

Public Document Pack



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

Julie Muscroft

Governance and Commissioning

PO Box 1720

Huddersfield

HD1 9EL

Tel: 01484 221000

Please ask for: Andrea Woodside

Email: andrea.woodside@kirklees.gov.uk

Monday 18 July 2022

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Cabinet

The **Cabinet** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **3.30 pm** on **Tuesday 26 July 2022**.

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

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

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

Julie Muscroft

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

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

Cabinet Members:-

Member	Responsible For:
Councillor Shabir Pandor	Leader of the Council
Councillor Paul Davies	Cabinet Member – Corporate
Councillor Eric Firth	Cabinet Member – Transport
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Cabinet Member - Children (Statutory responsibility for Children)
Councillor Musarrat Khan	Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care
Councillor Naheed Mather	Cabinet Member – Environment
Councillor Carole Pattison	Cabinet Member - Learning, Aspiration and Communities
Councillor Cathy Scott	Cabinet Member - Housing and Democracy (Deputy Leader)
Councillor Will Simpson	Cabinet Member – Culture and Greener Kirklees
Councillor Graham Turner	Cabinet Member – Regeneration

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Cabinet

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

2: Declarations of Interest

1 - 2

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

3: Admission of the Public

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

4: Deputations/Petitions

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

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

5: Questions by Members of the Public

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11(5), the period allowed for the asking and answering of public questions shall not exceed 15 minutes.

6: Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet will receive any questions from Elected Members.

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

7: Estates Building Conservation and Remedial Works 3 - 8

To consider the virement of funding in regard to projects supported by the Heritage Action Zone Programme.

Contact: Simon Taylor, Town Centre Programmes / David Martin, Head of Corporate Landlord and Capital

8: Residential Development in Huddersfield Town Centre 9 - 56

To receive and update on the proposed approach to residential development in Huddersfield Town Centre.

Contact: Liz Jefferson, Housing Growth and Regeneration

9: Capital Scheme - Specialist Accommodation at former Children's Place Nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe 57 - 92

To consider proposals for a capital scheme from the Children's Service Best Start Capital Programme.

Contact: Gary Wainwright, Children's Integrated Commissioning

10: Aspire, Achieve and Include : Employment and Skills Plan 2022 - 2025 93 - 126

To receive the 2022-2025 Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan.

Contact: Edward Highfield, Skills and Regeneration – Service Director

11: Kirklees Annual Education Quality and Standards Report Update 127 - 154

To receive a summary of challenges during the 2021 academic year, and the impact upon educational learners.

Contact: Chris Jessop, Head of Educational Outcomes

12: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Transformation Plan Update 155 - 186

To receive an update on high needs safety valve funding, and consider plans to create additional specialist places to support the needs of children with special educational needs.

Contact: Kelsey Clark-Davies, Head of Educational Safeguarding and Inclusion / Martin Wilby, Head of Education Places and Access

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

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 26th July 2022
Title of report: Estates Building Conservation and Remedial Works

Purpose of report: To seek approval to vire approved funding between projects supported by the Heritage Action Zone programme to enable essential remedial works.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes/ no or Not Applicable Yes. If yes give the reason, why Approval will result in expenditure of more than £250,000.
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?	Key Decision – Yes - issued 30 th May 2022 Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd, Strategic Director Growth & Regeneration 7th June 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston – 13th July 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft 31st May 2022
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Turner, Regeneration portfolio

Electoral wards affected: Newsome

Ward councillors consulted: Newsome Members

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes, not applicable

Page 2 of the report

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Council's Capital programme includes £11,345,000 for the delivery of Kirklees' Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) programme. This includes £1,920,000 from Historic England, and £7.95 million from the Council capital programme. Kirklees Council secured an added £1.365 million from the Getting Building Fund for development of the George Hotel.
- 1.2 The Council directed £7.5 million of HAZ funding to the George Hotel, and £3.85 million to the Estate Buildings. Phase one works, the focus of the HAZ programme, deliver essential repairs and restoration of heritage features to make the buildings safe, watertight, and investment ready. Phase two for the George is the construction of a new Hotel. Phase two for the Estate Buildings is residential.
- 1.3 Work on phase one of the George is underway, and once completed, total expenditure will be £5.4 million, leaving a surplus of £2,016,000. Following completion of all survey works, the projected costs of delivery of phase one for the Estate Buildings is £5.556 million. Set against a capital allocation of £3.85 million, there is a potential budget shortfall of £2 million. This discrepancy arises because:
 - The extent of damage to the building is far greater than expected.
 - Construction costs across the sector have escalated and continue to rise in a contracted market.
 - A limited pool of available contractors with the correct skills.
 - Projected costs are pre-tender estimates and include high contingencies.
 - The Council distributed funding to the two projects based on high-level surveys, since clarified.
- 1.4 This report sets out a way to deliver both projects within the existing HAZ budget, and HAZ programme timescale. The report recommends Cabinet vires approved funding within the HAZ programme, from the George Hotel to the Estate Buildings, to enable completion of essential remedial works for both buildings.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1. Background

- 2.1.1. The Grade two Listed Estate Buildings, owned by Kirklees Council, include 52,000 sq. ft. of space. Positioned in the commercial centre of Huddersfield directly opposite Huddersfield Railway Station and next to St. George's Square, Estate buildings are only a short walk to a wide range of independent and larger multiple retailers and the University of Huddersfield campus.
- 2.1.2. Constructed chiefly for use as the Ramsden Estate Office, the Council has used the buildings more recently as office space, storage, and social housing. The building is underoccupied due to the rising costs of upkeep. The buildings are less adaptable to modern office requirements. Redevelopment of the Estate Buildings is a key part of the Huddersfield Blueprint and, together with the George Hotel, form part of the Kirklees Heritage Action Zone (HAZ). It is also within the boundary set by the emerging 'Station to Stadium' masterplanning work.
- 2.1.3. The market for high quality development in Huddersfield town centre is untested. The existing market is dominated by student accommodation, and smaller residential units often with lower quality specifications, including lower internal space standards. Utilising Estate Buildings for residential development is an opportunity for the Council to use its own heritage assets to create a high-quality product with excellent space standards. It provides

the chance to set the standard and start to create the residential market which will support the wider Blueprint vision and provide an exemplar to the wider development market of the quality which can be achieved using Huddersfield's heritage assets, building on the remedial works.

2.2. Options

Officers have explored a range of options to deliver the necessary works on the Estate Buildings.

2.2.1. Option 1: postpone or cancel delivery and await Council approval for extra resources

Officers considered delaying delivery and returning to Council with a request for extra funding for the HAZ programme. However, delays will mean greater costs, uncertainty for retailers in the affected area, and impact on delivery, as works would extend to the winter months. Cancelling the project would lead to a failed HAZ programme, loss of funding from Historic England, and not address the need for essential repairs to the Estate Buildings.

2.2.2. Option 2: reduction in the scope of works

Officers reviewed the scope of works to identify any 'non-essential' works, preventing further deterioration and reducing ongoing maintenance costs. However, this approach would mean that Historic England could withdraw their support for the Estate Buildings, as the revised project would remove 'non-essential' but desirable heritage work. This will also affect the desirability of the Estates as an investment asset, as any developer will have to assume responsibility for these works as part of any development agreement for this Grade 2 Listed building.

2.2.3. Option 3: vire funds from the George remedial works to the Estate Buildings remedial works

Cabinet approved funding for the HAZ programme in September 2020. HAZ funding was as an aggregate figure of £11.35 million. Commitments and funding for the two projects are set out in table 1 below.

The George Hotel HAZ Scheme	£4,945,759
The George Hotel HAZ Scheme - HAZ Grant	£1,190,000
The George Hotel HAZ Scheme - GBF	£1,365,000
Total funding George Hotel	£7,500,759
Less actual costs plus committed to 2021/22	£1,634,735
Less contract costs and variance for phase two conservation works	£3,350,000
Provisional sums for development work to December 2021	£500,000
Remaining funds for the project	£2,016,024
Estate Buildings HAZ Scheme	£3,003,720
Estate Buildings HAZ Scheme - HAZ Grant	£840,000
Total funding	£3,843,720
Less actual plus committed to 2021/22	£278,767
Less proposed remedial works contract	£5,566,000
Budget deficit	£2,001,047
George Surplus (to phase two)	£2,016,024
Estate's deficit virement	£2,001,047

Table 1: Balance of HAZ Capital funding to support virement

2.2.4. Table 1 highlights budget and commitments for the HAZ programme as of 25th May 2022.

The table confirms a budget surplus for the George Hotel, following completion of remedial works, of £2,016,000. Based on the robust pre tender estimate of £3.5 million, the table confirms a budget deficit of £2,001,047 for the Estate Buildings. Officers recommend Cabinet approves option three, enabling works to start quickly and minimise impact on project timescales. Importantly, delivering the works now complements planned works on

Byram Arcade, to run concurrently with the Estate Buildings. This will lead to cost and delivery efficiencies and minimise impact on local businesses.

3. Implications for the Council

The delivery of essential remedial works and restoration of heritage features of the Estate Buildings contributes to Kirklees cross cutting outcomes.

3.1. Working with Partners

Officers engaged Emergency Services to raise awareness of works and their impact on access to Station Street. Officers have met with local businesses, to understand their concerns and to develop shared approaches to support footfall as works progress.

