft of fuel and vehicle parts such as catalytic converters.

Since a lot of the volume offending is associated with travel into town centres and surrounding areas where cars are parked, there have been fewer opportunities for these offences.

Theft of Vehicles

The reduction in **thefts of vehicles** has been less noticeable (shown in chart 14) with a 7% (58 offences) reduction in offences compared with the previous year – in fact with the exception of January 2021, monthly figures have been higher than the previous year from September 2021.

Chart 14 – Longer Term Trends in Thefts of Vehicles



Theft of motor vehicles continue to be committed by obtaining owners' keys or thefts of older vehicles which do not have inbuilt security measures. Where keys are used, this is often targeted high value vehicles (which can include Plant vehicles) and can involve offenders travelling to commit offences which include domestic burglary targeting keys although technological changes to key fobs have meant cloning is also possible.

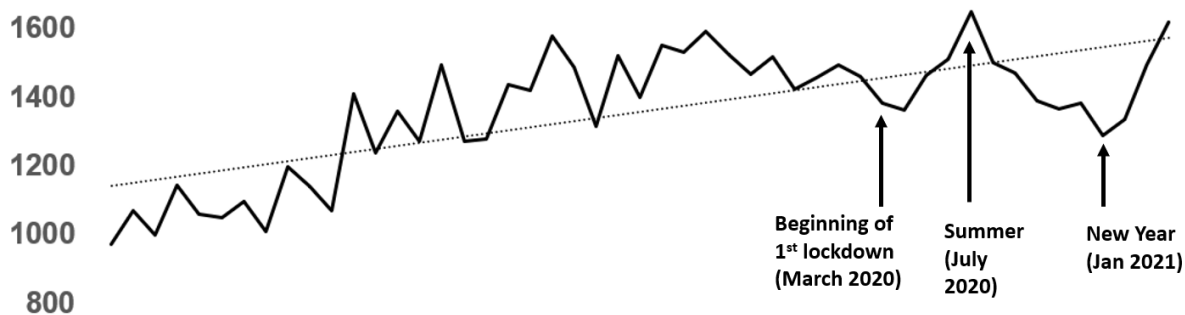
Person Based Offences

Violence against the person

Due to changes in the crime categories relating to violent crime, it is not possible to provide long term historic trends as the broader "violent crime" is now "violence against the person".

Chart 15 illustrates the fluctuating nature of violence against the person offences associated with a peak in incident in July 2020 and an increase in offences since the beginning of 2021.

Chart 15 – Fluctuations in Violence against the person



However, it is important to note that the category of violence against the person incorporates incident where injury is caused and also a larger number where there is no injury sustained. Chart 16 shows that, when broken down by injury, both the volume of offences and any increasing trends are associated with violence without injury.

When broken down more fully, the main types of offence associated with non-injury violence are assaults without injury, malicious communications and harassment.

Chart 16 – Split between injury and non-injury violence

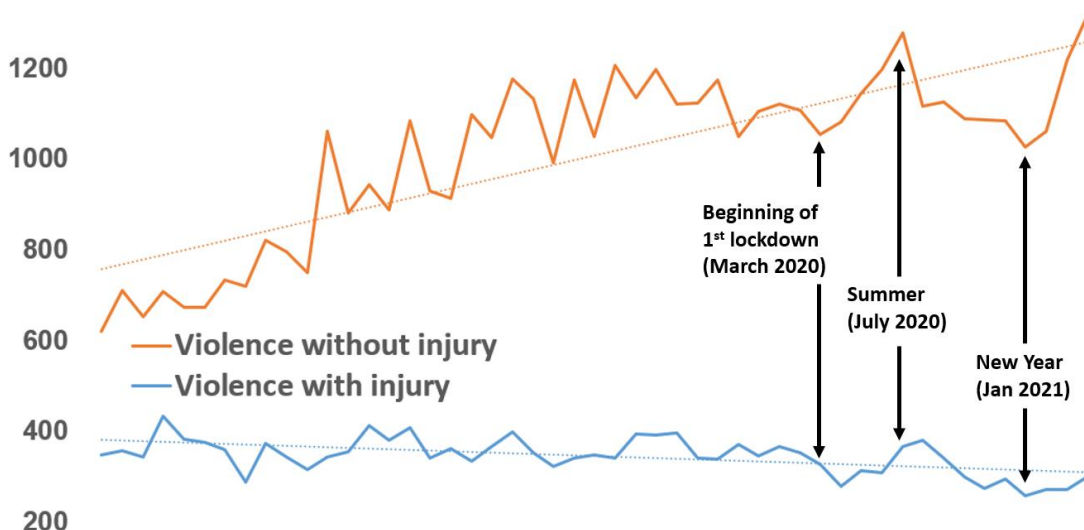
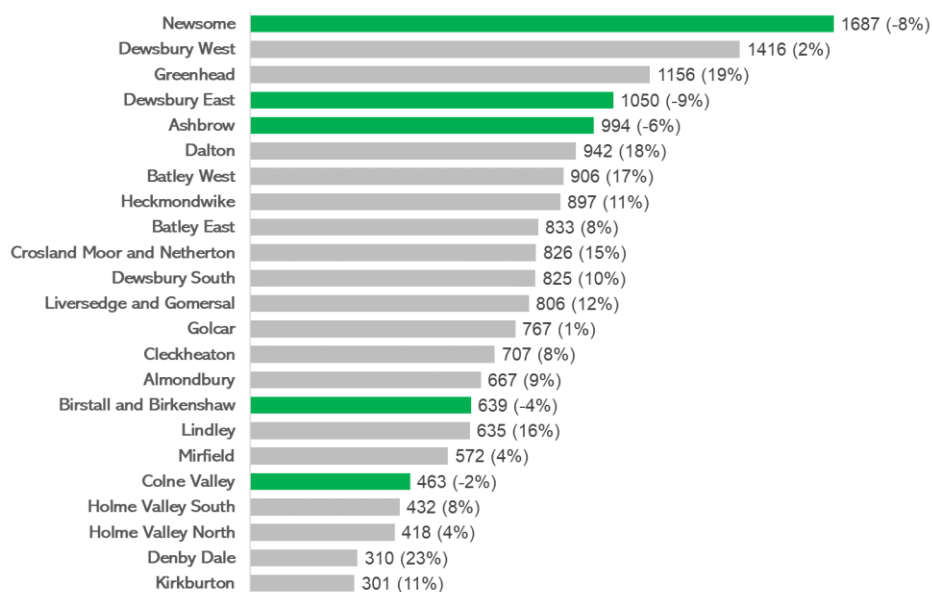


Chart 17 –Violence against the person offences by Ward (12 months to September 2021 vs previous year % change)



Violence Against Women and Girls

In July 2021, the Government produced the national strategy² to tackle the issue of violence against women and girls. The strategy includes a range of offences which disproportionately affect women and girls (e.g. rape & sexual offences, stalking, domestic abuse, “revenge porn” and “up-skirting”) but also the fact that women and girls feel less safe and therefore avoid spaces and have to alter their behaviour to feel safer.

The evidence based used to inform the national strategy highlights the fact that offences can take place in public places, in the victim / offender’s home or increasingly online (this was an issue picked up in Kirklees over the lockdown period).

Cyber Crimes

More people accessing internet from their homes over the lockdown – both working at home and filling time whilst being furloughed has presented opportunities for cyber offences. Typically, offences will occur when the victim is duped into clicking a link or inadvertently downloading a file which then initiates financial fraud.

Results from the latest Crime Survey for England and Wales (December 2020) highlight a significant (68%) increase in “remote banking” fraud where fraudsters will take advantage of the increased opportunities created by more online account management. Other cyber related offences also showed noticeable increases such as “Hacking” (up 26%) and viruses / malware (up 30%).

At a more local level, analysis continues to show issues relating to cyber enabled offending including malicious communications and online fraud / scams – some of which related to COVID e.g. sharing bank details to receive services.

² [Tackling violence against women and girls strategy \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Information has continued to be disseminated through social media and engagement with staff / community groups regarding cyber-crime issues relating to malicious communications, fraud and security awareness.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The format of this section of the PSIA which looks at ASB will be to firstly provide a definition of ASB before focussing on the three main areas of personal, nuisance and environmental ASB to highlight key risks.

Definition of ASB

The PSIA will continue to use the definition of ASB introduced under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) of behaviour which:

- has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person,
- is capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or
- is capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person

This definition covers a host of selfish and unacceptable behaviours which can blight the quality of community life. The Act recognises that definitions of anti-social behaviour fall into 3 categories:

Personal – where behaviour is deliberately targeted at an individual or group and has an impact on them (as opposed to the wider community) – this will vary from mild annoyance through to significant impact on mental or emotional well-being.

Personal ASB includes;

- **Noise** affecting neighbours
- **Abuse, intimidation, threats, rowdy behaviour** (where this affects individual families – the same behaviour affecting the wider community falls within the next category)

Nuisance – where incidents cause annoyance and suffering to the local community generally rather than to specific individuals. This behaviour will contravene expectations – the tolerance of what this constitutes will vary between communities.

Nuisance ASB includes;

- **Traffic** (speeding and parking, particularly around schools at the beginning and end of the school day)
- **Noise** affecting the wider community, particularly from the **behaviour of groups** (much of which is alcohol-related) and from the misuse of **motorcycles and fireworks** (these can have a disproportionate effect on a large number of people)

Environmental – this includes incidents which have an impact on surroundings – natural, residential and social environments. This relates to both private space but also public and shared spaces and centres around signal offences such as graffiti, litter, fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles

which negatively impact on fear of crime and lead to further deterioration of neighbourhoods including criminal damage and arsons if left unchecked.

The PSIA will draw on data from West Yorkshire Police, Kirklees Council Environmental Service, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing and West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service to identify key risks and threats under each of the three main categories of ASB.

Personal ASB

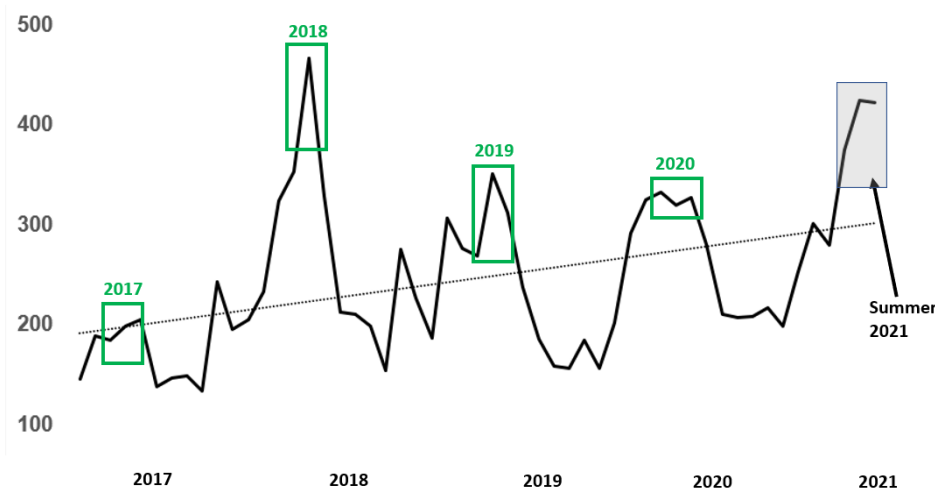
As previously stated, personal ASB is targeted towards an individual or household – typically this will be through noise or other neighbour related complaints.

In common with the national picture, reports of personal ASB increased over the lockdown period and have continue subsequently (although there have been monthly fluctuations).

Some factors associated with include

- (1) As shown in Chart 18 – noise household noise complaints increased over the lockdown period. When this was explored in more depth it was associated with people being at home for longer periods of time with complaints over DIY noise and rowdy behaviour.
- (2) Neighbour disputes escalated due to some frontline staff working remotely and therefore not being able to “nip things in the bud” through doorstep engagement – equally less access to some enforcement tools particularly where it might result in eviction during the lockdown period.
- (3) some cases of personal ASB increasing in intensity and there were examples where this escalated into hate crimes.

Chart 18 – Monthly trends in Domestic Noise Complaints

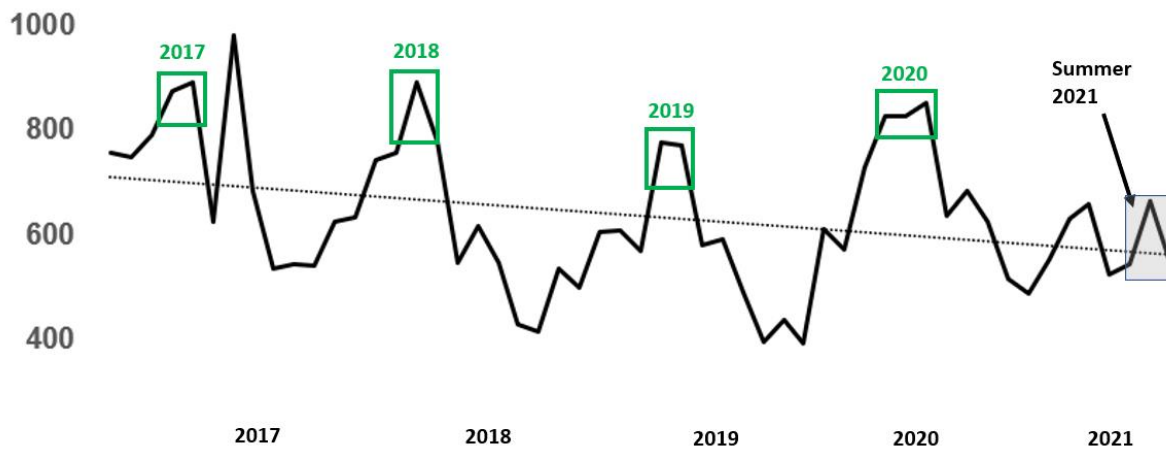


Nuisance ASB

As stated earlier, nuisance ASB impacts on the local community generally rather than to specific individuals. This includes issues such as rowdy behaviour, speeding traffic, fireworks and off-road motorcycles.

Chart 19 shows a generally decreasing trend in the number of nuisance calls received by West Yorkshire Police. Having said this, there are peaks in incidents over the summer months and around Halloween (although these are significantly less noticeable in 2020 compared with previous few years).

Chart 19 – Long term trends in Nuisance Behaviour (recorded by WY Police)



COVID-19 and the lockdown period in particular saw a 6% increase in nuisance complaints. This is likely to be connected with two factors;

1. Some reports of breaking lockdown rules may have been recorded as nuisance ASB as there was no specific incident category for breaches and
2. an increase in reports of nuisance due to more incidents (e.g. youth nuisance / off road motorcycles / noisy vehicles) occurring and possibly more reporting due to people being at home / in their neighbourhood (many of whom furloughed) and therefore more likely to witness / report incidents.

As stated earlier, Nuisance ASB usually follows a seasonal pattern – increasing when the weather improves and lighter nights – in particular issues such as nuisance motorbikes and youth nuisance tends to peak over the summer.

There is a potential for Nuisance ASB to increase further as the night time economy returns to pre-pandemic working practices – it is likely that this will be evidence over the festive period.

Environmental ASB

As stated earlier in the PSIA, where environmental ASB such as fly-tipping and graffiti is not addressed, it has a direct and detrimental impact on perceptions (and fear of crime) in neighbourhoods.

Most probably, the major type of environmental ASB evident over the lockdown period and beyond relates to fly-tipping which will be the focus of the next section in the PSIA.

Fly-tipping

Fly-tipping involves illegal dumping of waste (liquid or other materials) on land (or in the water) which is usually near to (or on) public highways such as laybys, alleyways and remote rural locations. On the whole fly-tipping is carried out to avoid paying disposal fees or for convenience.

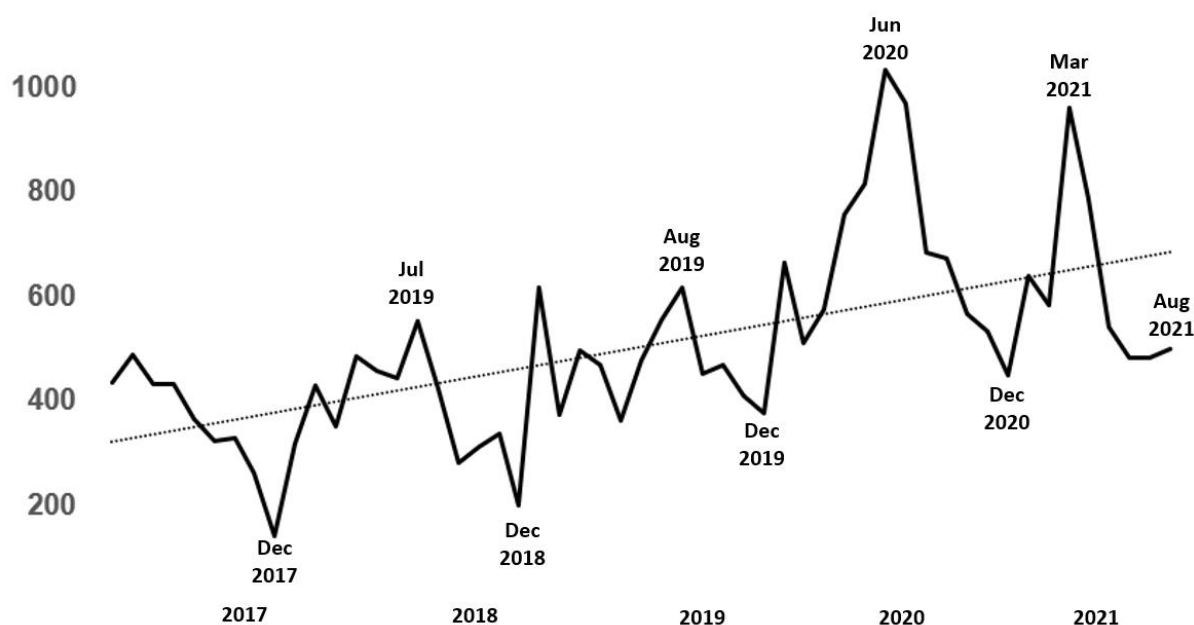
As shown in chart 20, reports of fly-tipping fluctuate on a monthly basis although (1) it is generally increasing and (2) there are seasonal spikes when people are trying to dispose of things – January and Summer months are most noticeable.

Over the past 18 months, fly-tipping increased significantly (up 60% compared with previous year) in the summer of 2020 which was partly to do with new recording methods (teams now record proactive removal of fly-tipping not reported by the public) but also increased whilst the recycling centres were closed with people decluttering their houses and more people walking in their area and therefore reporting incidents.

Analysis of incident locations highlights highest levels of fly-tipping in Wards such as Greenhead, Crosland Moor and Dewsbury West, although there are also locations where there is repeat and recurrent issues in both urban and sometimes rural locations with less chance of being witnessed.

Work has been ongoing with communities to promote speedy reporting of issues and enhancements to systems of clearing has resulted in faster removal of items to try to reduce build up in hot spot areas.

Chart 20 – Levels of Fly-tipping in Kirklees



In Kirklees, regular multi-agency problem solving groups called Community Outcome Groups (COGs) work collaboratively to address current community safety issues within each of the 4 partnership areas in Kirklees. The main issues being addressed over the past 18 months area outlined below.

Batley and Spen –

- Youth ASB and Nuisance Motorbikes with a particular focus on the Fieldhead area of Birstall
- Secondary fires in various areas of Batley and Spen
- Criminal activity within certain bed factories
- ASB and criminal behaviour on Manor Way estate

Huddersfield –

- Youth related ASB in parts of Almondbury, including Mereside, Waterloo and Fernside Park.
- Huddersfield Town Centre – ASB (street-drinking and begging in particular), litter and fly-tipping.
- Secondary Fires in Birkby.
- ASB and other criminal activities in parts of Crosland Moor, mainly Walpole and Lockwood.
- ASB in parts of Greenhead, including Birkby.
- Fly-tipping and waste in gardens in parts of Newsome.

Dewsbury and Mirfield –

- Street drinking, waste, poor housing and labour exploitation in Dewsbury Town Centre.
- Fly-tipping Drug use/dealing and intimidation on London Park Estate Mirfield.
- Youth related ASB in Mirfield Town Centre.
- Gang/drug related ASB and Crime in Ravensthorpe.
- Nuisance motorbikes in Thornhill.

Rural –

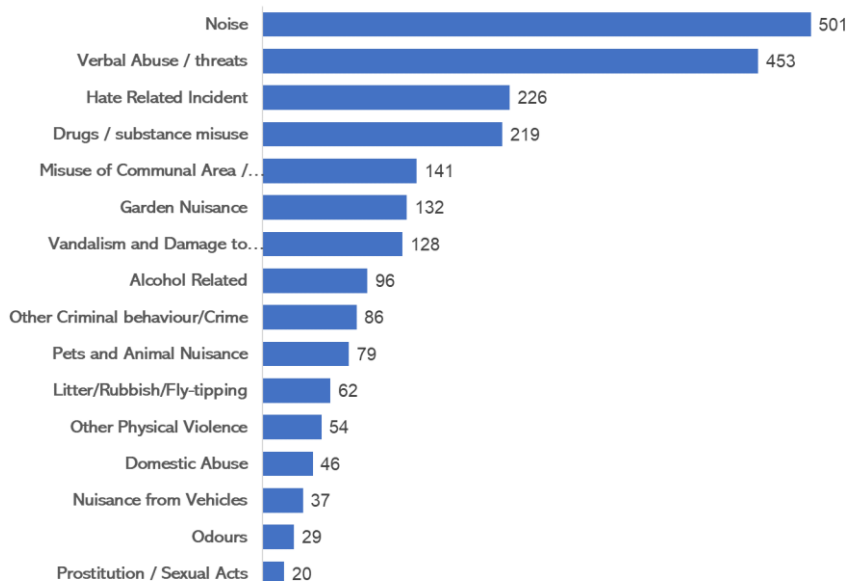
- Target vehicle theft of high end 4x4, older classic Land Rover Defender and vans.
- Off road vehicles using “green lanes” in the Colne / Holme Valley.
- Youth related ASB in Golcar.
- Gatherings and swimming in local reservoirs – this has also been linked with irresponsible use of BBQs and the risk of moorland fires.

Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH)

From data provided by KNH, in the 12 months to 31st July 2021, it was possible to identify 803 anti-social behaviour incidents – this is a reduction 20% reduction on the number of report for the previous year. It is however important to note that housing officers worked remotely for a large proportion of this time and therefore the reduction in incidents is unlikely to reflect the experience of residents in terms of actual ASB experienced.

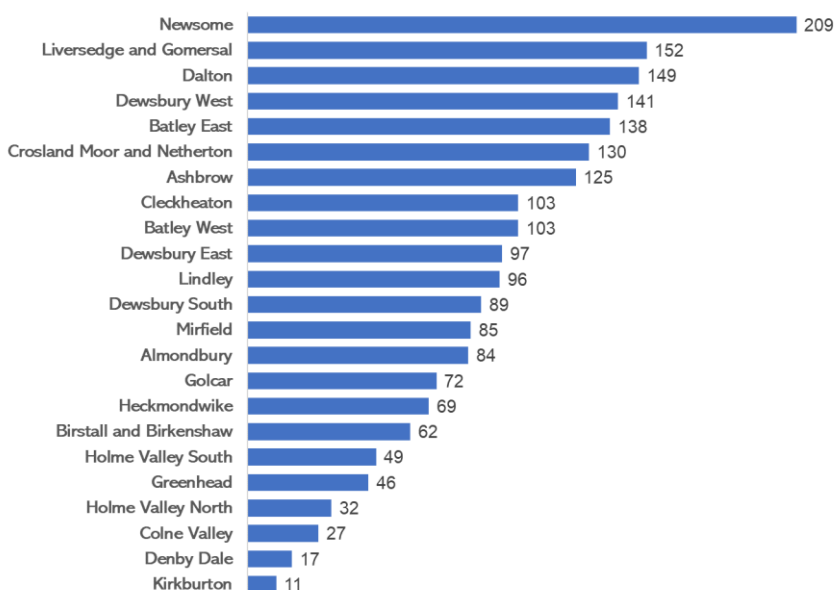
As shown in chart 21, the most common incidents recorded over the past 3 years continue to be (1) noise, (2) verbal abuse / threatening behaviour and (3) Hate Incidents. The majority of noise complaints continue to be related to loud music, although there were a noticeable proportion relating to banging and loud footfall (between floors in flats).

Chart 21: Anti-Social Behaviour complaints to Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing by Type



When broken down by Ward, Chart 22 shows the highest number of ASB reports were recorded in Newsome and Liversedge & Gomersall (note that these are totals and not a rate based on number of houses). When this is explored in more detail, the estates with the highest number of reports of ASB were Soothill Estate, Windy bank and Bradley.

Chart 22: Anti-Social Behaviour complaints to Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing by Ward

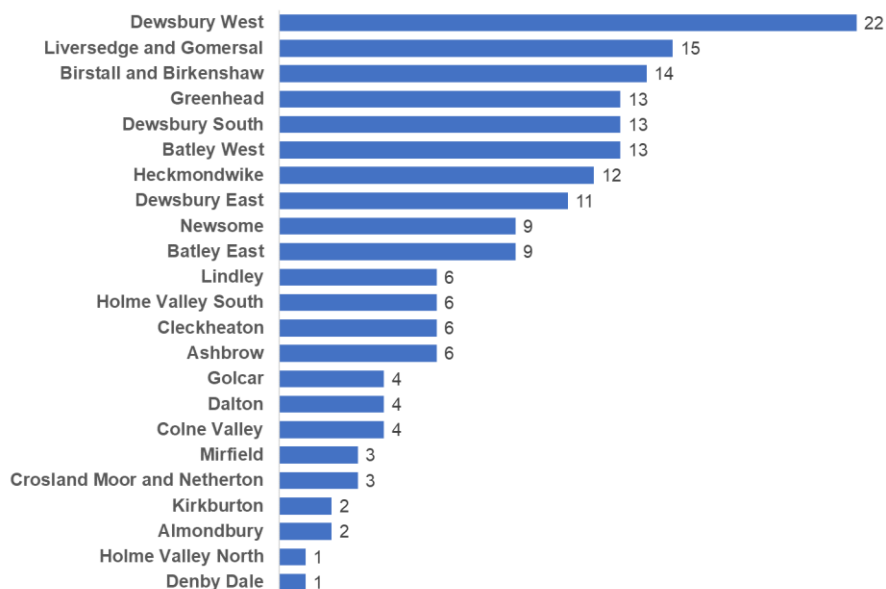


Fire Service

Deliberate Primary Fires - For the period Sep 20 to Aug 21, the main targets for these fires continue to be vehicles (65%) and dwellings / other premises such as sheds / garages (26%). Incidents are fairly equally distributed through the week although, the previously reported peak time for incidents is even more pronounced with 58% recorded between 9pm and 3am. Chart 23

shows the 3 wards experiencing higher numbers of deliberate primary fires in the North of the district.

Chart 23: Deliberate Primary Fires by Ward

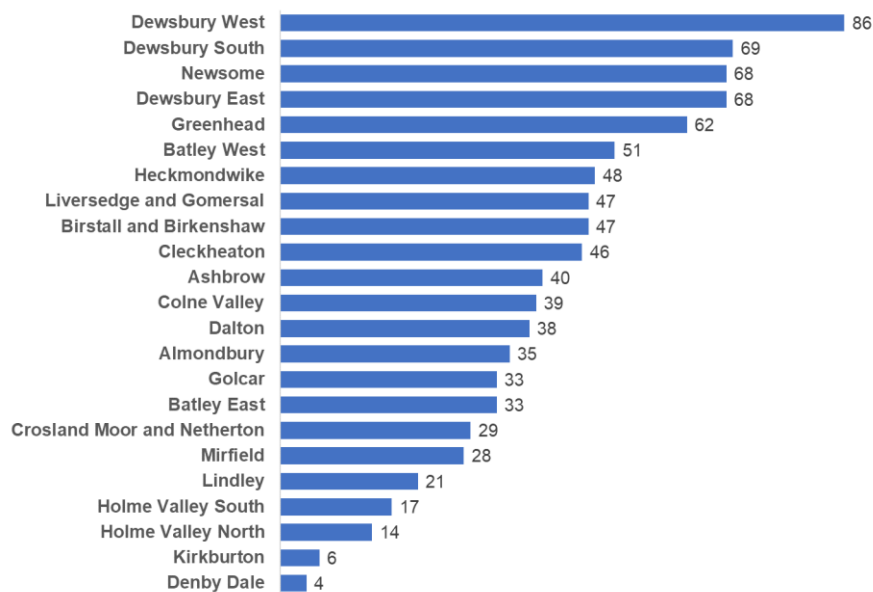


Deliberate Secondary Fires – Secondary fires target grassland, refuse / refuse containers, derelict buildings and other outdoor structures such as phone boxes and playgrounds.

Of the 878 incidents (7% increase from the period Sep 19 – Aug 20 to Sep 20 – Aug 21), the main targets were refuse containers (61% compared with 62% reported in previous SIA) and grassland (16% compared with 17% in previous SIA).

There continues to be a seasonal dimension to grassland fires in particular with 86% fires recorded between April and September (associated with warmer and drier conditions). Chart 24 shows secondary fires by Ward and closer inspection showed a higher concentration of Refuse fires in North Kirklees (55% of total) with Dewsbury West / East and South having higher rates than other areas.

Chart 24: Deliberate Secondary Fires by Ward



Perceptions

Crime Survey for England and Wales

It is widely recognised that the national Crime Survey for England and Wales provides the most reliable measure of people's experiences of crime³. The survey does highlight the impact of lockdown with reductions in personal and property crime (due to changes in social behaviour) although this was offset by a significant (36%) increase in fraud and computer misuse offences. The most significant reductions in offences were those with less opportunity i.e. person theft (less people out and about) and burglary (more people at home).

Opinions and lifestyles Survey (June 2021)

The Opinions and lifestyles Survey⁴ is national survey completed by respondents themselves online although telephone interviews are also conducted. The results are based on over 16,000 people aged over 16 and provide some useful wider context relating to community safety issues.

The survey asks people about their feelings of safety in different settings. Key results are:

People feel least safe walking in a public space **during the day** but conversely feel least safe in a park or other open space **after dark** – people feel most safe on a quiet street near their home.

When this is **broken down by gender**, women feel twice as unsafe as men in all settings – particularly after dark – this is even more pronounced for women aged 16 to 34 and those over 75.

As a result of this fear, people reported modifying their behaviour including not leaving home alone, not going to certain places and staying in after dark.

³ [Crime in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk)

⁴ [Perceptions of personal safety and experiences of harassment, Great Britain - Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk)

The report provides some insight into people's experiences of harassment (such as catcalls, unwanted sexual comments and whistles):

Women are significantly more likely to experience harassment – in particular sexualised comments by a stranger and feeling have been followed – those that had experienced harassment were more likely to be fearful in public space.

Your views Survey

Since the election of the Mayor for West Yorkshire, the duties previously undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner are delivered through this role. The Mayor's office undertakes regular surveys to establish local priorities although the monthly postal survey was suspended in March 2020 due to COVID.

In place of this, an online survey started in March 2021 which provides some indication of current feelings although results are not directly comparable with previous results (in the past respondents were selected at random whereas they self-select to take part in the online survey – results appeared more negative).

From the latest available results (March 2021), **76.2%** of respondents said they **felt safe in their local area** (3% reduction on previous year) which is almost identical to the figure of 76.3% for West Yorkshire.

Survey results show that **66.4%** of respondents say they are **satisfied with local area** (down 7.9%) which is similar to the figure for West Yorkshire of 66.8% (down 8.5%)

The result of the extent to which people from **different backgrounds get on well together** is **53.6%** (down 1.1%) is slightly less than the figure of 56% for West Yorkshire (down 1.2%)

The **top 3 concerns** for respondents from Kirklees (which mirror those for WY) are (1) Dangerous driving, (2) litter and (3) problem parking.

Place Standard

Over the past few years, Kirklees Council has engaged with local people to identify what are the most important issues for them in terms of the area in which they live. A summary of the top priorities for them are shown in tables 1 and 2 in the appendix.

The first table shows the top 3 priorities differ between areas although some common themes relating to (1) gangs and ASB, (2) petty crime and (3) drug dealers / users do feature across the majority of areas.

The second table focuses on solutions – two stand out as most often cited : (1) Activities for young people and (2) Improve Greenspace / environment.

Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods Resident Survey

In June 2020, a comprehensive survey was carried out which went to every resident living in council housing. A total of 2,505 respondents completed the survey which includes a question on satisfaction their local neighbourhood.

Results from the survey show a total of 3 out of 4 respondents were satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place neighbourhood as a place to live. When these figures were looked at in more depth, respondents might be seen in one of three groups (positive, negative or mixed):

More negative	Mixed feelings	More Positive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almondbury Crosland Moor Dewsbury West Newsome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Batley Central Birstall Cleckheaton Dalton Dewsbury East Ravensthorpe Thornhill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colne Valley Dearne Valley Deighton Heckmondwike Holme Valley Huddersfield Central

When these results were analysed by characteristics of respondent, there was no noticeable between male / female respondents (females slightly more negative but not significantly) although there was significant variation with age – satisfaction levels of younger respondents (18 – 34) were half that of those over retirement age – in particular those aged over 75,

Road Traffic Collisions

National Picture

According to the latest national figures, there was a total of 115,333 casualties as a result of road traffic collisions in 2020 – this was a 25% reduction from 2019. Of these, 23,486 people were killed or seriously injured nationally in 2020 which represents a reduction of 22% compared with the previous year⁵.

Of those killed or seriously injured, there were 1,472 fatalities which is a reduction of 16% compared with 2019 although when vehicle miles are taken into account, the rate of fatalities per mile travelled increased in 2020.

The same report highlights that this is in part due to a 21% reduction in vehicle miles in 2020 compared with the previous year – this was particularly evident over the lockdown (with the exception of cycling) but continued after this due to the impact of working from home and more localised living.

When the figure for all casualties is broken down by road user, there was a significant reduction in car casualties, a noticeable reduction in motorcycle / pedestrian casualties and a slight decrease in pedal cycle casualties (again largely linked to relative volumes of use).

All groups of road user saw a reduction in fatalities in 2020 with the exception of pedal cyclists who saw a 40% increase compared with 2019. However, this is connected with the fact that people reported cycling more over the pandemic⁶, which is demonstrated by the rate of fatalities

⁵ [Reported road casualties Great Britain, provisional results: 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/reported-road-casualties-great-britain-provisional-results-2020)

⁶ [National Travel Attitudes Study: Wave 4 \(final\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-travel-attitudes-study-wave-4-final)

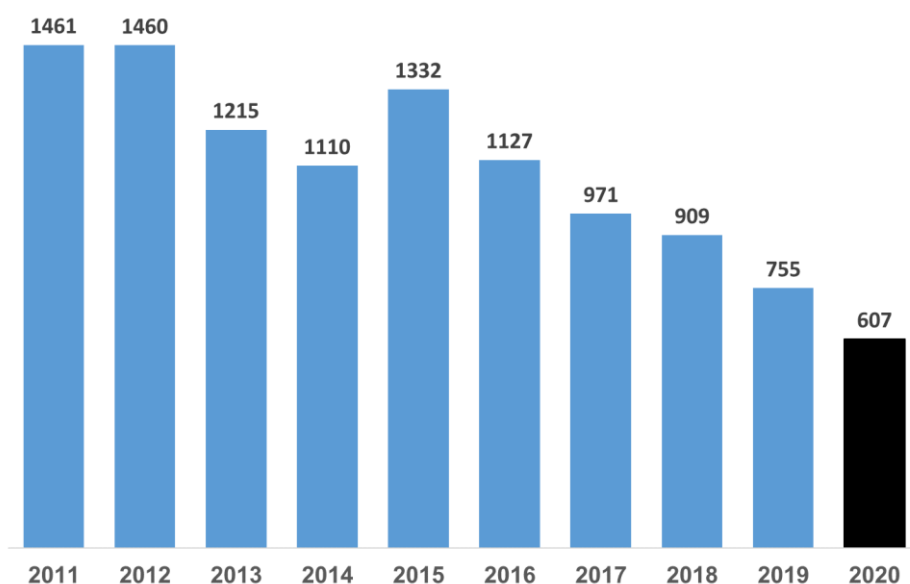
per mile travelled which saw a slight 4% reduction in fatalities involving cyclists (there was a more pronounced reduction for casualties (34%).

Kirklees Picture

It is worth re-iterating the findings of the “Your Views” survey undertaken by the Mayor’s office that speeding vehicles and problem parking are top priorities for respondents in terms of community safety.

Chart 25 shows that road casualties continue to reduce over the longer term. Figures for 2020 are 58% lower than they were 10 years ago, although it should be noted that lockdown periods and subsequent changes in driving behaviour led to reduced traffic volume on roads in 2020.

Chart 25 – Long term trends in road casualties



Casualties are divided into killed / seriously injured (16%) or “slight” (84%) – it is likely that the number of “slight” injuries is an underestimate due to under-reporting. Some of the key issues for each of the types of road user for 2020 are outlined below:

Pedestrians:

The most common injuries were sustained whilst crossing the road, children and senior citizens were most frequently involved. Of the 89 pedestrian injuries recorded, 76% (68) were slight, 18% (16) were serious and 6% (5) were fatal.

Cyclists:

The number of cyclist casualties have been reducing over the past few years although due to an increase in cycling over lockdown, the number of casualties was fairly stable in 2020 (the number of slight injuries increased). The most common type of junction for collisions to occur was a T-Junction – most commonly associated with “Driver/Rider error” such as “failure to look properly”.