3.2. Place based working

The Estate Buildings project follows wider consultation with the public for the development of the Huddersfield Blueprint and plans for the Station Gateway. The project benefits from consultation with groups working with the Huddersfield Heritage Action Zone, such as the Civic Society. Officers have informed Ward members, and portfolio holder views informed the project.

3.3. Climate Change and Air Quality

The project supports the Council's ambitions to tackle the climate emergency by improving energy efficiency, introducing improved windows, and extensive repairs to roofing.

3.4. Improving outcomes for children

No impact

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

There are no legal or Human Resource implications. The relevant Financial Procedure Rule at paragraph 3.11 states:

The Cabinet is authorised to:

- 1. Transfer Resources within programme area without restrictions.*
- 2. Transfer resources between any project or programme area up to a maximum of £2,000,000 in any financial year.*
- 3. Transfer resources within programme areas between any year within the approved capital plan, subject to compliance with 3.14 and 3.16.*

3.6. Cost of living

Delivery of essential remedial works is an essential prerequisite for the longer-term development of housing in the Estate Buildings. These plans include opportunities for a more diverse housing offer in the town centre, including more affordable housing. Housing located in the town centre, close to local amenities and transport hubs also provides the opportunity for people to live more sustainably without access to a private vehicle.

3.7. Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?

There is no IIA needed.

4. Consultees and their opinions

4.1. The project includes scaffold, hoarding, removal of car park spaces and temporary amendments to road access. Officers have engaged with key stakeholders affected by these works. It should be noted that:

1. The works require temporary closure of four car parking spaces on Station Street used by taxi drivers. Officers engaged drivers' representatives to agree alternative arrangements.
2. Officers will engage emergency services to ensure works, and access to Station Street, do not affect services.
3. Officers continue to engage local businesses to minimise the impact of works on footfall.
4. Officers met the portfolio holder on 9th June 2022. The report was circulated to Newsome ward members and to Councillors who are part of the emerging Huddersfield Partnership on or ahead of publication on 18th July 2022.

5. Next steps and timelines

5.1. Officers will evaluate the tender returns to identify the preferred contractor with the intention that the preferred contractor will mobilise in August and works will start on site in September 2022.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

6.1. To approve virement of £2 million HAZ Capital funding from the George Hotel to the Estate Buildings.

6.2. We have a robust pre-tender estimate of £3.5 million and tenders are due to be returned and evaluated later this month. Given the current volatile market of increasing prices and inflation we are currently seeing tender price increases of 20%-25% so therefore asking for delegation for the Strategic Director of Growth and Regeneration in conjunction with the Service Director for Finance / S151 Officer to apportion further funds if required of up to 25% over the pre tender estimate.

7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder recommends Cabinet accepts the officer recommendations in full.

8. Contact Officers

- David Martin, Head of Corporate Landlord and Capital, david.martin@kirklees.gov.uk
- Simon Taylor, Town Centre Programmes, simon.taylor@kirklees.gov.uk

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Cabinet Report: 22nd September 2020: Huddersfield and Dewsbury Town Centre Finance Report

10. Strategic Director responsible

David Shepherd, David.shepherd@kirklees.gov.uk 01484 421000 ext. 70210

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Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 26th July 2022

Title of report: Residential Development in Huddersfield Town Centre

Purpose of report: To provide an update on the proposed approach to residential development in Huddersfield Town Centre as part of the wider Huddersfield Blueprint

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – Yes Public report
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd – Strategic Director – Growth and Regeneration 8th July 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston 8th July 2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft 8th July 2022
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr Graham Turner – Regeneration

Electoral wards affected: Newsome

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

Public or private: Public report

Has GDPR been considered? Yes – there are no GDPR implications to this report

1.0 Summary

This report provides an update on the approach to residential development in Huddersfield Town Centre.

2.0 Information required to take a decision

2.1 Background

2.1.1 The Huddersfield Blueprint

The Huddersfield Blueprint is a ten-year vision to create a thriving, modern-day town centre. The vision for Huddersfield is that it will be a busy, family-friendly town centre that stays open for longer with a unique culture, arts and leisure offer and a variety of thriving businesses. The scale of investment and transformation, including high quality, innovative culture, arts and leisure offers will improve the attractiveness of the town centre as a place to live, providing new opportunities for residential development.

In turn, new residents and new residential spending will help to sustain culture, arts and leisure developments within the town centre.

The Blueprint **vision** for Huddersfield town centre living is:

“To create a vibrant community in Huddersfield Town Centre, attractive to young professionals, with strong connections to neighbouring cities and the Pennines.”

2.2 Delivery of Residential Development

To make the Blueprint vision a reality, the proposal is delivery of residential development which:

1. Increases opportunities to deliver a mix of town centre residential developments, including making best use of heritage buildings.
2. Delivers and supports schemes that provide opportunities to buy and rent, improving the quality of accommodation across the town centre.
3. Boosts the desirability of Huddersfield's housing market to potential residents and ensures affordable homes are built in the right places, based on housing market demand and needs.
4. Improves how the town centre looks, how accessible it is and links to proposals for enhanced public spaces.
5. Compliments and is near to attractive leisure, culture, shopping and dining opportunities which are the heart of town centre living

The Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan has 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. See appendix 1.

2.3 Housing Need

A programme of housing development in Huddersfield Town Centre will bring much needed housing to the district across a range of tenures, including affordable homes. There is a need for

1,730 new homes per year in Kirklees, of which 1,049 need to be affordable. This project will contribute towards the provision of affordable housing that meets the needs of local people.

2.4 Housing Development Proposals

The initial proposals for residential development in Huddersfield Town Centre will focus on two Council owned assets, Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings.

Utilising these existing assets has the following advantages:

- The market for high quality development in Huddersfield town centre is untested. The existing market is dominated by student accommodation and smaller residential units which often have lower quality specifications, including lower internal space standards. Utilising existing buildings provides an opportunity for the Council to use its own assets to create a high quality product with excellent space standards, providing the chance to set the standard and start to create the residential market which will support the wider Blueprint vision and provide an exemplar to the wider development market of the quality which can be achieved using Huddersfield's heritage assets
- Both buildings are in locations which support the wider Blueprint vision. Estate Buildings is strategically located to be part of the Station Gateway element of the Blueprint, and will support the concept of attracting and retaining graduates with easy access of public transport.
- Somerset Buildings is located near St Peter's Gardens, an area identified for improvement in the Blueprint. St Peter's Gardens provides the opportunity to serve an important function as greenspace to support residential development. It is only a short walk from the station and again supports the concept of attracting and retaining graduates.
- Development of housing in these locations is sustainable, reusing existing assets and located with easy access to public transport and services within the town centre, thereby supporting low carbon development.

2.4.1 Rationale for progressing with Thirteen as a Partner

Thirteen Group ("Thirteen") is a large developing, not for profit, housing association based in the north east.. They have a strong financial standing and are a strategic partner of Homes England, having secured £191 million of investment from Homes England in the 2021 to 2026 programme to deliver 3,270 affordable homes, with 50% of these to be in Yorkshire and Humber (1635 homes).

Thirteen are already working with the Council to deliver the Registered Provider Cluster Programme across five sites in the district. Thirteen approached the Council with their proposal to deliver high quality residential units in Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings following a visit around Huddersfield town centre.

Thirteen have the following advantages as a partner:

- As set out above, they are of robust financial standing and have secured a significant grant allocation from Homes England to support them in delivering housing.
- A strong set of corporate values which align with the Council's corporate priorities. Thirteen's vision is to provide safe, quality homes and services to the best environmental standards, with a focus on providing quality neighbourhoods and a great customer experience.

- Thirteen have the best rating possible from the Regulator of Social Housing – V1 and G1. This means that they have been assessed as having the financial capacity to deal with a wide range of scenarios, and that they have strong governance arrangements in place.
- As part of their funding allocation from Homes England, Thirteen are committed to developing housing in town centres. Thirteen have ringfenced grant funding of £654,544 from their Homes England allocation to deliver Somerset Buildings and £1,396,544 to deliver Estates Buildings.
- They are committed to delivering place-based regeneration within older housing areas and town centres and are already building homes on challenging brownfield land sites, such as Union Village, Gresham, Middlesborough where they are redeveloping a brownfield site for 145 new homes.
- Town centre regeneration is a priority for Thirteen, and they are aware of the challenges of making town centre living attractive and sustainable and they have specific expertise in delivering town centre housing, having delivered a similar scheme in Middlesborough
- They are experienced in building and managing housing and will bring much needed resources to the Kirklees district, as part of the Council's wider programme of housing growth.
- They will also bring vital resources to the support the Council in housing delivery, at a time when resources are stretched and staff with expertise in the housing delivery and wider development field are difficult to secure.
- Alongside housing delivery, Thirteen are focussed on the social value that they can deliver for the district as well as delivering housing units. As part of their existing work with the Council (on the RP clusters project) they have actively cultivated relationship with the Employment and Skills Service, and they are working proactively with both the Employment and Skills Team and Huddersfield University to look at what opportunities there are to provide training and apprenticeships and look at factors in retaining graduates.
- They are actively seeking to move to zero carbon ready and are developing a prototype house type that delivers net zero carbon, and Thirteen work actively with their suppliers, partners and contractors to reduce carbon in their supply chain.
- Thirteen have actively sought feedback from graduates at Huddersfield University, which has confirmed that they are interested in residential proposals of the type being proposed by Thirteen.
- Thirteen also have a track record in the development of housing for older people and are actively working on approaches to older people's accommodation in town centres.
- This also links to the concept of a "15 minute neighbourhood" – a concept of a resident being able to access most of all of the services needed within a 15 minute walk of their home. This supports a reduction in car use. Both older people, and graduates, have been shown to be actively interested in this concept.