Motor Cyclists

There was a significant (40%) reduction in motor-cycle casualties in 2020 compared with 2019. It was apparent that the months where lockdown restrictions were in place meant that monthly peaks in casualties were not as evident due to less traffic volume. Risk factors are similar to those already highlighted for cyclist collisions.

Not surprisingly, collisions tend to happen more frequently with higher traffic volumes (e.g. commuting times) but also with risk factors such as darker nights (e.g. for vulnerable road users such as cyclists and pedestrians).

Highest risks are associated at junctions and moving position in the road (including crossing) – collision are most often associated with lack of driver concentration and travelling too fast.

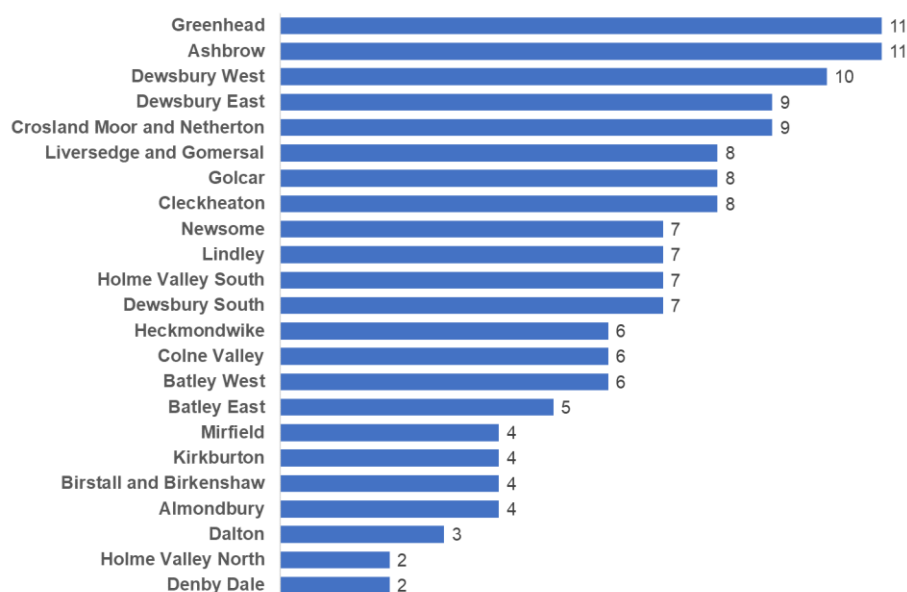
Accidental Dwelling Fires

There were 148 accidental dwelling fires recorded in Kirklees between Sep 20 to Aug 21. Incidents continue to be fairly evenly distributed by month and days of the week – incidents do increase at times associated with cooking with the most significant one between 3 and 5pm (possibly associated with school times).

The most common cause of accidental fires is cooking (47%) including the use of chip pans although both have increased since the previous period. There has been a decrease in fires associated with appliances and distribution (some of which associated with faulty charges and by-passing meters for cannabis cultivation). The number of fires associated with smoking has also decreased, possibly due to the increase in popularity of smoking ‘alternatives’ such as e-cigarettes.

Chart 26 shows accidental dwelling fires are understandably more prevalent in more urban wards – they also tend to be higher in more deprived areas of these wards.

Chart 26 – Accidental Dwelling Fires by Ward



Community Tensions and Violent Extremism

PREVENT

PREVENT is part of the Government's wider Counter Terrorist Strategy (CONTEST) and aims to identify people at risk of being drawn into radicalisation and deliver interventions to safeguard and support them to reduce this risk.

The current National Threat Level remains substantial, meaning that a terrorist attack is judged as a strong possibility.

For the last few years, the most significant threats to national security are from Daesh / Al Qaida inspired groups, extreme right-wing groups and increasing from other causes with no particular ideology – for example environmental protests. The most significant threats which have been undertaken and continue to be of greatest concern relate to planned actions and from lone actors using readily available equipment such as bladed instruments.

A key area of concern in creating an environment for developing extremist ideologies is through online platforms including chat rooms associated with online gaming. – this was particularly apparent over the lockdown period which resulted in more Channel referrals involving an online link. There have been well publicised cases of hate speech over mainstream platforms including Twitter although some prominent figures have had their accounts closed and therefore started to use less widely used platforms which are less “policed”.

Over the lockdown period (from March 2020), there were fewer opportunities to spot signs of radicalisation through face-to-face contact – such as when schools were closed (where a significant number of referrals come from). As a result of this, there was a significant reduction in referrals to the Channel panel (which puts in place interventions to support people at risk of radicalisation), although referrals have returned to pre-pandemic levels as contacts have returned to normal.

Over the lockdown period, PREVENT staff have continued to support people at risk through the Channel process and also delivered services differently such as delivering the WRAP awareness raising to partnership staff through online training sessions.

Lockdown has increased the range of threats evident with the emergence of civil liberties (around lockdown) groups, environmental protests, possible risks connected with the return of the Taliban in Afghanistan and Extreme right wing (which has started to see an increased anti-Semitic narrative evident).

Kirklees Migration and Resettlement Programme

Kirklees (particularly Huddersfield town centre) has a long history of receiving asylum seekers and refugees through a range of programmes. Some the Council has control over and some they do not (asylum and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children). As well as those seeking protection people also make their own choice to migrate into Kirklees to work, to study and to join families

Kirklees Communities Service Migration and Refugee Resettlement Team has an enabling and supportive role to work with partners to support vulnerable people and those seeking sanctuary to access the support that is available to them in Kirklees.

In terms of general characteristic of people arriving in Kirklees:

- The main general migration, Pakistan remains the top country of origin with 429 arrivals in the last 12 months, Romania is in second place with 319 arrivals and India moves into third place with 170 arrivals (which is a change from Poland)
- In 2019 2,366 new arrivals came to Kirklees from 56 Countries settling in the main around Huddersfield Town Centre, Ravensthorpe and Fartown (40% were from the EU).
- For those arriving seeking humanitarian protection (Asylum seekers) top countries : **Iraq, Iran, Albania** - language's: **Kurdish, Arabic, Mandarin**

There a range of reasons why people arrive and settle in Kirklees – an overview of the main ones are outlined below:

Asylum Dispersal

Kirklees has been an asylum dispersal area since 2000. The Home Office commission a company called Mears to provide Housing and Welfare Support and Migrant Help for over the phone advice, assistance with the asylum process and to report any issues and concerns.

The majority of asylum seekers are dispersed into private rented accommodation in South Kirklees, although there are growing numbers in the North of the district. The numbers of asylum seekers in dispersed accommodation in Kirklees have remained fairly stable over the past few years with roughly at any one time between 700 -800 individuals living in the district.

There is always pressure across the region and the UK for asylum properties and therefore cheaper, large houses of Multiple Occupation are often used, ideally with access to community, health and mental health services.

Since August 2020 Kirklees has seen the use of Hotels by the Home Office for housing asylum seekers. This has seen a sudden increase in July/August 2021 with 130 new individuals arriving in Kirklees in need of support – the majority are very new to the UK and quarantine on arrival. Those in Hotel accommodation have no access to any money, they live on a bed and board basis which makes them more vulnerable to exploitation.

UK Refugee Resettlement Programme (UKRS)

Kirklees Council and partners have supported the programme since 2015. A decision has been taken to pause new arrivals for 6 months whilst the focus moves to Afghan Relocation programmes. Currently, 40 families are being supported with issues such as housing and intensive support on arrival with interpreters to ensure access to key services and support, support community integration, for children to start school and for parents to have the chance to quickly learn and develop their English language provision and ensure specialist health and mental health support is in place.

Afghan Relocation Programme

Kirklees Council agreed to be a part of the Afghan Relocation Programme and is supporting 79 individuals (from 16 families) over the next 12 months. Families could be located anywhere across Kirklees, although in the main this will be in Huddersfield, Batley and Dewsbury to enable people to access support services. The programme has a very similar approach to refugee resettlement in that we provide and prepare housing and provide intensive support. A partnership approach and programme and working group meetings are in place to support the development of this work

EU Settlement Scheme

People have arrived in Kirklees from the EU for many years and as a result of Brexit significant changes and implications to a person's immigration status would apply unless people choose to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Much work with the EU community has taken place over the past 18 months to support people and the target of 13,000 to sign up to EUSS which has now been exceeded.

Some of the common challenges for new arrivals include:

- Learning a new language
- Adapting to a new country/new culture
- Managing without a familiar support network
- Family responsibilities in the UK or country of origin
- Education and work experience in another country
- Visa conditions which restrict entitlements
- Parents vs peers expectations for young migrants
- Safeguarding issues- Trafficking, forced marriage, FGM, honour violence
- Hostility from host community, community cohesion tensions
- Victims of hate crime
- Isolation and vulnerability to radicalisation
- Accessing immigration advice including maintaining valid immigration status
- Accessing appropriate services - especially health and mental health services

The main risks and challenges in this area are outlined below:

- (1) Continued significant pressure with asylum dispersal in particular with:
- Properties procured by Mears in areas that have no local support infrastructure such as specialist asylum and immigration advice and health/mental health support and could create community tensions
 - Continued use of Hotels to house a significant number of single males and the added pressure this is providing locally on contracts and resources that were intended for those who had arrived in to dispersed accommodation, wider refugees and vulnerable migrants.
 - Added vulnerabilities for those living in hotels on limited income re exploitation
 - To take into consideration when planning any local operations or community responses the make-up of the local community and to link in with the

accommodation and welfare support provider Mears

(2) Planning and delivery of the Afghan Relocation programmes

- All partners are aware and involved in planning a local response, there is a capacity issue as the need is to move people out of hotels in the next 12 weeks so pressure is on services all round as more resources are agreed and brought in over the next few months.

(3) Mental health pathways and support for those seeking asylum

- Mental health and access to support and services has at times been very problematic.

Community Tensions

A Community Tensions monitoring system is in place to identify issues which have the potential to cause conflict within communities. The next section of the SIA provides a summary of some of the key events which have been flagged through the process over the past 18 months.

As reports of a global pandemic emerged from China, national and international studies have highlighted an increase in hate crime targeted at Chinese individuals. The fact that Kirklees has a relatively small Chinese community means that this was not evident to a significant volume in Kirklees. Having said this, in the period just before the first lockdown, the Community Tensions monitoring reports picked up several reports of Chinese people (including overseas students) being targeted for verbal abuse and some boycotting of businesses.

As lockdown progressed, there were incidents / issues concerning perceived lack of social distancing / rule following which was attributed to Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities and business – this was mainly evident on social media platforms.

In terms of actual vaccination uptake rates, they are significantly lower in the most deprived areas compared with our least deprived areas, and significantly lower for non-White British ethnicities compared with White British ethnicity (particularly Black and Pakistani ethnicities). These patterns are consistent across all age groups. Vaccination uptake is also significantly lower for males compared with females, for all age groups below 70 years. In line with the rest of the country, uptake rates are lower in the younger eligible age groups.

Although uptake rates are significantly lower in non-White British ethnic groups, actual numbers of people not vaccinated are much higher within our White British population. There are almost as many unvaccinated White British people (age 18+) in Kirklees as there are in all other ethnic groups combined.

More recently, there has been a noticeable increase in the amount of anti-vax stickering particularly around Birkby, Greenhead Park and Huddersfield Bus Station areas, and also some small, regular gatherings of groups to protest against the vaccine in general.

The reporting of the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent Black Lives Matter protest has raised the profile of anti-discrimination activities. This alongside publicity associated with the

disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BME communities has the potential to increase awareness and therefore reporting of race hate offences.

Over the lockdown period, there has been an increase in online abuse which has also been seen at a national level. This is targeted at individuals by people they know but also by “keyboard warriors”. The majority of football clubs recently undertook a 48-hour boycott of social media in protest of the volume of online hate and their feeling that technology companies were not taking the issue seriously.

A protest took place in March 2021 outside Batley Grammar School in connection with a teacher within the school showing caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad during a religious education class. A number of parents complained to the school about what was taught during the lesson and demanded that the teacher to be removed from their position within the school. The issue was one of the themes in campaigning in the Batley and Spen by-election and some comments on social media are still questioning what support is in place for the teacher in question. These comments are more likely to be seen on Twitter rather than in the local community groups on Facebook, suggesting that the commenters are less likely to be local to the area.

In May 2021, there was a by-election for the Parliamentary seat of Batley and Spen. Candidates from 15 parties were put forward including some far-right parties and former MP George Galloway stood as one of the candidates. There was a lot of community discussion on social media in the build up to the by-election, much of it quite tense with several incidents occurring including the Labour candidate Kim Leadbeater being subjected to abuse (some of which was homophobic) during campaigning. Tensions were raised during the by-election period and there was a spike in hate incidents.

In July 2021, a pedestrian was killed in a road traffic collision with a car driven at speed in Batley. This caused tensions in the area and resulted in the formation of a local protest group (Reclaim Our Area’s Roads - ROAR) which stages weekly peaceful protests that are held at various locations in the area to highlight the issue of speeding cars and work with local agencies to address this.

Ongoing reporting of court cases relating to child sexual exploitation cases and subsequent arrests of predominately Pakistani heritage males. Local and national media covered this story and there was a Yorkshire Patriots demonstration in Dewsbury against grooming gangs. There have been hundreds of comments on social media although locally tensions in the community were low.

There has continued to be a number of gang related knife / shooting incidents ongoing within Huddersfield, mainly in the town centre and North Huddersfield, however this has reduced significantly during 2020. There have been several serious arson attacks in North Kirklees over the past year, targeting cars and property.

Anti-social behaviour has been an ongoing issue in various parts of the district in 2021. In Almondbury, an incident involving a young person with a weapon (possibly a BB gun) was reported in the local press, raising tensions in the area and portraying the area as “lawless”.

In North Kirklees, there have been ongoing anti-social behaviour issues in parts of Batley such as groups of men gathering in cars at night using and dealing drugs. Tensions escalated and a community spokesman was worried that some members of the community might “take matters into their own hands”. A significant piece of work was undertaken by partners to address the issues and reassure the local community. This work has so far proved successful, and the community have noticed a reduction in the amount of anti-social behaviour in that area.

Possible Future Tensions

COVID19 and associated restrictions on people are highly likely to be a concern for local people with the strong possibility of tensions developing in relation to this.

It is anticipated that developments relating to the Brexit implementation may cause tensions and possible negativity between communities.

There has been an increase of far right stickering and graffiti in Kirklees, particularly in places where people gather such as Parks.

Child Sexual Exploitation continues to be an ongoing concern for people in Kirklees. Trials are currently ongoing, and it is likely that there will be others arrested for historic CSE which is highly likely to result in tensions.

Hate incidents / crimes

Definition of Hate Crime

The definition of hate incidents in the SIA is the shared definition Police / Crown Prosecution Service one, where a hate incident / crime is where the “victim (or anyone else) think it was motivated by hostility or prejudice based on one of the following things:

- disability
- race
- religion
- sexual orientation
- transgender identity”.

It should be noted that hate incidents based on other characteristics such as age, gender and subculture e.g. Gothic are not currently recorded as hate incidents although this is currently under review.

Recent National trends in recorded hate crimes

The latest hate crime report from the Home Office⁷ (covering the 12 months to March 2020), show a continued year on year increase in hate crimes recorded by the Police (8% increase on previous year). The reasons for this continued increase are attributed to better recording and awareness of reporting mechanisms.

⁷ [Hate Crime Statistics - House of Commons Library \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk/library/research-briefings/crime-reports/hate-crime-statistics)

The latest Home Office Statistical Bulletin relating to the prevalence of Hate Crimes highlights a reduction of incidents in early lockdown (March / April / May) and then a noticeable increase in June / July (compared with the previous year) – more recent figures are not currently available.

The same report highlights that West Yorkshire recorded the highest number of hate crimes in 2019 / 20 nationally (although figures for Greater Manchester are not available) and for each of the strands of hate crime. It should be noted that this may be to do with better recording practices as opposed to an indication of more hate incidents occurring.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales⁸ estimates that around 47% of hate incidents are reported to the police (which is higher than the 38% for broader crime). Therefore, data from this report is generally regarded as a better measure of actual victimisation.

The latest (2019/20) Crime Survey report combines data from the previous 3 years (to provide a more robust dataset) and highlights a long-term reduction in the number of hate incidents (down 38% in the past 10 years). Conversely, there have been year on year increases in hate crimes recorded by the police, demonstrating improved identification and recording of incidents.

Results from the Crime Survey for England and Wales identifies a higher proportion of victims saying they were emotionally affected by the incident: 36% of hate crime victims said they were “very much” affected compared with 15% of broader crime victims.

The same report highlights lower victim satisfaction with handling of hate incidents: 55% of victims said they were satisfied compared with 66% for broader crime.

According to the latest available data (up to March 2021) from the Crown Prosecution Service⁹, nearly 80% of people taken to court were charged in West Yorkshire which compares with 86% nationally. It should be noted that whilst these figures appear to be positive when cases get to CPS, latest figures for Kirklees in terms of charge rates for incidents reported falls to 21% - this is likely to be associated with the definition of hate incidents where someone needs to perceive there was an incident as opposed to firm evidence of intent.

The latest CPS data shows that of those people who were prosecuted, over 88% were convicted of the offence in West Yorkshire compared with 87% nationally.

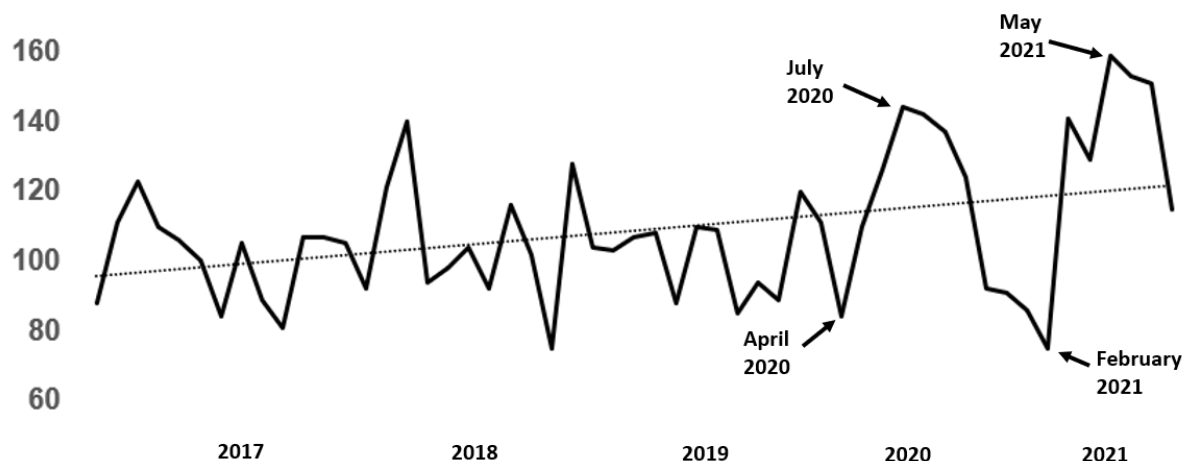
Trends in Hate Crimes within Kirklees

The number of hate crimes recorded in Kirklees in the 12 months to August 2021 (1,453) was 10% (129) higher than in the previous 12 months.

⁸ [Hate crime, England and Wales, 2019 to 2020 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

⁹ [CPS data summary Quarter 4 2020-2021 | The Crown Prosecution Service](#)

Chart 27: Trends in hate crimes recorded by West Yorkshire Police



As can be seen in Chart 27, it is evident from the monthly breakdown of incidents that there was a spike in incidents over the summer of 2020 before a decrease to February 2021 and then sharp increase to May 2021.

Exploring these incidents in more depth, the latest police data that was available (December 2020), showed the highest proportion of incidents continue to be racist (70% racist, 12% sexual orientation, 11% disability, 5% faith and 1% transphobic).

Looking at trends by category, with the exception of transphobic which saw a 30% (6 incidents) fall, all categories saw an increase in recording – the highest being for faith incidents (58%, 19 incidents).

The profile of victims is similar previously reported trends:

- Under representation of **females** as victims and (in particular) suspects
- Over representation of **males** as victims and (in particular) suspects
- Under representation of **white** population as victims and (to lesser extent) suspects
- Over representation of **Black and Minority Ethnic** groups as victims (in particular) and suspects (to lesser extent)

Broken down by Ward, Newsome continued to see the highest number of incidents reported although it also saw the largest (32%) reduction in incidents (it contains Huddersfield Town Centre). 8 out of 23 Wards saw a decrease in incidents, of those that saw an increase, this was highest in Mirfield (70%), Holme Valley North (80%) and Batley West (126%).

Possible reasons / pressures in hate crimes

There have been several key events and considerations worth highlighting in relation to the spikes in reports of hate crime over the past 18 months which will be outlined below.

As reports of a global pandemic emerged from China, national and international studies have highlighted an increase in hate crime targeted at Chinese individuals. The fact that Kirklees has a

relatively small Chinese community means that this was not evident to a significant volume in Kirklees. Having said this, in the period just before the first lockdown, the Community Tensions monitoring reports picked up several reports of Chinese people (including overseas students) being targeted for verbal abuse and some boycotting of businesses.

As lockdown progressed, there were some tensions concerning perceived lack of social distancing / rule following, some of which was attributed to BME communities and business – this was mainly evident on social media platforms.

Over the last 12 months, the summer of 2020 reporting of the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent Black Lives Matter protest has raised the profile of anti-discrimination activities. This alongside publicity associated with the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BME communities has the potential to increase awareness and therefore reporting of race hate offences.

Nationally, there has been an increase in online abuse of prominent figures including football players particularly following the Euro 2020 finals and more generally in response to footballers “taking the knee” before matches. There have been widespread complaints of Social Media companies for not dealing with hate posts appropriately.

Within Kirklees, there has been an increase in incidents between neighbours over the lockdown period. These may be incidents which have escalated from historic disputes and compounded by the pressures of lockdown, increased noise and less doorstep engagement (to resolve issues) by staff as they are working differently over lockdown.

Domestic Abuse

The definition of domestic abuse in Kirklees is “Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality”.

This makes it clear that this abuse is far wider than violent incidents and can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- Psychological
- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Emotional

This definition of abuse also includes controlling behaviour which is defined as “a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

It is recognised that both males and females can be victims or perpetrators and this abuse can take place in heterosexual or same sex relationships. Having said this, it is true to say that women are far more likely to face severe violence and controlling behaviour from their abusive partners than men are.

It is also evident that domestic abuse severely impacts on the whole family unit and can have lifelong negative consequences for children. The next section of the SIA will consider the findings of key current research evidence relating to domestic abuse.

Research findings on Domestic Abuse

According to the most recent (November 2020) results from the Crime Survey¹⁰ for England and Wales:

- Estimates 2.3 million adults (aged 16 to 74) experienced domestic abuse in the past 12 months (slight decrease compared with previous year)
- Nearly 759,000 domestic abuse related crimes – slight increase compared with the previous year, reflecting better recording
- Increased demand for support services: 65% increase in calls to national support line, 700% increase in visits to national domestic abuse website during start of lockdown period

Similarly, the latest published figures (January 2019)¹¹, the estimated cost of domestic abuse for England and Wales is £66 billion. These costs are based on 3 factors (70% of costs relate to emotional and physical harm to victims):

- **Anticipation** – to support protective and preventative measures
- **Consequence** – including property damage, physical and emotional harms, lost output, health and victim services
- **Response** relating to police and criminal justice system costs

Although these costs are based on the methodology used to estimate the costs of crime¹², it is probably a conservative estimate as it is likely that domestic abuse will be experienced on multiple occasions over an average of 3 years as opposed to a single event / crime.

According to research from SafeLives¹³, there is often a long period of experiencing abuse before outside support is accessed:

- Victims living with domestic abuse for between 2 and 3 years (experiencing over 50 incidents) before seeking support
- 85% of victims sought help from professionals an average of 5 a year before getting necessary help to stop the abuse
- 23% high risk victims attend A&E (often on multiple occasions) before accessing support.

The latest Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment from Public Health recognises the negative impact that domestic abuse has on health outcomes and the emotional and financial costs to a variety of services to attempt to reduce the longer-term harm caused.

¹⁰ [Domestic abuse in England and Wales overview - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/people-in-the-uk/domestic-abuse-in-england-and-wales-overview)

¹¹ [The economic and social costs of domestic abuse \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/421111/the-economic-and-social-costs-of-domestic-abuse.pdf)

¹² Heeks, M., Reed, S., Tafhiri, M. and Prince, S. (2018) 'The Economic and Social Costs of Crime'. London: Home Office.

¹³ [Getting it right first time - complete report.pdf \(safelives.org.uk\)](https://safelives.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Getting-it-right-first-time-complete-report.pdf)

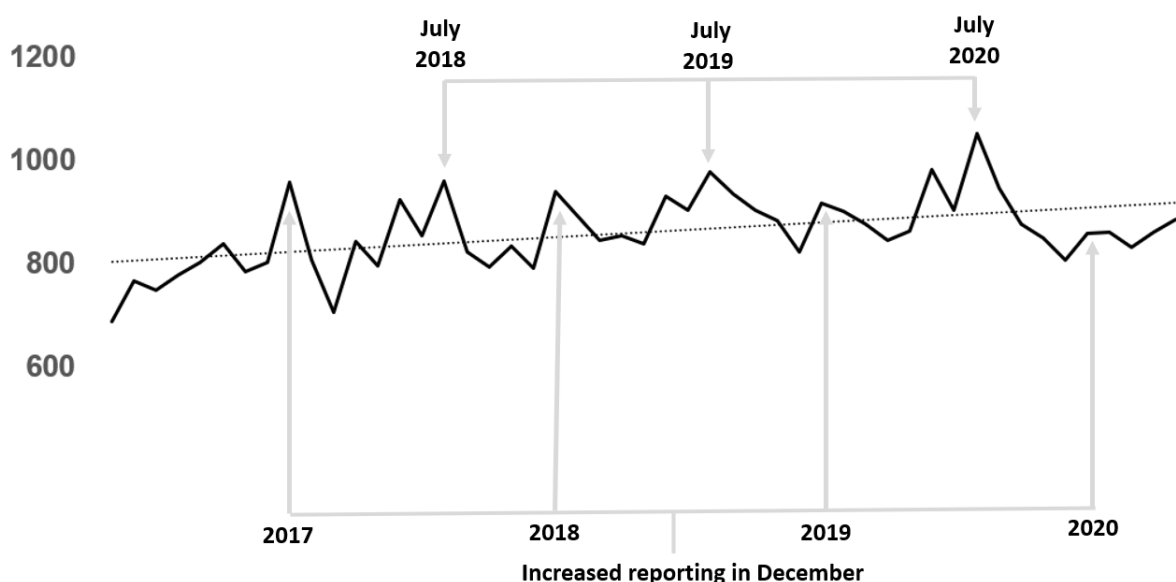
Some of the Risk factors associated with committing domestic abuse identified in the KJSA include history of violent behaviour, anti-social behaviours and attitudes, relationship instability, employment instability, mental health problems and personality disorder, an abusive childhood, low self-esteem, and hostile attitudes towards women.

Police Data on Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse incidents recorded by West Yorkshire Police have shown a steady increase over the past 3 years. Chart 28 highlights the fluctuating nature of incidents but also seasonal spikes both in the Summer and over Christmas.

During the lockdown period, recorded incidents peaked in July 2020 and then decrease in the latter part of the year before generally increasing in the past few months.

Chart 28 – Seasonal Spikes in Domestic Abuse reported to the Police



Locally, awareness support continues to be given to staff working with communities (including at COVID testing / vaccination centres) concerning spotting signs and where to report.

Produced posters and leaflets on available services for staff to distribute within the community, GP surgeries & COVID testing / vaccination centres.

Service delivery continues through (increasing) in person contact and virtual connection – meetings such as MARAC continue to be delivered over conference calls and feedback from participants indicates general consensus that this has improved the process.

According to the latest figures, there were 10,637 domestic abuse incidents recorded by West Yorkshire Police in the 12 months to May 2021 (up 3% from previous year). In terms of characteristics of these incidents:

- The majority of victims were female (74%) and the majority of suspects were male (73%)
- Peak ages of individuals involved in incidents (as victims or suspects) was 20's and 30's

- Repeat victim rate is 47.5% and repeat suspect rate is 46.3%
- Incident arrest rate is 26.2%

In the summer of 2021, a Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment was carried out to identify support needs to enable survivors of domestic abuse to live in safe accommodation. This comprehensive research drew in data from service providers including Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership, Kirklees Rape and Sexual Advice Centre, WomenCentre and various specialist housing support services. The key findings around current provision (and gaps in this) are outlined below.

The need for **additional posts** that had been lost in critical areas such as family support working and dealing with complex underlying issues. Additionally, there is also an opportunity to increase the “out of hours” provision that is available to enhance access to support.

A recurrent theme emerging from data analysis exercise was that there are significant gaps in the data and issues relating to the **quality of the data** in order to develop deeper insight.

The research studies reviewed in the Needs Assessment highlights the **impact of COVID-19** on domestic abuse in terms of creating an environment for controlling behaviour combined with changed working for some agencies.

Domestic abuse continues to be **under reported** meaning it is critical that the services available to support victim-survivors needs to be communicated widely and pathways to support need to be accessible to all.

Analysis of the data provided highlighted a need to **engage with marginalised groups** where engagement with services is lower – for example the relatively low take up of services with the African Caribbean communities and also other groups including those that identify as LGBT+ and people with disabilities.

In terms of **support services**, the first and perhaps most prominent relates to the area of **mental health**. This issue featured in both the analysis of data and the interviews with key stakeholders. In terms of provision, it was felt there is a need for additional capacity to provide more specialist high-quality counselling and 121 services to address more complex issues (including substance misuse).

An integral part of this was **listening to the survivor experience** and engaging with communities including third sector organisations in a meaningful and productive manner.

A common theme emerging from the interviews were the needs to provide support interventions to the whole family with a focus on the **needs of children**. This relates to both current and historic abuse and needs to be both generic early support / signposting and more specialist provision.

A key area highlighted in interviews was the importance of **training for staff** (and communities) both to spot the signs of possible abuse but also more specialist support relating to the trauma associated with domestic abuse.

Finally, but crucially, the issue of taking a **holistic view of the abuse** means that there is a focus on working with perpetrators to stop the cycle of abuse at the earliest opportunity.

Forced Marriage

The definition of forced marriage used by the Home Office is “where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used”.

The pressure put on people to marry against their will can be;

- Physical including threats, actual physical violence and sexual violence
- Emotional and psychological for example, when someone is made to feel like they're bringing shame on their family
- Financial abuse such as taking wages or not giving someone any money

In some cases, people may be taken abroad without knowing that they are to be married. In these cases, when they arrive in that country, their passport(s) / travel documentation may be taken to prevent them returning to the UK.

An arranged marriage is not the same as a forced marriage. In an arranged marriage, the families take a leading role in choosing the marriage partner, but both parties are free to choose whether to enter into the marriage or not.

According to the latest figures available relating to forced marriage¹⁴, during 2020:

- 759 cases received nationally – representing a 44% decrease in cases (this has been attributed to impact of COVID19 such restrictions on weddings and overseas travel)
- The Forced Marriage Unit delivered training to over 450 professionals although this was delivered online
- Countries judged to be at heightened risk of forced marriage by the FMU included: Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Afghanistan and Somalia
- On the whole (62%), cases were reported by professionals such as social care, police, borders & immigration, education and health care
- Ordinarily, cases peak in school holidays but this was less evident in 2020 (less opportunity for travel)
- 79% of cases relate to women although men are more represented where they are LGBTQ (63% male) or there are mental capacity issues (55% male)

Modern Day Slavery & Human Trafficking

The National Crime Agency defines Human Trafficking as the “movement of a person from one place to another (both cross border and within a country) into conditions of exploitation, using deception, coercion”. The themes in this definition largely mirror the 3 elements in the most frequently used international definition from the United Nations Convention (2000);

- The **movement** – recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people

¹⁴ [Forced Marriage Unit statistics 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020)

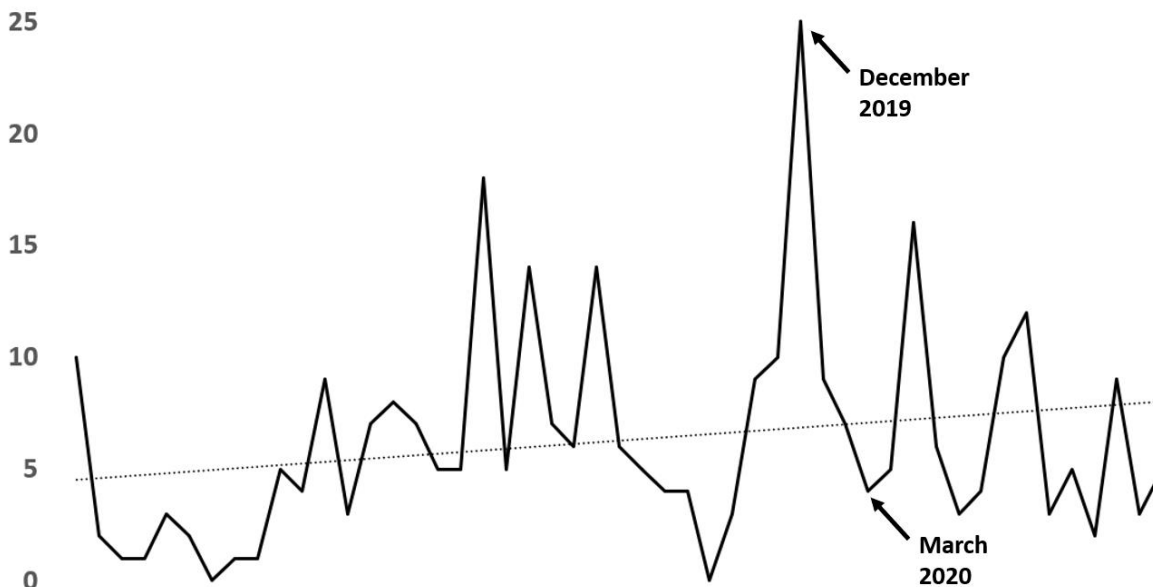
- The **control** – threat, use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or the giving of payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim
- The **purpose** – exploitation of a person, which includes prostitution and other sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organs

All three elements need to be present for an adult to be defined as a victim of human trafficking. Only the Act and Purpose need to be present for a child to be deemed a victim of human trafficking.

According to the latest (2020) nationally available figures¹⁵ relating to modern day slavery, a total of 10,613 possible victims of modern-day slavery were referred through the National Referral Mechanism. This figure was almost identical to that of the previous year and went against a generally increasing trend – this is attributed to impact of lockdown restrictions. The same report indicates a fairly equal split between adult / children referrals although adults referrals are more likely to be connected with forced labour whereas children are more likely to be associated with criminal exploitation.

Chart 29 shows significant fluctuations in the number of modern day slavery offences recorded on a monthly basis in Kirklees. The spikes are connected with either the recording of historic cases or the resulted of targeted operations. There is some evidence that the visits to businesses over lockdown around COVID advice resulted in intelligence relating to modern day slavery been submitted as a result of concerns raised by front line workers.

Chart 29 – Trends in Modern Day Slavery Offences



¹⁵ [Modern Slavery: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify statistics UK, end of year summary 2020 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

It is vital that partnership officers remain aware of the signs of possible modern day slavery and therefore the continued multi-agency briefing sessions (which are now delivered through video conferencing facilities) are key to raised awareness.

Referrals continue to be made through the National Referral Mechanism with 12 made between January and March 2021 (6 from police and 6 from the council).

Female genital mutilation (FGM)

FGM is a collective term, also known as genital cutting and female circumcision, for all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for cultural or non-medical reasons. The practice of FGM is illegal in the UK under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003.

FGM is a deeply rooted tradition, widely practised mainly among specific ethnic populations in Africa and parts of the Middle East and Asia. It serves as a complex form of social control of women's sexual and reproductive rights.

The World Health Organization estimates that more than 200 million girls and women worldwide have experienced FGM and around 3 million girls undergo some form of the procedure each year in Africa alone.

Women and girls in the UK from the following communities are at heightened risk of FGM:

- Egyptian;
- Eritrean;
- Ethiopian;
- Indonesian
- Kenyan;
- Kurdish;
- Nigerian;
- Sierra Leonean;
- Somali;
- Sudanese;
- Yemeni.

The age at which girls undergo FGM varies enormously according to the community. The procedure may be carried out when the girl is new born, during childhood or adolescence, just before marriage or during the first pregnancy. However, the majority of cases of FGM are thought to take place between the ages of five and eight and, therefore, girls within that age bracket are at a higher risk. FGM has significant, sometimes fatal, physical and mental health consequences for women and young girls experiencing it.

According to the latest available national figures¹⁶, between April 2020 and March 2021:

- 5,395 women attended health service where FGM was identified
- 80% cases picked up through services associated with pregnancy or child birth
- Over 90% of FGM procedures were undertaken when the girl was under 18
- There is usually a large gap in time between the procedure and identification by health services

¹⁶ [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) Annual Report - April 2020 to March 2021 \(experimental statistics report\) - NHS Digital](#)

It is widely acknowledged that official figures on FGM are likely to be an underestimate of actual levels and lockdown is likely to have reduced opportunities for picking up cases in some health care settings.

Drugs & Alcohol

Findings from the review of drugs use / markets undertaken by Dame Carol Black provide a useful insight into current trends and market pressures associated with current drugs use in the UK¹⁷: The main points relating to this are outlined below:

Heroin:

The majority of Heroin used in the UK is imported from Afghanistan. Globally, production of heroin increased by around 45% over the past 5 years and it is unclear what the impact of regime changes in Afghanistan will be in terms of supply. Distribution of heroin in the UK is on the whole undertaken by Organised Criminal Gangs often through County Lines (where often vulnerable and commonly young people are used to transport goods). Distribution of heroin is more likely to have violence associated with it due to the large amounts of money associated with its supply. Users often have multiple issues such as mental health, unemployment, homelessness and offending histories. The UK has significantly more opiate users per head of population in Europe – it is estimated there are 261,000 users in England. The average annual spend for a user is estimated to be £12,538.

Crack cocaine

Crack Cocaine is derived from Cocaine which is on the whole produced in South America and smuggled via Southern Europe. This is usually imported as cocaine and then transformed into crack cocaine in the UK. Production of cocaine has increased significantly (5x) and as a result purity has increased. Methods of supply are similar to those involved with heroin as are the levels of violence and higher levels of use compared with other European countries. There are an increasing number of drugs related deaths related to crack and the number of people in treatment is relatively low. It is estimated there are 181,000 users in England. The average annual spend for a user is estimated to be £6,263.

Powder Cocaine

Methods of production and trafficking of cocaine have already been outlined in the paragraph on crack cocaine. Levels of organised criminal gangs is high with much of the market controlled by Albanian OCGs (although British OCGs are involved at the street level). Proportionately more users of cocaine earn higher incomes, often younger and most frequently will use a couple of times a month. It is estimated there are 976,000 users in England. The average annual spend for a user is estimated to be £2,152.

Synthetic Drugs (MDMA, amphetamines, New Psychoactive Substance - NPS)

Produced in laboratories throughout the world although majority of MDMA / amphetamine in the UK are made in Europe e.g. Belgium / Netherlands and synthetic cannabinoids and other NPS come from India / China. Supply is either through some of the OCGs supplying other drugs or alternative via the internet (and dark web). Users of MDMA / amphetamines tend to be younger and associated with night-time economy, users of NPS are often on the fringes of society e.g. homeless or prisoners. Use of MDMA has varied over the past decade (estimated there are 524,000 users), amphetamines has fallen (approximately

¹⁷ [PowerPoint Presentation \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

188,000 users) and NPS use fallen significantly (approximately 152,000 users). The average annual spend for a user (MDMA) is estimated to be £90.

Cannabis

Cannabis is either grown outside (Morocco / Afghanistan) or indoors in domestic properties (cannabis farms). There has been a shift towards “home grown” cannabis which is increasingly strong due to higher THC levels. Production is controlled by organised criminal gangs and often people are trafficked to either work in cannabis farms or to supply drugs. It is estimated that 2,572,000 people using cannabis in England and Wales although this is lower than comparable European countries. The average annual spend for a user (MDMA) is estimated to be £914.

The recent assessment of key issues in relation to Drugs and alcohol in Kirklees are outlined below:

Drugs

- Hospital admissions for drug poisoning were lower in Kirklees compared to England.
- **Drug related deaths have steadily increased** both locally and nationally - opiates contribute to the largest proportion of drug-related deaths although the number of deaths from new psychoactive substances and prescription medicines is rising
- Similar to alcohol misuse, the most common route into treatment in Kirklees for drug misuse was via **self-referral**.
- 99% of drug misuse interventions were **delivered in the community**.
- The proportion of successful treatments for non-opiate users has declined in Kirklees from 49% in 2017 to 35% in 2018. This change may be reflective of increased distribution of non-opiate, psychoactive drugs.

Alcohol

- Hospital admission rates for alcohol misuse are similar to national levels; however, **alcohol-specific mortality is significantly worse in Kirklees** than national figures. Suggests that people who are misusing alcohol may not seek treatment for their misuse leading to the higher levels of mortality and lower levels of admissions for episodes.
- Alcohol misuse is **more common in males than females**. There has been an increase in the number of admissions for alcohol-related conditions specifically in males aged 40-64 years old, although the highest rates of admissions are in persons aged over 65-year old.
- **Alcoholic liver disease is on an upwards trend**. There has been an increase in the admission rates in females which may indicate increased alcohol consumption in females. However, admission rates for alcoholic liver disease continue to be highest in males.
- More females who entered treatment for alcohol misuse reported a **mental health** need compared to males.

Appendix 1

Figure 1 : Map showing Town and Ward locations

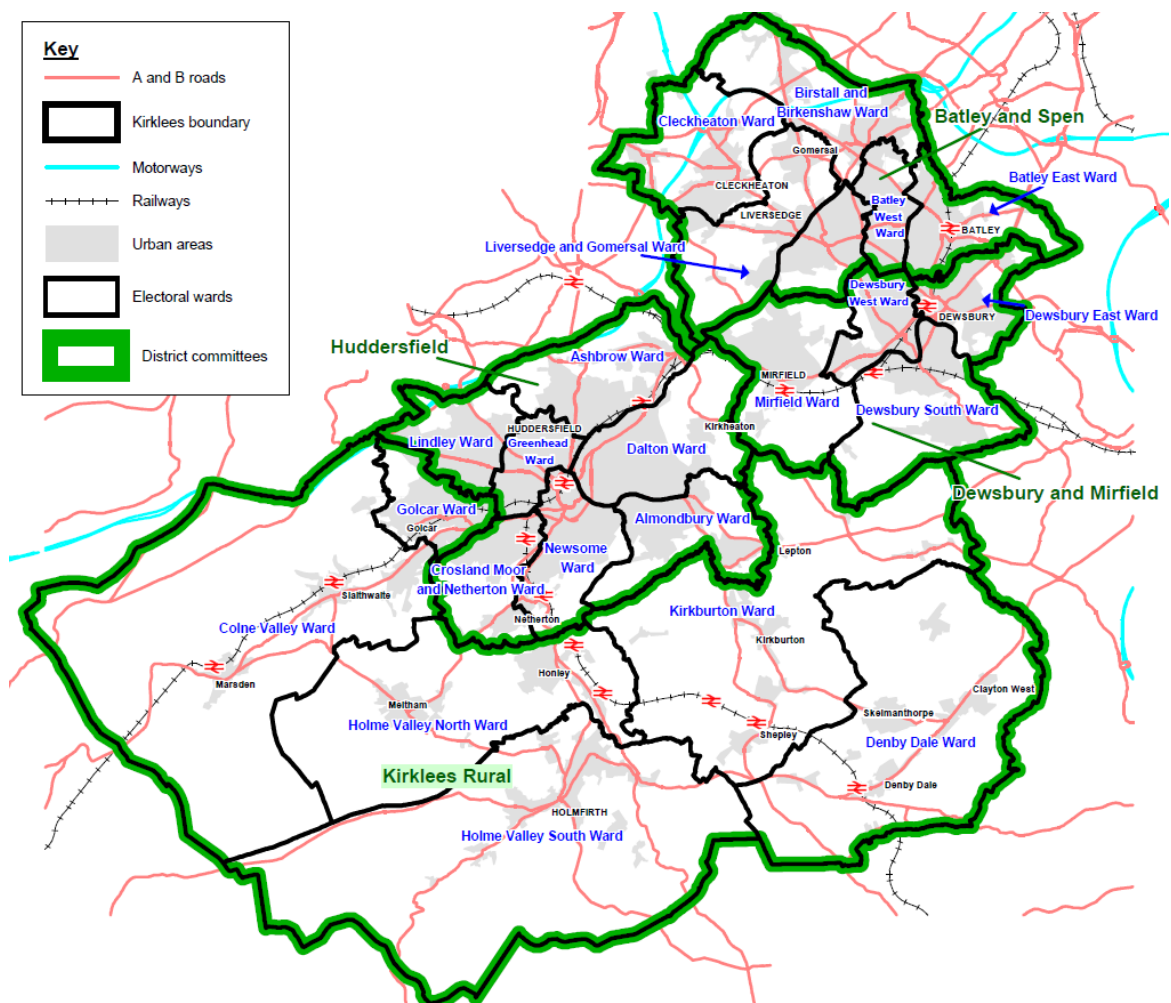


Table 1: Place Standard priorities

Area	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Birstall and Birkenshaw	Gangs and ASB (22) 31.43%	Motorbikes. Quads and Scooters (21/70) 30%	Rising petty crime (10) 14.29%
Golcar	Drug dealers/users (10) 33.33%	Gangs and ASB (8) 31.26.67%	Rising petty crime (4) 13.33%
Kirkburton	Rising petty crime (31/58) 53.45%	Speeding cars (11) 18.97%	Gangs and ASB (8) 13.79%
Berry Brow	Drug dealing/users (10/22) 45.45%	Drunks (6) 27.27%	Rising petty crime (4) 18.18%

Colne Valley	Gangs and ASB (32/56) 57.14%	Rising petty crime (15) 26.79%	Drug dealing/users (4) 7.14%
Ashbrow	Gangs and ASB (15/29) 51.72%	Rising petty crime (11) 37.39%	Knife/violent crime (6) 20.69%
Meltham	Gangs and ASB (71/188) 37.77%	Rising petty crime (46) 24.47%	Drug dealing/users (25)13.30%
Huddersfield (TC)	Knife/violent crime (87/326) 26.69%	Homeless people/beggars (66) 20.25%	Gangs and ASB (64) 19.63%
Honley	Gangs and ASB (62/172) 36.05%	Drug dealing/users (42) 24.42	Speeding cars (30) 17.44%
East Bierley	Rising petty crime (27/64) 42.19%	Speeding cars (25) 35.94	Motorbikes/ Quads /Scooters an issue (7) 10.94%
Netherton & South Crosland	Gangs and ASB (32/107) 29.91%	Rising petty crime (26) 24.30%	Drug dealing/users (26) 24.30%

Table 1: Place Standard Solutions

Area	Solution 1	Solution 2	Solution 3
Birstall and Birkenshaw	Activities for young people	Police presence	Improve Greenspace / environment
Golcar	Activities for young people	Improve Greenspace / environment	Community activities
Kirkburton	Activities for young people	Tackle speeding traffic	Improve Greenspace / environment
Berry Brow	Activities for young people	Improve Greenspace / environment	Community activities
Colne Valley	Activities for young people	Improve Greenspace / environment	Community activities

Ashbrow	Activities for young people	Community activities	Improve Greenspace / environment
Meltham	Activities for young people	Improve Greenspace / environment	Police Presence
Huddersfield (TC)	Improve Greenspace / environment	Police Presence	Activities for young people
Honley	Activities for young people	Police Presence	Community activities
East Bierley	Road Safety	Improve Greenspace / environment	Activities for young people
Netherton & South Crosland	Improve Greenspace / environment	Activities for young people	Sports facilities



Name of meeting: Council
Date: 12th October 2022
Title of report: Terms of Reference - Corporate Governance & Audit Committee to enable the appointment of an Independent Member (ex officio- co-optee) to the Committee

Purpose of report.
 To formally consider appointment of an independent member for the committee, a role description and the process to appointment

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 Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	not applicable
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	not applicable
Date signed off by Strategic Director & name	Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director - Finance	Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	04/10/2022
Cabinet member portfolio	Not applicable

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Have you considered GDPR? Yes

1. Summary

1.1 At its meeting on the 30th September 2022 the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee gave consideration to a report about having an independent (Ex officio, co-optee) member. The Committee determined to seek approval of Council to change its terms of reference to enable it to appoint this independent person to its committee.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 In summer 2022, the government indicated an intention to create a statutory obligation for local authorities to have an Audit Committee, including an independent member, although initially this would be on a voluntary basis. In discussion on this, over 3

meetings during the summer/autumn of 2022, the Committee considered that there would be merit to adopting the recommendation from government/CIPFA to have an independent Member on the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee. They consider that the person appointed should be able to balance and compliment their skills by having specific skills with regard to financial skills in a complex organisation, although they would expect the independent member to participate in all aspects of work in the committee including both finance and more general governance matters.

- 2.2 The Terms of reference for the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee already provide for an independent member to advise on matters of treasury management should that be needed.

Seven members, plus the following four ex-officio members with rights to speak but not vote:

- *Member of the Cabinet with responsibility for Corporate Governance*
- *The Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee,*
- *The Chair of the Standards Committee*
- *Person having specialist knowledge of treasury management (to be appointed and attend as required).*

- 2.3 The Committee seeks amendment so that the wording of this part, which would be amended to

Seven members, plus the following [five] ex-officio members with rights to speak but not vote:

- *Member of the Cabinet with responsibility for Corporate Governance*
- *The Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee,*
- *The Chair of the Standards Committee*
- *Persons having specialist knowledge of*
 - (a) *Financial management in a complex organisation- full participation*
 - (b) *Treasury management (to be appointed and attend as required).*

- 2.4 There will be opportunity to have 2 potential advisors.
- 2.5 The current intention is only to appoint the advisor who has knowledge and skills of financial management in a complex organisation and to offer a nominal fee (to reflect the professional input expected).
- 2.6 The intention will be to look to recruit this independent member- as 2.5 above- over the next few months, ideally so that they can be in place by March 2023, to enable them to see later parts of the 2022/23 reporting processes which will take place during March and April 2023. The proposed process for doing this and the role profile was set out in the report to Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in September 2022 and is attached Appendix 2 and 3.

3. **Implications for the Council**

- 3.1 **Working with People** – None directly- but see 3.7
- 3.2 **Working with Partners** – None directly- but see 3.7
- 3.3 **Place Based Working** – None directly- but see 3.7

- 3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**– None directly- but see 3.7
- 3.5 **Climate change and air quality**- None directly- but see 3.7
- 3.6 **Impact on the finances of local residents**- None directly
- 3.7 **Other (e.g., Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**- A strong and effective Audit Committee should ensure effective corporate governance of the council. Many of these aspects will be about financial achievements and control, but there are many other aspects (as 3.1 to 3.5 above) where an effective contribution by an independent member should enhance the assurance and oversight, and thus the achievement of successful performance against all aspects of service provision.

4. **Consultees and their opinions**

- 4.1 The Corporate Governance & Audit Committee seek this amendment

5. **Next steps and timelines**

- 5.1 If approved, then the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee have approved arrangements to progress to an appointment.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

- 6.1 Council are asked to:

- 1) Amend the terms of reference to Corporate Governance & Audit Committee as described in 2.3, by minor insertion after “specialist knowledge of ” the additional wording
” (a) Financial management in a complex organisation- full participation (b)”
- 2) Note and endorse the arrangements for the appointment of an Independent Person, in accordance with the role profile as set out at Appendix 2 and the methodology as set out at Appendix 3.

Reason; to facilitate appointment of an independent member as recommended by the government and CIPFA.

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

Not applicable

8. **Contact officer**

Martin Dearnley, Head of Risk & Internal Audit (01484 221000 x73672)

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

Reports to CGAC committee 17th June 2022, 30th September 2022
MoHCLG Consultation outcomes,
CIPFA Position Statement

- 10. **Service Directors responsible**
Finance; Legal, Governance & Commissioning
- 11 Appendix 1. Terms of Reference for Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Appendix 1.

Terms of Reference

Corporate Governance and Audit Committee

Membership

Seven members, plus the following four ex-officio members with rights to speak but not vote:

- Member of the Cabinet with responsibility for Corporate Governance
- The Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee,
- The Chair of the Standards Committee
- Person having specialist knowledge of treasury management (to be appointed and attend as required).

This section would require amendment to
 Persons having specialist knowledge of
 (a) Financial management in a complex organisation- full participation
 (b) Treasury management -to be appointed and attend as required.

No leaders of any group shall be a member of the Committee
 Proportionality need not apply to this Committee

Terms of Reference

Delegated authority in respect of all powers and duties set out below and all other Council functions not required to be determined by the full Council and not delegated to any other committee:

1. To be responsible for:
 - 1.1. Monitoring the operation of the council’s Constitution and keeping its terms under review, including all procedure rules
 - 1.2. Making recommendations to the council for any change or additions to the procedure rules or Articles of the Constitution or executive arrangements
2. To determine all matters relating to the adoption and operation of the Members’ Allowances Scheme including recommendation to the council of the adoption of or amendment to any such Scheme
3. To keep under review the portfolios of the Cabinet and the terms of reference and delegations of Council functions to committees and formally appointed bodies and officers
4. To consider the council’s arrangement relating to accounts including
 - (a) the approval of the statement of accounts and any material amendments of the accounts recommended by the auditors
 - (b) to keep under review the council’s financial and management accounts and financial information as it sees fit
5. To consider the council’s arrangements relating to the external audit requirements including:
 - (a) the receipt of the external audit reports so as to;
 - (i) inform the operation of the council’s current or future audit arrangements
 - (ii) provide a basis for gaining the necessary assurance regarding governance prior to the approval of the council’s accounts

6. To consider the council's arrangements relating to internal audit requirements including:
 - (a) considering the Annual Internal Audit report, reviewing and making recommendations on issues contained therein
 - (b) monitoring the performance of internal audit
 - (c) agreeing and reviewing the nature and scope of the Annual Audit Plan
7. To review the adequacy of the council's Corporate Governance arrangements. This will include (but not be limited to) the following:
 - 7.1. Internal control and risk management;
 - 7.2. Oversight of whistleblowing and the Council's whistleblowing policy;
 - 7.3. Oversight of the complaints process and the role of the Local Government Ombudsman;
 - 7.4. Oversight of Information Governance and the role of the ICO;
 - 7.5. To review and approve the annual statement of Corporate Governance.
8. To agree and update regularly the council's Code of Corporate Governance, monitoring its operation and compliance with it, and using it as a benchmark against performance for the annual Statement of Corporate Governance.
9. To designate the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and all statutory "proper officers".
10. To approve payments or provide other benefits in cases of maladministration as required and make recommendations arising from any review of a report of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
11. Following a decision of Council to undertake a community governance review to agree the terms of reference for and conduct such a review, making recommendations to Council who will determine the outcome of such reviews.
12. Functions relating to elections and parishes set out in Part D of Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (or any replacement or amendment of it)
13. Charities and charitable trusts (so far as not the responsibility of Cabinet).
14. Responsibility for reviewing and challenging all treasury management activities.
15. To determine appointments of individuals to outside bodies (except school governing bodies) and revocation of such appointments.
16. To determine nominations for charitable trustees in cases where there has been failure reach agreement.
17. To receive updates and monitor compliance with the Council's Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) policy.

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Appendix 2 - Co-optee Role Profile

Definition:

What is a Co-optee?

A co-optee is a lay person, with an interest in oversight and governance of decisions and administrative actions that are being made by the council.

The co-optee will contribute equally to the constructive work of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.

When decisions are taken by vote, the co-optee will have the right to participate in the discussion but will not have the right to vote.

Experience, Skills and Knowledge:

What are the key experiences, skills and knowledge you need to effectively carry out the role?

- Knowledge as a finance professional (demonstrated by qualifications- held or gained- or experience in a large organisation)
- Experience of dealing with professional experts and advisors (such as external auditors)
- Experience of corporate governance, gained by working with, or within, a complex multifunctional organisation in any sector, including national or international commercial organisations.
- Effective communication.
- Listening, questioning and constructively challenging
- The ability to look at issues from a broad perspective across Kirklees and beyond
- Knowledge of the Kirklees area, its demography and its challenges
- The ability to work as a team with other Committee members and officers
- The ability to weigh up information to reach conclusions and recommend actions
- An interest in local matters
- The ability to listen with an open mind to the points of view of others
- The ability to not pre-judge outcomes or show bias, for example, party political bias
- An ability to attend meetings of the committee, held during the daytime, in person wherever possible
- A level of IT skills and connectivity (to participate in online virtual meetings if necessary)

Key tasks:

What are the key tasks associated with the role?

- Attending Committee meetings, approximately 6 times per year
- Reading papers and reports in preparation for meetings
- Asking appropriate questions on issues
- Assessing the evidence and information provided at meetings to form views and opinions
- Contributing to discussions and to consideration of proposed actions
- Undertaking work on assigned tasks (limited)

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Appendix 3 – Proposed Methodology

- (a) the role is advertised on the Council website, and applications are invited;
- (b) after the closing date there is a shortlisting process designed to identify the applicants who appear to meet the criteria, and those who do not. This would be by officers with oversight of the final proposals by the Chair of the Committee;
- (c) a selection process involving the chair and another nominee of the committee, and two officers (Directors of Legal Governance and Monitoring, and Finance, or their close substitutes) ;
- (d) the chair would be delegated authority to make the appointment;
- (e) the appointee would be on the standard initial 6-month probation with tenure.

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Name of meeting: Council

Date: 12th October 2022

Title of report: Member attendance rules

Purpose of report

To ask Council to consider approving the reason a Councillor has not attended a meeting of the authority pursuant to section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

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 Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	no
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	no
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Yes – Rachel Spencer-Henshall
Is it also signed off by the Service Director Finance?	Yes – Eamonn Croston
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning?	Yes – Julie Muscroft
Cabinet member portfolio	N/A

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the issues arising from the inability of Cllr Fran Perry to attend any meeting of the Council since her election in May 2022.
- 1.2 It seeks the approval of Council to waive the '6 months rule' due to the significant illness suffered shortly after the election of Cllr Perry.
- 1.3 Cllr Perry has indicated that she is undergoing rehabilitation and it is her wish and intention to resume her Councillor duties at the earliest opportunity.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 The Legislation

- 2.1.1 Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of that Authority within a six month consecutive period. Failure to do so results in automatic disqualification as a Councillor.
- 2.1.2 This requirement can be waived if any failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the Authority, provided that the decision to approve the reason is taken before the expiry of the six month period.

2.2 Chronology

- 2.2.1 Cllr Perry was elected on May 5th 2022 but, due to a significant illness, has been unable to participate in Council business since her election. Cllr Perry is currently undergoing rehabilitation.
- 2.2.2 As Cllr Perry has been unable to attend any meetings of the Council since being elected, the 6 months will run from the date Cllr Perry was sworn in on May 5th 2022.
- 2.2.3 As there was no previous attendance to calculate the 6 months from, it was determined that the appropriate date would be the date of election, as that would have been the earliest that Cllr Perry could have attended a qualifying meeting. This is in line with advice that has been provided previously.
- 2.2.4 Taking May 5th as the appropriate date, any decision to approve the reason for the absence under S.85 would need to be taken by November 4th at the latest.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

N/A

3.2 Working with Partners

N/A

3.3 Place Based Working

N/A

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

N/A

3.5 Improving Outcomes for Children

N/A

3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

N/A

3.7 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

N/A

3.8 Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?

N

4. Next steps and timelines

- 4.1 Members are asked to consider approving the reason for Councillor Perry's non-attendance at and Council meeting during the period of six months commencing on 5th May 2022.

If approved by Council, Cllr Perry will be provided with a further 6 months to enable her to recover in order to resume her councillor duties.

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

Members are asked to determine:

- 5.1 the approval of the reason for Councillor Perry's non-attendance. The effect of approval will be that Councillor Perry continues to be a member of the authority and there will be an additional six month period for her recovery to progress.

6. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

N/A

7. Contact officer

David Stickleby
Senior Legal Officer
01484 221000
david.stickleby@kirklees.gov.uk

8. Background Papers and History of Decisions

8.1 N/A

9. Service Director responsible

Julie Muscroft
Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning
01484 221000
julie.muscroft@kirklees.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 5th July 2022

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

Observers: Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Charles Greaves
Councillor David Hall
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor John Taylor

- 12 Membership of Cabinet**
All Cabinet Members were present.
- 13 Minutes of Previous Meeting**
RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 2022 be approved as a correct record.
- 14 Declarations of Interest**
No interests were declared.
- 15 Admission of the Public**
It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.
- 16 Deputations/Petitions**
No deputations or petitions were received.
- 17 Questions by Members of the Public**
No questions were asked.
- 18 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)**
Cabinet received the following questions in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“Given the length of time that the Amazon planning application has been in, by its next milestone it will be December which will make it nearly two years, and given the resources dedicated to that application, how long do you think it is reasonable for an application to be in our planning system and how many bites of the apple do you think it should have?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Marchington

“If the Council has sufficient money to fix all of our roads and pavements, what would our plan be?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Greaves

“In Cabinet January 2018 a decision was taken to introduce a new policy for proposals for changes to home to school transport for children attending mainstream schools. Generally speaking we didn’t have a problem with the majority of the decision that was made, but the issue we did have was the change to the universal free bus pass for Meltham children travelling to Honley High School and Holmfirth High School. Those arrangements had been in place long before I went to Honley High School. Meltham is the biggest settlement south of Huddersfield but it doesn’t have a high school, the catchment school is Honley but lots of children attend Holmfirth as well. When this policy was introduced we did say that the savings that were going to come about from it weren’t really going to be delivered, that the policy is almost unworkable and that it really unfair to Meltham children and their parents. We’ve raised the issue a number of times and now four and a half years later the Council has not been able to implement this policy but we’ve got parents who want to know what is happening with the buses. That limbo impacts upon people’s life choices, which schools they send their children to and how they plan and prepare for it. My request is that, the policy was not possible to implement and in so far as it relates to the school buses for Honley High School and Holmfirth High School, please reverse the policy to what it was before, applying the policy to the catchment school and not the nearest geographical school.”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services (Councillor Kendrick).

Question from Councillor Armer

“Are you satisfied that sufficient and conveniently sited blue badge parking is provided in Huddersfield Town Centre?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care (Councillor Khan).

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“In regards to the Huddersfield blueprint, there are plans to demolish shopping areas of the piazza. What discussions have we had, and what money has been put into the plans, to support the businesses in the piazza to locate elsewhere within the town centre?”

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

Question from Councillor D Hall

“You’ll be aware that the Secretary of State for Transport signed the Order last week giving the go ahead to commence the TransPennine upgrades through the borough and this has capacity to drive regeneration and employment throughout the district, can I ask what steps the Cabinet will take to maximise the opportunities that the TransPennine upgrade should afford?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Town Centres (Councillor E Firth).

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“I understand that we are developing a transport strategy for the district. At some point could the Portfolio Holder share the details or brief me. I’ve spoken about the lack of strategic link south, I want to make sure if a strategy is being developed we are looking at it strategically. Would he share with me the thoughts that have been progresses with Officers on that strategy?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Town Centres (Councillor E Firth).

19 Proposal by Queensgate Market Traders Association in respect of the Queensgate Market relocation

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out a proposal from Queensgate Market Traders in regards to relocation from Queensgate Market due to the need to vacate Queensgate Market by February 2023 to enable works to commence. The report advised that, since the decision of Cabinet in January 2022, Queensgate Market Traders Association had submitted a proposal to surrender their lease agreements, with no obligation upon the Council to provide relocation, in return for compensation. The report sought authority for the proposal to be implemented and advised that, if approved, the traders would be categorised as either (i) traders that will accept compensation and surrender their lease and (ii) traders that would refuse compensation and would seek to be relocated under the terms of their existing lease. Cabinet were advised that there were presently 32 traders and 37 lease agreements in place.

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The report advised that, subject to the approval of the proposal Officers would (i) meet with the Queensgate Market Traders Association to negotiate specific details around the lease surrender and compensation payments (ii) serve the appropriate break notices in line with the timescales set by the Cultural Heart Project (iii) liaise with individual traders in respect of their specific plans and provide initial support/advice for those that want to move to vacant shop premises within the town centre and (iv) determine a reasonable relocation option for any trader who does not want to agree with the Association's proposal to accept compensation.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the proposal of Queensgate Market Traders Association.
- 2) That, pursuant to (i) above, authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Environment and Climate Change) in consultation with the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) and the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to negotiate, agree terms, enter into and execute any agreements or instruments necessary to implement the proposal.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Environment and Climate Change) in consultation with the Service Director (Finance) to re-profile the previously approved capital and revenue budgets as required.

20 Registered Providers Clusters Programme - Update and Land Disposals

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which provided an update on the Registered Providers Clusters Programme – Update and Land Disposals, and sought approval for a proposed approach to dispose of sites to the Council's partner. The report advised that the Council's preferred partner was Thirteen Group, who had been appointed following a competitive land sale exercise. The report identified five sites in the areas of Dewsbury, Hartshead, Huddersfield and Batley, which were set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

Paragraph 2.3 of the report set out options for consideration and recommended that the sites be disposed of at less than best consideration as it would enable the creation of approximately 200 new homes, focussed upon delivering affordable housing across a variety of tenures, assist in meeting housing targets and creating approximately 700 direct jobs.

The report advised that the staged programme of development aimed for the development to be completed on site by 2025, and that each site would be implemented individually with the granting of planning permission.

It was noted that all five sites had been allocated for housing development in the Local Plan, and that approval had been granted by Cabinet in August 2018 for the sites to be included within a programme of development.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to dispose of the sites as set out at Appendix 1 of the considered report at less than best consideration to Thirteen Group in accordance with the General Disposal Consent (England) 2003.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to (i) negotiate and agree the terms of disposal with Thirteen Group (ii) determine the appropriate level of discount for each site following a comprehensive assessment of Thirteen Group's development appraisals reflecting the housing mix which receives planning consent (which may be either only affordable housing, or a combination of both affordable and market housing) on each site.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into and execute any agreement and other ancillary documents necessary to dispose of the land in the RPCP to Thirteen Group for use as either affordable housing, or affordable and market housing dependent upon the final housing mix for each site.

21 Proposals for Additional Household Support in 2022/23

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor D Hall and J Taylor).

Cabinet received a report which set out proposals to provide support for households in 2022-2023, in accordance with funding and guidance issued by central government. It was noted that the Council had been allocated a share of £500m, from an overall £3.702m allocation, which was to be spent by the end of September 2022.

The report set out details of proposals for the targeted support, that would supplement support already provided, and the impact of these measures to date.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That, in regards to Pensioners, at least one third funding be used to support pensioners, with one third of the available funding used to target pensioners in receipt of a Council Tax Reduction for the whole allocation of £1.23m, equating to approx. 11,350 households.
- 2) That families entitled to free school meals be awarded with a one-off cost of living payment of £70 per child, resulting in a total spend on Households with Children of £1.8m.
- 3) That the remaining balance of £650,000 be utilised by (i) working with relevant partners, stakeholders and third sector organisations and (ii) applications for support via Local Welfare Provision which shall be assessed on a case by case basis to support families and individuals in need.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health) and Service Director (Children's Services), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Service director (Finance) to determine the mechanism for utilising the remaining £650,000.

22 Holmfirth Town Centre Access Plan

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought endorsement to submit the Holmfirth Town Centre Access Plan Scheme full business case to West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The report advised that the proposed plan aimed to support economic growth through investment in the public realm and improvements at key junctions focussed on reducing traffic congestion, and widening sustainable travel opportunities. Subject to the approval of the full business case, the report sought approval to accept further grant funding to allow the delivery of the scheme, which was anticipated to commence in early 2023.

The report set out details of the scheme objectives and details of four initial options that were developed for the outline business case, and were set out at Appendix 1-4 of the report. Paragraph 2.2.12 of the report set out the interventions included in the preferred option (Option 4). It was noted that Option 4 demonstrated high value for money and would deliver significant journey time benefits. Appendix 5 to the report set out the final scheme proposal.

Cabinet noted that, in terms of timelines, the construction contract was expected to be awarded in December 2022, with a view to construction commencing in January 2023 and the scheme being completed in January 2024.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That Option 4, as set out in Appendices 4 and 5, be endorsed.
- 2) That the final business case be submitted to West Yorkshire Combined Authority and that, subject to approval, be progressed to the delivery of the scheme.
- 3) That £5,173,821 grant funding from West Yorkshire Combined Authority be accepted.
- 4) That approval be given to the Council Capital Plan contribution, funded from Council borrowing of £2,300,000.
- 5) That approval be given to a spending tolerance of circa 15% (£1,129,130) of forecast cost (£7,473,821) to be funded through the Council's capital plan.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to make decisions to enable the delivery of the scheme.
- 7) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into any instrument required to be executed to facilitate the delivery of the scheme.

23 Inclusive Communities Framework

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor J Taylor and Councillor Smaje).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out the contents of the proposed Inclusive Communities Framework, as recommended by the Communities Board, and asked that a recommendation be presented to the meeting of Council on 13 July 2022 to adopt the framework within Article 4 of the Council's Policy Framework.

The report advised that the framework, which was appended to the considered report, provided a strategic approach to building cohesive communities and aimed

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to act as a guide to all partners who communicate with communities to address challenges and unequal accessibility. Cabinet were advised that the proposed framework would replace the Cohesion Strategy, which was included within Article 4 of the Constitution.

The report informed Cabinet that the framework was guided by the principles of (i) belief that communities hold solutions, with skills and knowledge that is valuable in achieving shared goals (ii) building belonging and trust amongst diverse communities with shared interests and challenges and (iii) caring about what matters to local communities to give a collective purpose. The report also advised that the framework would be instrumental in the development and implementation of the Council Plan (2021/23), Inclusion and Diversion Strategy (2021/23) and Communities Partnership Plan (2023/27).

RESOLVED -

- 1) That the contents of the Inclusive Communities Framework, as recommended by the Communities Board, be noted.
- 2) That the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 13 July 2022 with a recommendation that the Inclusive Communities Framework be adopted and included within Article 4 of the Council's Policy Framework.

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 26th July 2022

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

Observers: Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor David Hall
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor John Taylor

Apologies: Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Carole Pattison

24 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Eric Firth and Councillor Carole Pattison.

25 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

26 Admission of the Public

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

27 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

28 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

29 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received oral questions in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rule 2.3.

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“What actions have been taken since Council on 13 July 2022 when the Liberal Democrat motion declaring a cost of living emergency was accepted by Council”.

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Councillor Paul Davies).

Question from Councillor D Hall

“I am very concerned that planning applications seem to be taking a long time to be looked at and either passed or refused. I have raised this before with the previous portfolio holder who gave me the impression that there was no problem. I wonder whether Councillor Turner could be open with us if there is a problem with the planning department and tell us what the plan is to get planning back on track”.

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

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“At what stage, if any, is our internal review at in terms of what we can do to help the residents in Kirklees with the cost of living emergency.”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Councillor Paul Davies).

Question from Councillor D Hall

“We currently have travellers who are encamping illegally on Council land in Norristhorpe. Are we using any extra powers that have been granted to the Council under the recent Police Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act, to try and evict these travellers as soon as we can?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Councillor Paul Davies).

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“The climate challenges that we face can sometimes be presented in a way which makes it difficult for residents to engage with. What is the Council doing to communicate with residents about how they can play their role in this?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet member for Culture and Greener Kirklees (Councillor Will Simpson).

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“Can you reflect and share with us, looking at the climate challenges that we face, if there is something we are doing in Kirklees that is unique and innovative? Is there

something that we are leading and not following in, being at the forefront, or doing something cutting edge?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet member for Culture and Greener Kirklees (Councillor Will Simpson).

Question from Councillor E Smaje

"I have been trying to get a transport study undertaken for the A62 from Junction 27 through to Birstall Smithies. We can have queues of traffic through that area in the middle of the day, never mind at peak times. A lot of development is in the pipeline, as well as having the retail park, and there is the impact on Birstall itself. I've been told it's not a priority for the Council but I'm wondering, because it's a major route in and out of Kirklees, why we can't have a transport study to see what could be done to help the flow of traffic? The retail park brings in a lot of business rates to Kirklees and I cannot see therefore why we cannot have a transport study to see what is possible?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council

30 Estates Building Conservation and Remedial Works

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor J Lawson and Councillor J Taylor).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to the virement of funding between projects supported by the Heritage Zone (HAZ) programme to enable essential remedial works.

The report set out a way to deliver both projects within the existing HAZ budget, and HAZ programme timescale by the virement of £2 million from the George Hotel to the Estate Buildings, to enable completion of essential remedial works for both buildings.

Paragraph 2.2 of the report set out options for consideration and recommended the virement of funds which would enable works to start quickly and minimise impact on project timescales. The report advised that delivering the works now complemented planned works on Byram Arcade, to run concurrently with the Estate Buildings. This would lead to cost and delivery efficiencies and minimise impact on local businesses.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given for the virement of £2 million Heritage Action Zone Capital funding from the George Hotel to the Estate Buildings.
- 2) That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director of Growth and Regeneration in conjunction with the Service Director for Finance, Section 151 Officer, to apportion further funds if required up to 25% over the pre-tender estimate of £3.5 million.

31 Residential Development in Huddersfield Town Centre

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor J Lawson, Councillor A Marchington and Councillor J Taylor).

Cabinet considered a report which updated it on the proposed approach to residential development in Huddersfield Town Centre as part of the wider Huddersfield Blueprint. The report outlined that the Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan had been developed to set out the vision, objectives, opportunities and actions to encourage more people to live in the town centre and contribute to the wider aspirations of the Huddersfield Blueprint.

Cabinet was advised that the initial proposals for residential development would focus on two Council owned assets, Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings. Thirteen Group (Thirteen) had approached the Council with a proposal to deliver high quality residential units in these buildings, following a visit around Huddersfield Town Centre. 2.4.1 of the report set out the rationale for progressing with Thirteen as a partner.

The report concluded that the recommended approach was to enter into an exclusivity period with Thirteen in relation to Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings, for a period of 18 months but determinable after 12 months if significant progress against set milestones had not been met.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to proceed with the first phase of development and enter into an exclusivity period with Thirteen in relation to Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings for a period of 18 months.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director of Growth and Regeneration to terminate the exclusivity period after 12 months if substantive progress has not been made against the relevant milestones.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director, Legal Governance and Commissioning to enter into a legal agreement with the milestones against which Thirteen must make demonstrable progress.
- 4) That a further report be considered by Cabinet following the feasibility work and valuation report setting out details of the proposals, after which, subject to Cabinet approval, Thirteen would have the option to purchase Somerset and Estate Buildings at market value.
- 5) That approval be given to the Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan appended to the report.

32 Capital Scheme - Specialist Accommodation at former Children's Place Nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for a Capital Scheme for specialist accommodation at the former Children's Place Nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe.