2.4.2 Proposed approach

The proposal is to enter in to an eighteen month exclusivity period with Thirteen at the end of which they would have the option to purchase Somerset Buildings and Estate Buildings at market value. This would obviously mean that during both the exclusivity period and the option period, the properties would not be available for anyone else to purchase. The Council will work closely with Thirteen throughout this period, monitoring and reviewing proposals and activity and regularly reporting on progress through the Housing Growth Board. It is proposed that the exclusivity period would be for 18 months but determinable by and with the approval of the Strategic Director after 12 months, if Thirteen have not made significant progress against the milestones set out below.

This arrangement would be the subject of an appropriate legal agreement, with milestones against which Thirteen have to make demonstrable progress.

These milestones would be:

Enter in to exclusivity agreement	Sept 2022
Complete review of existing feasibility work and provide initial design proposals	October 2022
Complete design development/proposals	January 2023
Complete soft market testing	February 2023
Final proposal for buildings to the Council	May 2023
Development appraisal submitted to Council	May 2023
Independent external valuation	June 2023
Develop planning application/listed building consent application	September 2023
Enter in to option agreement	October 2023

2.4.3 Disposals and Acquisitions Policy

The Council's disposals and acquisitions policy states that:

“Disposals to nominated purchasers will be considered by the Council where this meets an identified regeneration, social or community need. All ‘off market’ disposals to nominated purchasers will be subject to an independent external valuation to determine best consideration.”

A future sale of the buildings to Thirteen would meet the criteria of delivering the regeneration of Huddersfield Town Centre by supporting delivery of the Blueprint vision, it would also meet an identified need for housing.

3. Estates Buildings and Somerset Buildings and future opportunities

3.1 The development of Estates Buildings and Somerset Buildings will represent the first phase of residential development in Huddersfield town centre, utilising existing Council assets to set the standard for a new type of residential development and demonstrating what can be achieved.

3.2 This proposal will be taken forward in tandem with works to make the Estates Building wind and watertight and protect the important historic features of the building which are also being brought before Cabinet in a separate report.

3.3 Plans for future phases of new homes in the town centre will be developed alongside taking Estates and Somerset forward, with the aim of increasing private sector residential development in the town centre. The Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan identifies zones in the town centre for future residential development opportunities, engagement with the market will take place to promote and support interest from investors and developers for this long term strategic ambition.

4. Options considered

4.1 Do nothing

An increased residential presence in the town centre is a key part of delivering the wider Blueprint vision – town centre residents are needed to support town centre retail and leisure uses, and in turn, these uses will draw further residents into Huddersfield in a mutually reinforcing way. Doing nothing with these buildings will mean that they remain empty and impact negatively on progress achieving the wider Blueprint vision.

4.2 Promote opportunity to the market

The opportunity at Estates Buildings was taken to the market in the past and there was limited interest. The focus of residential schemes to support the Blueprint is to deliver a high-quality product which meet or exceed nationally described space standards, and which aims to retain graduates and draw a wider demographic in to Huddersfield to live in the town centre. This approach is untested in Huddersfield and feedback from high level feasibility and market testing is that the market is unlikely to deliver this approach on its own initiative.

Furthermore, if the buildings are disposed of to the market, it is difficult for the Council to control when the homes are delivering and quality standards.

In addition, engaging with the market would take longer than progressing an exclusivity period with Thirteen. The additional time incurred would be at least six months and would be difficult if not impossible to resource given existing resource pressures which exist within Housing Growth due to the pressures on wider projects to deliver housing across the district. Working with Thirteen offers the opportunity to progress delivery more quickly and with significantly less resource implication and resultant negative impact.

Delivering this first phase of development with Thirteen will stimulate interest from a broader market of investors and developers for the wider opportunity for residential growth in the second phase.

4.3 Work with Thirteen

Working with Thirteen provides a unique opportunity for the Council to work with a trusted existing partner who has significant Homes England resources and experience of town centre residential regeneration. It allows the Council to influence a scheme and be party to the outputs and benefits (e.g., plans, feasibility and market work) without having to commit expenditure and significant staffing resources to promote and deliver a scheme via the market where it is unlikely to be successful. It also provides the opportunity to secure other benefits, including social value via training and apprenticeship opportunities, and to utilise Thirteen's proactive approach towards carbon reduction in their schemes.

Working with Thirteen provides an opportunity to deliver a first phase of development which will set the standard for what can be achieved in the town centre, opening the door for a second phase of development led by the private sector in the wider town centre.

The outputs of the study will be available to the Council and if Thirteen were to choose not to proceed at the end of an exclusivity period, the market option could be pursued as an alternative.

5.0 Risks to the Council

The risks to the Council are as follows:

Project does not proceed with Thirteen following proposed exclusivity/option period – initial feasibility work undertaken by the Council demonstrates that in the current market, the

viability of delivering these buildings for housing is likely to be challenging. However, Thirteen have significant financial resources from Homes England, some of which they have ring fenced for Huddersfield town centre, and they do not have the same profit drivers/targets of a mass market developer. In the case that they do not proceed, the Council will have potentially lost time, but not money, as it will be a requirement that Thirteen fund the feasibility work and make the outputs (plans, reports) and associated intellectual property rights available to the Council.

It should be noted that the proposal to grant Thirteen an exclusivity period is running in parallel with the proposed shell repair (wind and water tight scheme) which is being progressed by the Council's Town Centre team and plans for working with the market to promote phase 2 opportunities.

Other developer interest in these buildings – to date, interest from developers capable of delivering high quality schemes with the type of design standards which the Council is seeking in these strategic locations has been very limited. The market for a high quality residential product in Huddersfield Town Centre is seen as untested, and currently the opportunities which exists are seen as relatively small by developers who work in this type of market, therefore it is challenging to get them to engage. There may be some interest from other Housing Associations however these are unlikely to have the capacity and benefits of being a Homes England Strategic Partner which supports an ambitious development programme, alongside Town Centre regeneration expertise and funding commitment needed for these complex buildings.

6.0 Implications for the Council

6.1 Working with People

The proposed approach to this programme of housing development will bring much needed high quality housing to the district including the potential for affordable homes. This project will provide housing that meets the needs of local people and helps to retain graduates within the district. Consultation and research has already been undertaken with students from Huddersfield University, and this has provided evidence of many student's aspiration to remain resident within Huddersfield town centre.

In addition, as part of the construction process, the benefits to the local supply chain and opportunities for apprenticeships and training will be maximised by the partner.

6.2 Working with Partners

The proposals will bring essential resources to the Kirklees district, as part of the Council's wider programme of housing growth. Thirteen is an ambitious and committed partner who's values align with the Councils, and with the highest possible rating from the Regulator of Social Housing who will bring vital resources to support the council in housing delivery, at a time when resources are stretched and staff with expertise in the housing delivery and wider development field are difficult to secure. The Council will also work with Homes England and West Yorkshire Combined Authority to maximise funding opportunities and meet our collective ambitions.

6.3 Place Based Working

As set out above, the proposals for residential development in these town centre locations supports the wider approach to delivery of the Blueprint and addresses specifically the need to provide housing to retain graduates and provide an affordable but quality housing product in Huddersfield Town Centre. In turn, increasing the number of residents in the town centre will help to support and sustain retail and leisure uses.

6.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

As set out in 2.4 above, housing development in these locations both provides and aims to create a market for town centre housing. It re-uses existing assets and is in a sustainable location within easy reach of strategic transport links via trains and buses. The proximity to town centre leisure and retail uses removes the need for car ownership. Thirteen are actively seeking to move to zero carbon ready development and are developing a prototype house type that delivers net zero carbon, they work actively with their suppliers, partners and contractors to reduce carbon in their supply chain. Thirteen's ongoing experience of delivering projects focusing on the zero-carbon agenda including retrofit to existing stock will support the ambition to maximise the use of green technologies in the town centre properties.

6.5 Improving outcomes for children

Not applicable

6.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

As set out in 6.4 above, new homes in Estates Buildings and Somerset Buildings will be located in a sustainable town centre location, with easy access to public transport and removing the expense of car ownership. Furthermore, Thirteen will use their existing expertise to make properties as energy efficient as possible, reducing costs for occupiers.

6.7 Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

The details of the financial and legal implications will be set out in the update report to Cabinet which will follow on from the detailed design and appraisal work needed to scope out the developments during the exclusivity period.

7.0 Next steps and timelines

The recommended approach is to enter into an exclusivity period with Thirteen in relation to Estate Buildings and Somerset Buildings for a period of 18 months (determinable by the Council after 12 months if significant progress against agreed milestones is not achieved).