Cabinet was advised that the Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision was undergoing large scale transformation and this proposal for the Young

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People's Activity Team would ensure some of the most vulnerable children and young were able to enjoy high quality facilities making a lasting difference to their lives.

The report outlined that the need for new premises was identified several years ago, and four potential council owned sites were identified for evaluation against the needs of the service, the families and the disabled children and young people who access the service. Following this evaluation, the former Children's Place nursery, was selected as the best option due to its location, and the building size.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the release of up to £1,358,353 from the Best Start Capital Programme to enable procurement of works to proceed.

33 **Aspire, Achieve and Include : Employment and Skills Plan 2022 - 2025**
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor E Reynolds and Councillor J Taylor).

Cabinet considered the Aspire, Achieve, and Include: Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan 2022 – 2025. The report sought approval of the plan and authority to progress with key strategic partners with the implementation and delivery of activity.

The report advised that Aspire, Achieve Include is the 2022-23 Post-16 Employment and Skills Plan for Kirklees. It explained how the Council would work closely with partners across the area, supporting and investing in the local employment and skills system over the next three years.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Aspire, Achieve and Include Employment and Skills Plan 2022-2025 be adopted.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Director of Growth and Regeneration and the Service Director for Skills and Regeneration, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration to implement the plan.
- 3) That regular progress reports on the delivery of the plan be considered by Cabinet.

34 **Kirklees Annual Education Quality and Standards Report Update**
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor E Reynolds).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which summarised the challenges faced by the schools' systems during the academic year 2021 and the impact on educational outcomes for learners.

Cabinet was informed that the focus for the 2021/22 academic year was to work in the partnership with the Education Learning and Partnership Board and its committees to support schools to continue to operate safely and recover to the best their abilities to help all pupils catch up any identified lost learning.

The report advised that 'Our Kirklees Futures' set out the ambitions the Council had for the next generation of learners. The inaugural learning summit allowed the system to recognise the importance of developing the whole child to allow them to be successful and fulfilled citizens. With the resumption of exams and testing in Summer 2022, a report on the outcomes for 2021/22 would be produced with the indicative data available in December 2022 and a full report on the progress of Our Kirklees Futures would be produced for Cabinet on an annual basis at the end of each Academic year.

RESOLVED – That the Annual Education Quality Standards Report be noted.

35 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Transformation Plan Update

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update on the high needs Safety Valve funding and sought authority to progress plans to create additional specialist places to support the needs of children with special educational needs.

The report advised that improving the outcomes for children with special educational needs was at the heart of the agreed 'Inclusive Ambitions' which was appended to the report, to tackle key inequality issues. It outlined that by investing in and working with children and young people and their families at the earliest opportunity supported them to achieve their best possible outcomes.

It was noted that following a period of engagement and negotiation with the Department for Education (DfE) a robust deficit reduction plan was submitted and approved which formed the basis for the Council's safety valve agreement. The Council would receive a total of £33.5m over 5 years to help address the cumulative historic High Needs deficit. The Council was also successful in a submission to the DfE for additional high needs capital of £8.2m funding to support the deficit reduction plan.

Cabinet was informed that the Council would be contributing approximately £23m through the planned drawdown of about £12.5m existing earmarked demand reserves over a 5-year period and absorption of previous General Fund base budget recharged to Night Needs at about £2m per annum, to cover a proportion of the High Needs Costs. Schools' Forum had agreed to a 0.5% transfer in 2022/23 equating to £1.6m, and as part of this agreement, investment back into the system would take place – this was starting with the development of the Additionally Resourced Provisions.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Safety Valve update / agreement with the Education and Skills Funding Agency be noted.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director for Children's Services to (i) take account of the outcome of a non-statutory consultation on proposals to establish, change or discontinue Additionally Resourced Provision (previously known as specialist provision), and the relevant statutory guidance; (ii) arrange for the Council to publish related statutory

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proposals to establish change or discontinue Additionally Resourced Provision in schools maintained by the Council as prescribed in the 2013 Regulations.

- 3) That Cabinet will consider and determine the published proposals following the end of the representation period.
- 4) That authority be delegated to take account of the outcome of a non-statutory consultation and work in partnership with academy trusts to support the presentation of a business case to the Regional School Commissioner or the Department for Education.

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Monday 5th September 2022

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Will Simpson
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor John Taylor

Apologies: Councillor Cathy Scott

50 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Scott.

51 Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 26 July 2022 and 9 August 2022 be approved as a correct record.

52 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

53 Admission of the Public

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

54 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

55 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

56 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following oral questions, in accordance with the provision of Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

Question from Councillor J Taylor

“We’ve recently seen the announcement from the Mayor of West Yorkshire about the £2 maximum fare for buses, which is great, its good to see the government is

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also funding a freeze on bus prices of £2 during the winter period, but for people to benefit from that they need buses in the first place. Farnley Tyas, Stocksmoor and Thurstonland currently have no buses. My question is, is the Council aware of that and what are we doing to work with and lobby WYCA to make sure some provision is provided for people who are very isolated?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor J Taylor

"One of the things that the Democracy Commission was about to look at pre covid was the relationships with Parish and Town Councils. We do have an agreement with Town and Parish Councils but it is probably long overdue a refresh. We are coming up to elections for Town and Parish Councils and I wondered what plans Councillor Scott has, as Chair of the Democracy Commission, to pick up that piece of work again? In terms of cost of living, there is potentially a role for Town and Parish Councils as well as ourselves."

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

57

Update of the medium term financial plan 2023-24 and following years

Cabinet gave consideration to the Council budget strategy update, prior to the submission of the report to Cabinet on 7 September 2022, which set out the framework for the subsequent budget setting process and future financial planning.

Cabinet noted that the report reflected upon financial challenges which had arisen in recent months, and forecast the impact upon the Council's future planning. The report advised that the financial settlement during the Autumn, and the potential for an emerging national spending review would have a significant impact upon any assumptions.

The report provided an overview of the national context, including the UK economic outlook, national government policy developments, financial planning framework 2023/2024, government funding changes and cost of living pressures.

It was noted that work would continue to take place to reduce the in-year forecast £18.8m general fund revenue overspend as far as possible and that the updated budget plans provided the planning framework to deliver a balanced budget for 2023/2024, indicative forward plan budget forecasts, and updated multi year capital plans and associated funding. Appendix D to the report set out the key budget timetable milestones.

The following amendments to the considered report were noted during the meeting; (i) para.1.5.2 to read '... additional pressure in 2022/2023 on energy costs' and (ii) para. 1.5.4 to read '...increase more incrementally at 10%...'

RESOLVED - That the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 7 September 2022 with a recommendation that;

Cabinet - 5 September 2022

- 1) The funding and spend assumptions informing the updated budget forecasts as set out in the report, including the minimum usable reserve requirement advised by the S151 officer, being £47m (para 2.2.7 refers), and the budget gap figures (para 1.3.9 refers), be noted.
- 2) That the current and forecast earmarked reserves and general balances as set out at Appendix A be noted.
- 3) That approval be given to the financial planning framework (section 1.3 refers) for the general fund revenue and Housing Revenue Account (section 1.9 refers).
- 4) That approval be given to the financial planning framework for general fund and HRA capital (section 1.10 refers).
- 5) That the corporate budget timetable, as set out at Appendix D to the report, refers.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate portfolio holder, to consider expression of interest to continue to participate in the Leeds City Region business rate pool for 2023/2024, by the Government deadline of 22 September 2022.
- 7) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Environment and Climate Change) in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Corporate Services), the Service Director (Finance) and the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning), to conclude contract negotiations and, on behalf of the Council, enter into a new contractual arrangement in a timely manner for Council electricity supplies either directly or through a preferred broker, from 1 April 2023 onwards. (Delegated authority is requested to (i) re-procure the Council's electricity supply contract via a call off from a framework from an established central purchasing body and (ii) grant authority to award a contract for the Council's electricity supply from April 2023).
- 8) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health) to agree the approach to budget consultation and relevant timescales in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Corporate Services).

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Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 9th August 2022

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner

In attendance: Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Lesley Warner

Apologies: Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Will Simpson

36 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors V Kendrick, N Mather, C Pattison and W Simpson.

37 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

38 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

39 Admission of the Public

It was noted that Agenda Item 14 would be considered in exempt session (Minute No 49 refers).

40 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

41 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

42 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following questions in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3 (2.3.1.6).

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“At the last Cabinet meeting I asked you what direct actions you had taken in light of the cost-of-living crisis motion at Council the previous week. Can I ask again what actions you have taken to lobby government to improve the prospects of the residents of Kirklees?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor).

Question from Councillor Cooper

“I have previously raised with Highways the issue of HGV’s driving through Armitage Bridge. I have been raising this for years and yet nothing has been done about it. Can I ask when action be taken?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor)

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“Recently officers visited groups to talk about the Climate Change Action Plan. It looked very dynamic and there was relief that some action was being taken. I understand that the next step is for it to be considered by Cabinet. During the Covid pandemic, we had a control board due to it being such a serious issue. Due to the scale of climate change, should climate change be treated in the same way as Covid and be an area for full member cooperation?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor)

Question from Councillor Cooper

“With the Climate Change Action Plan coming up, I think one of the things we should be looking at is fuel poverty as an integral part of the action plan. I wonder if there will be a communication strategy as we head into winter to address issues coming up. This could give simple energy advice such as effective use of controls, sharing heat between neighbours and warm banks. We need a strategy, and do you think Members should be involved?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet member for Corporate Services (Councillor P Davies)

Question from Councillor Warner

“I have contacted you about the disabled access in Slaithwaite Spa Park. We are going ahead with the repair with money from the ward budget. I was shocked to discover last week that the path we are going to be fixing is Highways responsibility, and so we are using money to repair something which would allow wheelchair access, that Highways should be doing. I now find that we are expected to pay for the closure of the footpath because highways say they do not have a budget or brief to do that. Please can this be investigated?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor)

Question from Councillor Cooper

“Does the Council have a cost-of-living crisis action plan?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet member for Corporate Services (Councillor P Davies)

Question from Councillor Warner

“We have seen major changes in the way funding is allocated and the Place Partnerships have now become the PCN’s. In Colne Valley we had a brilliant scheme to support young people with mental health difficulties. We recruited a company who guaranteed if a school referred a young person for mental health support, they would see that young person within three days. 144 families were helped. I thought the approach was so brilliant I believe Kirklees could have rolled it out. Are these PCN’s going to have a pot of money which is equivalent to the money we had with the Place Partnerships so that we can continue to support young people with mental health difficulties?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor)

Question from Councillor J Lawson

“Do we have a clear idea how much money has been diverted from Kirklees to Tunbridge Wells?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor S Pandor)

43 Financial Outturn Report for 2021-22 to include the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account Outturn Position & Annual Report on Treasury Management

Cabinet considered Council’s 2021/22 financial outturn position for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Plan, including proposals for revenue and capital rollover from 2021/22 to 2022/23. The report also included the annual review of Council Treasury Management activity.

The report advised that the Council’s revised general fund controllable (net) revenue budget for 2021/22 was £327.2m. The budget included planned (net) revenue savings in-year of £1.8m. The revised budget was net of a number of planned transfers to and from reserves during the year. These included a net £9.9m drawdown from COVID reserves and a net £0.7m transfer into other reserves.

Cabinet noted that Council spend was £327.2m in 2021/22, which reflected an overall ‘break-even’ financial performance against budget with a marginal overspend of £41k against the revised budget. Appendix 1 to the report considered, illustrated a summary of the revenue outturn position. The report

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provided information as to Covid-19 impacts, budget information by service area, general fund reserves, the collection fund, housing revenue account, capital budget programme and prudential indicators.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That in relation to the General Fund (i) the revenue outturn position for 2021/22 including COVID impacts be noted; (ii) the application of the Councils flexible capital receipts strategy to the value of £3.1m applied against eligible transformation in 2021/22, in line with the Councils approved budget plans in February 2022 be noted; (iii) the Government's £13.5m funding contribution on 31 March 2022 towards the Council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit be noted; (iv) approval be given to the drawdown from the Council's earmarked demand reserve to offset the Almondbury Community School deficit school balance write-down (£1.954m) to the Council's general fund in 2021/22 in line with DSG guidance; (v) the year end position on corporate reserves and balances be noted; (vi) the proposed use of pre-existing reserves and endorse the proposed use of new reserves as set out in section 1.9 in the report be re-affirmed; (vii) the regular monitoring and review of corporate reserves in 2022/23 to be reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly financial monitoring cycle be noted;
- 2) That the year end position on the Collection Fund including COVID impacts be noted.
- 3) That the Housing Revenue Account revenue outturn and reserves position 2021/22 be noted;
- 4) That in relation to Capital (i) the Council capital outturn position for 2021/22 be noted; (ii) approval be given for the £33.7m capital rollover from 2021/22 to 2022/23; (iii) approval be given to the revised capital plan for the period 2022/23 after taking into account rollover, the re-phasing of schemes and changes to grant assumptions; (iv) approval be given, retrospectively, for the transfer of £1.2m to Spen Valley Leisure Centre from within the Capital Plan to meet contractually bound payments; (v) approval be given for the additional £350k borrowing for George Hotel for successful phase one completion.
- 5) That the Review of Treasury Management activity for 2020/21 be noted.

44 **2021-22 End-of-Year Corporate Performance and Impact Report**

Cabinet received the 2021-22 End-of-Year Corporate Performance and Impact Report.

Cabinet was provided with an overview of the Council's performance in relation to the 2021-23 Council Plan deliverables and highlighted the most significant issues and challenges facing the Council and partners in improving outcomes across Kirklees.

Cabinet was advised that the appendix to the report demonstrated progress in relation to the 95 deliverables in the Council Plan 2021-2023. The report provided a high-level overview of how much the Council was doing, how well, and the difference it was making, including the following areas (i) working with people; (ii) working with partners; (iii) place based working; (iv) climate change and air quality;

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(v) improving outcomes for children; (vi) financial implications for the people living or working in Kirklees and (vii) Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources).

RESOLVED – That the End of Year Corporate Performance and Impact Report be noted.

45 **Corporate Financial Monitoring Report; Quarter 1 for 2022-23**

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

Cabinet received the Corporate Financial Monitoring report for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Plan, as at Quarter 1, 2022/2023. The Council's revised General Fund controllable (net) revenue budget for 2022/23 was £338.7m. The budget included planned (net) revenue savings in-year of £2.5m.

Cabinet was advised that the revised budget was net of a number of planned transfers from reserves during the year, with the most significant being £1.7m from the Revenue Grants reserve and £0.7m from the COVID Grants reserve.

Cabinet noted that there was a forecast overspend of £24.6m against the £338.7m revised budget at Quarter 1; equivalent to 7.3%. This was largely attributable to specific cost of living pressures above budgeted assumptions that were set out in section 1.2 of the report.

The report provided a summary of quarter 1 monitoring information in regards to service areas, general fund reserves, collection fund, housing revenue account and capital and 2022/2023 budget proposals regarding (i) cost of living pressures; (ii) pay award; (iii) energy inflation and (iv) fuel and food inflation.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That in relation to the General Fund (i) the forecast revenue outturn position at Quarter 1 be noted; (ii) the intent to bring proposals to cabinet in due course for the future procurement of the Council's energy contract from April 2023 onwards be noted; (iii) the forecast year end position on corporate reserves and balances at Quarter 1 be noted; (iv) the regular monitoring and review of corporate reserves in 2022/23 reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly financial monitoring cycle be noted; (v) the management actions set out at 3.7.7 to 3.7.10 of the report and the intention to bring proposals back to Cabinet for further consideration to address the in-year position be noted.
- 2) That the forecast position on the Collection Fund as at Quarter 1 be noted.
- 3) That the Quarter 1 forecast Housing Revenue Account position and forecast year-end reserves position be noted.
- 4) That in relation to Capital (i) the Quarter 1 forecast capital monitoring position for 2022/23 be noted; (ii) that approval be given to the re-profiling of the 2022/23 capital plan as set out in the report and at Appendix 5 of the report; (iii) that approval be given for the £200k capital scheme drawdown for the Huddersfield District Energy Network; (iv) that approval be given to the £1m drawdown from the existing 22/23 Cultural Heart capital allocation to cover

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the cashflow issues created for the month of September through scheduling the Outline Business Case Cabinet report for 20 September 2022.

46 **Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh**

Cabinet considered the draft refreshed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).

The report outlined that the Council, along with NHS partners, had a statutory duty to work together through the Health and Wellbeing Board to agree and implement a JHWS for the district.

Cabinet noted that the JHWS was a high-level strategy which sets out the vision, ways of working and priorities for health and wellbeing in Kirklees. Responsibility for delivery of the JHWS rests across a wide range of local partner organisations, partnerships with oversight by the Kirklees Health and Wellbeing Board.

Cabinet was advised that the current JHWS was being refreshed and the Board expected to approve the new JHWS at its meeting on the 22 September 2022.

Cabinet noted that the JHWS was in the Council's Policy Framework as per Article 4 of the constitution and the decision about whether the Council adopts the JHWS must be made at Full Council.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be noted, recognising that further minor amendments may be necessary to take account of feedback from key partners, and that that a set of materials to help communicate the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy was being developed.
- 2) That the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 7 September with a recommendation that the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy be adopted, subject to final approval by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

47 **Operational Services Asset Management System - Replacement Project**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to progress the Operational Services Asset Management System – Replacement Project (OSAMS).

The report outlined the expenditure required of up to £1.8m over a 5-year period from the agreed Capital Plan for resourcing, procurement and onboarding of a new asset and data management system (OSAMS) project within the Capital Plan.

The report advised that there could be a requirement to drawdown some of the capital allocation to meet project resource commitments and to support the procurement and onboarding of one or more suppliers to deliver an updated asset management system.

Cabinet noted that the proposed expenditure would fund the replacement of existing outdated end of life IT systems which supported asset management, planning and maintenance within the highways, greenspace, and waste arenas.

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RESOLVED – That approval be given to (i) the expenditure of up to £1.8m from the agreed Capital Plan over five years for the resourcing, procurement and onboarding of a new asset and data management system (OSAMS); (ii) include drawdown of some of the capital allocation to meet project resource commitments and to support the procurement and onboarding of one or more suppliers to deliver an updated asset management system.

48 Exclusion of the Public

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

49 Operational Services Asset Management System - Replacement Project

Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 12 (Minute No. 47 refers).

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Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES
WEDNESDAY 23rd MARCH 2022**

Present:

Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Naheed Mather

In Attendance:

Corinne Wilson, Disposals and Acquisitions Officer

Apologies: N/a

1. Membership of the Committee

No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 24 November 2021 and the 24 February 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 24 November 2021 and the 24 February 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

Cllr Paul Davies declared an interest in relation to Item '7 Disposal of Open Space adjacent to 39 Carrside Crescent, Batley, 'and advised that he had previously been briefed on the item, and as Cabinet Member for Corporate had agreed with the officer's recommendation.

4. Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session

5. Deputations/Petitions

No Petitions or deputations were received.

6. Member Question Time

No member questions were asked.

7. Disposal of Open Space adjacent to 39 Carrside Crescent, Batley

The Committee considered a report presented by Corinne Wilson, Disposals and Acquisitions Officer, in respect of the objections received as a result of advertising the Council's intention to dispose of an area of Open Space adjoining 39 Carrside Crescent, Batley, and to determine whether to proceed with the intended disposal of the Open Space.

The Committee were informed that there was an area of open space land adjoining the side of 39 Carrside Crescent which was currently a part of the councils housing estate.

Approval to dispose of the land was granted by Housing Services following consultation with local ward members, local residents and the local school, during which time 3 residents raised concerns. Notices advertising the intention to dispose of the Open Space were placed in the newspapers circulating in the area the Reporter Series" on 21 October and 28 October 2021, with a deadline for objections to be received by no later than 11 November 2021, during which time 2 objections were received.

Corinne Wilson advised the Committee that the intention was to dispose of the land subject to a covenant for additional garden use only.

The Committee recognised that the environment would be enhanced by the land having an owner, and that it was heartening to hear that the land would remain as open space and welcomed the covenant for additional garden use only. Cllr Paul Davies added that as Cabinet Member for Corporate he agreed with the officer's recommendation that the land be sold and choose to abstain from voting.

Having considered the information presented both verbally and in writing, the Committee agreed that:

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the proposals for the disposal of this area of Open Space, adjacent to 39 Carrside Crescent, Batley be approved.

Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES
TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2022**

Present:

Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Naheed Mather

In Attendance:

Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer

Apologies: Councillor Paul Davies

1. Appointment of the Chair

The Committee were invited to nominate a Chair for the 2022/23 municipal year.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Graham Turner be appointed as Chair for the 2022/23 municipal year.

2. Membership of the Committee

Councillor Eric Firth attended as a substitute for Councillor Paul Davies.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 23rd March 2022.

The Committee noted the Minutes but were advised that these could not be approved as there were insufficient members of the previous meeting present.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the previous meeting be noted and submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for approval.

4. Interests

There were no interests declared.

5. Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session

6. Deputations/Petitions

No Petitions or deputations were received.

7. Public Question Time

No public questions were received.

8. Member Question Time

No member questions were asked.

9. Objection to Traffic Regulation Order No 34 Order 2021, Proposed “School Keep Clear” markings, Oxford Road, Dewsbury.

The Committee considered a report in respect of an objection received in response to the advertisement of Traffic Regulation Order No 34 Order 2021, Proposed “School Keep Clear” markings, Oxford Road, Dewsbury. The report was presented by Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer who summarised the details of the proposals, the grounds for the objection and the response to the objection.

The Committee were informed that St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy was located on the middle of Oxford Road. Parking, speeding, visibility, and safety was a concern and a problem in this area especially at school peak times where vehicles usually parked on both sides of the road, up to and past the school. As a result of vehicles parking on both sides of Oxford Road a child was involved in an accident last year whilst crossing Oxford Road from school.

To try to improve visibility and access for both pedestrians and drivers, a section of informal “Keep Clear” markings had previously been installed; however, these have had little impact. As a result, more, formal “School Keep Clear” markings had now been proposed, as close to the desired pedestrian crossing line as possible for pedestrians approaching and leaving the school using the school footpath links. These School Keep Clear markings would be operational for the same time periods as the existing restrictions (between the hours of 8 – 9.30 am, and 2.30 – 4pm, Monday – Friday) and would form part of a larger traffic calming scheme along Oxford Road. The proposed markings had been kept to a minimum, to maximise safety, but to reduce the potential for traffic to need to migrate onto the surrounding roads. To support safety adjacent to the school traffic calming features had also been proposed, in the form of road humps, which were advertised separately.

The Traffic Regulation Order for the installation of the School Keep Clears was advertised between 6 January 2022 to 03 February 2022 and during that time one objection was received from a resident of Oxford Road. In addition, the Traffic Regulation Order for the installation of the road humps was advertised between 7th April to the 5th of May 2022 and during that time no objections were received.

The Committee requested to know if the proposed traffic calming measures were 'humps' or 'plateaus' highlighting that they had very different impacts on vehicles. Phillip Waddington responded to reassure the Committee that the proposals referred to plateaus that would be approximately 9 metres in length spanning from kerb to kerb. A smaller ramp would be provided for cars to travel over which would also act as an informal crossing point for pedestrians.

After considering the information presented verbally and in writing, the Committee expressed that they were satisfied that the officers report had responded to the objection and that they agreed with recommendations highlighting that the safety of children was paramount.

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the proposals for the Traffic Regulation Order No 34 Order 2021, Proposed "School Keep Clear" markings, Oxford Road, Dewsbury be implemented as advertised.

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Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL
CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES
WEDNESDAY 17th AUGUST 2022**

Present:

Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Naheed Mather

In Attendance:

Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer
Karen North, Principal Technical Officer – Highway Safety
Elizabeth Twitchett, Operational Manager – Highway Safety
Robert Hardcastle, Senior Engineer

Apologies: N/a

1. Membership of the Committee

No apologies were received

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on the 23rd March 2022 and 21st June 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on the 23rd March 2022 and 21st June 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

There were no interests declared.

4. Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session

5. Deputations/Petitions

No Petitions or deputations were received.

6. Public Question Time

No public questions were received.

7. Member Question Time

No member questions were asked.

8. Objection to Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022,

The Committee considered a report in respect of an objection received in response to the advertisement of Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022, Proposed Permit Parking, Oddfellows Street, Beech Street, Shaw Street, Beech Grove, The Embankment, Mirfield and No Waiting at Any Time, Doctor Lane, Mirfield.

The report was presented by Karen North, Principal Technical Officer – Highway Safety who explained that an application for the introduction of permit parking was received from the residents of Oddfellows Street, Mirfield and the surrounding roads.

At that time, local Councillors raised concerns that these proposals would displace parking into the two remaining cul-de-sacs here, Beech Grove and The Embankment and asked for these to be also added to the proposals. This request was agreed following further consultation with residents.

Residents were supportive of the scheme and the application was progressed to advert. The proposals were advertised from 7th April 2022 to 5th May 2022 and during that period one objection was received.

The objector was concerned that the displaced parking would take place on Knowl Road affecting residents at that location. In response, officers acknowledged that whilst it was not possible to predict exactly where parking would take place, that it was more likely for displaced parking to affect the A644 because the parking here was associated with the nearby doctors surgery and care home.

Karen North further reassured the committee that all new schemes introduced were monitored after implementation to monitor the effect of the proposals on the surrounding area and to determine if any further changes were necessary. Knowl Road would be included in this assessment and any further changes undertaken if found to be necessary at that time.

Other mitigating measures taken in order to prevent the displaced parking included the decision to change the current 'No Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-6pm' parking restrictions to 'No Waiting at Any Time' to help maintain access up and down Doctor Lane and help improve visibility for drivers exiting from the side roads.

Considering the information presented both verbally and in writing the Committee expressed that it was satisfied that the objection had been responded to in highlighting that the schemes impact would be continually monitored. The Committee noted that 60% of residents, and all ward councillors support the scheme, and it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the proposals for Traffic Regulation Order No 4 2022, Proposed Permit Parking, Oddfellows Street, Beech Street, Shaw Street, Beech Grove, The Embankment, Mirfield and No Waiting At Any Time, Doctor Lane, Mirfield be implemented as advertised.

9. Objections to the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield

The Committee considered a report in respect of the objections received in response to the advertisement of the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield which was presented by Robert Hardcastle, Senior Engineer.

Highways Safety was approached by the Mirfield Ward Councillors and asked to assess the feasibility of providing a pedestrian crossing facility on Knowl Road to help assist pedestrians wanting to cross the road here and improve road safety at this location. During the scheme's development, it was determined that a safe zebra crossing could be accommodated on Knowl Road

Prior to the development of these proposals, a feasibility study was undertaken to determine a suitable location. Various legislation requirements were taken into consideration before a decision was taken on the only safe and suitable location available on the desired crossing line.

The proposed scheme was advertised from 27 January 2022 to 24 February 2022 and during that time two objections were received. The objectors raised various concerns which Robert Hardcastle summarised and explained officers responses to the points raised.

Councillor Martyn Bolt, Mirfield Ward Councillor also submitted a letter of support from the Chair of Governors Crowlees CE Primary School on behalf of the School which the Chair presented to the Committee. It was noted that any Kirklees Council interventions that promote safer active travel to and from Crowlees school as very positive and great benefit to their pupils now and in the future.

Considering all the information presented verbally and in writing the Committee were satisfied that the concerns of the objectors had been addressed but acknowledged that in congested areas it was difficult to meet every individual need and that a degree of compromise was required. The Committee further highlighted the benefits of the scheme in promoting active travel, alleviating congestion, improve air quality and increased pedestrian safety. The Committee also expressed confidence that officer would continue to monitor the impact of the scheme after implementation, and it was agreed that:

RESOLVED: That the objection be overruled, and that the Proposed Zebra Crossing, Knowl Road, Mirfield be implemented as advertised.

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Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Friday 17th June 2022

Present: Councillor Yusra Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Paola Davies
Councillor Harry McCarthy
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Joshua Sheard

Apologies: Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Paul Davies (ex-Officio)

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Paul Davies and Cllr John Taylor. Councillor Paola Davies substituted for Councillor Kath Pinnock.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests.

4 Admission of the Public

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

5 Deputations/Petitions

There were no deputations or petitions received.

6 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

7 Annual Report on Treasury Management 2021/22

The Committee received the annual report on Treasury Management activities for the previous financial year. The report reviewed borrowing and investment performance.

Investments averaged £78.9 million and were largely deposited in instant access accounts earning an average interest rate of 0.12%. Total external borrowing at 31 March 2022 increased by £43.1 million to £468.9 million (£425.8 million as at 31 March 2021). The Council took £50 million new Government long term loans from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and an additional £20 million Local Authority medium term loans (2-3 years). Temporary borrowing decreased for the year by

Corporate Governance and Audit Committee - 17 June 2022

£20.0 million to £21.5 million (£41.5 million 31st March 2021). The majority of borrowing was on fixed rate terms and the average long-term borrowing rate for 2021/22 relating to all long-term debt on the balance sheet was 3.84%. Short-term borrowing rates averaged 0.49%.

Following approval within the 2018/19 Treasury Management Strategy there was a further increase in the un-winding in the General Fund MRP for 2021/22. The maximum amount of un-wind in any one year cannot be more than the overall annual MRP calculation, as otherwise the Council would end up in a negative MRP position, which is not allowable under accounting rules. The calculation estimated for 2021/22 was £13.7 million. The actual MRP calculation for 2021/22 was £15.6 million and hence the maximum unwind allowable. However, in 2021/22 the actual unwind was in-line with the budget at £13.7 million

RESOLVED – That the Committee note the treasury management performance as set out in this report.

8 External Audit Plan

The Committee received the External Audit Report, for year end 31 March 2022, as submitted by Grant Thornton.

The report advised that the Council had set a balanced budget for 2021/22 and 2022/23 although Grant Thornton noted funding pressures existed into the medium term financial plan which would require addressing.

The Committee noted that the Covid-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the Council, and during 2021/22 the Council had been focused on response and recovery. The report advised that the Council has had to work differently at all levels to be able to deliver all its required services effectively. The Council had continued to receive Covid-19 related grant funding from central government for distribution to businesses and residents.

The Committee was advised that the significant risks identified were (i) Management override of controls (ii) Valuation of land and buildings, council dwellings and investment property and (iii) Valuation of the pension fund net liability.

RESOLVED – That the External Audit Findings Report, for Year end March 2022, be received and noted.

9 Government response to local audit framework: technical consultation

The Committee received a report which outlined the outcomes from a consultation on local audit matters.

The report advised that the government response to consultation included information about how the Audit Reporting & Governance Authority would operate in relation to local authority external auditing and indicated an intention to create a statutory obligation for local authorities to have an Audit Committee, including an independent member.

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The Committee noted that there was no need for any action at this stage. The exact contents of any legislation and or regulations, statutory guidance, or guidance may require or suggest changes to the role of the committee and its membership at some point in the future.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Committee note the outcome of the consultation.
- 2) That a further report be considered at the next meeting of the Committee outlining (i) details of any clarification following the consultation (ii) the recruitment and governance process of appointing a lay person with timescales.

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Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Friday 15th July 2022

Present: Councillor Yusra Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Kath Pinnock
Councillor Harry McCarthy
Councillor Joshua Sheard
Councillor John Taylor

In attendance: Councillor Paul Davies (Ex Officio)
Councillor Jo Lawson (Ex Officio)
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Ex Officio)

Observers: Councillor Andrew Marchington

1 Membership of the Committee

Councillor Mohan Sokhal substituted for Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That subject to the following amendments, the minutes of the Meeting held on 17 June 2022 be approved as a correct record. Councillor Jo Lawson attended the meeting as an observer. Councillor Elizabeth Smaje attended the meeting as an observer (virtual).

3 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Harry McCarthy and Joshua Sheard declared 'other' interests on item 9.

4 Admission of the Public

It was noted that Agenda Item 14 would be considered in private session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

There were no deputations or petitions received.

6 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

7 Democracy Commission Update

The Committee received an update relating to the recent work of the Democracy Commission.

Cllr John Taylor advised the Committee that two sessions had been held with other local authorities who had moved from a Cabinet to Committee System and then

back to a Cabinet model, and an authority who had moved from a Committee System to a Cabinet model and then back to a Committee System alongside a change of administration.

The Committee heard that further evidence gathering sessions were planned to hear from additional local authorities, after which the Commission would begin to consider evidence from stakeholders within Kirklees.

RESOLVED – That the work of the Democracy Commission be noted.

8 Kirklees response to local audit framework consultation

The Committee received a verbal update from Martin Dearnley, Head of Risk, relating to a recent technical consultation by the Government in relation to local audit frameworks.

The Committee heard that following this technical consultation, the Government recommended that local audit frameworks align their audit committee's make-up to that suggested by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). One of the recommendations of CIPFA is for audit committees to have two independent members, albeit the Committee noted that the Government would likely legislate for one independent member.

The Committee considered several options relating to the appointment of an independent member, presented by Mr Dearnley. The Committee was informed that any change to include an independent member would need an amendment to the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

RESOLVED – That a further report be considered at the next meeting of the Committee with the following recommendations to Council: -

- 1) The appointment of one independent member to be co-opted on to the Committee on an ex-officio basis;
- 2) The payment of £k plus expenses be made per annum to the independent member;
- 3) That no restriction as to geographic area be imposed for the independent member but rather the skill set of the independent member be the deciding factor for appointment to the position.
- 4) That there be no restriction for the independent member as to public or private sector experience.
- 5) That the Terms of Reference for the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee be amended to reflect the appointment of an independent ex-officio member.

9 Proposed revisions to the terms of reference for the Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Board (Reference to Council)

The Committee considered a report which sought approval for revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The report outlined that the national, regional, and local context the Board was operating within had undergone significant changes with the passing of the Health

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and Care Act 2022. The Act provided a new legislative framework to facilitate greater collaboration within the NHS, local government, and other parties and to support the recovery from the pandemic.

The Committee noted that the Board had no decision taking responsibilities for service provision or finance, but the Board would be represented on the Kirklees Integrated Care Board Committee that would have delegated powers to allocate funding and change service provision.

RESOLVED – That the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 7 September with a recommendation that the revised Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board be approved.

10 **Corporate Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Annual Report**

The Committee received an overview of the work of the Emergency Planning Team.

The Committee noted that the Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Annual Report provided a snapshot of the work of the Emergency Planning Team and provided an assurance to the Committee that Kirklees Council was compliant with the core duties in the Civil Contingencies Act.

The report provided details of resilience matters using the performance headlines (i) Incident Response, (ii) Training and Exercises, (iii) Hazard Warnings, (iv) Counter Terrorism Awareness, (v) Advice to Schools and (vi) Educational Visits.

RESOLVED – That the Committee note the report and of the work of the Emergency Planning Team, and that officers be thanked for the clear and concise style of the report.

11 **Report of the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel (Reference to Council)**

The Committee considered a report which sought the approval to Council of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2022/23, which took into account the recommendations proposed by the Members' Allowances Independent Review Panel (MAIRP) regarding allowances.

The report outlined that Kirklees Democracy Commission recommended that the MAIRP consider linking the annual changes in the rate of Councillor's allowances to the pay rate for local government officer. However, a full root and branch was carried out, and the outcome of the MAIRP was appended to the report. The appendices included recommendations for an increase in the Basic Allowance and some Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA).

RESOLVED – That the report be referred to the meeting of Council on 7 September with a recommendation that: -

- 1) Councillors Basic Allowance and SRA's are linked to the pay award for officers and Councillors receive the same annual percentage pay award as those of local government officers.

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- 2) The Committee broadly supports the IT approach recommended of Councillors sourcing and paying for broadband contracts and subscription to internet-based ink cartridges but that this be considered in a more phased implementation alongside the review of the group size bandings.
- 3) The new group size bandings and political positions are reviewed and reconsidered by the MAIRP, including the allowance attached to the number of Members constituting a Group.
- 4) The SRA for Lead Councillor – Primary Care Networks and Local Health Improvement (formerly Place Partnership Lead), remain at the previous rate for the role of Place Partnership Lead Members from May 2022, until such time that the Lead Councillor role, Primary Care network and Local Health Improvement had been reviewed by this Committee.
- 5) The SRA changes relating to the following Chairs of Committees be agreed: -
 - Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - Corporate Governance and Audit Committee
 - Licensing and Safety Committee
 - Standards Committee
 - Adoption Panel Member
 - Fostering Panel Member

12 Quarterly Report of Internal Audit Q1 2022/23 April 2022 TO June 2022

The Committee received a report relating to the internal audit work in quarter 1 of 2022/23.

The report advised that Quarter 1 contained 15 pieces of completed work, of which 8 were schools, and follow up audits relating to markets income, and planning (all positive assurances). There were adverse findings in aspects of the management of pool cars, school catering finances and a review of modern slavery arrangements.

The Committee noted that Internal Audit now oversaw the Council's Fraud Investigation Team. The report outlined that there had been 37 referrals during the Quarter 1 period, mainly related to blue badge fraud, right to buy and other tenancy related fraud.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the Internal Audit Quarterly Report be noted and that no further action was sought on any matter identified.
- (ii) That it be noted that there has been no Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act activity during the period quarter 1 2022/23.

13 Exclusion of the Public

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RESOLVED – That acting under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as specifically state in the undermentioned minute

- 14** **Quarterly Report of Internal Audit Q1 2022/23 April 2022 TO June 2022**
Exempt information within Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information (Variation) Order 2006, namely Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The Committee noted the exempt information, which was an appendix to Agenda Item 12.