The exclusivity period will include the milestones set out above, to include the following principles:

- If insufficient progress is made against the milestones, the Council will have the right to end the exclusivity agreement after 12 months
- Thirteen will be responsible for the costs of any work they undertake, including work commissioned externally from their organisation (e.g. architects, engineers etc).
- All outputs from the work will be shared with the Council and the Council will have the right to use any intellectual property including plans, feasibility and market work to take work on the buildings forward if Thirteen chose not to proceed
- If the Council choose not to proceed, they will meet Thirteen's reasonable costs for any externally commissioned work (e.g. architects, engineers) and any associated costs of transferring the intellectual property rights for this work to the Council.
- If Cabinet is minded to support the proposals, officers will work with Thirteen to progress next steps set out in 2.4.2 including development of an appraisal and a valuation for both buildings.

7.1 Update report

A further report will be brought back to Cabinet for consideration once substantial progress has been made. This will set out the plans proposed including the key features of the worked-up schemes and recommended disposal. This will be in advance of the Planning Application submission.

8.0 Officer recommendations and reasons

1. That Cabinet agrees 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 Cabinet delegate approval to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to terminate the exclusivity period after 12 months if substantive progress has not been made against the relevant milestones
3. That this arrangement will be the subject of an appropriate legal agreement, with milestones against which Thirteen have to make demonstrable progress.
4. Following on from the feasibility work and valuation report an update report will be brought back to Cabinet setting out the detail of the proposals, subject to Cabinet approval Thirteen would have the option to purchase Somerset and Estate Buildings at market value.
5. That Cabinet endorse the Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan – Appendix 1.

9.0 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

Cllr Graham Turner comments; I totally support the proposals and recommendations as set out above. Bringing people to live into the town centre will help regenerate the town centre and help create a better atmosphere.

Without a plan such as we have here the buildings will continue to deteriorate, and ultimately become more of a financial burden on the scarce resources of the council.

In Working with Thirteen we have a unique opportunity for the Council to work with a trusted existing partner who has significant Homes England resources and experience of town centre residential regeneration.

By signing an exclusivity deal with Thirteen we can work closely with them to bring life back in to both these buildings and develop much needed space for town centre living.

This also means that they are involved at the very early stage of the development, and the expertise they bring will be invaluable as we develop the plans for redeveloping these significant and important assets.

Not only will we provide much needed living space, but we will give these buildings a long-term future and protect them for future generations.

10.0 Contact officer

Liz Jefferson

Strategic Partnership Lead

Housing Growth and Regeneration

01484 221000

11.0 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Appendix 1. Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan

Huddersfield Blueprint

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g6505/Public%20reports%20pack%2022nd-Sep-2020%2015.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

12.0 Service Director responsible

Joanne Bartholomew

Service Director – Development



The
Huddersfield
Blueprint

A decade of ambition

HUDDERSFIELD
TOWN CENTRE
Living
Plan



 Kirklees
COUNCIL

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Our Blueprint vision for Huddersfield town centre living is:

“To create a vibrant community in Huddersfield town centre, attractive to young professionals, with strong connections to neighbouring cities and the Pennines.”

The Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan is a document that sets 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.

The Huddersfield Blueprint

The Huddersfield Blueprint is a ten-year vision to create a thriving, modern-day town centre. Huddersfield will be a busy, family-friendly town centre that stays open for longer with a unique culture, arts and leisure offer and a variety of thriving businesses. The scale of investment and transformation will improve the desirability of the town centre as a place to live, providing new opportunities for residential development.

This document outlines our vision for town centre living: it identifies sites and actions that can and will deliver real change in Huddersfield.

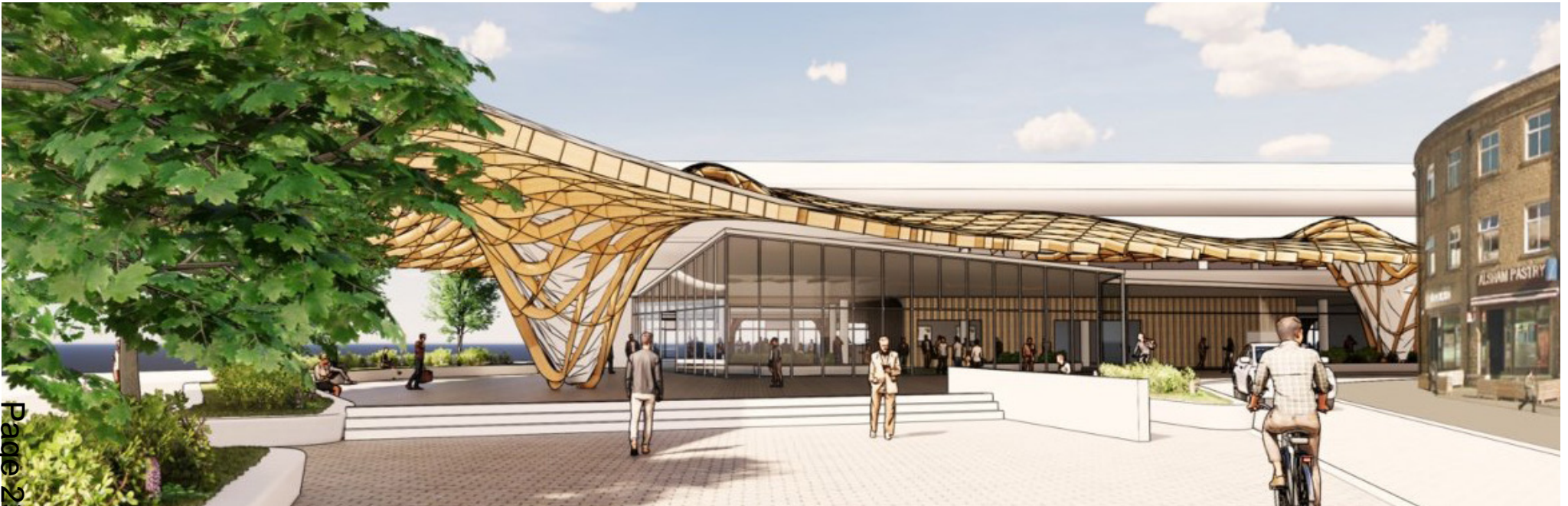
The Blueprint supports town centre living

High quality, inclusive and innovative culture, arts and leisure offers will improve the attractiveness of Huddersfield as a place to live. The reputation of the town centre as a culturally rich and aspirational living option will enhance the offer for prospective residents and businesses alike.

Town centre living supports the Blueprint

In turn, new residents and new residential spending will help to sustain planned development, and shape future culture, arts and leisure developments.





To make our vision a reality, we will deliver on these key objectives:

- 1** Increase opportunities to deliver a mix of town centre residential developments, including making best use of heritage buildings.
- 2** Deliver and support schemes that provide opportunities to buy and rent, improving the quality of accommodation across the town centre.
- 3** Boost the desirability of Huddersfield's housing market to potential residents and ensure affordable homes are built in the right places, based on housing market demand and needs.
- 4** Improve how the town centre looks, how accessible it is and enhance the quality of public spaces.
- 5** Deliver and support schemes that provide access to an attractive lifestyle with leisure, culture, shopping and dining at the heart of town centre living.





Opportunities: What does Huddersfield have to offer?

Excellent location

Huddersfield town centre is located centrally within the North of England, providing unrivalled access to the natural beauty of the Pennine uplands, as well as surrounding, cosmopolitan urban centres.

Huddersfield is the tenth largest town in the UK and plays an important regional role for business, retail, culture, industry, and education.

By train, you can reach Leeds in 24 minutes and Manchester in 35, with six trains an hour in each direction.

Recent upgrades to state-of-the-art rolling stock will see further investment with Network Rail's Transpennine Route Upgrade and Integrated Rail Plan, making Huddersfield even more attractive as a base for businesses or to commute from.

By car, Huddersfield is located close to the M62 for connections across the North of England and further afield. The town's bus station is one of the busiest and best served in West Yorkshire.

The Northern Powerhouse

NEWCASTLE



LEEDS



HULL



HUDDERSFIELD



LIVERPOOL



MANCHESTER



SHEFFIELD



What's unique about Huddersfield?

A place to work and study

Huddersfield is a significant commercial centre with major public and private sector employers including Kirklees Council, Huddersfield University, Brook Compton Motors, Cummins Turbo Technologies, Huddersfield Fine Worsteds, and LV Insurance.

Kirklees is home to 14,655 businesses, operating in sectors including advanced manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, medical technologies, and creative/digital industries. The borough was recently named the second-best place in the UK to set up and run a business, and as one of the largest concentrations of advanced manufacturing in the UK, Kirklees has a global reputation for excellence in innovation.

The University of Huddersfield also has over 17,000 students on its campus, which has received £250m investment in recent years.

A place to enjoy leisure time

The town's rich variety of independent and big-name retail draws shoppers from across the district and surrounding areas.

Huddersfield has been named in the top ten towns for post-pandemic spending with a 43% increase in offline sales compared to before the pandemic (Centre for Cities, Oct 2021).

Well-known retailers include: The Body Shop, House of Fraser, Swarovski, Next, Boots, Primark, Office and Pandora. Independent retailers include Crafty Praxis craft suppliers, Kapow Comics and Vinyl Tap record store.

Retail is changing and the need for variety in our town centres has never been more apparent. The council is committed to supporting the town centre economy by encouraging culture, leisure and residential development.

The spaces

Huddersfield, nestled in the stunning landscape of the Pennines, with its wealth of York stone listed buildings has the potential to create a town centre with a special sense of place.

Stand out areas include: St Peter's Gardens and St George's Square, outside the Grade I Listed Huddersfield Rail Station, will make for unrivalled leisure and residential development. Byram Arcade is a hub for independent retail and hosts exhibitions and craft fairs.