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Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Tuesday 29th March 2022

Present: Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)
Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Karen Allison
Councillor John Lawson
Barry Lockwood - Kirklees Fostering Network
Colleen Kenworthy - Kirklees Fostering Network
Elaine McShane, Service Director - Family Support and Child Protection
Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children
Sara Miles, Head of Service – Resources, Improvement and Partnerships
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director – Learning and Early Support
Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children

In attendance: Louise Hallas, Virtual School Team Manager

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Marchington (ex-officio)
Councillor Carole Pattison
Christine Carmichael - Kirklees Fostering Network
Janet Tolley, Virtual School Headteacher
Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)

1. Membership of the Board/Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Andrew Marchington, Councillor Carole Pattison, Christine Carmichael- Kirklees Fostering Network, Janet Tolley, Virtual School Headteacher and Tom Brailsford Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)

2. Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of the last meeting held on the 15th February 2022.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

No interests were declared.

4. Admission of the Public

It was agreed that all agenda items would be held in public session.

5. Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6. Update on the Role of the Corporate Parent

The Board considered a verbal update on the Role of the Corporate Parent within the directorate for Environment and Climate Change presented by Colin Parr, Strategic Director for Environment and Climate Change. It was explained that:

- The Directorate was split across 3 areas, Environmental Strategy and Climate Change, Highways and Street Scene and Culture and Visitor Economy.
- The Directorate was the largest in the Authority and could provide a role in supporting Care Leavers into work i.e., supported apprenticeships, work experience placements etc.
- The Climate Youth Festival was an upcoming event which could provide potential opportunities for Children Looked After.
- Celebrating the Year of Music was a large initiative which could also provide opportunities for Children Looked After.

The Board noted the update and were invited to ask questions. In the discussion to follow the Board highlighted the need to improve access to early work and training opportunities for Care leavers as only 54% of young people were in education or jobs, meaning that the remaining 46% were missing out. The Board welcomed the information in relation to supporting Care Leavers into work through supported apprenticeships and work experience placements but questioned how Foster Carers would be made aware of any upcoming opportunities.

In response, Colin Parr asked whether there was a thematic jobs fair for Care Leavers and suggested that the Directorate could help to develop an event for this purpose as a way of sharing information about the opportunities available. The Board advised that C & K Careers worked individually with children and young people to improve access to opportunities, but there was no targeted jobs fair for Children Looked After and Care Leavers and agreed that consideration should be given to developing an annual event for this purpose delivered by both the Authority and key partner organisations.

The Board also highlighted that information about upcoming opportunities should be circulated to Foster Carers and the Fostering Network that the Year of Music would be a fantastic opportunity for Children Looked After to be invited to showcase their talents.

Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director – Learning and Early Support agreed that the Year of Music could provide new opportunities for young people and advised that additional capacity had been sourced for the event. Consideration was also being given to linking in with, and engaging key stake holders.

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The Board raised a question in relation to job opportunities and if they could be mentioned in the Personal Educational Plans (PEP's).

Louise Hallas, Virtual School Team Manager responded and advised that job opportunities were mentioned in PEP's when the young person was suitable, and it was the right step for them. Louise also advised that in years ten and eleven the young person was seen by C & K Careers to discuss their interests and opportunities.

The Board noted the update on the Directorate for Environment and Climate Change's role as Corporate Parent and thanked Colin Parr for his attendance. It was agreed that:

RESOLVED:

1. An update on the Climate Youth Festival, the environmental sustainability strategy and engaging Looked after Children and Care leavers in its development be provided to a future meeting of the Board.
2. That consideration be given to developing an annual Careers Fair for Looked After Children and Care Leavers.
3. Information about upcoming work and training opportunities should be circulated to Foster Carers and the Fostering Network.
4. Children Looked After should be invited to showcase their talents through the Year of Music Festival.

7. Children's Performance Highlights Report

The Board considered the latest reports giving key highlights on Performance Monitoring for Children's Services.

Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children presented the key highlights in relation to Looked After Children and Care Leavers. It was noted that:

- Data showed an improving picture in the work being undertaken.
- There was a decrease in the number of Children Looked After which was now 615 compared with the previous month.
- 490 children / young people were subject to Special Guardianship Orders.
- There were ongoing concerns in relation to the number of children in education, training or employment which was a key area of focus.
- Links needed to be made to create wider opportunities for young people to aspire and achieve.
- There had been an increase in the number of placements moves which was due to notice being given, issues relating to carers and the experience of young people throughout the pandemic.
- Weekly meetings took place to consider stability, which was another area of focus.
- There was a full overview report which set out the work being undertaken across the Children Looked After teams

Louise Hallas, Virtual School Team Manager provided an update in relation to the Virtual School, and highlighted that:

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- All children / young people in care aged between 3 and 18 years of age should have at least one Personal Education Planning (PEP) meeting each term.
- The team continued to work virtually and were able to attend all PEP meetings.
- As a result, 100% of children / young people had their PEP meeting each term.
- 96% of initial PEP's were completed within 10 working days for new children / young people entering care, and 100% were completed within 11 working days.
- Work continued across the service with social care to meet the educational needs of children / young people.
- Attendance remained difficult to compare due to COVID absences.
- Monitoring of attendance for all children / young people continued and individual work was undertaken with children / young people with attendance concerns or who were not in full time education.

The Board acknowledge that 100% of PEP meetings had taken place but questioned whether there was any disadvantage to doing them virtually.

Louise Hallas responded and advised that the advantages outweighed the disadvantages, as virtual meetings allowed an education professional to be present at each meeting who could support and challenge, which added quality to the meetings. Louise also advised that previously, only 40% of PEP meetings were attended in person due to the need to travel and that there was a clear criterion in place for when it was necessary to attend a meeting in person.

Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children provided an update in relation to Children Looked After Health, and highlighted that:

- Kirklees Local Authority (LA) rolling 12-month data showed that 85.9% of Initial Health Assessments were completed in the statutory 20 working day timescales.
- Locala monthly data showed that 100% were completed in timescales for February 2022.
- A breakdown of the 12 month rolling data identified that there were only 4 children whose initial assessment was completed late within the last year.
- Health assessments were still taking place via an initial telephone assessment followed by a clinic visit.
- The 12 month rolling data for review health assessments (RHA) showed 91% of under 5's and 91.6% of over 5's were completed within timescales.
- Locala monthly data for review health assessments showed 72% of under 5's and 60% of over 5's were completed within timescale.
- There had been a reduction in the completion of RHA's by the exact date over recent months.
- A contingency plan was introduced to reduce pressure on the team and the team were now trying to complete RHA's within timescales.
- A business case had been developed to look at extra staffing but had not progressed.
- The 12 month rolling data for dental checks showed 63.8% of children aged one and above had attended the dentist. The figure took in consideration data

from the previous year when dentists re-opened and had a backlog of routine appointments to schedule.

- Monthly data for February 2022 showed 73% of children aged 18 months to 4 years, and 100% of children 5 and above attended the dentist in February 2022.
- 89% of children aged 18 months to 4 years and 93% of children aged 5 and above were registered with a dentist. Those not registered were likely to be children who had moved placement, were new into care or young people who refused to attend their appointment and could not be kept on the register.
- The flexible commissioning project continued to help ensure all children including Care Leavers could be registered with a Dentist.
- Although data showed substance misuse had increased slightly, this was for the same 7 young people already known to have significant issue.

Elaine McShane, Service Director for Family Support and Child Protection shared an update on adoption. The Board were advised that the data highlighted a lengthy timescale in terms of decision making. Elaine advised that a specific piece of work was being undertaken to understand the decision-making process in relation to the adoption pathway from the point of initiating care proceedings to the final offer, to provide further clarity and understanding.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the Children's Performance Highlights Report, and it was agreed that a detailed update in respect of the adoption pathway and decision-making process be provided to a future meeting of the Board.

8. Children Looked After Overview Report

The Board considered the Children Looked After Overview Report presented by Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children who shared the key points and highlighted that:

- The number of Children currently looked after was 615 and concerns had been raised regarding that number.
- Work was undertaken in relation to maintaining children at home with their families.
- There were 490 Special Guardianship Orders in total which was positive.
- Since January 2021, 51 Special Guardianship Orders had been secured.
- Ongoing data identified 50 children were successfully returned home.
- In terms of ethnicity, there had been an increase in the number of Asian children becoming Looked After, which was at 10.2% in February 2022.

The Board highlighted that the number of Special Guardianship Orders had risen quickly and questioned how the Council ensured that the 490 children / young people were being properly supported and resourced.

Elaine McShane, Service Director for Family Support and Child Protection responded and advised that the increase had grown over a period of time and recognition had been given to the commitment of families to take on children. Elaine shared that practical support and financial support was offered, including the connected person support team, support groups within the community and universal services. Elaine

also shared that a review of the financial policy had been undertaken to support Special Guardianship placements in terms of pay rates and age criteria.

The Board highlighted the concern that sometimes families agreed to Special Guardianship Orders but were not always aware what opportunities were available and what could be expected.

In response, Elaine McShane advised that the decision was overseen by the Courts and that each child / young person had a guardian who took the perspective of the child as well as robust viability assessments and decision making to ensure children were placed in the right setting.

The Board highlighted that the Staying Put Policy was a positive step forward in ensuring support for children post 18 but shared that the allowance for children had not risen much within the last 8 years which was concerning when taking into account the increased cost of living. The Board asked if the matter could be looked at urgently and if consideration could also be given to other incentives.

Sara Miles, Head of Service for Resources, Improvement and Partnerships responded and advised that a draft financial policy was in place which would be sent out for consultation and included additional bonuses. Sara agreed that an update on the draft financial policy could be provided to the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the Children Looked After Overview Report, and it was agreed that:

1. Regular updates be provided in relation to ethnicity data.
2. An update be provided in relation to the draft financial policy at the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

9. Statement of Purpose for the Fostering Service

The Board considered the Statement of Purpose for the Fostering Service presented by Sara Miles, Head of Service for Resources, Improvement and Partnerships who highlighted that:

- The Statement of Purpose had been revised in line with ongoing works in relation to the modernisation of the Fostering Service.
- It evidenced the aims and objectives of the service, and those for carers and children and young people.
- It shared the same view and aims as any parent, for their child to grow and achieve their full potential.
- It included information in relation to skills level payments, available services and work that was being undertaken with the placement support team.
- It included the development and support for foster carers and children / young people.
- The mockingbird offer was to be extended.
- Work had been undertaken regarding the review processes and another Independent Reviewing Officer was to be recruited.
- A draft financial policy was being developed to review Foster Carer finances and allowances.

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- There were 12 fostering assessments ongoing and 19 active stages at enquiry.

Sara Miles also shared that she would like to provide more detailed information to the Board in relation to the recruitment and retention of Foster Carers.

The Board highlighted the Mockingbird programme and their keen interest for a 2nd constellation to be developed. The Board questioned if there was a timescale for this?

Sara Miles was unable to provide a timescale but agreed to come back and share an update on the progress.

Elaine McShane suggested that Kieran Lord shared an update on The Mockingbird programme as well as other services including MSTFIT and placements support.

The Board highlighted the increase in Asian children entering care and questioned the successful recruiting of Foster Carers of an Asian background?

Sara Miles responded and advised that community work was being carried out to seek enquiries across all communities and agreed to provide a more detailed report to include the data showing what had been achieved and what work was ongoing.

The Board highlighted Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA'S) and questioned if any work had been carried out to identify what they offer compared with the Kirklees offer?

Elaine McShane advised that a piece of work had been done previously and highlighted that there were different layers of provision within IFA's depending on the needs of the children which replicated the Councils skills level, and in comparison, financially, there wasn't much difference. Elaine acknowledged that in terms of reviewing the financial policy and payments to Foster Carers, it was the right time to re-look at IFA provision.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the Statement of Purpose for the Fostering Service and agreed that:

- Detailed information in relation to the marketing and recruitment of Foster Carers in relation to the recruitment, retention and ethnicity be shared at a future Corporate Parenting Board meeting.
- An update be provided in relation to the development of the mockingbird programme, as well as other services including MSTFIT and placement support.
- A comparison be undertaken to identify IFA provision and how this differed from Kirklees provision.

10. Update on the Role of the Corporate Parent

The Board considered an update on the Directorate for Growth and Regeneration's role as Corporate Parent, presented by David Shepherd, Strategic Director for Growth and Regeneration who highlighted that:

- The Directorate for Growth and regeneration was formed less than 2 years ago and there were 3 service areas which included, Homes and Neighbourhoods, Skills and Regeneration and Development.
- The Young People's Pathway sat within Homes and Neighbourhoods and provided targeted support to tenants under 25 years of age including Care Leavers.
- Assessments were undertaken and individual bespoke support plans were developed with the relevant services.
- There were regular check points throughout the tenancy, so support could be provided when required to ensure a successful tenancy.
- Additional support could be added to the pathway if required, such as money advice, income management, employment support etc, with the young person's consent.
- There was an allocations policy in place that gave young people priority (Band A), particularly Care Leavers.
- Accommodation support was available for people who were accommodating young people i.e., foster cares, who were awarded Band C to access council accommodation.
- The Pre-Apprenticeship Programme was a 26-week unpaid study programme for 16 –18 year olds, which ran annually.
- Its aim was to engage young people as they entered young adulthood to build on their skills and help them become successful in labour market engagement.
- It brought together all services to support the young person as well as those who disengaged.
- Multi Systemic Therapy Family Integration Transition (MSTFIT) was targeted at 11 to 17 year olds with behavioural difficulties. It supported unified work with families to help get them out of care.
- Joint work with Housing Solutions and Homes and Neighbourhoods had proved successful in re-housing families.
- Most children had a stay at Healds house as part of the initial transition model whilst ongoing work was undertaken with the child and family to identify a suitable property.
- An allocation's policy review would explore how managed lets could accommodate this rather than using 'choose and move', to provide a better match of property and ensure a higher potential for success.
- Although there were just short of 22,000 Council properties, there was not a great supply of properties and turnover each year, therefore the more properties taken out for managed lets resulted in less properties being available to others.
- In terms of Fostering and Adoption, work was undertaken to engage with Children's Services, support staff and families to find solutions to issues in relation to housing.
- Creative approaches were necessary to provide solutions, using the available resources.
- There was a dedicated employment support function within the Directorate which engaged all partners to develop bespoke arrangements, particularly for Care Leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).
- There was an action board in place that monitored and managed the support that was provided to NEET Care Leavers.

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- Kickstart was available for young people, particularly Care Leavers to actively engage them with private sector employers who were sponsored through the scheme.
- More employment opportunities were becoming available for young people as the economy bounced back following the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Lots of sectors were looking for people to move into entry level jobs which the Kickstart Programme supported in terms of employer funding and a package of support for the young person.
- Social value arrangements were always evolving, and services bought in through procurement arrangements were required to demonstrate and deliver them.
- The Cultural Heart (a large-scale regeneration programme) strategic delivery team were asked to carry out social engagement with young people, which included working with schools to provide opportunities of working with employers and to inspire young people to be part of the regeneration.
- The aim was to engage Care Leavers in the process, with a view to standardising this through the procurement process.

The Board raise concern that information in relation to the Works Better programme, Kickstart programme and social values arrangements was not shared directly with Foster Carers and questioned how this could be done better? David Shepherd noted the concern and agreed to distribute information, so everyone had access to it.

The Board highlighted the Pre-Apprenticeship Scheme and questioned the number of places available. David Shepherd responded to advise that he did not have the information but agreed to provide it. David shared that the scheme was not limited by the number of places but was about engaging young people to help them see it as something that worked for them. David also shared that the schemes were very well attended and attractive, and provided the opportunity to bring young people through into to employment with the right support packages in place for them to succeed.

The Board asked for more information about the approach to engagement with Care Leavers suggesting that it was important to communicating with Personal Advisors (PA's) as well as Carers. Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children added that Personal Advisors were now involved at the early age of 15 in relation to planning and aspirational opportunities. Links were already developed with other services.

David Shepherd responded to agree that early engagement was best, and that Phil Marks and Gillian Wallis were the people to liaise with.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the update on the Directorate for Growth and Regeneration's role as Corporate Parent, and agreed that:

1. Further information in relation to the Works Better programme, Kickstart programme and social values be shared with Foster Carers.
2. The number of places available on the Pre-Apprenticeship Programme be provided.

11. Virtual School Governing Body Update

Louise Hallas, Virtual School Team Manager advised the Board that a virtual school governing body meeting had not taken place since the last Corporate Parenting Board Meeting and so no update was given.

RESOLVED:

The Board agreed an update be provided at the next Corporate Parenting Board meeting.

12. Children's Ambition Board

The Board considered an update on the Children's Ambition Board presented by Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director for Learning and Early Support who highlighted that:

- The Ambition Board provided a positive opportunity to meet with partners and to share the key priorities that the Directorate was working towards.
- An update was given on Kirklees Futures (districts learning strategy), Special Educational Needs and Disabilities transformation plan, and the aim for Children's Services to be 'outstanding'.
- There was an opportunity to look at data across the Directorate.
- There was a review in relation to timeliness of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) and compliance.
- High level Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 outcomes and attendance were shared.
- The focus of next meeting would be around Early Support and the progress of the whole partnership.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the update on the Children's Ambitions Board.

13. Update from Board Members on Interaction with Services

The Board shared their attendance at the young parent's network meeting (virtually) and advised that it was a useful event where young parents were able to share their success stories.

RESOLVED:

The Board noted the update on Interactions with Services.

14. Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan 2021/22

The Board highlighted some of the agenda items to be considered in the next municipal year 2022/23, which included:

- Supported Lodging Schemes
- Support for Foster Carers
- Adoption Report
- Standard Items.

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The Board were asked to consider other Directorates who could be invited to the Corporate Parenting Board to share how they contribute as Corporate Parents.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the agenda plan 2021/22 and it was agreed that:

- Directors continue to be invited to the Corporate Parenting Board to share their contribution to the role of Corporate Parent within their services.
- Items to be added to the agenda for 22/2023 be sent to the Chair and Jodie Harris.

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Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

Tuesday 12 July 2022

Present: Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)
Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Karen Allison
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Andrew Marchington (ex-officio)
Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children
Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director – Learning and Early Support
Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children
Janet Tolley, Virtual School Headteacher
Keith Fielding- Kirklees Fostering Network
Colleen Kenworthy - Kirklees Fostering Network

Apologies: Councillor Carole Pattison
Elaine McShane, Service Director - Family Support and Child Protection
Sara Miles, Head of Service – Resources, Improvement and Partnership
Christine Carmichael - Kirklees Fostering Network
Barry Lockwood - Kirklees Fostering Network
Keely Lucas – Care leaver Representative
Farah Munir – Care leaver Representative

1. Membership of the Board/Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Carole Pattison, Elaine McShane, Service Director - Family Support and Child Protection, Sara Miles, Head of Service – Resources, Improvement and Partnership, Christine Carmichael- Kirklees Fostering Network, Barry Lockwood - Kirklees Fostering Network, Keely Lucas – Care leaver Representative and Farah Munir – Care leaver Representative.

2. Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of the last meeting held on 29th March 2022.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record.

3. Interests

No interests were declared.

4. Admission of the Public

It was agreed that all agenda items would be held in public session.

5. Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6. Public Question Time

No public questions were received

7. Children's Performance Highlights Report

The Board considered the latest reports giving key highlights on Performance Monitoring data for Children's Services.

Ophelia Rix, Head of Service for Children in Care, Care Leavers and Looked After Children presented the key highlights in relation to Children Entering Care, Children in Care and Placement Stability. It was explained that:

- There was a decreasing trend in the number and rate of children in care from 650 children in June 2021 to 604 children in May 2022.
- Between January and May 2022, 73 children became looked after, and 87 children were no longer looked after during the same period.
- It was important to look at the reasons for the decreasing trend to understand the data.
- Children were still becoming looked after, but work had been undertaken to ensure that children returned home where it was safe and appropriate to do so.
- Special Guardianship Orders had been secured for 23 children, and 5 Children had been returned home after being looked after for a significant period.
- 16 Children also had remained with carers under the refreshed Staying Put policy.

The Board noted the update and explanation for the decreasing trend expressing that the breakdown of the data was reassuring and positive. The connection to family was key for children and young people and the Board highlighted that this work should carry on wherever it was safe to do so.

In response to a question from the Board in relation to Children Looked After Reviews, Visits and Missing the Board highlighted the number of missing episodes and questioned how young people had been reported missing. The Board also questioned if the postponed meeting with the police had taken place and what the outcomes of this discussion was. Ophelia Rix responded to suggest that a focused report around children missing, and the context of the work undertaken around this be provided to a

future meeting of the Board. The Board welcomed the suggestion and further expressed concerns that when a young person was missing it left them potentially open to exploitation.

Janet Tolley, Head Teacher of the Virtual School provided an update in relation to Children Looked After Educational Outcomes and explained that:

- The nationally published data for Children Looked After attainment showed outstanding performance at Key Stage 4 (KS4) in 2021.
- For all attainment and progress indicators at KS4 Kirklees Council Virtual School was in Band A and one of the highest ranking nationally.
- Performance in terms of overall attendance and exclusions was also strong with Kirklees Council Virtual School being placed in Quartile Band A.
- In relation to Personal Education Plans, 100% of PEPs were completed within the Spring Term in-line with the termly processes.
- 97% of initial PEPs were completed within 10 school days of a child coming into care since 1st September 2021.
- 3 PEP's were not completed within the 10 days, but there were exceptional circumstances involved and these PEP's took place on day 11.
- 91% of school moves since the start of the academic year had been carefully planned to ensure a smooth transition with no break in provision.
- Addressing issues arising from the Covid-19 pandemic continued to be a key priority following the return to school for all pupils.
- Covid-19 continued to impact on the number of PA pupils, even though many of these young people were not attendance concerns.
- Persistent Absence (PA) and Unauthorised Absence remained a high priority for all pupils with attendance less than 90%.
- It was important to be mindful of the emotional issues for young people following the pandemic and respond creatively where there were concerns.
- The Virtual School continued to have a strong focus on pupils not in full-time education provision.
- Work was also ongoing across services to reduce the number of school moves and any breaks in provision whenever possible.

The Board noted the update and asked if there were any opportunities to learn more about the model used for the Virtual School. It was agreed that any Board members interested in learning more about the virtual school be invited to a separate briefing for this purpose.

Gill Addy, Designated Nurse for Looked After Children provided an update in relation to Children Looked After Health and highlighted that:

- Initial Health Assessments (IHA):
 - Kirklees Local Authority rolling 12-month data showed that 79.3% of IHA's were completed within the statutory 20 working day timescale.
 - Locala monthly data for May showed that 75% were completed in timescales.
 - This equated to 3 breaches which were due to late notification and placement of child outside the locality.

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- A breakdown of the 12 month rolling data identified that there were only 4 children whose IHA was completed late within the last year.
- It was important to note that small numbers had a large impact on the percentages.
- A hybrid model was still used to carry out IHA's due to the remaining Covid-19 restrictions in clinics.
- Review Health Assessments (RHA):
 - Kirklees rolling 12-month data showed that 91.5% of the 'Developmental' assessments (under 5yrs old) and 94% of 'Annual' assessments (over 5 yrs. old) were completed in the statutory timescales.
 - Locala monthly data for May showed that 78% of under 5-year-olds and 82% of over 5-year-olds RHA's were completed in timescales.
 - There were 11 in-house breaches related to arrangements with carers, capacity, and placement moves.
 - The decreasing trend had continued into June due to various factors.
 - There was now increased access to information (through system 1), which led to more in depth investigation during RHA's.
 - There had also been an increase in the number of children with complex needs.
 - It was important to note that similar challenges were also being reported by statistical neighbours.
 - Communications with the Commissioner and the relevant Cabinet Member had begun to address the new challenges.
- Dental Checks/Registrations within last 12 months:
 - The data for June 2022 showed a positive increasing trend in terms of dental checks.
 - 91% of children under 5, and 97% over 5, were seen by a dentist in the last 6 months.
 - The Flexible Commissioning Project was still in operation and being promoted to ensure Looked After Children had opportunity to be registered at a Dentist.
- Substance misuse:
 - 6 young people had admitted or were known to use substances that had a significant impact on their daily life when asked at their last RHA.
 - It was noted that this figure was low compared with the national average and may change at their next RHA.

The Board expressed admiration for ambitions for continual improvement in relation to Children Looked After Health. The recent challenges outlined were also acknowledged, and it was agreed that a meeting be held with the Chair and Cabinet member for Children and young people to discuss how the increased pressure on health services may be alleviated.

The Board noted a continually improving picture in relation to Children Looked After Convictions and that a further update be presented at a future meeting of the Board.

Ophelia Rix presented the data in respect of Care leavers, and highlighted that:

- Personal Advisors (PA's) were now allocated to young people from age 17+.
- The data showed an increase in the performance indicator from 91.7% in April 2022 to 97.4% in May 2022 which was positive.
- Building early relationships with PA's was a key priority and the ambition was to begin allocation of PA's to young people from 16.5 years old.
- It was also important to note that all young people either had an allocated PA or a Social Worker.
- There has been an increase in relation to the number of Care Leavers that PA's contacted from 90.2% in April 2022 to 91.0% in May 2022.
- It was important to view this data in the context of this group being aged 18 plus and, in some situations, chose not to keep in contact with their PA.
- Work was being undertaken to collect data to understand the rationale behind a Care leavers decision to decline to keep contact with PA's.
- In May 2022 there was a decrease to 87.2% from 88.0% in April 2022 in relation to the number of young people in suitable accommodation.
- It was important to note that where a young person was in custody that this would be classed as unsuitable accommodation.
- Work was to be undertaken to provide a specific breakdown of the number of young people in custody and other types of non-suitable accommodation.
- This data would then be provided to the Corporate Parenting Board for better understanding and context.
- There had been an increase in the numbers of young people who had an up-to-date Pathway Plan.
- Work continued with PA's to ensure Pathway Plans were completed in a timely manner to meet targets with a focus on the improvement of the quality of plans.
- A key concern and priority area for improvement was to increase the number of young people with access to further Education, Employment or Training.
- A Panel of representatives from across the Council and external partners were reviewing what could be improved, and what opportunities were available.
- The approach to improvement would also combine increasing work with the Virtual School Post 18, alongside early intervention work with young people.
- It was planned that a report setting out the measures undertaken to address concerns around Education, Employment and Training be presented at a future meeting of the Board.

The Board noted the value in providing stability to Care leavers in relation to better education, employment, and training. Ophelia Rix responded to agree highlighting the the value of family communities and the positive link to a young person's further prospects. Ophelia added that other key areas of work would include reviewing the experiences of Care leavers with a particularly focus of what intervention or opportunity could have been provided earlier to lead to better outcomes as well as forecasting the future needs of young people. This information would be important to help identify what was required from the Council as a Corporate Parent.

Ophelia also requested that members of the Council be asked what can be done in their capacity as elected members to identify opportunities for care leavers. The Board noted the request and suggested part of the approach may involve identifying some

young people who may act as mentors on options post 16. The Board also questioned how to communicate the ask and challenge to wider member of the Council.

The Board wanted to know if there was any correlation between children in further education, employment or training with those in staying put arrangements. Ophelia Rix responded to agree to undertake investigative work alongside foster carers to understand what the key factors were that made young people more able to be engaged in education, employment, or training.

Responding to a question from the Board about improving Pathway Plans, Ophelia Rix responded to advise work was to be undertaken to change the language in relation to Pathway Plans, to reflect what the child's ambitions are and what can the Council do to support this. The Board commented that intervention could not come early enough and welcomed the ambition to start working with young people from age 16 plus.

Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships) presented the data in relation to fostering and it was highlighted that:

- The number of children placed with Kirklees foster carers decreased to 171 at the end of May 2022, this is below the 12-month average of 207.
- From March to May 2022 there were 12 new foster carer approvals and 11 resignations of which 7 were now Connected Carers which was positive.
- The number of family and friend's placements at the end of May 2022 was 110, this was higher than the 12-month average of 104.
- The May figure of 182 Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements for IFA placements was above the 12-month average of 177.
- The Fostering service continued the modernisation agenda, including a media campaign, new redesigned website and improvements to Liquid Logic.
- Recruitment and retention of foster carers continued to be a priority, and it was important to ensure that robust systems and processes were in place.
- This included having a strong online presence to continue the campaign to recruit high quality foster carers for children and young people.
- Extra resources were being created, including the appointment of a new Head of Service to focus of the recommendations of the Care Review.
- Work had continued to increase the number of Kirklees foster placements.
- There were 11 assessments in process at stage 1 and 2, 16 enquires and 14 expressions of interest in June.
- There had also been a net gain of 4 fostering placements and the total number of foster carers was 173.

Responding to a question from the Board about the impact of the recent media campaign, Tom Brailsford agreed that it was important to monitor the effectiveness of promotions and to present this data to a future meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board. In relation to raising awareness of Kirklees's Fostering offer the Board was also interested to investigate how to target specific parts of the local community and welcomed ideas on how best to approach this from members and officers.

The Board raised concerns about increased pressure on foster carers due to a 30 percent decrease in capacity, the changes being made to the Placement Support Service and new financial challenges arising from the cost-of-living crisis. The Board asked what measures Kirklees may take to support Foster Carers highlighting that that some local authorities were providing cost-of-living crisis payments as a means of additional support, noting that this would be effective in improving the retention of foster carers also. It was also raised that skill level payments had not been increased.

Tom Brailsford responded to advise that the Placement Support Service (which supports Foster Carers) was in the process of being reviewed and modernised to make sure that the service was more flexible and was there to support foster carers as soon as possible. In respect of support during the cost-of-living crisis, Tom further reassured the Board that discussions were ongoing with the Director for Children's Services to address the new challenges. In terms of Skills Level Payment there was an ongoing piece of work centred around benchmarking Kirklees against other regional local authorities in West Yorkshire and equalising payments to make sure they were comparable regionally. Tom further highlighted, that one of the key recommendations of the recent Care Review was to take a more regional approach to all work in relation to children's residential care and foster carer recruitment and as a part of this it was important to ensure parity in both the approach to the cost-of-living crisis and skills level payment.

The Board noted the response and suggested that in revising and improving the Placement Support Service that foster carers be engaged with throughout the process. The Board also asked if there were any new timescales in respect of the work around skill level payments.

In response, Tom Brailsford agreed to provide revised estimated timescales in respect of the work being undertaken around skill level payments to the Board. He also reassured the Board that engagement with foster carers was part of the ongoing co-production of the modernisation of the Placement Support Service and agreed to discuss support to foster carers in more detail at the next regular meeting with the Kirklees Fostering Network.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the Children's Performance Highlights Report, and it was agreed that:

1. A focused report around children missing, and the context of the work undertaken around this be provided to a future meeting of the Board.
2. A meeting be held with Gill Addy, Designated Nurse and the Cabinet member for Children and Young People to discuss how the increased pressure on health services may be alleviated.
3. A report showing a breakdown of the number of young people in custody and other types of non-suitable accommodation be provided to a future meeting of the Board.
4. A report setting out the measures undertaken to address concerns around Education, Employment or Training be presented at a future meeting of the Board.
5. Investigative work be undertaken to understand what the key factors are in increasing the number of young people engaged in further Education,

Employment or Training are, and for the findings to be reported back to the Board.

6. A message is sent to members of the Council requesting support in respect of Education, Employment or Training for care leavers.
7. The impact of the recent fostering campaign's be monitored and the findings to be reported to the Corporate Parenting Board.
8. Support for foster carer be discussed during the next regular meeting with the Kirklees Foster Network
9. That engagement continues to be held with the Kirklees Fostering Network in respect of modernisation of the placement support service.

8. Virtual School Governing Body Update

Janet Tolley, Head Teacher of the Virtual School presented a verbal update in relation to the last meeting of the Virtual School Governing Body which was held on 9th June 2022. It was highlighted that:

- The Governing Body firstly received a staffing update, which advised that a SEND Lead was recently appointed to the Virtual School.
- There were also changes to the Senior Leadership Team as a result of the new duty placed on the Virtual School which included supporting all young children with a social worker.
- Since the introduction of the new duty, the virtual school had adopted a new SLT model on a temporary basis.
- This was decided as the best approach to take forward and since the governing body meeting a permanent Virtual School Headteacher had been recruited to work alongside the Executive Virtual School Headteacher.
- The specific role of the Executive Headteacher was to work strategically across services and the education provision.
- So far work had included raising awareness of the new duty, and the roles that providers and services play in terms of safeguarding and supporting attainment.
- Wider work involved the development of a 'Vulnerable Children's Dashboard,
- The Head Teacher update was considered by the Governing Body.
- Whilst nationally attendance performance data was strong, there were still attendance concerns particularly post pandemic in relation to Persistent Absence (PA) and unauthorised absence.
- Arising from the discussion, the Governing Body requested that interrogation of the data for PA, exclusions and suspension breakdowns be undertaken and compared with other local authorities.
- A Finance Overview and Update was presented to the Governing Body.
- It was noted that investment was being used to commission services that schools could not commission alone and for targeted individual support.
- Presentations were considered in respect of Post 16 and 17 work.
- It was also noted that the virtual school's was now working with young people from 2 -18 years old and providing support from nursery onwards.

The Board commented that the work undertaken to explore how to work strategically across services to implement the new duty was encouraging. The Board asked if there was any national longitudinal work ongoing in respect of understanding the impact on

attainment outcomes for the cohort of students impacted by the disruption to education arising from the covid-19 pandemic.

Janet Tolley responded to advise that there was no specific work yet but agreed it was interesting to consider how this cohort of students was tracked across all areas. Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director for Learning and Early Support further advised that Kirklees's Outcomes Report would be presented to Cabinet towards the end of this month and would provide a good baseline source of information in respect of specific groups of children. It was noted that it was important to start to track longitudinal information going forwards and agreed this was to be discussed at a future meeting of the governing body.

The Board welcomed the work being undertaken by the Virtual School in response to the new duty and agreed this information was relevant to this Board requesting that the Executive Virtual School Headteacher be invited to provide regular updates and appropriate times throughout the municipal year.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the Virtual School Governing Body update and agreed that:

1. Board members be invited to a briefing about the work of the Virtual School and a meeting of the Governing Body.
2. It was important to track longitudinal information in respect of the cohort of students impacted by the covid-19 pandemic and for this to be discussed at a future meeting of the Governing Body.
3. The Executive Virtual School Headteacher be invited to the Board to provide updates at appropriate times during the municipal year.

9. Children's Ambition Board

The Board considered an update on the Children's Ambition Board presented by Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director for Learning and Early Support.

It was explained that the focus of the last meeting of the Board, was on understanding data in relation to various key areas such as suspensions and early support. The Board also received updates new partnerships and on progress made in family hubs and early support.

The Board noted that the development of MST and the impact on children and young people had been useful and positive.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the update on the Children's Ambitions Board.

10. Update from Board Members on Interaction with Services

The Board shared that member of the Children's Scrutiny Panel had attended various visits including the social work team in Batley and to the MST teams and it was useful to hear their feedback.

The Chair of the Board and Cllr Pattison – Cabinet Member for Learning and Aspiration had also attended the Brambles School Opening celebration. It was highlighted that

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the school was fantastic in terms of the new design and that it was inspiring to see the enthusiasm of the staff and children.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the update on Interactions with Services.

11. Corporate Parenting Board Agenda Plan 2022/23

The Board were informed that the next meeting of the Board may be cancelled due to the date of the meeting taking place at a time when a significant number of members could not attend. It was agreed that a decision would be taken in due course and members informed as soon as possible.

The Board highlighted some of the agenda items to be considered in the next municipal year 2022/23, which included:

- The Annual Health Report
- The One Adoption West Yorkshire Annual Report

It was also noted that several focused reports had been agreed arising from the discussion during the meeting and that these should be factored into the work programme at an appropriate time.

RESOLVED: The Board noted the agenda plan 2022/23

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Thursday 31st March 2022

- Present: Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Mark Thompson
Councillor Kath Pinnock
Carol McKenna
Dr Khalid Naeem
Richard Parry
Rachel Spencer-Henshall
Karen Jackson
Beth Hewitt
- In attendance: Colin Lynch, Locala
Sean Rayner, Director of Provider Development, South
West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Catherine Riley, Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation
Trust
Emily Parry-Harries, Kirklees Council
James Griffith, West Yorkshire Police
Phil Longworth, Senior Manager, Integrated Support
Alex Chapman, Kirklees Council
Cllr Habiban Zaman, Lead Member for Health and Adult
Social Care Scrutiny Panel
Owen Richardson, Intelligence Lead, Public Health
Mike Houghton-Evans, Former Chair of Kirklees
Safeguarding Adults Board
Rob McCulloh-Graham, Current Chair of Kirklees
Safeguarding Adults Board
Jacqui Stansfield, Service Manager, Commissioning,
Quality and Performance
- Apologies: Mel Meggs
Jacqui Gedman

47 Membership of the Board/Apologies
Apologies were received from Mel Meggs and Jacqui Gedman.

48 Minutes of previous meeting
That the minutes of the meeting held on the 20 January 2022, be approved as a correct record.

49 Interests

No interests were declared.

50 Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session.

51 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

52 Covid update

Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health, provided an update on the current position regarding Covid-19 in Kirklees. In summary, the Board was informed that there are significant changes that have come effect, including the end of the requirement to self-isolate, the end of vaccine passports and there will no longer be universal free lateral flow testing across the country. Communication is being prepared aimed at providing information to support people going forward to enable them to live as safely as possible with COVID.

The Board was informed that in terms of the data that is usually presented at the meeting, the reporting has not been as comprehensive as it has been, and while there are some figures on what cases look like in Kirklees at the moment, it may not be accurate enough to be able to make that judgement. The population level studies that are carried out suggest that currently approximately one in 16 people across the UK may have Covid.

Acute trust colleagues will reflect that there is now an increasing pressure on the NHS system which may also be showing through into primary care. The data does, however, suggest that there is no increase in the numbers of people in intensive care as a result of Covid which reinforces the fact that the vaccination programme is preventing serious illness and death amongst the most vulnerable.