Open spaces and impressive landmarks such as Castle Hill and Greenhead Park are just a short distance from the town centre. Further afield, the Pennine Way and country walks from Marsden and Holmfirth, represent the best of the English countryside.



The lifestyle

The town centre offers a vibrant mix of culture, heritage, dining, and nightlife.

From Shakespeare to panto at The Lawrence Batley Theatre and exhibitions in the art gallery and library, Huddersfield is rich in culture all year round. Add this to, annual events such as the Huddersfield Carnival, Literature, Contemporary Music and Food and Drink festivals, and the calendar of events at the University of Huddersfield to make the town a destination of choice. Creatives share activities and events in Huddersfield and the wider borough via Creative Kirklees.

The planned Cultural Heart project, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint, will function as a cultural hub for the town where families, visitors and residents can gather and enjoy leisure, arts, and music, with activities spilling out into high-quality public spaces. Crucially, this will bring new people into the town centre.

There is a thriving night-time scene in the town centre with restaurants and bars, many hosting live music events. A planned new cinema in the Kingsgate Centre will further enhance the range of leisure in the town centre.

Our Key Partners

Kirklees Council is committed to bringing high-quality, affordable residential development to the town centre.

Kirklees Council are not the only investors in the town centre. Partners such as the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Network Rail and National Highways are bringing forward investment proposals and collaborating with the council to support our ambitions.

Opportunities exist to attract further investment from private/institutional investors and registered providers.

Opportunities to increase demand for residential growth:

- Graduate retention.
- Opportunity for better value, town centre living for commuters to Leeds/Manchester.
- Growth in demand for retirement living.
- Growth in appetite for rental.
- Quantity and quality of characterful buildings with repurposing potential.
- Huddersfield Blueprint - strong public sector support for public sector led schemes.
- Surplus properties with no council debt/lease costs.

Why is town centre living important to the council?

A vibrant and thriving town centre living scene, not only contributes to sustaining local economies, but also helps the council to achieve its wider aims including ensuring resident access to local services.

Urban sites also allow for higher densities, facilitating more sustainable travel and efficient use of highways capacity while promoting low-carbon development. Encouraging more people to walk or cycle promotes physical activity and social connectedness.

The restoration and re-use of heritage buildings within the town centre can help protect the character and distinctiveness of Huddersfield, while being efficient, low-carbon developments.

What is the Huddersfield Blueprint and why does it matter?

The Huddersfield Blueprint sets out a clear vision for positive change in Huddersfield town centre.

An improved lifestyle and visitor offer will be supported by focusing on the key objectives:

- **Thriving:** pride in its culture and heritage, creative and vibrant. Increased evening economy, music venues, arts, food offers, a varied retail offer.
- **Quality environment:** enjoyable green spaces, fewer cars, and improved walking/cycling links.
- **Inclusive:** family friendly, safe and welcoming. Affordable, intergenerational homes in pleasant, well-connected areas.
- **Reuse of historic buildings:** to promote and celebrate heritage.
- **Supporting professionals and businesses:** Retention of graduates. Well connected, attractive to investors and companies.

Housing within the Blueprint

A key element of the Blueprint is the vision of a town that is a home for all. We want quality, affordable homes in pleasant and convenient areas at the centre of our town. Building strong and healthy communities is at the heart of everything we do, and we believe that homes within the town centre can help locals easily access their jobs and support enjoyable lifestyles.

We will encourage more town centre living to bring an energy to the town centre. We want to celebrate our rich diversity and see Huddersfield as a shared home that is welcoming and inclusive.

We want to explore all opportunities to increase living in the town centre including the use of upper floors and the reuse of the town's heritage stock. Opportunities to appeal to the creative industries are also being explored. The 'Creative Lofts' is one example of innovative live-work units, with 21 units housed in the former Mechanics Institute building, managed by The Media Centre for Places for People Group.



A decade of ambition

Cultural Heart

Huddersfield's new vibrant Cultural Heart will be a catalyst for change in the town and is the most iconic vision within the Blueprint.

The Cultural Heart, with its town park, will be built around the Queensgate and library buildings. It will include a library, art gallery, museum and live entertainment venue.

This will be supported by restaurants, bars, cafés, and the Lawrence Batley Theatre. The removal of buildings around the Piazza area will create a large, family-friendly open space for people to gather with lawns, water features and seating steps.

Huddersfield residential market

Huddersfield provides numerous opportunities to create a mix of town centre living opportunities through both conversion and new build developments, with support from Kirklees Council to see the project through.

The town is primed to become the location of choice for anyone looking for an affordable but well-connected alternative to Leeds or Manchester.

Young professionals will have the option of commuting to larger centres whilst benefitting from the culture, heritage and natural beauty of Huddersfield and Kirklees.

The lifestyle that Huddersfield town centre living can offer will be desirable to our target market and others including students and downsizers.

Appendix A contains specific market data of sales and rental figures achieved from recent residential development in and around Huddersfield town centre.

Viability challenges and funding opportunities

It is acknowledged that the historic and sometimes challenging nature of some of the building and areas within Huddersfield town centre pose potential viability issues for some development.

The council is committed to working with partners at Homes England, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Historic England to unlock the potential of town centre living.





Opportunities: Development sites and opportunity areas

Kirklees Council and partners are committed to supporting town centre residential development and delivery of the wider Blueprint plans.

Some town centre land and assets have already been identified, while other opportunities are expected to come forward in the near future.

These fall into two broad categories:

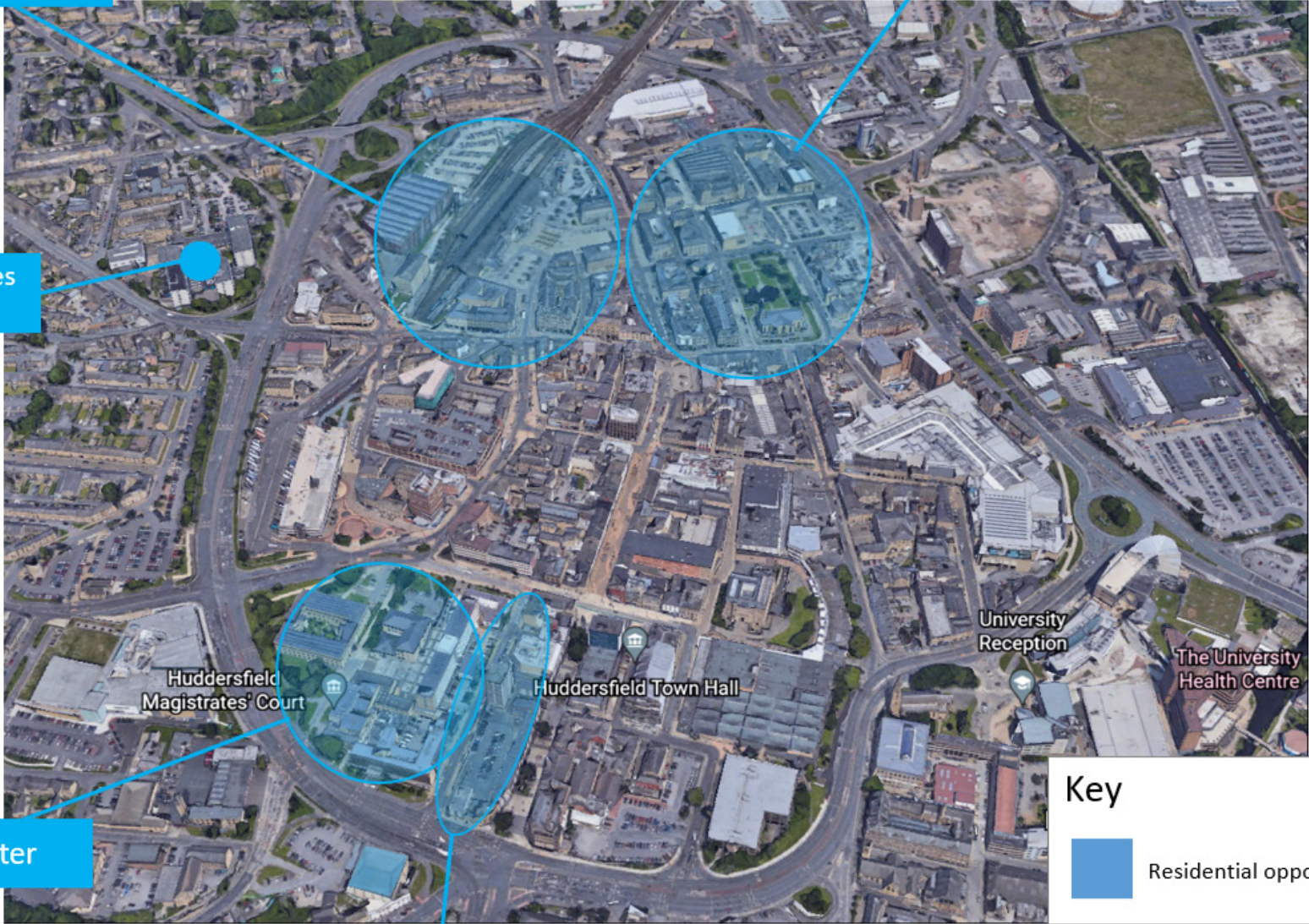
Development sites are more likely to come forward first and in early phases due to being either council owned, identified as surplus or having potential for development in the near future.