The important message is that people should still get the vaccine even if they have not yet had the vaccine, it is an evergreen offer. The booster programme will shortly be launched and anyone in the over 75 cohort and have had their vaccine longer than six months can book now to get their springtime booster and those who are in a clinically vulnerable group can also access the booster.

The vaccine is key however, it is also important that people continue to wash their hands. When looking at all infectious diseases whilst dealing with Covid the numbers had reduced, and that was because people's hygiene was generally better and washing hands is an effective way of protecting from a range of infectious diseases.

The challenge now is that there will no longer be access to testing in the same way as before, therefore it will be difficult for a person to know if they have Covid or not. Although the NHS website still refers to the cough and the temperature, through anecdotal information the symptoms being experienced by individuals who have Covid have been very varied. The important position for people to take is that if they have respiratory symptoms, such as coughing and sneezing then it could be Covid

and therefore if they are able, they should stay at home and isolate for five days. That may not be possible for everyone, however if they do need to go out, they should think about the vulnerability of others and wear a face covering and try to keep a safe distance.

In reference to the health and care system, guidance has been published about the testing regime that will come into effect for health and social care staff. They are still working through some of the specifics however, to give some reassurance, that there will be an expectation that health and social care testing will continue, particularly, for those that work in care homes. If there was an outbreak in one of the settings, testing would be implemented to identify any potential new variants. There is still the risk that, the current Omicron variant may change and there is likely to be another mutation, which is important to keep an eye on when that happens.

The important message is:

- get the vaccine,
- keep hand washing,
- if you have any respiratory symptoms, just think about how to potentially protect other people, and stay at home if possible

In response to the information presented a number of questions asked as follows:

- regarding the evergreen offer for vaccinations, is it evergreen in the sense of that will be the new norm and that will continue forever or is there an expectation that that would lessen off at some point?
- the price of the testing kits will be beyond the means of a lot of people, what availability is there for the Council to provide some form of free testing where there is an outbreak for example in a place of work or, nursery?

RESOLVED

That Rachel Spencer-Henshall be thanked for providing an update of Covid-19 in Kirklees

- 53** **Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022**
Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health, provided an update on the Director of Public Health Annual Report, entitled the first 1000 days.

In summary, the Board was informed that last year's annual report was focused on tackling inequalities which was timely in terms of the pandemic and the impact that had on exacerbating those inequalities. The focus of this year's annual report is on the first 1000 days of a child's development and the importance of this period in anyone's life.

There is a well-established evidence base, demonstrating the importance of the first 1000 days that is from conception to the age of two and the impact those days has on the outcomes for the rest of their lives. The development, that occurs in those

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thousand days it is still unmatched at any other time of life and development during this time is key. The 'best start in life' is one of Kirklees' shared outcomes.

The Board was informed that the aim in this year's annual report is similar to last years, which has been to pull together in a slide set which summarises the factors that are associated with the best child outcomes, using narrative from Kirklees families as well as the professionals providing care and support to families, in addition to supporting data.

The aim is to look at the issue based on what the local population is saying and what the professionals that work with them are saying to see whether there are clear set of recommendations that can be taken forward. Inequality data will form part of the picture as it is recognised that not all groups in Kirklees are the same and consideration will need to be given to doing things differently to support the diverse population.

The Board was informed that the different organisations that make up the Health and Wellbeing Board would not carryout this work as separate organisations and the work being undertaken around children and families demonstrates a cohesive working relationship. Colleagues in Locala are doing excellent work on the Thriving Kirklees Programme and the partners involved in that include NHS maternity services, and the public health team, and they are doing a phenomenal job in terms of making a difference to the lives of children and parents. This is a reflection of partnership working.

The Board was informed that:

- in terms of being born in Kirklees, the headline numbers shows that the general fertility rate in Kirklees is declining
- life expectancy is significantly lower in Kirklees than the England average for males and females and life expectancy has reduced. This is not unsurprising given the excess deaths seen during Covid
- the age of mums is increasing with fewer deliveries to teenage mothers which is similar to what is happening nationally
- Nationally, there is a higher proportion of babies born to mothers of non-white British ethnicity than perhaps across the rest of the country. However, these mothers tend to live in more deprived areas therefore, in terms of the factors that contribute to healthy pregnancy, it's ensuring that those outcomes are not affected by deprivation

The Board was informed that the format of how the report is put together is that there are five developmental stages, preconception, pregnancy, labour and birth, infancy, and toddlerhood. Each development stage includes the perspective of the parent, the child, and the professional. It allows users to navigate in the order of the development stages or look specifically at a stage, giving the user the option to choose a particular area of interest.

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In terms of pre-conception the aim was to talk about what good looks like. In each of the development stages there are ten factors which essentially are ten things that will have an influence on outcomes and there is data that underpins the information.

For example, preconception includes mums and dads staying fit and healthy, eating the right foods, exercising, stopping smoking, reducing alcohol consumption, and taking folic acid which is hugely important during pregnancy. Any pre-existing health conditions will need to be managed effectively by their appropriate health professionals because it is important that all the checks are done as well as booking in early with maternity services.

Kirklees has a higher proportion of obesity, than national data and the rate of obesity in early pregnancy has increased quite dramatically. The 2018/19 figure was 23.6% compared to the 2021 figure of 35.9% which is a significant increase. Attempts have been made to carry out a survey, to get an understanding about women's health or perceptions about their health before pregnancy. The last survey was carried out in 2018. The challenge with this is that mothers were more likely to cease or reduce unhealthy behaviours, while their partners often seemed to increase their unhealthy behaviours which is an interesting dynamic.

It is important to inform parents about the healthy start vitamins scheme, and how to help people make those lifestyle changes and there is a tool that people are being signposted to called 'Planning for Pregnancy'. Examples were given of the information provided under each development stage.

The Board was informed that this is still being finalised, however it is a recognition of excellent system that is in place to support those starting or expanding their family and the support provided during the first thousand days. The key recommendations include:

- Preconceptionally, is for both partners to lead as healthy life as possible, keep any pre-existing conditions controlled and take folic acid
- Pregnancy, looking after yourself, avoiding alcohol, and staying active and being able to move around is important and becoming familiar with the movement of the baby and seek help if anything feels out of the ordinary
- early years in terms of post birth try to initiate breastfeeding if possible, however, do not become distressed if it is not possible to breastfeed, make sure the child is immunised, follow safe sleeping practices and self-care is important

Acknowledgements were made to the people who contributed to the annual report, which reflects good partnership working. In terms of next steps, the Board was advised that a few final tweaks and final checks will be made and both versions of the report should be available by mid-April.

The Board commented that the use of infographic was a good way of presenting information.

RESOLVED

- a) Rachel Spencer-Henshall be thanked for providing information on the Director of Public Health Annual Report
- b) Board members will make use of the DPH report to inform decision making and commissioning to help reduce health related inequalities and improve early years outcomes

54 Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment update, 2022 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment update and 2021 CLiK Survey update

Owen Richardson, Intelligence Lead, Public Health provided an update on the Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment, 2022 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and the 2021 CLiK Survey.

Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment (KJSA)

The Board was informed that the pandemic had shifted focus over the last two years in terms of response to the pandemic and supporting people through it, therefore there has not been the opportunity to keep the KSJA up to date. Regular work is resuming, and people are once again looking to the KJSA for up-to-date local intelligence to inform commissioning decisions.

The proposal being put to the Board is that the out-of-date content on the KJSA website is temporarily archived and replaced with a ready-made profile that was produced by the Local Knowledge and Intelligence Service. The data within that profile mirrors to some extent the data within the KJSA. It contains sections regarding the different factors considered within the KJSA, it has local authority level data including Kirklees data and has comparisons with regional and national figures also.

Subject to agreement from the Board the out of data content will be archived and replace with the profile information. A KJSA steering group will work on a design of a new KJSA site and will look at what sections to include in a new version and start to refresh all the data, which will be published in due course.

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

Work is being undertaken collectively across West Yorkshire with the five local authorities and the Public Health Intelligence Teams pooling resources to work on the PNAs, which will be bespoke and tailored to each local authority's needs. It is currently at the stage where the draft is to be signed off in order for it to go out to consultation, it will need to go out for sixty-day consultation and to receive feedback. The deadline for publishing the PNA will be the 1st October 2022. The Board was informed that that draft will be shared with Board members with the ask that it is signed off ahead of the consultation period which is aimed to start in mid-April.

CLiK Survey

The Board was informed that the CLiK Survey is the adult population survey that is periodically run, usually around every four years. The last survey ran from November through to December 2021, and some of the data has been received and is being analysed, the headlines are being finalised and work is being undertaken putting together a communication programme. In response to the survey, there were approximately 6000 responses which is a good-sized data set and will provide useful insight which all partners will be able to use.

RESOLVED

That;

- a) The Board endorses and supports the proposal to replace the KJSA content site
- b) Owen Richardson, Intelligence Lead Public Health be thanked for providing an update the Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment, 2022 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and the 2021 CLiK Survey

55 Adult Safeguarding Annual Report

Rob McCulloch-Graham, Chair of the Kirklees Adult Safeguarding Board (KASB), presented the Adult Safeguarding Annual Report to the Board advising that he has been in post for 12 months and the report was prepared under the watch of the former Chair, Mike Houghton-Evans.

Mike Houghton-Evans informed the Board that during his ten years as chair, hard work has been undertaken to make sure that the Safeguarding Adults Board is seen as a true strategic partnership. It is hosted by the local authority, and not a direct function of the local authority like some other boards, this has enabled good engagement from partners. Partners chair all the sub-groups and have been active in taking forward the Boards agenda.

The KASB should be proud of the strides it has made to engage with other strategic partnerships in Kirklees, primarily Children's, Community Safety and the Health and Wellbeing Board. The strong message is "you achieve your work through collaboration, not through isolation".

The Board was informed that the appended report refers to the challenge session which happens every year, where chair and the lay member lays down challenge questions to members of the Board such as "what are we doing well and what do we need to do better?" The session was particularly useful session midway through the pandemic because through the pandemic a risk register was developed, which highlighted areas where safeguarding needed particular attention.

KSAB is well supported by Jacqui Stansfield, Service Manager and colleagues.

RESOLVED

That:

- a) The information in the Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report be noted by the Board
- b) Rob McCulloch-Graham and Mike Houghton-Evans be thanked for presenting the annual report

56 Transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care System and Kirklees Place-based Partnership

Carol McKenna, Chief Officer NHS Kirklees CCG, provided a brief update on the transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care System and Kirklees Place-based Partnership. The Board was informed that work is being undertaken on the assumption that it will get through Parliament in time for the revised start date, 1st of July. The original timescale for the new arrangement to begin on the 1st April was delayed, therefore several aspects of the new arrangements are currently working in shadow form.

The Board was reminded that the last update included information on the name of the partnership, the work being undertaken on a collaboration agreement to support the place-based partnership and the recruitment process that was about to take place to recruit to some of the independent posts on the committee in Kirklees.

The work on the collaboration agreement continues, it is not yet complete, however there will be another update at the Partnership Forum in a weeks' time. The collaboration agreement is a document that underpins the way in which partners will work together. It is not legally binding and that was a strong view of the partners that it should not be legally binding it is the spirit and values that will underpin the local partnership in Kirklees. That should come to a conclusion shortly.

In terms of recruitment the Board was informed that it is nearing the end of the process for appointing the independent chair of the committee of the ICB in Kirklees and the independent members. There are preferred candidates for those roles and currently working through the usual employment checks. An announcement on the appointments will be made in due course.

The ICB Committee in Kirklees, in addition to having independent members would also be made up of a number of partner members, including people from the council, the trusts, Locala, mental health trust and general practice. Representatives from these organisations will be confirmed shortly. The intention is to start holding shadow meetings of the Committee in Kirklees from April through to June with the focus being on development to enable people to get to know each other, understanding the role and information sharing.

RESOLVED

That Carol McKenna be thanked for providing an update on the transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care System and Kirklees Place-based Partnership

57 Terms of Reference and membership for 2022/23

Phil Longworth, Senior Manager, Integrated support provided an update on the work being undertaken to update the terms of reference and membership in light of the changes. An initial draft of the revised terms of reference has been shared with key officers and further work will be done to ensure it reflects the legislation once it has been passed.

The draft terms of reference will be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board at the first meeting of the municipal year, where members will be asked to comment and give formal agreement to recommend the terms of reference to council for ratification.

RESOLVED

That Phil Longworth, Senior Manager, Integrated support be thanked for providing an update on the proposals to revise the terms of reference and member of the Board

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Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Thursday 30th June 2022

- Present: Councillor Viv Kendrick (Chair)
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Mark Thompson
Councillor Kath Pinnock
Carol McKenna
Dr Khalid Naeem
Richard Parry
Rachel Spencer-Henshall
Beth Hewitt
Stacey Appleyard
- In attendance: Tim Breeley-Fox, Locala
Cllr Jackie Ramsay, Lead Member Health and Adults
Social Care Scrutiny Panel
JoL Hilton-Jones, Public Health Manager
Phil Longworth, Senior Manager, Integrated Support
Alex Chaplin, Strategy and Policy Officer, Integration
Sharon Hewitt, Kirklees Safeguarding Children
Partnership Manager
Diane Mckerracher, Chair of Locala
Rachel Millson, Senior Strategic Planning and
Development Manager, Kirklees Health and Care
Partnership
Mags Rogerson, Service Manager, Personalised Care
Matt England, Mid Yorkshire Hospital NHS Trust
Chani Mortimer, Service Manager, Domestic Abuse &
Safeguarding
- Apologies: Mel Meggs
Jacqui Gedman

- 1 Membership of the Board/Apologies**
Apologies were received from Mel Meggs, and Karen Jackson.

Tim Breeley-Fox attended as sub for Karen Jackson.

- 2 Minutes of previous meeting**
That the minutes of the meeting held on the 31st March 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

No public questions were asked.

7 Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Strategic Director for Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health was invited to introduce the Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy refresh. Prior to introducing the item, the Board was given a brief update on the current position regarding Covid-19 in Kirklees to highlight some of the challenges that the system is currently facing.

The Board was informed that there are a significant number of cases again in Kirklees which is not different to anywhere else in the country. It would seem that there is another wave most likely as a result of the various variance within the Omicron strain. On the positive note, the impact of the vaccination programme shows that those people needing hospitalisation is a lot fewer than it would be based on the current number of cases. It is however, impacting on staff levels, particularly in the health sector which is struggling in terms of people being off with COVID and the impact this has on the ability to deliver care.

The Board was reminded that for people who are 75 and over, and those that are clinically extremely vulnerable, there has recently been a spring booster campaign for an additional vaccination and the offer is still open. For anyone who has not yet had their vaccine and feel like now is the right time the offer is always available.

Introducing the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS), Ms Spencer-Henshall reminded the Board that it had asked for the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) to be refreshed and in response, colleagues have been working on refreshing the strategy over the past year.

The final draft of the strategy is being presented with the hope that each of the organisations represented by the Health and Wellbeing Board will endorse it within their respective organisations. To date, there has been a great deal of engagement on this, and those involved should be thanked for their work.

Phil Longworth Senior Manager Integrated Support, referring to the appended report, advised the Board on issues to consider as follows:

- **Opportunities for partners to endorse the draft JHWS** - giving partners the opportunity to comment on the draft strategy, recognising that the discussion might result in changes being made. Following the discussion, the Board will be

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asked to endorse the draft strategy with the aim that the final version will be brought back to the Board in September 2022.

- **Refining/improving content** – particularly the headline actions for each priority
- **The relationship with the West Yorkshire ICS strategy and Kirklees Place-based plan for health and care** - work has started on updating the West Yorkshire ICS Strategy and consideration will need to be given to how the place-based plan at the Integrated Care Board and the Kirklees Committee will develop and how they work together
- **Embedding ways of working** - as with the previous JHWS there is a great deal about ways of working and there is a continuing challenge regarding how to embed ways of working, particularly around issues like personalisation and co-production
- **Tracking delivery and impact** – it is important to keep track on the difference that is being made and the agreed areas are being delivered on
- **Communicating the top-tier strategies** – there is a challenge that is a collective one across the top tier strategy regarding how to communicate them in a way that is engaging and dynamic

Jo Hilton-Jones Public Health Manager, informed the Board that the new version of the strategy, focuses on the people who live, work, and study in Kirklees and the aim is to make sure it is in plain language and accessible. There has been extensive engagement largely led by Healthwatch that underpins the direction that has been drawn out.

It is high-level and sets the direction and tone and the implementation is reliant on the plans and strategies that sit underneath it. There is a reliance on mutual strategies such as the Environment Strategy, Inclusive Communities Strategy, and the Inclusive Economy Strategy to be able to deliver the intent. The alignment between the strategies is a shared vision and commitment to tackling inequalities.

The vision:

“People who live, work and study in Kirklees live their best lives with good health and wellbeing, free from inequality, stigma and barriers so they can do and the enjoy things that matter to them”

Values: (Principles or standards of behaviour – what is important)

- We believe everyone has the right to good health and wellbeing
- We are committed to getting rid of health and wellbeing inequalities (avoidable unfair differences in health and wellbeing between people of different social groups)
- We value difference and promote fair access to opportunities and resources
- We are committed to addressing the wider factors that influence and impact on health and wellbeing

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- We are committed to enabling communities and individuals to adapt and thrive

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy is focused on the wider factors that impact on health and wellbeing and the need to address them in order to have good health and wellbeing in Kirklees, whilst highlighting the relationship with the other strategies. It is also about working with and empowering our communities. It is being clear about the commitments, and these are being phrased as 'we' statements, it is about how to deliver the strategy and the approach to the work.

The Board was informed that the 'shaped by people' outcome is one of the shared outcomes across Kirklees and place-based working. The strategy outlines details about how the work will be shaped by the people who live, work and study in Kirklees and the basic principles of approaching that. In addition, it sets out the approach to place-based working and how that is going to be delivered.

The inclusive Communities Framework is about showing the shared commitment to working better with our local communities about inclusivity and about social justice. It highlights the pillars of inclusive working and then the five key inclusive approaches that constitute the Kirklees way of doing things.

The Board was informed that a key part of the work going forward will be about how to collaborate with the other top tier strategies and other partnerships to deliver on issues outlined. The cost-of-living crisis being the most pertinent current example, of the need to work with the economic partnership on how to respond and the Inclusive Community framework gives a set of ways of approaching it. In order to respond positively and in ways that are consistent with the JHWS values, there is a need to work with people and not do things to them.

Shaped by people will be shared across all the top tier strategies, also recognising that the other four outcomes have a significant impact on health and wellbeing and will provide an opportunity for partners involved in the Board and others to contribute to them.

- Children having the best start in life
- People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible
- People in Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives
- We make our places what they are

One of the key elements of this which has been different is the work that Healthwatch has led on regarding the widespread engagement with local people to say what is important to them.

Stacey Appleyard Director - Healthwatch Kirklees, advised the Board that Healthwatch approached local partners including mental health service and the CCG, in addition to using other data it had collected over the past two years. People were saying many different things about services and health and wellbeing, and every single comment was read and there were between 3000 and 5000 comments and then allocated to an 'I' statement.

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The Board was informed that it is evident from previous iterations that people much prefer a plan on a page where they do not have to look at a long set of slides. There has been an attempt to try to summarise the findings from the process and how the JHWS needs to focus attentions. Considering the life course and outcomes and how the work is being shaped by people who live, work or study in Kirklees three priority areas have been identified.

- Mental wellbeing
- Health places
- Connected care and support

From the issues people had raised there are six factors that will need to be considered when tackling those priorities in addition to delivering on the other plans and strategies that supports this.

The six factors:

- Inequalities and inclusion
- Shaped by people
- Poverty
- Digital
- Housing
- Climate emergency

The expectation is, if those factors feel like the right ones, conversations and the thinking can begin on how to build those into the different plans and strategies that can support the JHWS as well as delivering on those three priorities. In terms of delivering on the three priorities, the aim is to take the plan on a page approach.

The Board was informed that it is important to think about how to identify the difference that is being made, and a key part of this is check and challenge. Within the JHWS there are a set of values and ways of working and the importance of the 'I' statements are recognised. There is a plan on a page and a set of ambitions, and the things local partners can and should do. There is also a need to consider the six factors and how to connect these to the other top tier strategies and the success indicators part of the challenges for organisations and services to hold themselves to account.

In terms of the partnership arrangements, ultimately the Health and Wellbeing Board will be able to challenge the people working on those areas and against those tests to see if they are contributing to the delivery of the strategy. Across all the outcomes, it will be important to look at the system's performance measures to see how well the system is working.

In response to the information presented, the Board commented that it will be the role of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) in Kirklees to have oversight and delivery of much of the strategy, however, at the moment it is difficult to distil the information presented. As this develops over the next few months, it will be important to articulate much more clearly about what the expectation is of the Health and Care

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Partnership. This is in addition to thinking about going into the new arrangement and the new ICB and having clarity about how it fits together.

The Board asked a number of questions including the following:

- In terms of the workforce, because according to the headlines today a quarter of GP post might be unfilled at the end of this decade. Is there an issue regarding workforce matters?
- Support for the more transient communities for example a Ukrainian family just coming in might not initially fit under the vision or the value of working, living, or studying in Kirklees because they are not yet fully integrated into society. These people may have the biggest health inequalities and biggest challenges. Does there need to be support around that included in the strategy?

The Board commented that it is happy to endorse the strategy and the messages, however, would like a further conversation about how the information is presented before the final version is brought to the Board for sign off.

RESOLVED

That:

- a) Officers be thanked for presenting the draft refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- b) the Board endorses the draft refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy and encourages partners to endorse the strategy before the final version is presented at the September Board meeting for final approval

8 Transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care System and Kirklees Place-based Partnership

Carol McKenna, Chief officer NHS Kirklees Clinical Commissioning Group, provided an update on the transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care Systems and Kirklees Place-based Partnership. The Board was advised that today (30.06.22), is the last day of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and tomorrow (01.07.22) is the first day of the Integrated Care Board. The change for employees feels like an evolution who from tomorrow will have a different employer, however the journey will be known, and the partnership work being undertaken for many years will continue in a similar vein albeit within a different framework.

Ms McKenna stated that it was important to place on record a note of thanks to the CCG staff, because they have lived through a period of uncertainty for some considerable time and have worked extremely hard through the process as well as responding to the impact of the pandemic. The CCGs merged 15 months ago and that was an organisational change process that generated a great deal of work from the finance, governance and contracting teams undertaking various year end processes. All the work that is not visible but is vitally important had to be done when CCGs merged into the Kirklees CCG and is now having to be done again for the new arrangement.

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The Board was advised that tomorrow will be the first meeting of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) which will be streamed if Board members want to watch the meeting. It will be a meeting in public and will be fairly procedural. It is the first meeting to enable the operation as a new organisation and there will be a number of governance matters to be signed off and approved. Thereafter, the West Yorkshire Board will meet every two months in a public setting.

In respect of the work in Kirklees, one of the benefits of the three months delay in the new arrangement coming into being, is it has focused the work in shadow form and three shadow meetings of the local ICB committee have taken place. The ICB Committee in Kirklees is the place to where the resources will be delegated, therefore it is an important place. The first formal meeting of that committee will be on the 13th July 2022.

The Kirklees Health and Care Partnership logo which was developed across the partners and will be used going forward.

The Board was shown slides which demonstrated how the various committees fit together, including the Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and the Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership, the two bodies that make up the Integrated Care System (ICS). When referring to the ICS it is the entirety of the partnership, and it is the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board that is the statutory body.

The West Yorkshire Board will be supported by a range of committees and there will be five place committees including Kirklees and the ICB place committee will be supported by three subcommittees. The role of the three subcommittees will be predominantly concerned with assurance and being able to give the board assurance that the work of the place-based partnership is being appropriately scrutinised and have the right oversight and level of attention on the work being undertaken.

The Kirklees ICB committee will have the delegated authority to make decisions regarding the use of NHS resources in Kirklees and it is the NHS budget that is delegated currently, however, the expectation is that increasingly conversations will be had regarding the financial health of the entirety of the place. Increasingly, there will be oversight regarding resources not just in terms of finance but on matters such as workforce across the place.

The Board was informed that establishing these new bodies does not mean removing other things that currently exists and work effectively. There are good program structures to deal with a number of priority programs such as aging well, that is an example of one programme that brings together all the partners and that work will continue.

The difference will be in the decision taking mechanisms for example, where things in the past might have gone into the CCG Governing body, they would go into the Kirklees ICB Committee and that changes the ethos from a commissioner making the decision at the end to a partnership working together to agree what is best for a population and then taking the decision together.

RESOLVED

That Carol Mckenna be thanked for providing an update on the transition to West Yorkshire Integrated Care System and Kirklees Place-based Partnership

9 Domestic Abuse strategy

Chani Mortimer, Domestic Abuse and Safeguarding Partnership and Jo Richmond, Head of Communities attended the meeting to present the Domestic Abuse Strategy. The Board was informed that the previous domestic abuse strategy ended in 2021 and the one appended to the agenda is the new one that has been coproduced with partners in the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership and wider. It is based on a needs assessment, and it was against the backdrop of a new duty around safe accommodation.

The needs assessment which has informed the strategy did highlight a number of areas that has been strengthened, including work with children and young people, people with complex needs and one of the biggest changes is work with perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Developing the strategy was a strong partnership approach in terms of developing the priorities that were identified. Workshops were held with operational staff, in addition to staff at a more senior strategic level who helped to shape the strategy.

The priorities identified in the strategy include:

- **Priority one:** the whole family approach to domestic abuse - this links in with the existing early support offer around supporting children and young people that are affected by domestic abuse whether that is from parental domestic abuse as victims or perpetrators in their own right
- **Priority two:** supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour – this is around holding perpetrators to account and supporting behaviour change and trying to take a more trauma informed approach
- **Priority three:** the partnerships response to supporting victims with multiple needs and/or protected characteristics
- **Priority four:** supporting victims to maintain or access safe and stable Housing because housing is a big issue around domestic abuse
- **Priority five:** multi-agency working arrangements – is the arrangements in place as a partnership to respond to domestic abuse incidents that are reported by police and other agencies

The Board was informed that a great deal of intelligence has gone into the development of this strategy and work is being carried out to strengthen the intelligence across the district in terms of understanding the local picture. Other strategic aims relate to supporting the workforce and supporting specialist services.

Kirklees is fortunate in that there are well established specialist domestic abuse support agencies, and it is supporting them to continue to be sustainable to develop a strong focus on working with local communities. It is also ensuring that there are robust arrangements in place to enable communities to feedback on how domestic abuse is affecting them as a community. The commitment of the partnership is not just what is being done collectively together but what each individual partner organisation is doing to respond to domestic abuse.

Cllr Musarrat Khan, Board member and Portfolio holder for Health and Social Care welcomed the strategy and the update given by officers and asked Board members to bear in mind that the strategy is a working document and is subject to annual review. Cllr Khan advised that while there are measurable outcomes it is important to increase the focus on prevention and tackling the perpetrators to try to help them with their behaviour change which may prevent further incidents.

RESOLVED

That

- a) Chani Mortimer and Jo Richmond be thanked for presenting the draft Domestic Abuse Strategy to the Board
- b) The Board notes the information presented and asks partners to consider the implications of the strategy for their organisations and the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- 10 Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020/2021**
Sharon Hewitt, Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership Manager, presented the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020/21 to the Board.

In summary, the Board was informed that the report is for the years of 2020 and 2021 and just to remind the Board that there is a requirement for the partnership to produce the annual report around the safeguarding activity that takes place. The report was signed off with the Partnership Executive via the three statutory partners from the local authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Police in June and is now on the Kirklees Safeguarding Children website.

The report starts with an introduction from those three partners and then leads into the focus areas for the time covered by the report. At that time, the focus was around early support, prebirth and non-mobile babies, domestic abuse, the impact on children at risk relating to child exploitation and for their safe transition into adult services. These areas of focus have continued into the 21/22 year and the report for that year will be available early autumn.

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The report gives a breakdown around population factors and the safeguarding activity and there was one serious incident notification that came through to the partnership in that time period. It did lead to a local Serious Case Review, but it did not meet the criteria for a notification to the National panel. The case specifically related to the hospital trust restraint policy around restrictive interventions that involve children and there has been some work that has taken place with both hospital trusts around that physical intervention policy.

The incident for the local SCR and was linked to the national themes that come from the National panel and those include

- the voice of the child
- disguise compliance
- professional curiosity
- effective assessment planning
- information sharing
- supervision.

In respect of the national themes, the Policies and Procedures group have been working on or have completed policies and procedures in relation to all the six national themes.

The report outlines the business priorities at that time and what had been achieved. One of the core activities at that time was the response to Covid-19 and developing a system wide collaborative response to the pandemic to protect vulnerable children and families across Kirklees. Part of the response was creating a COVID-19 web page to communicate key information to professionals, practitioners, and members of the community.

The Board was informed that the report outlines the approach to independent scrutiny approach and plan which was endorsed through the Executive Group as follows:

- Endorsed an approach and scrutiny plan
- Formally signed up as a partnership to the Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA)
- Committed to supporting a multi-agency response to look at system wide issues within the safeguarding system
- Supported a widening of scrutiny activity beyond a single individual, and agreed the named scrutineer 'holds the ring' in pulling scrutiny activity together in a meaningful way to support the Partnership Executive Group

The Board was informed that the Section 11 self-assessment which is part of the Children's Act 2004, places a duty on a range of organisations to ensure there have the right services and functions in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The section 11 has taken place and most agencies assess themselves as being compliant against the 11 assessment areas and 66 questions relating to safeguarding. Those agencies who provided answers that were not compliant, it was agreed that Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership would undertake a focused challenge and assurance panel event to address the areas of noncompliance and feed that back to the partnership.

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The Exploitation Strategic and Operational Subgroup have undertaken a new way of working alongside the University of Bedfordshire in relation to contextual safeguarding for adolescents. This includes:

- Diversion and prevention to support children away from prosecution
- Local reflection based on a ministerial letter relating to injuries with knife or sharp object
- Work undertaken to review and respond to the Covid pandemic that considered protecting children from a distance

In addition, work has been undertaken to update the Child Exploitation policy, procedures, and guidance around children from abroad, including victims of modern slavery, trafficking, and exploitation.

The Board was informed of a listening and responding exercise being developed to inform change, which allows children and young people, families, and communities to have direct dialogue with the KSCP around any areas of concern, and then this will be expanded to involve practitioners.

RESOLVED

That

- a) Sharon Hewitt be thanked for presenting the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020/21 the Board notes
- b) The Board notes the Annual Report and the joint agency priorities

11 Proposed revisions to the terms of reference for the Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Board

Cllr Viv Kendrick, Chair of the Health, and Wellbeing Board, informed the Board that with the imminent change of membership as a result to the new arrangements which will be in place from the 1st July, two members of the current Board will no longer be members of the Board, Beth Hewitt, Independent Board member and Dr Khalid Naeem, Deputy Chair. Cllr Kendrick on behalf of the Board thanked them for their attendance and valuable contribution they have made to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Phil Longworth, Senior Manager, Integrated Support advised the Board that the report is formatted for going forward from the Health and Wellbeing Board to the Council's Corporate Governance and Audit Committee and then on to Full Council. The Health and Wellbeing Board is a committee of the council and therefore it is council that has the authority to change the terms of reference, however, can only do this, after the Health and Wellbeing Board has been consulted.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) is being revised to reflect that after today, the CCG will no longer be in existence and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) will begin from the 1st July 2022. The revisions are also aimed to reflect the wider policy direction

Health and Wellbeing Board - 30 June 2022

that indicates a much broader set of partnership-based approach, which is a shift from a strict commissioner/provider frame of reference. This is what the original formation and membership of Health and Wellbeing Board was based on, and it is moving to something that is much more about recognising that all the key providers of health and care and related services have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of local people.

The Board was informed that as part of the process of revising the TOR was looking at other Health and Wellbeing Boards and one of the things that stood out was that across West Yorkshire and more widely, is the difference Kirklees has between voting and non-voting members which is very much an anomaly. Therefore, the revisions will remove that distinction meaning that members of the board and all members can vote.

To make the Board more representative and include a wider range of partners who impact on health and wellbeing the membership has increased, however, it is worth noting that, the size of the board is not out of step with other authorities. There has also been an attempt to draw out the distinct roles because it is important to be clear about the role of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the role of the Integrated Care Board Committee.

There has never been the formal role of the vice chair and while in the past this role has been held by the clinical lead from the CCG's, the formal role of deputy chair has now been written into the terms of reference. The expectation is that will continue to be one of the other partners.

Written into the TOR is the role of the Board's chair, or someone designated from the Board to make the connections formally with the other partnership groups such as the Integrated Care Board, Safeguarding Partnerships. In addition, one of the issues that has been brought up by legal is that there are issues within the Health and Care Act which relates to a duty on the Integrated Care Board to make sure that they have reflected the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy in their plans. There also needs to be scope for the Health and Wellbeing Board to provide comments to the Integrated Care Board on their plans.

In terms of next steps, once the Board has agreed the revised TOR the report will progress to Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in July 2022 and Full Council in September 2022. One of the practical steps that will need to be taken will be identifying the membership, for example a member from General Practice, NHS England, Fire and Rescue service, the third sector, community pharmacy and social care. The proposal for social care is through the Kirklees Care Association.

RESOLVED

That the revised Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board be approved

12 Arrangements for future Health and Wellbeing Board Meetings

Phil Longworth advised the Board that during the pandemic, there was a dispensation given that Council meetings that were taking decisions could meet virtually. That dispensation has now ended, therefore any decision taken by the Board will have to be taken at an in-person meeting.

The formal decision taking by the board is limited to approval of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

The suggestion before the Board is:

- 22nd Sept 2022 an in-person meeting to formally approve the Joint Health Wellbeing Strategy and the Pharmaceutical needs assessment
- 24th Nov 2022 Virtual meeting
- 19th Jan 2023 Virtual meeting
- 30th March 2023 In person

RESOLVED

That future meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board will comprise of physical and virtual meetings

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Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday 6th July 2022

Present: Councillor Amanda Pinnock (Chair)
Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Jo Lawson
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Adam Zaman
Councillor Adam Gregg
Councillor Michael Watson
Councillor Paola Antonia Davies
Councillor Andrew Marchington

In attendance: Fiona Goldsmith, Public Protection Group Leader,
Licensing
Russell Williams, Operational Manager, Public Protection,
Licensing
Martin Wood, Head of Public Protection

Apologies: Councillor David Hall
Councillor Kath Taylor
Councillor Karen Allison

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies were received from the following members: Cllr David Hall, Cllr Karen Allison, Cllr Kath Taylor, and Cllr James Homewood

Cllr Eric Firth and Cllr Susan Lee-Richards attended the meeting as subs.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 2 March 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

All agenda items were considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

No public questions were asked.

7 Review of Licensing Policy Statement (Gambling)

The Licensing & Safety Committee (Committee) considered a report which outlined the outcome of the consultation process in respect of the review of the Council's Licensing Policy Statement (Gambling).

Fiona Goldsmith, Group Leader Licensing, advised the Committee that the Gambling Act 2005, currently requires Licensing Authorities to publish, at least every three years, a statement of their licensing policy (gambling). Members of the Committee were directed to an appended report which indicated amendments to the policy in line with national guidance.

The Committee was informed that the consultation took place between 1st April 2022 and 16th May 2022, and following the consultation, four responses were received. Two responses were not relevant to the consultation and two comments stated that they disagreed with the use of the word 'limit' in part D-4 of the draft policy, for reducing gambling harms through a public health approach. The comments stated that an approach that will seek to limit the number of gambling premises is contrary to the current legislative framework.

The Committee was asked to consider the responses to the consultation and the amendments that have been made to the policy as a result of the responses, specifically asking the Committee to remove the word limit from part D-4 of the policy. Ms Goldsmith advised that the Committee is then asked to recommend the draft policy to full council to be formally adopted as the Council's Licence Policy statement.

In response to the information presented, the Committee questioned why there had been such a poor response to the consultation. In response the Committee was advised that when consultation is undertaken in respect of the Gambling Act, all license holders that holds a gambling licence within the authority and other on the list are consulted, however, generally speaking responses are only received when there are issues.

It appears to be a national issue that responses are not always forthcoming when consulting on the Gambling Act, and on this occasion, the changes have been minor. Regular meetings are held with the Gambling Commission, which is the national regulator for operators, this issue will be raised with them to get an idea of what is happening across the country in relation to consultation responses.

The Committee raised further questions regarding the increase in online gambling, for example, through mobile devices and how this is being monitored. The Committee was advised that the monitoring of online gambling sits purely with the Gambling Commission and the licensing authority does not have any involvement in that. The Commission is working hard to look at online gambling and the harms that are caused by it. It is important to recognise that online gambling is a concern, and it is a concern for public health, however, the remit of the policy and the Licensing and Safety Committee is in relation to physical premises.

RESOLVED:

That

- a) the word “limit” be removed from Part D – 4 of the policy
- b) the draft policy be referred to Full Council to be adopted as the Council Licensing Policy Statement (Gambling)

8 Licensing Services Update

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on the activities undertaken to discharge the council’s licensing function from the 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022.

Fiona Goldsmith, Group Lead Licensing, informed the Committee that the Licensing Service had agreed to present six-monthly updates to the Committee on the activities of the service in discharging the council’s licensing function and any changes to the legislation that underpins the work.

The Committee was informed that in 2021, the service standards were introduced. These standards clearly set out what an applicant can expect from the licensing service when applying for a drivers licence, a vehicle licence or an operators licence, with monitoring of the standards commencing in October 2021.