Opportunity areas are where opportunities may exist beyond the identified development sites. A mixture of council and privately owned sites where there is a strong potential market area, but less certainty at present.

Station Gateway

St Peter's Area

Former Kirklees College Site



Key



Residential opportunity areas



Station Gateway

The Station Gateway area encapsulates the railway station and St George's Square, as well as St George's Warehouse to the west.

In days gone by, the station building and surrounding offices, shops, and the iconic George Hotel, were the most elegant of destinations. These proud buildings and their history remain, but time has moved on and new opportunities may exist in this area.

Restored to its former glory, this area of the town centre has the potential to be the jewel in the crown again and attract today's discerning residents, businesses, and visitors.

St Peter's

The area surrounding St Peter's Church is where the 19th century layout and architecture of Huddersfield is most preserved and apparent.

Independent retail units are located along Wood Street, whilst cafes and restaurants have adopted a pavement café culture. The open market has a traditional appeal and the detailing and architecture in the area gives it a community feel.

The area is already a favourite of creatives due to the unspoilt nature of the buildings and neighbourhood appeal of the area. Thoughtful developments and improvements to enhance the historic charm would allow this area to thrive as a town centre community.

The Huddersfield Blueprint identifies the likelihood that the post office and sorting depot could come forward for future residential development to offer the opportunity to develop contemporary living in the short to medium term.





New Street

New Street is split into two distinct halves, both physically and economically. New Street (north) is pedestrianised with a variety of small to medium shops. New Street (south) is fronted by larger, more monolithic buildings, but is more enclosed with trees and planters, and is already a 'greener' street.

The Blueprint envisages New Street (south) to be leafy and green, with pleasant spots to stop and enjoy the fresh air. Long views to the open countryside will be maintained and a welcoming space, with cafes and communal areas for locals to enjoy will be added.

In 2021, Kirklees Council committed to the upgrade of Buxton House, a local authority housing block. There are residential possibilities on New Street (south), for example, there are some 1970s buildings which, in the longer term, could provide an interesting split level residential development. The 1930s Co-Operative building at 103 New Street, is a large-scale conversion that is taking place in this area.



Civic Quarter

The Civic Quarter is at the northern end of the ring road near Huddersfield Leisure Centre, Kirklees College and the University. In the 1960s, Huddersfield underwent the biggest redevelopment in recent history, with the introduction of several civic buildings including the council and municipal buildings off Castlegate.

Over time, the site has been further developed, setting newer buildings in a mature setting. Though there are no current intentions to vacate or redevelop the site, in the long term it is acknowledged that changes could be made that bring forward land which could be used to deliver residential development, alongside remodelled council buildings.

Actions: What is being done to achieve the vision?

To achieve the vision and objectives set out in this document, specific actions are set out below to demonstrate what has already been done, what is planned, and the opportunities for investors to get involved in working with the council on delivery.

Key Contacts

Joanne Bartholomew
Service Director for Development
joanne.bartholomew@kirklees.gov.uk

Adele Buckley
Head of Housing Growth and
Regeneration
adele.buckley@kirklees.gov.uk

Liz Jefferson
Strategic Partnership Lead
liz.jefferson@kirklees.gov.uk

Objective 1

Increase opportunities to deliver a mix of town centre residential developments, including making best use of heritage buildings.

Actions/Opportunities

We will continue to work with our funder partners to invest in our town centre. Working with Historic England, our HAZ programme is supporting remedial works on projects in St. George's Square, such as the George Hotel. Council assets, such as Buxton House, will be used to attract residential investment.

The council is using its own grant programmes and HiHAZ funding to support small scale investment in shops and hospitality to support the redevelopment of heritage buildings and make the town centre a better place to live, work, and play.

Objective 2

Deliver and support schemes that provide opportunities to buy and rent, improving the quality of accommodation across the town centre.

Actions/Opportunities

Refurbishment of council owned residential buildings and scoping potential sites within the opportunity areas.

Objective 3

Boost the desirability of Huddersfield's housing market to potential residents and ensure affordable homes are built in the right places based on housing market demand and needs.

Actions/Opportunities

Build on the foundations laid by this plan through attracting investment, supporting partners and marketing the town centre living opportunities.

Objective 4

Improve how the town centre looks, how accessible it is and enhance the quality of public spaces.

Actions/Opportunities

- Significant investment is already underway to improve the attractiveness of the town centre. Funding from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will support public realm improvements in New Street and other central locations to create a cleaner and greener town centre.
- Investment in new 'golden routes' will safely link key areas of the town, such as the railway station, the university, John Smith's stadium, and the proposed Cultural Heart. Cycling and active travel will be promoted, with new, safe pedestrian and cycling routes on key roads such as Northumberland Street.
- New, safe, and green open spaces will be established, including a new town centre park, creating a new, space for families to gather and enjoy the town centre.

Objective 5

Deliver and support schemes that provide access to an attractive lifestyle with leisure, culture, shopping and dining at the heart of town centre living.

Actions/Opportunities

- The Huddersfield Blueprint will guide investment of over £250 million in Huddersfield town centre. The centre piece of the Blueprint is the creation of a new Cultural Heart.
- New retail and hospitality opportunities will focus on local, high-quality provision, with local businesses supported by the council's business team through grants and advice.

Appendix A:

Huddersfield Housing Market Data

Information taken from a recent report commissioned by Kirklees Council.

Residential market context

- The national housing market remains generally strong at the end of 2020 however, the outlook for 2021 is uncertain due to economic volatility and the removal of the Stamp Duty Land Tax holiday and Help to Buy from the end March 2021.
- The Build to Rent sector is enjoying significant growth in the regions outside London, which is forecast to continue, supported by funds diversifying product into new locations and new accommodation types.
- There are indications of residents seeking to move out of city centre locations into more spacious areas given the reduced dependency on daily commuting resulting from remote working practices.

The Huddersfield residential market

- According to the council's recent Arc4 town centre housing market assessment, there are 1,387 households in the town centre area, 55.1% of which are private rented, 23% owner occupied and the rest, affordable housing.
- 67% of dwellings are flats and over 50% of all properties have only one bedroom.
- The age profile shows an above average representation of young people – 76.7% are under 40 years compared with 50.7% for Kirklees.
- Cameo market segmentation profiles show 87.7% of residents are categorised as young couples/singles living in rented accommodation.
- Students have a substantial influence on the Huddersfield housing market.
- Most households are below average income.

Sales analysis

- The average price for an apartment in Huddersfield town centre over the last 12-month period was £126,600, 10 sales were recorded.
- The apartment market is relatively small with only 127 apartment sales across the wider Huddersfield housing market, representing just 6% of all sales.
- Analysis of new build and re-sale transactions on purpose built or renovated properties indicates a range of revenues from £75 per square foot to £288 per square foot.
- The Melting Point is a scheme which is close to the town centre and has achieved average revenues of £240 psf, with many of these properties having been purchased by private landlords and let to tenants.

Appendix A: Continued...

Rental analysis

- There is a significant private rented market within Huddersfield town centre, reinforced by the student population.
- The quality of accommodation is varied although mostly second hand with limited new/purpose built or refurbished properties, one exception being the Melting Point which offers a high specification with generous grounds and parking.
- Average asking rents for one-bedroom flats range from £352 pcm at Egerton Grove to £789 pcm at the Melting Point. Values for two-bedroom flats range from £420 at Henry Street to £850 at the Melting Point.
- There are several schemes in the pipeline for the town centre including a 45-unit scheme by Threadneedle.

Key projects for comparison

There are a wide range of examples of recent, successful residential repurposing projects across the North of England in similar location / markets. A key feature on all of these was the high-quality specification of the accommodation. Another theme was the prevalent role of the public sector working alongside developers to address viability gaps and deliver the added value and quality that is sought.

Many schemes were developed in fragile markets where the viability and risk issues necessitated public sector backing. Examples of this are Conditioning House in Bradford, delivered with no affordable housing (despite the prevailing policy target of 15%), and a grant from West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Vimto Gardens in Salford was delivered by Muse Developments under an innovative structure that enabled cross subsidy from the more viable New Bailey development on the fringe of Manchester City Centre. Weir Mill in Stockport, renovated by Capital and Centric was delivered with a Homes England funding commitment of £7million alongside local authority investment via borrowing.

Land Registry House Price Index Data

POSTCODE	DETACHED	SEMI DETACHED	TERRACED	FLAT/MAISONETTE	OVERALL AVERAGE
HD	£318,478 (553 sales)	£178,171 (633 sales)	£132,746 (835 sales)	£113,499 (127 sales)	£192,811 (2148 sales)
HD1	£226,650 (13 sales)	£181,405 (21 sales)	£96,787 (51 sales)	£126,600 (10 sales)	£136,401 (95 sales)
HD2	£286,693 (63 sales)	£143,604 (58 sales)	£102,645 (66 sales)	£121,200 (10 sales)	£174,504 (197 sales)
HD3	£273,157 (66 sales)	£185,372 (83 sales)	£134,034 (113 sales)	£102,968 (25 sales)	£178,168 (287 sales)
HD4	£325,206 (31 sales)	£166,684 (71 sales)	£111,442 (89 sales)	£72,556 (9 sales)	£162,436 (200 sales)
HD5	£249,432 (38 sales)	£155,601 (106 sales)	£106,189 (79 sales)	£91,250 (2 sales)	£153,527 (225 sales)
HX3	£380,372 (43 sales)	£187,002 (96 sales)	£132,517 (177 sales)	£131,159 (22 sales)	£179,435 (338 sales)
HX4	£334,250 (18 sales)	£224,071 (21 sales)	£166,337 (49 sales)	£157,500 (4 sales)	£211,984 (92 sales)
HX5	£314,832 (14 sales)	£181,750 (20 sales)	£104,063 (34 sales)	£117,889 (9 sales)	£164,179 (77 sales)
BD19	£290,608 (57 sales)	£158,541 (59 sales)	£123,435 (61 sales)	£118,933 (12 sales)	£184,526 (189 sales)
WF14	£350,781 (53 sales)	£189,590 (79 sales)	£138,125 (40 sales)	£198,000 (9 sales)	£225,834 (181 sales)
WF15	£273,179 (27 sales)	£156,336 (37 sales)	£125,734 (64 sales)	£112,250 (2 sales)	£165,852 (130 sales)

The table shows the average house prices for each house type in the HD, HD1, HD2, HD3, HD4, HD5 postcode sectors of Huddersfield and surrounding post code areas of HX3, HX4, HX5, BD14, WF14 and WF15.

The areas covered by these postcode sectors are shown on the map in Figure 1.



Figure 1 Postcode Areas on a map. Source: gbmmaps (2018).



Resale Prices on Apartment Schemes



The Melting Point, HD1

Average sold price - £125,792

Average price per sq ft - £240

Average price per sq m - £2,115

Sizes range from 35 sqm to 65 sqm
(377 sq ft to 700 sq ft)

Designated parking space



Kings Court, Kings Mill Lane, HD1

Average sold price - £128,107

Average price per sq ft - £168

Average price per sq m - £1,812

Sizes range from 62 sqm to 82 sqm
(667 sq ft to 883 sq ft)

Designated parking space and
communal gardens



Parkwood Mills, Longwood, HD3

Average sold price - £85,167

Average price per sq ft - £152

Average price per sq m - £1,638

Sizes of properties are 52 sqm
(560 sq ft)

Designated parking space

Resale Prices on Apartment Schemes



Waterside Mill, Longwood, HD3

Average sold price - £129,279

Average price per sq ft - £186

Average price per sq m - £2,002

Sizes range from 66 sqm to 69 sqm
(710 sq ft to 743 sq ft)

Designated parking space



Equilibrium, Lindley, HD3

Average sold price - £89,213

Average price per sq ft - £158

Average price per sq m - £1,698

Sizes range from 44 sqm to 59 sqm
(474 sq ft to 635 sq ft)

Designated parking space



The Mill Apartments, Almondbury, HD4

Average sold price - £195,800

Average price per sq ft - £228

Average price per sq m - £2,455

Sizes range from 67 sqm to 89 sqm
(721 sq ft to 958 sq ft)

Designated parking space

Resale Prices on Apartment Schemes



The Ironworks, Birkhouse Lane, HD4

Average sold price - £70,333

Average price per sq ft - £115

Average price per sq m - £1,240

Sizes range from 61 sqm to 68 sqm
(657 sq ft to 732 sq ft)

Designated parking space



Mills, Linthwaite, HD7

Average sold price - £100,419

Average price per sq ft - £127

Average price per sq m - £1,366

Sizes range from 47 sqm to 126 sqm
(506 sq ft to 1,356 sq ft)

Designated parking space



Heritage Mills, Golcar, HD7

Average sold price - £87,474

Average price per sq ft - £132

Average price per sq m - £1,424

Sizes range from 49 sqm to 107 sqm
(527 sq ft to 1,152 sq ft)

Designated parking space

Rental Market

According to evidence produced by Home, the average market rent in Huddersfield is £735 per calendar month, and the median market rent is £594 per calendar month.

The table below benchmarks Huddersfield’s rental performance against other towns and cities in West Yorkshire, suggesting that after Leeds, Huddersfield is broadly comparable to the other West Yorkshire centres in terms of median rents.

Target values

Based on research and consultation with agents and developers, it is considered that sales values of between £90,000 - £100,000 would be achievable in the town centre for 1-bed apartments and £110,000 - £130,000 for 2-bed apartments.

For rental values £500-£550 would be achievable for 1-bed apartments and £700-£800 pcm for 2-bed apartments in Huddersfield town centre.

These values reflect the upper end of what is currently being achieved in Huddersfield and are substantially below the average levels in the nearby city centres of Leeds and Manchester, offering a distinct price advantage, even allowing for likely commuting costs.

AREA	NUMBER OF FLATS	AVERAGE RENT	MEDIUM RENT
Huddersfield	149	£735	£594
Halifax	40	£463	£451
Wakefield	37	£557	£589
Leeds	1,799	£910	£793
Bradford	223	£540	£524
Dewsbury	21	£463	£587

Table 2 – Average rents for flats in West Yorkshire towns.
Source: Home (https://www.home.co.uk/for_rent/current_rents_by_town.htm),

Appendix B:

The Planning Context

Planning policy context

The Huddersfield Town Centre Living Plan is supported by national and local planning policies as well as other council strategies and plans aiming to shape development and growth in the district.

At national level, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012, revised 2021) aims to simplify and streamline the planning process and facilitate development and growth with an emphasis on sustainability, with the creation of thriving town centres as a key aspect underpinning these intentions.

Certain types of development are also determined in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. This statutory instrument allows for a range of developments that are assessed against the regulations rather than local planning

policies. These can include significant changes such as the conversion of office buildings to residential.

At the local level, development within Huddersfield town centre is guided by a number of planning documents that make up the development plan, including the Local Plan (adopted 2019) which allocated specific sites for development and sets out overall targets and requirements on a number of key areas including housing, employment, and the environment, as well as setting out policies that will be used to guide planning applications to ensure proposals meet these targets and requirements.

To supplement the local plan on key areas there are several Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) that provide more focused guidance on specific topics such as affordable housing, house building, highways design and open spaces.

These local planning policies interlink with other council strategies including the Kirklees Council Plan 2021/23; Kirklees Housing Strategy 2018-23; Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS); and Kirklees Economic Strategy, which underpin future development of the district.

Planning policy will be used as a tool to shape the development of Huddersfield town centre, supporting our vision and the key objectives which have been identified.

Appendix B:

The Planning Context

OBJECTIVE	Increase opportunities for town centre residential
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver new housing sites within the town centre • Support the reuse of heritage buildings • Support the growing student population
POLICY CONTEXT	<p>NPPF Chapter 2 underpins the importance of the planning system in achieving sustainable development by meeting economic, social, and environmental objectives. Chapter 5 sets out the importance of delivering sufficient housing in line with identified needs. Chapter 7 recognises that residential development can play an important role in ensuring vitality of centres and residential development should be encouraged. Chapter 11 states that strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs in a way that makes use of previously developed land.</p> <p>Local Plan Spatial Development Strategy sets out annual housing requirements of 1,730 dwellings per annum for the district. Policy LP1 sets out the presumption in favour of sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF. Policy LP3 directs growth to the most sustainable locations. Policy LP7 encourages reuse of vacant or underused properties and supports higher densities in principal town centres and areas benefiting from greater public transport infrastructure. Policy LP35 seeks to preserve or enhance the significance of heritage assets.</p>

Appendix B:

The Planning Context

OBJECTIVE	Diversify and improve local housing offering
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a greater diversity of housing tenure to support needs • Improve the quality of housing in the town centre • Improve accessibility and affordability of housing
POLICY CONTEXT	<p>NPPF Chapter 5 states that the size, type, and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies including housing need of students, older people and those requiring affordable housing.</p> <p>Local Plan Policy LP11 sets out the need for housing proposals to provide a mix (size and tenure) of housing suitable for different household types which reflect changes in household composition in Kirklees in the types of dwelling they provide, considering the latest evidence of the need for different types of housing.</p> <p>The Interim Affordable Housing Policy (2020) supplements Local Plan Policy LP11 and sets out that the Council will negotiate for the inclusion of affordable homes on developments of more than 10 units with a minimum target of 20% subject to viability. Affordable housing should cater to the identified affordable need in terms of type, tenure, size, and suitability.</p> <p>The Housebuilders Design Guide SPD provides further guidance on what constitutes good residential design and seeks to raise the quality of housing that is delivered in the district. The primary aim is to ensure that the district's future housing development has the required high-quality and socially inclusive design to help deliver quality places.</p>

Appendix B: The Planning Context

OBJECTIVE	<p>Improve the quality and accessibility of the townscape</p>
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a livable town centre • Improve the public realm
POLICY CONTEXT	<p>NPPF Chapter 8 encourages the creation of healthy, inclusive, and safe communities which promote social interaction, are accessible and enable and support healthy lifestyles. Chapter 12 supports the creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings, and places through good design. Chapter 16 seeks to conserve and enhance the historic environment including heritage assets</p> <p>Local Plan Policy LP17 supports development within Huddersfield town centre on the basis that it preserves and enhances the towns cultural and architectural heritage and open spaces and connections to them; provides a safe, welcoming, inclusive destination for people of all ages to visit throughout the day; and provides space for town centre residential living. Edge of centre proposals shall include enhanced connections to the town centre. Policy LP20 promotes sustainable travel and a reduced reliance on private car use. Policy LP22 seeks to reduce long stay town centre parking in favour of sustainable transport opportunities. Policy LP24 underlines the importance of good quality design in providing high quality developments which respect the character of the local environment and deliver good standards of amenity. Developments should reduce the risk of crime by good design and ensure needs of different users are met including disabled people, older people, and families.</p>