The Committee was directed to a table within the appended report which outlined how the service is performing in relation to the standards as follows:

October – December 2021

	No. processed	In target	%	Out of target	%
Drivers	422	409	96.9%	13	3.1%
Vehicles	585	445	76.1%	140	23.9%
Operators	23	23	100%	0	0

January – March 2022

	No. processed	In target	%	Out of target	%
Drivers	389	385	99.0%	4	1%
Vehicles	597	595	99.7%	2	0.3%
Operators	37	37	100	0	0.0%

There is clear evidence that the standards that have been put in place are working and applications are being dealt with in a timely manner within the standards that have been set by the Committee. This is positive and the aim is to achieve 100%.

The Committee was advised that two new pieces of legislation have recently been introduced. Firstly, the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Disabled Persons) Act 2022.

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This came into force on 28th June 2022, and places a duty on drivers of vehicles that are not wheelchair accessible, to carry a disabled person and their mobility aid and provide 'reasonable assistance' without charging extra.

The key changes to existing legislation include:

- Drivers are obliged to carry and provide fair service to all passengers, regardless of impairment at no extra cost
- Drivers must provide as much mobility assistance as is reasonably required including carrying mobility aids
- A new duty in the legislation requires drivers to assist disabled passengers to identify and find the vehicle they have booked without making any additional charge for doing so
- Local authorities must keep a register of licensed wheelchair assessable hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, and must make these accessible to the public

Secondly, the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022. The two main aspects of the Act are:

- From 31st May 2022, if any licensing authority in England has information regarding a hackney carriage or private hire driver licensed by another authority that is relevant to safeguarding or road safety concerns in its area, it must share that information with the authority that issued the driver's licence
- The Act will require licensing authorities in England to input into a central database instances where the authority has refused, suspended, chosen not to renew or revoked a hackney carriage or private hire driver's licence. This is based wholly or in part on information relating to the driver concerning safeguarding or road safety. If there is a relevant entry, the authority must contact the recording authority to request the relevant information. The decision-making licensing authority must then have regard to the information provided when making their decision.

The Committee was informed that this is an important piece of legislation for the council as there are licensed vehicles from other authorities that come in and out of the borough, and this is a way to ensure that if they are driving badly or there are safeguarding issues, this can then be communicated with the authority they are licensed with.

This is a useful tool because when new driver applications are received, the database can be checked to see if any other authority has refused, suspended, or revoked any driver in that authority. The authority can then be contacted for further details. Previously, the onus was on the driver to indicate on their application form, whether they have been licensed with another authority.

The Committee was further advised of the following:

- In 2019-2020, the total number of taxi applications received were 2,513

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- In 2020-21, the numbers received were 2,032, this reduction was largely due to Covid
- From April 2021 to the end of March 2022, there has been a total of 2,208. Although the numbers are not the same as pre-pandemic they are steadily increasing again
- The service regularly meets with the Hackney Carriage Association members and the association works very well and there have been positive meetings, where they raise issues and concerns. Discussions are taking place with private hire operators and drivers to encourage them to create a private hire association, where they can also raise issues and concerns

Ms Goldsmith advised the Committee that during the pandemic, the Government introduced the Business and Planning Act 2020 to help hospitality businesses to continue to operate during the imposed restrictions. This Act brought in a fast-track application process for pavement licences to allow patrons to sit outside to have a meal and a drink.

The Act is due to expire at the end of September 2022, however, it has been announced that they are currently working on a new bill which is in relation to the pavement licensing regime. Pavement licensing is not new, it has been in force for a while under the Highways Act, however it was a fairly lengthy and costly process. The aim of introducing new legislation is to simplify the process for applicants as well as making it easier for the licensing authority.

The bill being proposed in relation to the pavement licence regime is to make it permanent and there are some slight amendments to the current requirements within the Business and Planning Act which includes the following:

- Amend the fee councils can charge applicants, increasing it from £100 to £350 for premises which already hold a pavement licence and £500 for new applicants
- Extend the public consultation period and council determination period from 7 to 14 days
- Extend the duration of pavement licence from one to two years
- Prohibit local authorities from granting a tables and chairs licence under the Highways Act, if a pavement licence is capable of being granted under the new Bill
- Pavement licences can be amended by the local authority with the consent of the licence holder if it is considered that the conditions on the licence are not being met

Under the Business and Planning Act all alcohol licensed premises were gifted off-sales, there has been no mention of that continuing after the end of September 2022. Those premises that were given off-sales, will revert back to their original license only being allowed on-sales consumption on the premises.

In respect of applications received under the Licensing Act 2003, the numbers are as follows:

2019/2020 – 425
2020/2021 – 145

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2021/2022 - 369

The total number of applications dealt with by the service between 1st October 2021 and 31st March 2022 were 2,836.

The Committee was informed that with regard to staffing within the licensing service, a temporary Senior Licensing Officer has been recruited for a 12-month period to cover maternity leave and there are two new permanent licensing officers within the service.

Over the next twelve months the service will concentrate on taking a proactive approach to licensing enforcement and compliance duties, working with the police, VOSA, Environmental Health, Parking Services, Trading Standards, and officers from neighbouring authorities.

A vehicle operation the service carried out in May 2022, in partnership with the police and VOSA resulted in the following:

- 19 licensed vehicles were checked, three hackney carriage and sixteen private hire (2 private hire vehicles were licensed by Calderdale Council)
- 18 vehicle rectification notices were issued, and two vehicle licenses were suspended (one being one of the vehicles licensed by Calderdale Council)

RESOLVED:

That the Licensing Service update report be noted.

9 Delegated Officer Decisions (Licensing)

Fiona Goldsmith provided an update on a request made by the Committee in March 2022, that officers look at how information on decisions made under the Council's current Fitness and Suitability Policy can be presented in the public domain.

On the 2nd March 2022, information was presented to the Committee on the decisions taken by officers under the Council's Fitness and Suitability Policy. The Committee resolved to consider this item under exclusion of the public, however, expressed concern that the right and proper decisions being taken by officers were being hidden from public view. The Committee requested that officer consider this and bring back a report that could be made public in relation to detailing the decisions taken under the policy, with a view that members of public see that the right decisions around public protection are being taken.

In response to this request, officers have been working with colleagues in Information Governance on how to make this type of information public without breaching the council's duties under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Fiona Goldsmith advised the Committee that this is proving more challenging than first anticipated, and it has not been possible to bring a report to this meeting that achieves the wishes of the committee while maintaining the council's duties under

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GDPR. Work will continue with Information Governance colleagues and further information will be presented at the next Committee meeting.

The Committee was informed that since January 2020 to 1st June 2022, there have been 69 decision taken under delegated authority by the Group Leader in Licensing as follows:

Type of Decision	Number
Warnings	14
Suspensions	9
Revocations	31
Refusals	9
Grants	2
No further action	1
Suspension lifted	3

The Committee reiterated that the information that was presented in private at the last meeting, showed some good news stories which highlighted the work that the officers were undertaking. For example, there was one instance of a taxi driver having an accident while on a school run. For any parent in Kirklees, who has children who are transported in taxis, to see the level of enforcement and the way that was dealt with, is reassuring.

The Committee stated that an opportunity is being missed to put good news stories in the public domain, and this can be done without individuals being identified. The officers mandated by the Committee are doing some good work in protecting people and the public need to be made aware of this. A suggestion was made to invite Information Governance to the next Committee meeting.

RESOLVED:

that the Delegated Officer Decision report be noted.

10 Department for Transport – Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards

The Committee was advised that the Department for Transport (DfT) published a set of statutory standards for taxi and private hire vehicles, and made it a requirement for all local authorities to review their existing policies, and look to adopt the DfT standards. In response as an authority, work was undertaken to review existing policies, highlighting where current policy does not meet the statutory standards.

The Committee was informed that the appended report also details the outcome of the consultation that the Committee requested be conducted in relation to the proposed changes to the existing policy. The consultation commenced on 14th September 2021, and following an extension concluded on 30th March 2022. The final number of respondents to the consultation was 428.

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Advising the Committee on the integrated impact assessment, Russell Williams, Operational Manager, informed the Committee that it was important to address some of the comments that have been made regarding the policies and procedures of the Licensing Service in respect of racism. An attempt has been made through the impact assessment to address these concerns.

Mr Williams advised that there is a duty on the Committee and officers to have regard and abide by the Equalities Act 2010 and that means eliminating unlawful direct and indirect discrimination. All policies and procedures of the Licensing Service apply to all licence holders and applicants, irrespective of a person's background and therefore they are unlikely to lead to discrimination. The legitimate aim of those policies is to protect the public and that is the whole purpose of the licensing regime.

The Committee was asked to respond and make decision on each of the following questions that were in the consultation:

Question 1

Do you agree that the licence holders should be required to notify the issuing authority within 48 hours of an arrest and release, charge or conviction of any sexual offence, any offence involving dishonesty or violence and any motoring offence?

The Committee was advised that the responses to the consultation varied with suggestions ranging from 7 days, 72 hours, 48 hours for serious offences but not minor ones and one request to reduce it to 24 hours. The current policy stipulates seven-days' and the officer recommendation is to amend the existing policy to the proposed 48-hour notification to the licensing authority.

The Committee debated whether the proposal should be amended to stipulate that license holders are obligated to notify the licensing service as soon as reasonably practical and in any event within 48 hours.

Options:

1. To adopt the statutory standards
2. Keep existing policy, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the statutory guidance
3. Set own timescale based on the results of the consultation, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the statutory guidance

The 11 Committee members in attendance voted as follows:

To adopt the statutory standards - 7

To amend to stipulate that license holders are obligated to notify the licensing service as soon as reasonably practical and in any event within 48 hours - 1

Abstain - 3

Question 2

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Do you agree that if the Licensing Authority make a decision to refuse or revoke a licence due to an individual being thought to be a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult this matter should be referred to the DBS?

There were 317 responses to the consultation, 76% agreed, 18% disagreed and 6% did not know.

The Committee was informed that although this is not currently written into the policy, the practice already takes place when deemed necessary. To adopt this would be in accordance with the Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

In response to concerns raised by the Committee, Mr Williams on a point of clarification explained that all drivers are given an opportunity to put forward their case before a decision is made. There are however occasions when an immediate decision is required based on the interest of public safety, and, even in those cases attempts are made to contact the driver, either by inviting them into the office, speak to them by phone, or knock on their door to get an account from them before the decision is made. Decisions in licensing are delegated to the Group Leader for Licensing, and there are checks and balances in place around those decisions.

The officer recommendation is to agree with the wording of the standard.

Options:

1. To adopt the statutory standards
2. Reject the statutory standards, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance

The Committee members voted as follows:

- To adopt the statutory standards – 9
- To keep it as it is – 1
- Refer the matter to the Committee - 1

Question 3

If action is taken by the council as a result of information being received from the police, do you agree that the information should be fed back to the police?

The officer recommendation is to agree with the wording of the standard.

Options:

1. To adopt the statutory standards
2. Reject the statutory standards, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance

The Committee voted as follows:

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All Committee members voted for option 1

Question 4

Do you agree that where an applicant has spent an extended period of three or more continuous months outside of the UK, the applicant should be required where possible, to provide criminal records information or a 'certificate of good character' from the country in which they have resided?

The Committee was informed that the officer recommendation is to keep the existing requirement at six months. The reason for this recommendation is that considering local circumstances, many licence holders in Kirklees are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, and knowledge and experience shows that a large proportion visit family abroad for an extended period. The requirements would be too onerous and have a detrimental impact on this community.

In response to the consultation 228 respondents, 54%, did not agree with the three-month requirement, 165 respondents, 39%, did agree, and 31 respondents, 7% did not know.

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Under which authority of the country being visited will the Licensing Service accept a letter of good character or judgement, and who will translate the letter once it has been received in Kirklees?
- Is this policy the same for bus drivers, train drivers or is it just for taxi drivers?
- Is there a document that could be downloaded that the taxi driver could present to the authority in the country they are visiting, that could be filled in by the police officer/authority as this would make it easier?

Options:

1. To adopt the statutory standards
2. Keep existing policy, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the statutory guidance
3. Set own timescale based on the results of the consultation, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the statutory guidance

All Committee members voted for option 1

Question 5

Do you agree that all vehicle proprietors who do not hold a valid hackney carriage/private hire drivers' badge, should complete a basic disclosure from the Disclosing & Barring Service (DBS) at first application and check required annually for the duration of the vehicle licence?

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There were 285 respondents, 68% who said yes, 100 respondents 25% said no and 33 respondents 8% said they did not know.

The officer recommendation is that the Committee adopt the requirement of the statutory standard, to consider whether the applicant or licence holder with a conviction for offences, other than those relating to driving, meet the 'fit and proper' threshold.

Options:

1. To adopt the statutory standards
2. Keep the existing policy where vehicle proprietors do not require a DBS, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance
3. Adopt the standard but set a time period based on the results of the consultation including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Can the officers provide some context as to why they feel it is necessary to implement this policy, and what impact does the vehicle owner have on the taxi trade when they are not directly involved with the public?
 - Potentially a company can have a number of directors, would each director named on the company require a DBS check?

The Committee members voted as follows:

- To adopt the statutory standards - 1
- Keep the existing policy where vehicle proprietors do not require a DBS, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance – 6
- To adopt the standard but set a time period of checks being conducted every three years – 4

The Committee's decision to deviate from the guidance, is that these individuals are not directly involved with driving the taxi, the taxi trade, or members of the general public, and requiring them to undertake a DBS is onerous and not effective for the stated aims.

Question 6

Do you agree that all ancillary staff that work at private hire operator bases and have access to booking records should be required to complete an annual DBS check?

The Committee was informed that operator base staff have access to personal and sensitive information, such as when people are on holiday, where they work, their address and where their children go to school. It is important that operators are carrying out suitable checks on their employees to ensure that personal information is safeguarded, therefore the officer recommendation is that the Committee adopts the proposed standard.

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The summary of the responses from the consultation, is that 276 respondents, 66% agreed that people who work within an operator base, that are not licensed should be required to complete an annual DBS check. The responsibility would be with the licensed operator, and not the Licensing Service to ensure that employees have a basic check. 276 respondents, 66% said they agree, 106 respondents, 25% said they do not agree, and 38 respondents, 9% said they did not know.

Options:

1. Adopt the statutory standard
2. Keep the existing policy which does not require ancillary staff that work at private hire operator bases and have access to booking records to complete an annual DBS check, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance
3. Adopt the standard but set a different timescale for the frequency of requirement for the staff to have a DBS completed based on results of the consultation, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Are you aware if operators are currently carrying out DBS checks on their employees?

All Committee members voted for option 1

Question 7

Do you agree that private hire operators should keep a register of all staff that take bookings or dispatch vehicles, including confirmation that they have completed an annual DBS check and that they provide their policy on employing sex offenders, for those persons on the register?

This question follows on from question 6 and the officer recommendation is that the Committee adopts the proposes standard.

The response from the consultation is 302 respondents, 71% agree, 86 respondents 20% do not agree and 35 respondents, 8% did not know.

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Can it be put on public record that officers have agreed to ensure that templates and adequate support will be provided as many of these operators are small enterprises and it might be a large cost burden
 - Most private hire operators in North Kirklees are using call centres abroad, how will the DBS affect those staff

Options:

1. Adopt the statutory standard
2. Keep the existing policy which does not require private hire operators to keep a register of all staff that take bookings or dispatch vehicles, including

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confirmation that they have completed a DBS check or to provide a policy on employing sex offenders, for those persons on the register, including the reason for the decision to deviate for guidance

All Committee members voted for option 1

Question 8

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the condition in relation to the recording of bookings by private hire operators?

Considering the results of the consultation it is recommended by officers that the changes are adopted in accordance with the standards. The Committee was asked to note that one of the proposed changes is that 'the full name of the hirer and the contact number be used to make the booking. One of the key concerns from the consultation, was it is not always possible to get a full name and therefore if the Committee is minded, it could remove the word 'full' from the proposals.

The results from the consultation in relation to this question is that 66% agreed, 21% did not agree and 13% did not know.

Options:

1. Adopt the changes to the existing requirements in accordance with the standards
2. Keep the existing requirements, including the reason for the decision to deviate from the guidance
3. Adopt the changes in part

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Can you explain the rationale for why these changes are being proposed?

All Committee members voted for option 3

Question 9

Do you agree that there are local circumstances that indicate the installation of CCTV would have either a positive or adverse effect on the safety of taxi and private hire vehicle users?

The Committee was advised that the results of the consultation indicated that 63% said it would have a positive effect, 21% said it would have an adverse effect, and 16% were unsure. The officer recommendation is that the Committee instruct officers to carry out further work/engagement to determine if there is a mandatory need for CCTV within vehicle policy; or whether it could be voluntary with a standard they would have to comply with.

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The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- CCTV safeguards not only the passengers but also the drivers. How much does it cost to install CCTV in a motor vehicle?
- Taxi drivers are working alone often at night and are vulnerable and can be dealing with people who are intoxicated, this is an excellent suggestion and officers should be mandated to work with the industry groups to work out the best solution that protects everybody
- If CCTV is fitted, there are issues around data control and some taxi drivers use their vehicles for personal use, how will this impact on their families? There is more work to be done, including what is happening in other areas, is there good practice that could be shared?
- Rather than mandate it, could the council encourage drivers to install CCTV?

Options:

1. If a local need is indicated based on the results of the consultation, instruct officers to carry out further work on establishing whether there is a need for a CCTV policy to be implemented with a more detailed report to be brought to members in due course
2. Decide there is no local need for a specific CCTV policy within Kirklees as the current position is that if a vehicle proprietor chooses to install CCTV within their vehicle it is their choice and it is neither supported nor discouraged by the authority.

All Committee members voted for option 1

Question 10

Do you agree that the council should have a specific policy in relation to stretch limousines?

In response to the consultation, 50% of the respondents, were in favour of a policy, 33% did not know and 17% said no. As there is currently nothing specific to stretch limousines, officers are recommending that the Committee instruct officers to develop a specific policy and present it at future committee meeting for consideration. These vehicles are heavily modified, and the service would always ask for an Individual Vehicle Approval or a 'Certificate of Compliance' to show that modifications have been carried out and it is safe to be on the road.

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Does the existing policy prejudice limousines in any way or are they working well?

All Committee members voted for option 1

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Question 11

Do you agree that the decision making should stay delegated to the Group Leader for Licensing?

The responses from the consultation, 50% said no they did not want it to stay with the Group Leader, 35% said yes, they do, and 15% said they did not know. The Committee was informed that the Department for Transport recommends that decision making should be the responsibility of a panel of suitably trained elected members. The result of the consultation shows that many respondents do not agree that decision making should be the sole responsibility of one person. Ms Goldsmith informed the Committee that at this time it is difficult to provide more options and more work is needed to investigate possible options for decision making going forward. In addition, any changes to decision making would require a change to the constitution.

The recommendation by officers is that the Committee instruct officers to investigate possible options relating to decision making, and the implications for those options and present a more detailed report to a future committee meeting.

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- The current system in place works well and rather than mandating any additional work it should be allowed to carry on
- Having one person making decisions, gives that person too much power and there are potentially a number of ways such decisions could be made. 1) go back to the old system where the decision was made by a panel of councillors, 2) a panel made up of councillors and other representatives, whether lawyers, trade unions and 3), if it is initially kept with officers, have a similar set up to planning where, if a ward member disagrees or thinks a policy has been applied incorrectly, it can be brought a committee. There does need to be change it is disproportionate for one person to hold that amount of power
- The previous system where decisions were made by a panel of councillors worked well, and the reason for the change of policy to let officers make the decision is unclear
- It is important to ensure that Kirklees is not out of step with the rest of West Yorkshire

The Committee members voted as follows:

- That officers investigate possible options relating to decision making and the implications for those options and present a more detailed report to a future committee meeting – 8
- Keep the current system where the decision is made by the Group Leader Licensing - 3

RESOLVED

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Question 1

Do you agree that licence holders should be required to notify the issuing authority within 48 hours of an arrest and release, charge or conviction of any sexual offence, any offence involving dishonesty or violence and any motoring offence?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted

Question 2

Do you agree that if the Licensing authority make a decision to refuse or revoke a licence due to an individual being thought to be a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult this matter should be referred to the DBS?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted

Question 3

If action is taken by the council as a result of information being received from the police, do you agree that the information should be then fed back to the police?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted

Question 4

Do you agree that where an applicant has spent an extended period of three or more continuous months outside of the UK the applicant should be required, where possible to provide criminal records information or a 'certificate of good character' from the country in which they have resided?

RESOLVED:

that the existing policy requirement of six months remain in place

Question 5

Do you agree that all vehicle proprietors who do NOT hold a valid hackney carriage / private hire drivers' badge should complete a basic disclosure from the DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) at first application and a check required annually for the duration of the vehicle licence?

RESOLVED:

that the existing policy where vehicle proprietors do not require a DBS check remain in place

Question 6

Do you agree that all ancillary staff that work at private hire operator bases and have access to booking records should be required to complete an annual DBS check?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted

Question 7

Do you agree that private hire operators should keep a register of all staff that take bookings or dispatch vehicles, including confirmation that they have completed an annual DBS check and that they provide their policy on employing ex-offenders, for those persons on the register?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted

Question 8

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the condition in relation to the recording of bookings by private hire operators?

RESOLVED:

that the Department for Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standard be adopted in part removing the requirement for "full" in relation to the name of the hirer

Question 9

Do you agree that there are local circumstances that indicate the installation of CCTV would have either a positive or adverse effect on the safety of taxi and private hire vehicle users?

RESOLVED:

that officers undertake further work/engagement to establish the need for a CCTV policy within Kirklees and submit a report for consideration at a future meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee

Question 10

Do you agree that the council should have a specific policy in relation to stretch limousines?

RESOLVED:

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that officers develop a specific policy in relation to stretch limousines and submit it for consideration at a future meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee

Question 11

Do you agree that the decision making should stay delegated to the Group Leader for Licensing?

RESOLVED:

that officers undertake further work to investigate the possible options relating to decision making and prepare a detailed report and submit it for consideration at a future meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee

11 Review of Suitability Policy

The Committee was informed that the purpose of the report is to inform members of the concerns raised by some ward councillors, trade representatives, and GMB Union regarding the Council's current policy on determining the fitness and suitability to hold a private hire and hackney carriage licence. The Committee is being asked to consider whether as a result of those concerns, a review of the policy should be undertaken and the scope of the review.

The Committee was advised that in June 2019, to support the council in exercising its functions under the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licence under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provision Act 1976, a robust fitness and suitability policy was adopted by the Licensing and Safety Committee.

The policy provides a sets of standards that all new applicants and existing licence holders are measured against. The aim of the policy and standards, is to ensure that public safety is not compromised while also providing guidance to a licence holder and decision maker on the criteria considered when determining whether applicants, and existing licence holders on renewal, are fit and proper to hold a licence.

At the committee meeting on 2nd March 2022, officers presented a report which provided details of decisions made under the policy. There was a general consensus that the policy was being applied in line with the Committees intentions and the decisions being made under the policy were right and appropriate. The Committee felt it was important that the public had sight of the decisions being made, as this would provide reassurance that the policy was being applied fairly and the public were being protected.

At the meeting, officers informed the Committee that those raising concerns were advised to use the consultation process for the DfT statutory standards, to outline their concerns, and that those concerns would be presented at a future Licensing and Safety Committee meeting. Only nine responses were received via the consultation process regarding reviewing the suitability policy. Officers advised that they are aware of the concerns being raised.

The current fitness and suitability policy is a policy of the committee, and as such only the Licensing and Safety Committee can decide whether a review is required,

Licensing and Safety Committee - 6 July 2022

and to determine the scope of that review. For example, does the whole policy need reviewing or specific sections. In deciding if a review is required, the Committee's primary concern should be the safety of the travelling public, and others who may be impacted by the private hire and hackney carriage trades.

The Committee was reminded that the policy was adopted in August 2019, and a periodic review is not an unreasonable request.

The Committee made comments and asked questions as follows:

- Since the policy was adopted in 2019, there has been a lot of criticism, not only from the trade and the trade unions, but also from elected members stating that the policy does not take into account equality legislation, and those views cannot be ignored
- It states that the policy should be reviewed between three and five years, therefore rather than reviewing specific parts it would be more prudent to review the whole policy
- There are concerns raised by taxi drivers that if they acquire 7 penalty points, the equivalent of two camera flashes, they are automatically banned from driving taxis

Mr Williams asked the Committee to provide a steer on the areas of focus for the review.

The Committee suggested the following areas to be included in the review:

- an initial starting point would be to address the concerns specifically raised by the trade, trade unions and ward councillors
- the minor motoring issue would be another area to be looked at as this appears to be contentious
- the number of points a driver receives before being banned from driving is seven, bus and train drivers do not have the same restrictions placed upon them, this should be looked at
- when reviewing the policy, consideration should be given to the rights and welfare of the drivers
- explore parity with others in the transport sector, ie bus and train drivers
- benchmarking with other local authorities and nationally on issues such as the number of points before a driving ban

RESOLVED:

That

- a) a review of Private Hire and Hackney Statement of Fitness and Suitability Policy be undertaken
- b) Officer be formally thanked for the work they have undertaken in preparing and presenting reports to the Committee

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 28th June 2022

Present: Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)
Councillor Yusra Hussain
Councillor Jackie Ramsay
Councillor John Taylor

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Marchington

3 Membership of Committee

Apologies were received from Councillor Andrew Marchington.

4 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meetings held on 19th April and 25th May 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

The Chair provided updates as follows:

(i) Further to the consideration of the Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022-27 at the March meeting, an update in respect of the Domestic Abuse Community Engagement Team had been presented to the Place Partnership Board on 23rd March and the Place Partnership leads would continue to be updated on a regular basis. Links had been made with Safer Kirklees to provide regular updates to all Councillors through quarterly briefings.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy would be submitted to Cabinet for approval and work was being undertaken alongside partners and the West Yorkshire Mayor's office to consider options for the financial arrangements that provide for victim support services. (Minute 69)

(ii) A survey of groups was being undertaken in response to the feedback received, at the November meeting of the Committee, in respect of the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Investment Strategy and Councillors had been sent a briefing paper in early April.

The survey had opened on 6th April and, as at the end of May, had received feedback from over 190 groups. The response was being analysed to understand if there were any gaps that required further work (Minute 38).

5 Interests

No interests were declared.

6 Admission of the Public

All items were heard in public session.

7 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

8 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

9 Inclusive Communities Framework

A report was submitted in respect of the Inclusive Communities Framework (ICF) which had been developed to provide a partner-produced strategic approach to building cohesive communities in Kirklees.

Councillor Carol Pattison, Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities was in attendance and introduced the Inclusive Communities Framework. She explained that the framework would sit alongside the Council's Health and Wellbeing, Sustainable Environment and Economic Strategies and set out how the Council and its partners would work with communities to try and ensure a safe and inclusive community. Its development had been shaped by the significant learning from the approach taken alongside communities during the pandemic. The Framework had recently been endorsed by the Communities Partnership Board and was now expected to progress through the Council and partners' governance procedures.

Jo Richmond - Head of Communities, Stephen Bonnell – Head of Policy, Partnerships and Corporate Planning and Caroline Henderson – Partnership Officer attended the meeting to introduce the report and gave a presentation highlighting the following points:

- It had become clear that communities wanted an ongoing relationship with organisations.
- The framework was professional facing and had been co-produced with partners. It could be scaled up or down to reflect the needs of different organisations or programmes of work.
- The framework would wrap around the other top-tier strategies and aimed to be agile and adaptable for use by partners.
- Three guiding principles underpinned the approach: belief, belonging and trust, and care; and five agreed inclusive approaches would be adopted and form the core of the framework: trusting, equalising, celebrating, communicating and connecting.
- How impact would be measured and use of the self-evaluation tool.
- The role of leadership and shared responsibility in implementation.
- The lead officers for each top-tier strategies met regularly to discuss the connections and dialogue on how the ICF could support development of those three strategies would be ongoing.

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

- In respect of how the ICF and the three core strategies would work together in practice, it was explained that use of the self-evaluation tool was the key. Within the Council it would be used to assess the development of the projects to produce the three core strategies, to ensure that the principles and approaches

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were being adhered to. If the scores were not satisfactory re-evaluation could take place further to any necessary adjustments. Partners would also be asked how they planned to use the tool.

- There was minimal reference to Councillors in the document; Councillors were democratically elected representatives, who were at the heart of the communities they represented, and it was considered that there should be a recognition of this and the importance of their role.
- Councillors would be an integral part of the Council's implementation plan.
- The language was considered to be difficult to access and not relatable for people within communities or front-line staff.
- The framework was organisational-facing but consideration could be given to providing a more accessible summary document to communicate partners' commitment to working in this way.
- There should be a focus on positive stories and successful role models from different groups or communities; negativity could impact on motivation, expectations and morale.
- It was agreed that people's stories were very important, the narrative was intended to be about empowerment.
- It was important to ensure that people other than the 'usual voices' were heard, but the views of these people were also valid; they were often very committed members of their community who wanted to make a difference.
- Social media was a rich source of information and monitoring could provide early indications of issues.
- Monitoring of social media was undertaken by the Communities Team and the Police; this could provide intelligence on potential tensions but also in respect of the local mediation and self-management of issues that took place within communities. It was acknowledged that social media and technology was an area where effectiveness could perhaps be improved. This was a fast-paced and potentially challenging area, particularly in the use of digital media that was not as visible.
- In terms of tackling inequity, the impact would become clearer once the work programmes using the framework were underway.
- Significant background research had been undertaken in developing the framework including advice from 'Belong' a national cohesion and integration network, practice from a range of partners and neighbouring local authorities, feedback from community consultations, and learning from how people worked together during the pandemic.
- A wider list of people/organisations had been engaged than those listed as participants in the design circles and strategic reference group.
- The implementation plan was critically important to provide clarity and allow people to use the framework effectively.
- In terms of how the community would be brought into decision-making; partners would use those parts of the framework that fitted with their organisation and governance structures. The practicalities of 'how' would be easier to see once the self-evaluation tools were applied to different projects to assess things such as what was being done well, what could be done better, were there people within the community who were not being heard?
- It was noted that, in some respects, the response that had been made to the pandemic was different to normal circumstances and a lot of the resource that

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had been available within communities was no longer there, for a range of reasons. Whilst the aspiration to consult and engage with the wider community was welcomed there would be challenges associated with doing so.

- The challenges in consulting with the broader community were recognised. There was a wish to establish trust and to maintain a continued relationship, with a consistent approach and a commitment to reflect on the approach being taken, with services within the Council recognising the part they needed to play in that.
- It was considered that people knew how to, and would, get in touch with their local councillors if there was an issue they needed to raise. Most people would not choose to engage all of the time.
- Part of the feedback from the community had come from Place Standard work and it was considered that it supported this approach, although not everyone connected via a place.
- The document did not clearly refer to action and it was suggested that this could be strengthened.
- Ward councillors should be consulted in respect of establishing the understanding of community assets.

Resolved –

- 1) That the implementation plan be brought to the Committee for consideration at an early stage.
- 2) That the points raised by the Committee, be taken into account in the progression, and implementation, of the Inclusive Communities Framework and that Council be made aware of the Committee's views, as set out below, when the plan is submitted for endorsement:
 - The importance of the role of Councillors as representatives of their communities.
 - The need for realistic expectations, such as in respect of community input to decision-making.
 - The use of accessible and clear language.
 - The provision of a balance of stories.
 - Reference to all of the engagement undertaken.
 - The need for a focus on action as a key element.

10 **Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027**

A report was presented in respect of the Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027; the strategic plan to address multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents, as required by Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Councillor Carol Pattison, Cabinet Member for Learning, Aspiration and Communities was in attendance and introduced the plan. The Communities Board had made a commitment to develop co-ordinated partnership approaches to tackle the strategic priorities; to be informed by intelligence and data; to embed a place-based approach; to ensure safeguarding was at the heart of all work; and to address inequalities.

The key strategic priorities for the next five years were:

- Tackling Violence, Abuse and Exploitation
- Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour and Neighbourhood Crime

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- Reducing Risk
- Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities.

Jo Richmond – Head of Service, Communities, Lee Hamilton – Safer Kirklees Manager and Chris Walsh – Safer Kirklees Manager attended the meeting to introduce the report and gave a presentation highlighting the following points:

- The plan was informed by a Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) developed using data, intelligence and insight from partnerships, which was reviewed on an annual basis. Issues might also be included where they were of particular public concern.
- A number of partnership groups sat beneath the Board with a focus on particular priorities.
- Detail of the themes and work covered by each of the over-arching strategic priority headings.
- Performance measures and targets underneath each strategic priority.

Chief Superintendent Jim Griffiths from West Yorkshire Police was also in attendance. He welcomed the contribution that he and his senior leadership team had been able to make to the development of the plan, through working alongside partnership colleagues. It was important that the Partnership Plan sat alongside the wider policing plan for West Yorkshire and the three themes within that plan; reducing crime, protecting the vulnerable and providing reassurance to the public were reflected throughout the Partnership Plan.

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

- Speeding was a constant issue of concern raised with Ward Councillors and through Place Standard work, but the plan did not appear to reflect this.
- It was understood that 'Community Speedwatch' was not supported by West Yorkshire Police and there was no option to report speeding on the website, which impacted on how it was prioritised. This issue was not just about injuries and fatalities; it had a day-to-day impact on how safe people felt in their locality and their wellbeing.
- Consideration needed to be given to what constituted anti-social behaviour, as this could be perceived differently by different people, and also the approach to neighbour disputes, as it was important to hear both sides.
- Chief Superintendent Griffiths explained that there were many serious issues addressed within the plan that were not visible to the public on a day-to-day basis, unlike issues such as speeding, and there was a need to prioritise the available resources. He said that he would be keen to consider whether Community Speedwatch could be helpful in addressing the issue.
- Road safety, which included speeding, was included in the plan and was taken seriously. There was a Road Safety Partnership and investment had recently been made in hand-held speed monitoring devices for use, in partnership with the local community, in areas where there were persistent concerns.
- Safer Kirklees provided regular briefings for Ward Councillors and would contact them if there was an issue of concern in their area. The Police also held regular meetings with Councillors. Any ideas on other/better ways to engage would be welcomed.

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- Ward Councillors should be involved in the development of this plan; they were central to their communities and were aware of their concerns and priorities.
- Addressing anti-social behaviour, including managing expectations and dealing with neighbour disputes, could be challenging. There was an intention to look at best practice from other areas and to review the approach.
- There were certain criteria, established by the Department of Transport in 2007, that had to be met in order for permanent speed cameras to be installed. This work was undertaken by the West Yorkshire Casualty Prevention Partnership.
- The themes in the plan had been developed using partnership data in the main; the Strategic Impact Assessment would be published on the website alongside the Plan.
- This was a well-presented document that was easy to read, and the monitoring of outcomes was welcomed. It would be helpful if any changes in priorities from the preceding plan were highlighted and for an update to be provided on progress.
- There had been a slight shift in priorities since the last plan, with violence against women and girls being an emerging priority and a stronger focus on water safety.
- Quarterly updates were provided to the Communities Partnership Board on the measures and each sub-group had its own delivery plan which included relevant measures. It was considered that the results had been skewed by the effects of the pandemic over the last two years so it was difficult to accurately determine progress in many areas. However, this plan set out a clear set of measures to provide a benchmark to allow meaningful monitoring of progress for the future.
- Positive outcomes should be celebrated.
- Organised crime and serious violence were complex issues, but it was considered that positive outcomes were being achieved as a result of the structured meetings that took place within the partnership and the established strategic and operational aims. A significant amount of early intervention work had also taken place, using funding from the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit. Intelligence data was used to identify the key areas of focus for this work, which was undertaken alongside community groups and schools and supported by enforcement undertaken by the police.
- It was confirmed that Safer Kirklees worked alongside other social housing providers, in addressing anti-social behaviour, as well as the Council.
- Work was ongoing in relation to the Drugs and Alcohol Strategy, with workshops due to take place during the Summer. In terms of the links with mental health; there were strong connections with Public Health and a range of partners would be involved in the development of the strategy which would be based around the three strands in the government strategy; early help and prevention, treatment and recovery and enforcement.

Resolved –

- 1) That the Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027 be noted.
- 2) That the points raised by the Committee be taken into account in the progression, and implementation, of the Communities Partnership Plan and that Council be made aware of the Committee's views, as set out below, when the plan is submitted for endorsement:

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- Councillors, as representatives of their communities, should be involved in the development of the Communities Partnership Plan.
- There should be a greater focus on speeding and road safety, to reflect the concern of residents.
- The importance of listening to both sides when addressing neighbour disputes.
- Outcomes and examples of good practice should be publicised.

11 Allocation of Co-optees 2022-23

The Committee was asked to consider the allocation of co-optees to the Scrutiny Panels, for the 2022/23 municipal year.

Resolved –

- 1) That the allocation of co-optees for the 2022/23 municipal year be approved, as set out in the report.
- 2) That the existing serving co-optees be thanked for their continued commitment and contribution to the work of Scrutiny in Kirklees.
- 3) That the following retiring co-optees are thanked for their service and commitment to the work of scrutiny:
 - Andrew Bird
 - Philip Chaloner
 - Lynne Keady
 - Dale O'Neil
 - Dave Rigby
 - Linda Summers

12 Agenda Plan 2022-23

The Committee's initial Agenda Plan for 2022-23 had been circulated for Member's consideration.

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 26th July 2022

Present: Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Chair)
Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Jackie Ramsay
Councillor John Taylor

13 Membership of Committee

Apologies were received from Councillor Yusra Hussain.

14 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28th June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

The Chair provided updates as follows:

(i) The Inclusive Communities Framework had been adopted at the meeting of Council on 13th July 2022 (Minute 9, 2022/23).

(ii) The Corporate Safeguarding Policy had been approved and adopted by Council at the meeting held on 13th July 2022 (Minute 58, 2021/22).

(iii) The Net Zero Assessment for Kirklees was now available on the Council's website and the Economy and Neighbourhoods Panel would scrutinise the Climate Change Action Plan prior to submission to Cabinet (Minute 29, 2021/22)

15 Interests

No interests were declared.

16 Admission of the Public

All items were heard in public session.

17 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

18 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

19 Leader of the Council Priorities 2022-23

Councillor Shabir Pandor, the Leader of the Council, was welcomed the meeting to set out his portfolio priorities for 2022-23. He was accompanied by Jacqui Gedman, the Chief Executive.

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Councillor Pandor explained that the Council Plan was now in place and the focus was on delivery of its priorities. He gave a presentation covering the following headings:

Investment: there was a need to invest and strengthen the local economy.

Projects to develop the public realm were moving forward in Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Heckmondwike, Cleckheaton, Batley and Holmfirth.

A number of significant transport infrastructure schemes for road, rail and active travel were being progressed, together with £10 million investment into the local road network.

Inclusion: the aim was to support local communities in respect of the cost of living and to tackle inequality, ensuring that everyone benefits from the successes of the Council.

This priority was an integral part of the work of the Council and examples included; the development of employment skills and ensuring opportunities for local people were maximised; the provision of energy saving advice to residents; and development of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

There had been an increase in the number of complex cases and Community Plus continued to provide direct support to some of the district's most vulnerable residents, working alongside the voluntary and community sectors.

The journey towards achieving an outstanding rating in children's and adult services continued.

Work was being undertaken alongside the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure health equality and quality of life for residents as they got older.

Innovation: there was a need to adapt to change, providing services that were responsive to residents and addressed the big issues.

Work was being undertaken to address the climate emergency, for example the Council's fleet was being changed to electric vehicles; there was a tree planting programme, and an environmental strategy was being developed.

Building in social value was an important focus.

Councillors were at the heart of the organisation and the focus on place-based working would continue.

Examples of previous innovative projects were given, including the development of IT to facilitate hybrid meetings and agile working and the provision of led street lighting.

Challenges: in common with most local authorities across the country, these included inflation and its impact on the capital programme, the effect of increases in cost of living, the long-term impact of the pandemic, an increase in humanitarian work, recruitment difficulties, and increased demand and complexity of cases across a number of services.

The Local Government Association was seeking a long-term financial settlement for local authorities.

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

- At West Yorkshire level, four bids had been made for levelling up funding. Work was ongoing in relation to employment skills, business, addressing the climate emergency, transport, large infrastructure schemes, a significant education programme; and the submission of a bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 26 July 2022

- The Portfolio Holder for Children was taking the lead in dealing with the increasing number of complex SEND cases and further information could be provided on the approach.
- It was considered that there was a need for a local strategic framework addressing travel and connectivity within the district, including consideration of active travel, to inform plans for future improvements. It was explained that funding in respect of major transport schemes had now shifted to West Yorkshire level. Kirklees had a pre-existing transport vision which tied-in with the Combined Authority strategy; which provided a holistic and strategic view. It had been recognised that there was a need for an improved local plan and a Kirklees Transport Strategy, looking towards 2030-35, was being developed.
- In respect of the £10 million programme of work for smaller town/village centres, and priorities further to the initial focus on Batley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Holmfirth, it was explained that place-based engagement was being progressed in other areas so that the aspirations of those communities could be integrated into an ongoing programme, with the aim of increasing allocated funding in future years.
- A number of local authorities had proposed opening public buildings as 'warm zones' during the winter and it was recognised that the Authority would need to do whatever it could in terms of measures to address challenges associated with the cost of living. Improvement of the housing stock, including retrofitting of properties to make them more energy efficient was one of the initiatives being taken forward. Response to the impact of the increased cost of living was now being considered as an issue across services, including how Council buildings or places within local areas might be used and/or supported to provide facilities, and this tied in with the place-based approach. The Cabinet also wished to understand the impact of the situation on staff and a series of staff engagement sessions were planned to consult on the operating model of the Council.
- It was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Panel was looking into the use of community buildings within Kirklees; and that the increase in energy costs would also have an impact on those running and providing activities in community buildings.
- There were challenges associated with recruitment across the board, with particular issues in some technical areas and the risks associated with this were in view. This was a national issue and, to a large extent, was a result of the choices people were making about employment further to the pandemic. There was a programme of work underwritten by the People Strategy and each service had a plan in place to ensure that they had the capacity and capability to deliver. It was noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Panel had included the issue of recruitment and retention on its work programme.
- Examples were given of the initiatives undertaken to recruit, train and retain more social workers, including paths for progression and development and apprenticeship and mentoring programmes.
- In terms of the educational attainment of different demographic groups, it was explained that attainment and access to opportunities across all groups was one of the key priorities for the Children's Scrutiny Panel. It was requested that information be provided to the Committee Members in respect of the aims for educational attainment across the different demographics. It was noted that the Kirklees Futures Strategy Action Plan included a range of measures directed towards supporting educational attainment.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 26 July 2022

- Key ambitions for the next five years included, delivery of the Cultural Heart Project and plans for Dewsbury Town Centre; progress in respect of delivery of the four 'levelling up' bids including the Penistone Line; significant progress on highway improvements through the capital programme; to achieve 'Council of the Year'; to realise an excellent rating for children's services and improvement in educational attainment. It was believed that there was a clear vision and plan, along with a budget that included investment, to move the organisation forward and achieve the ambitions.
- Maintaining dialogue with colleagues at both local and national level helped with environment scanning and identifying potential challenges in the medium and longer term.
- There were significant challenges in respect of the funding for adult social care and the Local Government Association was campaigning on this issue. There was also a funding gap for children's services.
- The SEND transformation plan was very detailed in terms of the steps necessary to transform the system. There had been improvements in terms of transition from children's to adult social care and the transformation plan included a focus on creating independence rather than dependence, with the aim of reducing future demand. The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel had a programme of work which aimed to develop a good understanding of the demand. The SEND transformation action plan would be subject to scrutiny by the Children's Scrutiny Panel and there may be the opportunity for some cross-cutting work to take place in respect of post-16 provision for children with special educational needs. It was important that a whole family approach was taken in providing support.
- The Council had responsibility and a duty of care for its own tenants but also provided support to those with concerns about private landlords. In terms of support to the wider population such as with financial management skills, or assistance into employment, individual cases were dealt with on their merit. £4 million had been set aside for welfare provision and would be directed to those in need regardless of housing tenure.
- The transfer of the housing function back to the Council had provided an opportunity to share the skills of KNH staff and to take account of the good work being undertaken. The approach had shifted towards a focus on the relationship with local residents rather than tenure.
- It was suggested that the Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel might look at the work being undertaken to support tenants.

20 **Loneliness and Social Isolation in Kirklees Post Pandemic**

Carol Gilchrist, Head of Local Integrated Partnerships and Helen Gilchrist, Project Manager presented a report which proposed a scope for scrutiny of the issue of loneliness and isolation in Kirklees to help inform and shape the partnership approach to respond to this issue, in light of the potential impact on the health and wellbeing of local people.

It was explained that the evidence suggested that more people were lonely and isolated following the pandemic and the report set out a range of background information from both a national and local perspective.

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The aim was to address four key strategic goals:

- To make loneliness everyone's business.
- Ensuring collective assets are maximised.
- The adoption of a person-centred approach.
- Understanding people's real-life experiences.

The work would include the opportunity for Members to speak to community groups and individuals about the issue and their experiences.

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

- It was accepted that there were challenges in identifying people who were lonely or isolated and work had been undertaken both prior to and during the pandemic to try and address this issue. There were many groups across the district who could reach out to people as a result of information or referrals received from a number of sources, such as colleagues in health and care services. It was hoped that the scrutiny work might assist in identifying any gaps across the district.
- There was a mechanism in place for social prescribing so that GDPR and the sharing of personal information was not an issue with referrals. The referral of an individual to a community group would be done in-person as they would be accompanied to the first session. It may be, however, that this piece of work would uncover some such issues.
- There was a need to identify the barriers to people overcoming isolation and loneliness. It was hoped that the individuals who were now attending the groups would be able to give the Committee an understanding of their experience and how they were able to overcome the issues and that this would help to inform the approach in the future.
- There was also a need to understand how people who were not involved with health or other services might be made aware of what was available to them and how they could be assisted to have the confidence to engage.
- The Loneliness Steering Group included representation from the Befriending Partnership. A wide variety of befriending offers had developed during the pandemic but sustainability had been identified as an issue due to the short-term nature of funding. Telephone befriending had been found to work well and it was proposed that a blended approach be taken in the future.
- The Steering Group hoped to undertake further work to encourage joint working and collaboration between different organisations.
- In terms of the learning from users, a range of positive outcomes had been achieved, although some people expressed a preference for face to face interactions.
- In respect of the baseline level of loneliness at this point in time, it was hoped that this work may assist in achieving this understanding; it was a complex issue.
- The numbers of volunteers had reduced following the pandemic and consideration was being given to how this might be addressed.
- The issue of cost for people in accessing places was also a consideration.

Resolved –

That a further report be presented to the Committee at the September meeting, in respect of the role of the Loneliness Steering Group and the ongoing review of how the group will operate in the future.

21 Kirklees Scrutiny Work Programme 2022-23

The Lead Members introduced the work programme/agenda plans for the Children's, Corporate and Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panels highlighting their priorities and approach for 2022-23. The plan for the Economy and Neighbourhood Scrutiny Panel had also been submitted for consideration.

Resolved –

That the initial Work Programmes for 2022-23 be agreed.

Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday 9th June 2022

Present: Councillor Steve Hall (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Andrew Pinnock
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Mark Thompson

Apologies: Councillor Bill Armer

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies were received from Councillor Bill Armer.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meetings held on 24th March and 25th May 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

3 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying

Councillor Davies advised that he had been lobbied in relation to Application 2021/92003.

4 Admission of the Public

All items on the agenda were considered in public session.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

6 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

7 Site Visit: Application 2022/91456

Site visit deferred.

8 Site Visit: Application 2021/92003

Site visit undertaken.

9 Review of Planning Appeal Decisions

The report was noted.

10 Planning Application - Application No: 2021/92003

The Committee considered Application 2021/92003 in respect of the erection of 61 age-restricted apartments, ancillary accommodation and associated external works (within a Conservation Area) at Prickleden Mills, Woodhead Road, Holmfirth.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Hamish Gledhill (in support).

RESOLVED –

That the application be refused for the following reasons:

1. The proposed development, due to its design (including its heights and massing), location and relationships with designated heritage assets, would be visually overbearing in relation to adjacent existing development and the River Holme, would appear overdominant in views in this part of the valley, would harm the character and appearance of the Holmfirth Conservation Area, and would harm the setting of listed buildings, contrary to policies LP24 and LP35 of the Kirklees Local Plan, objectives A, B and C and policies 2 and 3 of the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan, Sections 66(1) and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, and guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (chapters 12 and 16), the National Design Guide and the Housebuilders Design Guide SPD.
2. The proposed development, due to its design (including its heights and massing), locations of habitable room windows, and proximity to site boundaries and adjacent homes and gardens, would result in losses of privacy, outlook and natural light for neighbouring residents, contrary to policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan and guidance set out in the Housebuilders Design Guide SPD.
3. The proposed development includes inadequate provision of off-street parking spaces for residents and visitors and for users of the four parking spaces displaced from the terminus of Lower Mill Lane. The proposed development is therefore contrary to policy LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan and guidance set out in the Highway Design Guide SPD.
4. In the absence of adequate supporting information relating to flood risk and drainage, it has not been demonstrated that those material considerations have appropriately informed the proposed development, nor that the proposed development does not pose unacceptable flood risk and risks to public safety. The proposed development is therefore contrary to policies LP27 and LP28 of the Kirklees Local Plan and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework.
5. The proposed development, due to its lack of on-site affordable housing and open space, lack of related financial contributions to address these requirements off-site, and lack of other necessary provisions, would not sufficiently meet known housing need, would not provide adequate, usable outdoor space for its residents, and would not sufficiently mitigate its impacts. Furthermore, with insufficient measures to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport, to ensure land and infrastructure is managed, and to secure public access to the riverside walk, the proposed development would not be sustainable, and would not sufficiently mitigate risk in relation to drainage and maintenance, and would not ensure that a connected, permeable neighbourhood would be created. This would be contrary to

Strategic Planning Committee - 9 June 2022

policies LP4, LP11, LP20, LP24, LP27, LP28, LP47 and LP63 of the Kirklees Local Plan, and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Davies, Hall, Pattison, Pinnock and Sokhal (5 votes)

Abstain: Councillor Thompson

11 **Planning Application - Application No: 2022/90078**

The Committee considered Application 2022/90078 relating to the erection of an agricultural building and demolition of existing building at Upper Blacup Farm, Upper Blacup, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Blair Clarke (in support).

RESOLVED -

That approval of the application and issue of the decision notice be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development, in order to complete the list of conditions, including those contained within the report, as set out below:

1. Development to commence within 3 years.
2. Development in accordance with the approved plans.
3. The existing buildings to be demolished within 6 months of the completion of the proposed building.
4. Reporting of unexpected contaminated land.
5. Intrusive site investigation to be undertaken.
6. Submission of confirmation the site is safe prior to occupation.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Davies, Hall, Pattison, Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (6 votes)

12 **Planning Application - Application No: 2002/91065**

The Committee considered a report in respect of Application 2022/91065 relating to the erection of an agricultural building at Mug Mill Farm, Mug Mill Lane, Thornhill, Dewsbury.

RESOLVED-

That, in accordance with Section 101(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council's development control functions be devolved to Wakefield Council in respect of Application 2022/91065.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Davies, Hall, Pattison, Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (6 votes)

13 Position Statement: 2022/91456 Reserved Matters Application Pursuant to Outline Permission 2021/91544

The Committee was presented with a Position Statement in respect of Application 2022/91456; a reserved matters application pursuant to outline permission 2021/91544 for the erection of a health and research innovation campus comprising: Class F1(a)-education; Class E(e)-medical/health services; Class E(g)(i)-offices; Class E(g)(ii)-research/development of products/processes; multi storey car park; Class E(a)-display/retail of goods; Class E(b)-sale of food/drink; Class E(d)-indoor sport/recreation/fitness at Southgate/Leeds Road, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee heard a presentation from Tim Thornton (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Huddersfield University) and Robert Hopkins (Architect).

The Committee noted the contents of the report and presentation and made comments on the proposals.

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday 14th July 2022

Present: Councillor Steve Hall (Chair)
Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Andrew Pinnock
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Mark Thompson

1 Membership of the Committee

All Committee members were present.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meetings

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 25 May and 9 June 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying

Councillor Armer advised that he had been lobbied on Application 2021/92086.

Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall and A Pinnock advised that they had been lobbied on Application 2021/93644.

Councillor A Pinnock advised that he had been lobbied on Application 2021/94060.

4 Admission of the Public

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

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

6 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were submitted.

7 Site Visit - Application No: 2021/92086

Site visit undertaken.

8 Site Visit - Application No: 2021/93644

Site Visit Undertaken.

9 Site Visit - Application No: 2021/92206

Site visit undertaken.

10 Planning Application - Application No: 2021/92086

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/92086 – Erection of 277 residential dwellings and associated infrastructure and access (amended scheme) at land at Bradley Villa Farm, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received a representation from Jonathan Dunbavin (on behalf of the applicant).

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 36(3), the Committee received a representation from Councillor Homewood.

RESOLVED – That the determination of the application be deferred to obtain further clarity in regards to the S106 contribution.

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (7 votes)

Against: (no votes)

11 Planning Application - Application No: 2021/92206

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/92206 – Erection of 137 homes with open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure at land off Woodhead Road, Brockholes, Holmfirth.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Paul Butler (on behalf of the applicant), Andrew Naylor (applicant) and Lee Henton (local resident).

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 36(a), the Committee received a representation from Councillor Greaves.

RESOLVED –

1) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application, issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;

- Three Year Time Limit for Commencement
- Development to be carried out in accordance with approved plans
- Details of phasing (Pre-commencement)
- Construction Management Plan (Pre-commencement)
- Highway/PROW Condition Surveys (Pre-commencement)
- Detail of highway improvements (Pre-commencement)
- Detail of internal estate roads, footpaths etc
- Condition ensuring access to undeveloped land
- Erection and repair of existing and proposed dry stone walls
- Detail of visibility splays across site access (Pre-commencement)
- Various off-site highway and PROW works and Road Safety Audits

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- Highway structure details (Pre-commencement)
- Surfacing and draining of vehicle parking areas
- Temporary retaining structure details (Pre-commencement)
- Retaining Wall facing materials
- Timely removal of temporary construction access
- Structural details of pipes/manholes (Pre-commencement)
- Cycle storage details
- Temporary waste storage for dwellings during the construction period
- Electric vehicle charging points
- Finished floor level restrictions
- Compliance with arboricultural method statement
- Detailed design of foul and surface water drainage scheme (pre-commencement)
- Surface water emergence and land drainage mitigation (pre-commencement)
- Storm Event Scenarios (Pre-commencement)
- Temporary Surface Water Details (Pre-commencement)
- PD Rights Removed for Plot 122 (Side extensions)
- PD Rights Removed for Plot 123 (Outbuildings)
- PD Rights Removed for 62no. plots in respect of boundary treatments relative to shared spaces
- Implementation of sound attenuation scheme
- Ventilation scheme for noise impacted properties (Pre-commencement)
- Dust mitigation details during construction period
- Unexpected contamination/coal deposits
- Imported Top/sub soil verification report
- Physical samples of facing materials
- Boundary treatment detailing
- Hard and soft landscaping details (Pre-commencement)
- Maintenance of landscaping and occupier notification mechanism
- Biodiversity Management Plan (Pre-commencement)
- Construction Environmental Management Plan (Pre-commencement)
- Eradication of invasive non-native species (Pre-commencement)
- Lighting Design Strategy
- Protected species Mitigation Strategy
- Working times compliance
- Further Archaeological Investigation (Pre-commencement)
- Details of substation and pumping station design and appearance
- Definitive footpath surfacing adjacent T18
- Details of any PROW diversion
- Riverside footpath construction specification and delivery
- Rapid Health Impact Assessment submission and implementation

2) That the following matters to be delegated to officers to resolve prior to the issue of the decision notice: (i) NDSS shortfall of (7 units) to be addressed – this could be a condition or an amended plan and (ii) lighting of the PROW /footpath connection from the site to Smithy place/ Brockholes to provide improved safety and security for residents.

3) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to secure a S106 Agreement to cover (i) affordable housing – a 20% (19.7%) on-site

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

contribution of 27 affordable homes with the following tenure split; 15 affordable rent, 5 shared ownership and 7 first homes (ii) education – a financial contribution of £546,137 made towards local schools (iii) public open space – an off site financial contribution of £94,288 to address shortfalls in specific open space typologies (iv) biodiversity – a financial contribution of £471,500 towards off site measures to achieve biodiversity net gain (v) sustainable transport – measures to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport, including a £70,075.50 financial contribution towards a sustainable travel fund as well as a further £10,000 towards travel plan monitoring (vi) off site highway works – an off site financial contribution of £33,000 towards bus stop upgrades and signage improvements on Smithy Place Lane as well as a further £15,000 to contribute towards signalised junction improvements in Honley (vii) management – the establishment of a management company for the management and maintenance of any land not within private curtilages or adopted by other parties, and of infrastructure (including surface water and foul drainage infrastructure until formally adopted by the statutory undertaker),

4) That, pursuant to (3) above, in circumstances where the S106 Agreement has not been completed within three months of this decision, the Head of Planning and Development shall be authorised to consider whether permission should be refused on the grounds that the proposals are unacceptable in the absence of the benefits that would have been secured, and would therefore be permitted to determine the Application and impose appropriate reasons for refusal under delegated powers.

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, Sokhal and Thompson (7 votes)
Against: Councillor A Pinnock (1 vote)

12 **Planning Application - Application No: 2022/91138**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2022/91138 – Demolition of existing training centre and occupational health buildings, erection of new headquarters including indoor training centre, extension of existing building to form new fire station, extension of car parking and associated landscaping and drainage at Oakroyd Hall, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received a representation from Clare Plant (on behalf of the applicant).

RESOLVED - That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application, issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;

- Three Year Time Limit for Commencement (S91 TCPA)
- Compliance with Approved Plans
- Construction Management Plan (Pre-commencement)
- Landscape and Ecological Design Scheme
- Fire Station Extension Materials (to match)
- Compliance with Submitted Materials (HQ & Training Centre)
- Submission of Outstanding Materials (HQ & Training Centre)

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

- Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan (No Net Gain)
- Protected Species restrictions to Working Practices
- Details relating to identification and remediation of Mine Shafts
- Structural Safety Sign-Off by Competent Person (Mine Shafts)
- Drainage Design including 30% betterment and surface water filter interceptors (Pre-commencement)
- Temporary Drainage Details (Pre-commencement)
- Parking restrictions to Whitehall Road West and Bradford Road
- Car Park Management Plan
- Compliance with Submitted Travel Plan
- Submission of Arboricultural Method Statement
- Implement Agreed Dust Mitigation Scheme
- Details of Kitchen Extract System
- Details of Pollution Prevention for Food Outlets (oil, fat and grease reduction to public sewer)
- Details of Electric Vehicle Charging Point Provision
- Post Demolition Phase 2 Contaminated Land ISI Report
- Submission of Contaminated Land Remediation Strategy
- Implementation of Contaminated Land Remediation Strategy
- Submission of Contaminated Land Validation Report
- Details of External Artificial Lighting
- Details of means of Securing External Access Doors
- Details of Fire Appliance Siren Policy

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (7 votes)

Against: (no votes)

13 **Planning Application - Application No: 2021/93644**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/93644 – Erection and operation of grid-connected solar photovoltaic farm to supply up to 49.9MW with ancillary infrastructure and landscaping and biodiversity enhancements at Low Farm, Wakefield Road, Flockton.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Mike Greetham (local resident) and Jack Spurway (applicant).

RESOLVED - That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to notify the Secretary of State of the Local Planning Authority's intention to approve the application, to give the Secretary of State the opportunity to consider whether to exercise call in powers and that, subject to the response from the Secretary of State, progress to approve the application and issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;

- Development to commence within 3 years
- Development to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and specifications

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

- Temporary permission (40 years, with non-operational clause for removal), with notice of commencement to be submitted
- Limitation of site to 49.9MW
- Green Belt: Prior to development commencing, full details of landscaping and screening strategy (i.e., numbers, species mixture, planting timeframe etc.) and management / maintenance to be submitted and approved
- Green Belt: Decommissioning statement prior to use
- Green Belt: Notwithstanding the submitted plans, details of container colour to be submitted
- Green Belt: No lighting erected without details being submitted
- Green Belt: CCTV plan
- Land use: Grazing Management Plan
- Glint and Glare: Mitigation measures to be installed prior to use commencing
- Amenity: Site operate in accordance with the Noise Impact Assessment
- Amenity: Construction Environmental Management Plan
- Highways: Access improvements to be implemented prior to solar panels being installed (per parcel)
- Highways: Sightlines as shown on plan to be implemented and retained
- Highways: Construction Management Plan
- Drainage: Yorkshire Water easement
- Contamination: Ground investigation – Contamination (Phase 2, Remediation, Validation)
- Contamination: Ground investigation – Coal (Phase 2, Remediation, Validation)
- Ecology: No clearance within the bird breeding season without survey
- Ecology: protected species holes in fence, for access
- Ecology: Ecological Design Strategy (EDS)
- Ecology: Invasive species removal protocol
- Ecology: Construction Environmental Management Plan: Biodiversity
- Education: Submission of education strategy
- Trees: No solar panels to be erected within 15m of the ancient woodland
- Trees: An Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan shall be provided before development commences
- Trees: A plan showing the exact location of tree friendly construction for access road

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock and Sokhal (5 votes)

Against: Councillors Armer and Thompson (2 votes)

14 **Planning Application - Application No: 2021/94060**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/94060 – Variation condition 32 on previous permission 2016/92298 for outline application for re-development of former waste water treatment works following the demolition of existing structures to provide employment uses (use classes B1(c), B2 and B8) at Former North Bierley Waste Water Treatment Works, Oakenshaw.

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Charlie Brown (local resident) and Jeremy Williams (applicant's agent).

RESOLVED –

- 1) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application, issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;
 - Reserved matters to be submitted prior to commencement
 - Reserved matters to be submitted to the LPA and carried out per plans
 - Reserved matters time limit for submission
 - Reserved matters time limit to commence
 - Phasing plan to be submitted
 - Biodiversity Enhancement and Management Plan to be submitted
 - Construction Ecology Management Plan to be submitted
 - Construction Environment Management Plan to be submitted
 - Lighting Design Strategy for Biodiversity to be submitted
 - Sewer easement
 - Access to Moorend combined sewer overflow and syphon sewer details
 - Separate foul and surface water required
 - Drainage details to be submitted
 - Outfall details to be provided
 - Development done in accordance with Flood Risk Assessment
 - Coal working site investigations
 - Layout and landscape RMs to include consideration of coal working investigations
 - Layout and landscape RMs to include Arboricultural Survey and Method Statements
 - Layout and landscape RMs to include treatment of PROW on site
 - Limiting floorspace constructed to 17,642m² until given highway works are approved or Highway England works undertaken
 - Limiting floorspace occupied to 17,642m² until given highway works implemented (as approved by condition 20) or Highway England works undertaken
 - Development restricted to the areas shown on plateau plan
 - Reserved Matters shall include a 'Residual Uncertainty Assessment' in relation to flood risk
 - Reserved Matters to include surface water disposal strategy
 - Before occupation, SUDS features management, maintenance, and adoption to be submitted
 - Temporary surface water details to be provided
 - Prior to occupation, confirmation of highway works to be provided (improvements to Mill Carr Hill Road and Cliff Hollins Lane)
 - Fixed mechanical services and plan to be noise controlled
 - Layout and landscape RMs to include noise attenuation
 - Unexpected contamination procedure
 - Layout and landscape RMs to include low emission and charging point details
 - Limitation on B2 and total floor space (to be varied)

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

- Prevent given area being used as Last Mile (new)

2) That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to secure a S106 Agreement to cover a deed of variation which ties the S106 obligations from 2016/92298 (the original consent) to the new S73 consent.

3) That, pursuant to (2) above, in circumstances where the S106 Agreement has not been completed within three months of this decision, the Head of Planning and Development shall be authorised to consider whether permission should be refused on the grounds that the proposals are unacceptable in the absence of the benefits that would have been secured, and would therefore be permitted to determine the Application and impose appropriate reasons for refusal under delegated powers.

4) That any subsequent Reserved Matters applications be submitted to this Committee for determination.

5) That Condition 33 be amended to read as follows:

33. The hereby approved development does not authorise the operation of any 'Last Mile' and/or 'Parcel Distribution' distribution use within the area highlighted in red on plan ref. '2147 PL 100B', as submitted on the 13th June 2022. 'Last Mile' and/or 'Parcel Distribution' is hereby defined as any single parcel undertaking its last leg of a journey from a transportation hub to a final destination, based upon the nationally recognised TRICS (Trip Rate Information Computer System) database definition. Reason: In the interest of highway safety, to ensure the development operates within the parameters of the assessment undertaken, in accordance with LP21 of the Kirklees Local Plan.

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock and Sokhal (5 votes)

Against: Councillors Armer and Thompson (2 votes)

15 **Planning Application - Application No: 2021/93539**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/93539 – Demolition of existing building and erection of detached dwelling at 628 Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge.

RESOLVED – That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application, issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;

- Timescale for implementing permission
- Development to be carried out in accordance with the approved details
- Samples of materials to be submitted for approval
- Submission of Phase II Intrusive Site Investigation Report
- Submission of Remediation Strategy
- Implementation of Remediation Strategy
- Submission of Validation Report

Strategic Planning Committee - 14 July 2022

- Submission of scheme for electric vehicle charging point
- Removal of permitted development rights (classes A-E)
- Submission of details for provision for a fire tender/dry riser
- Areas to be surfaced and drained
- Submission of details for biodiversity enhancement measures

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (7 votes)

Against: (no votes)

16 **Planning Application - Application No: 2021/93911**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2021/93911 – Erection of 7 single storey garages and extension to access track at land off Perseverance Street, Cowlersley, Huddersfield.

RESOLVED – That authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application, issue the decision notice and complete the list of conditions including matters relating to;

- Three years to commence development
- Approved Plans and Documents
- Pre-commencement condition on materials and colour to be approved by the Local Planning Authority before construction

A Recorded Vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42 (5) as follows;

For: Councillors Armer, P Davies, S Hall, Pattison, A Pinnock, Sokhal and Thompson (7 votes)

Against: (no votes)

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday 11th August 2022

Present: Councillor Steve Hall (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Mark Thompson

Apologies: Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Andrew Pinnock

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies were received from Councillors Armer, Pattison and Pinnock.

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
RESOLVED –**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14th July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying

In the interests of transparency, Councillor Lawson advised that he had previously spoken to the press in respect of Application 2022/20509, but this item was before the Committee for information and he would retain an open mind.

4 Admission of the Public

All items on the agenda were considered in public session.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

6 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

7 Site Visit: Pre- Application 2022/20509

Site visit undertaken.

8 Planning Application - Application No: 2022/91456

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2022/91456 in respect of a reserved matters application pursuant to outline permission 2021/91544 for the erection of health and research innovation campus comprising: Class F1(a)- education; Class E(e)-medical/health services; Class E(g)(i)-offices; Class E(g)(ii)- research/development of products/processes; multi storey car park; Class E(a)- display/retail of goods; Class E(b)-sale of food/drink; Class E(d)-indoor sport/recreation/fitness, and the discharge of conditions 5 (masterplan), 6 (design code), 8 (access), 9 (internal access) and 19 (BEMP) at Southgate/Leeds Road, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Iain Bath (the agent).

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval of the application and issue of the decision notice be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development in order to;

(a) complete the list of conditions, including those contained within the report, as set out below:

1. Technical details for new road (adjacent Crown House).
2. Submission of permanent car parking arrangement.
3. Submission of car parking management plan.
4. Details of methods to promote town centre (or canal) walking route.
5. Cycle storage as shown to be provided.
6. Material samples to be provided.
7. Condition to control rooftop features.
8. Sprinkler tank details to be submitted.
9. Landscaping management and maintenance arrangements.
10. Site security measures to be detailed and implemented.
11. Yorkshire Water pipe easement, and

(b) secure a Section 106 agreement to cover the following matters:

Ecology – Contribution (£22,080) towards off-site measures to achieve biodiversity net gain, with alternative option to provide on-site or nearby provision if suitable scheme identified.

(2) In the circumstances where the Section106 agreement has not been completed within 3 months of the date of the Committee’s resolution then the Head of Planning and Development shall consider whether permission should be refused on the grounds that the proposals are unacceptable in the absence of the benefits that would have been secured; if so, the Head of Planning and Development be authorised to determine the application and impose appropriate reasons for refusal under delegated powers.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Davies, Firth, Hall, Lawson, Sokhal and Thompson (6 votes)

9 Planning Application - Application No: 2022/91453

The Committee considered Application 2022/91453 in respect of the erection of a classroom and play deck at Southgate School, Southfield Road, Almondbury, Huddersfield.

RESOLVED –

That approval of the application and issue of the decision notice be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development, in order to complete the list of conditions, including those contained within the report, as set out below:

1. Three years to commence development
2. To be built in accordance with the approved plans and documents.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Davies, Firth, Hall, Lawson, Sokhal and Thompson (6 votes)

10 Pre-Application 2022/20509

The Committee received a pre-application report in respect of proposed development collectively known as the Cultural Heart, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 36(3), the Committee received a representation from Councillor Gregg.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee heard a presentation and asked questions of George Wilson (Architect), Rebecca Grace (Planning Consultant), Javed Hussain (Highways Consultant), David Glover (Council Project Lead), Darren Hodgson (Project Manager) and Chris Calvert (Planning Consultant).

The Committee noted the contents of the report and presentation and made comments on the proposals.

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday 8th September 2022

Present: Councillor Steve Hall (Chair)
Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Andrew Pinnock
Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor Mark Thompson

1 Membership of the Committee

All Members of the Committee were in attendance.

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Resolved –**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th August 2022 be agreed as a correct record.

3 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying

No interests were disclosed.

4 Admission of the Public

All items were considered in public.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were received.

6 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

7 Planning Application - Application No: 2021/92086

The Committee considered Application 2021/92086 in respect of the erection of 277 residential dwellings and associated infrastructure and access (amended scheme) on land at Bradley Villa Farm, Bradley Road, Bradley, Huddersfield.

RESOLVED -

(1) That, subject to the Secretary of State not calling-in the application, approval of the application and issue of the decision notice be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development in order to:

- (a) Complete the list of conditions, including those contained within the report (with the exception of the condition relating to the delivery of Bradley Bar roundabout works) and the Planning Update, and as set out below:

Strategic Planning Committee - 8 September 2022

1. Three years to commence development.
2. Development to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.
3. Submission of a Construction (Environmental) Management Plan, including details of engagement with local residents.
4. Submission of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (biodiversity).
5. Provision of site entrance and visibility splays prior to works commencing.
6. Submission of details of temporary drainage.
7. Submission of details of temporary waste collection.
8. Archaeological investigation.
9. Delivery of Bradford Road junction works and details of allowance for possible future junction works.
10. Submission of details of spine road / Shepherds Thorn Lane junction.
11. Submission of details relating to internal adoptable roads.
12. Cycle parking provision to be provided within the site.
13. Provision of Electric Vehicle charging points (one charging point per dwelling with dedicated parking).
14. Restriction on occupation until odour source has ceased.
15. Submission of details of electricity connection serving HS11 site.
16. Provision of waste storage and collection.
17. Submission of details of any highway retaining structures.
18. Further site investigation related to coal mining legacy.
19. Submission of a revised drainage strategy.
20. Submission of flood routing details.
21. Site to be developed by separate systems of drainage for foul and surface water on and off site.
22. Submission of details of parking surface treatments.
23. Submission of an Intrusive Site Investigation Report (Phase II Report).
24. Submission of Remediation Strategy.
25. Implementation of Remediation Strategy.
26. Submission of Validation Report.
27. Submission of a noise report specifying measures to be taken to protect future occupants of the development from noise, and details of ventilation.
28. Submission of air quality assessment and details of mitigation measures.
29. Submission of details of crime prevention measures.
30. Submission of details of external materials (and site-wide review of materials).
31. Submission of details of electricity substation(s).
32. Submission of details of boundary treatments.
33. Submission of details of air source heat pumps (appearance, noise and maintenance).
34. Submission of details (including surface treatment, bollards and any boundary treatment) of foul water pumping station.
35. Submission of details of external lighting.
36. Submission of full landscaping scheme, including details of open space and playspace.

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37. Submission of a Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan.
38. Submission of a Tree Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement.
39. No removal of vegetation during bird nesting season.
40. Removal of permitted development rights and control of development within space adjacent to unit 143.
41. Control of accretions to elevations fronting highways, open space and green belt,

and an additional condition requiring the submission of details (including full details of levels and re-grading) of the drainage infrastructure works (and works providing access thereto) proposed within the green belt.

- (b) Secure a Section 106 agreement to cover the following matters (with all contributions being index-linked):
1. Affordable housing – 55 affordable dwellings (30 affordable/social rent, 14 First Homes and 11 other intermediate) to be provided in perpetuity.
 2. Open space – Off-site contribution of £558,138 to address shortfalls in specific open space typologies.
 3. On-site open space inspection fee – £250.
 4. Education and childcare – Contributions of: i) £91,956 towards early years and childcare provision; ii) £1,414,708 towards a new two form entry primary school; and iii) £473,391 towards secondary provision.
 5. Off-site highway works – Contributions of: i) £820,474 towards the Cooper Bridge highway improvement scheme; and ii) £287,950 towards future capacity improvements at the Bradley Bar roundabout.
 6. Sustainable transport – Measures to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport, including: i) a £141,685.50 contribution towards sustainable travel measures; ii) implementation of a Travel Plan; iii) £15,000 towards Travel Plan monitoring; and iv) a £92,000 contribution towards new bus stops and bus stop improvements.
 7. Air quality mitigation – Damage cost contribution of £30,757.
 8. Biodiversity – Contribution of £230,690 towards off-site measures to achieve biodiversity net gain.
 9. Odour – Cessation of egg production at adjacent farm.
 10. Masterplanning – No ransom scenario to be created at junction of spine road and Shepherds Thorn Lane.
 11. Sports and recreation re-provision – Contribution of £575,786 towards re-provision of existing facilities within HS11 site.
 12. Management and maintenance – The establishment of a management company for the management and maintenance of any land not within private curtilages or adopted by other parties, of infrastructure (including surface water drainage until formally adopted by the statutory undertaker) and of street trees (if planted on land not adopted). Establishment of / participation in a drainage working group (with regular meetings) to oversee implementation of a HS11-wide drainage masterplan.

(2) In the circumstances where the Section 106 agreement has not been completed within three months of the date of the Committee's resolution (or of the date the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities confirms that the

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application will not be called in) then the Head of Planning and Development shall consider whether permission should be refused on the grounds that the proposals are unacceptable in the absence of the mitigation and benefits that would have been secured; if so, the Head of Planning and Development is authorised to determine the application and impose appropriate reasons for refusal under delegated powers.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Armer, Davies, Hall, Pattison, Pinnock and Sokhal (6 votes)

Against: Councillor Thompson (1 vote)