Appendix B:

The Planning Context

OBJECTIVE	Support access to leisure, culture, and retail
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve the attractiveness of living in the town centre
POLICY CONTEXT	<p>NPPF Chapter 8 seeks to ensure appropriate social, recreational, and cultural facilities and services are delivered through the planning system.</p> <p>Local Plan Policy LP15 supports residential development in the town centre on the basis that the retail offering and commercial character of the centre is preserved. Development should retain and enhance the design and heritage of buildings whilst providing good amenity to existing and future residents. Policy LP48 supports provision of community facilities in accessible locations where they can minimise the need to travel or they can be made accessible by walking, cycling and public transport. This will normally be in town, district, or local centres.</p>



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 **Kirklees**
COUNCIL





Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 26th July 2022

Title of report: Capital Scheme for specialist accommodation at the former Children’s Place Nursery Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe - Young Peoples Activity Team Reprovision

Purpose of report: To seek approval to proceed with above capital scheme from the Children’s Service Best Start Capital Programme.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes Capital spend over £250k
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – Yes 06.06.2022 Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs – 09.06.2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston – 13.07.2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft – 11.07.2022
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr V Kendrick - Children & Cllr C Pattison - Learning, Aspiration & Communities

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Cllr Mumtaz Hussain, Cllr Darren O'Donovan and Cllr Mussarat Pervaiz and the newly elected Cllr Ammar Anwar

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes - there are no GDPR implications relating to this report. The Key Decision Notice was published on 06.06.2022;

[Issue details - Young Peoples Activity Team - New Premises Proposal | Kirklees Council](#)

1. Summary

1.1 It is a council priority to provide the best possible support for Kirklees families affected by Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. These proposals for the Young People's Activity Team form one element of our wider transformation of SEND services and aims to ensure some of our most vulnerable children and young people are able to enjoy high-quality facilities which make a lasting difference in their lives. Kirklees SEND provision is undergoing large scale transformation. This includes securing major new investment and creating two new state-of-the-art special school facilities at a cost of over £30million.

1.2 The Young Peoples Activity Team short breaks service supports disabled children and young people aged 5 to 18 with profound and complex needs. The service comprises of;

- After school clubs - which operate term time evenings between 3pm and 6.30pm.
- Weekend clubs - which run year round (except bank holidays) between 10am and 2pm.
- Play schemes - which run in school holidays Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

1.3 The Young Peoples Activity Team short break service is currently run from a large council owned building on Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe, on the edge of an industrial estate. The building has been shared with Adult Services, learning disability day service provision for over 15 years. The building requires significant investment, Adult Service and Children's Service are both proposing to leave the Havelock Street building.

1.4 The initial outline capital business case was approved by Cabinet 29th January 2019 for inclusion in 'Best Start Strategic Priorities, Children with a Disability provision' - Capital Budget 2019/20 to 2024/25. The Council Budget Report 2022/23 'Specialist Accommodation/Youth Services' programme budget, was approved on the 16th Feb 2022 (page 83) funding will be drawn down against this programme budget.

1.5 Children's Service, Best Start capital funding has an allocation of £5 million for the development of children with a disability services; Young Peoples Activity Team (short breaks), Elm Grove (long term) and Orchard View (short breaks) children's homes.

1.6 The new premises, the council owned former Children's Place nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe, is located within 300 metre from the current location, behind the Greenwood Centre and will set a new quality standard for short breaks provision in Kirklees. Once the project is complete, the Young Peoples Activity Team will move to the new premises and vacate the Havelock Street building, leaving Adult Services as the sole tenant and provide an opportunity for them to utilise the whole building. In the short term Adult Service will utilise the whole building to meet an increase in demand post pandemic, enabling them to meet the needs of more complex adults with

learning disabilities. Long term Adult Services are exploring future options, which include potentially leaving the Havelock Street building.

1.7 By investing in vulnerable children and young people, we support them to achieve the best possible outcomes. These proposals are designed to help children and young people thrive and enjoy the best start in life.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 The need for new premises was identified several years ago. Four potential council owned sites were identified. Each site was evaluated against the needs of the service, the families and the disabled children and young people who access the service.

2.2 The former Children's Place nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe has been selected as the best option because of its location, it is very close to the current building which will minimise disruption to the disabled children and young people who attend and parents. The building size is ideal, the accessibility offered by a single storey building located on a level site with a secure enclosed outdoor play area made the former Children's Place nursery the ideal preferred choice. The Westtown family Centre, Dewsbury was considered and deemed less favourable due to the challenging topography of the site. The Mansion, Cow Nest Park was considered and deemed less favourable due to its, size, location and being a listed building which would limit the adaptations needed to meet the needs of the disabled children.

2.3 The Young People Activity Team - building design proposal is attached as **Appendix 1**. The building design has been developed in partnership with the Young Peoples Activity Team, management and staff. This proposal has been developed in partnership with a wide range of partners, including disabled children and young people, parents, Children's Service and the Capital Delivery Team.

2.4 Detailed designs have identified an estimated outturn cost of up to £1,358,353 Cabinet approval is now requested to agree and release the sum in order that appropriate tenders can be sought and the works progress.

2.5 The proposed investment required in the empty council owned building represents best value for money, creating a much needed specialist care and support facilities for our most vulnerable disabled children and young people.

2.6 The new premises will provide significantly improved facilities, offering a high quality short breaks service, capable of meeting the current and future needs of the growing range of our most disabled children and young people for many years to come. The new premises also provides an opportunity for the facilities to be used for new, additional and alternative uses, for example; parental support meetings, training sessions, and the further development of the short breaks offer. Our ambition is to identify and establish a second Young Peoples Activity Team building in south Kirklees, providing an easy to

access specialist short breaks service for our most disabled children and young people covering all Kirklees.

2.7 The Young Peoples Activity Team budget (£571K) was cut completely in 2017/18. The budget was partly reinstated (£417k) the following year 2018/19 on a speculative basis pending a review. The Young Peoples Activity Team budget received an additional (£82k) in 2019/20 to address the overspend in the previous year. However, there has been no changes since. The two site Young Peoples Activity Team proposal will be delivered within the current revenue funding. The service has sufficient staffing/revenue funding to run both buildings, the need is for bespoke facilities that are best able to meet the needs of our most disabled children.

2.8 Children's Service are progressing with the implementation of the modernisation programme which includes the redesign of the Young People Activity Team within the expanded short breaks offer. It is clear the Young Peoples Activity Team will have a vital role within the short breaks market, meeting the needs of our most complex and disabled children and young people. A separate report will be brought before cabinet in the near future. The urgent need for a new building for the Young Peoples Activity Team means we cannot wait for the report to be completed. We aim to complete the redesign of the Young People Activity Team before the new building opens in Summer 2023.

3. Implications for the Council

The Council's capital budget plans support the overall delivery of the following Council objectives and priorities within available resources:

- i) Best Start
- ii) Well
- iii) Independent
- iv) Aspire and achieve
- v) Sustainable economy
- vi) Safe and cohesive
- vii) Clean and Green
- viii) Efficient and Effective

3.1 Working with People

There will be a positive impact on the parents, carers and families' members and also for staff.

3.2 Working with Partners

There will be a positive impact for relevant health partners by working in partnership. We will be better placed to meet the needs of our most complex disabled children and young people.

3.3 Place Based Working

There will be a positive impact for families as care provision is delivered closer to home.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

There will be a reduction in emissions from delivering the service from a more energy efficient building. There will be a neutral impact on transport.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

There will be a positive impact on disabled children and young people and parents

3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

There will be no financial impact on families and staff as the new building facility is located within 500 metre of the old facility.

3.7 Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

The capital investment of up to £1,358,353 is budgeted for within the overall Best Start Capital Programme. The scheme is primarily funded from Council borrowing. The revenue cost of delivering the Young Peoples Activity Team short breaks service has been built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

External funding opportunities from the Department of Education have been explored, none have been identified. The impact of this proposal on current revenue funding is neutral.

The Council must comply with its duty of Best Value ;and the procurement of works and award of contract(s) to implement the proposed capital investment will be carried out under the officer scheme of delegation/delegations to the Strategic Director for Children Services in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules 2022 and Contract Procedure rules 2022

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

Members should have due regard to the Integrated Impact assessment screening tool at **Appendix 2** which shows no adverse effect on the protected groups.

4. Consultees and their opinions

4.1 A key part of our approach in transforming SEND provision is to seek the views of children, young people and families so that their voice is influential in our planning - Kirklees families have helped to shape the designs for a new, market-leading YPAT facility.

4.2 The proposed design proposal has been shared with Parents of Children with Additional needs (PCAN) who fully support the proposal. A series of consultation events have taken place with parents. Parents consultation comments;

“A much needed provision. Plans look amazing and would be a huge asset. Outdoor space looks fantastic”

“looks amazing - definitely think the sensory room is a great idea for relaxing. Plenty of outdoor space is great too”

4.3 Consultation with young people who access the service is ongoing. Young person quote;

“I like the gym equipment, the music boxes, the trampoline, the waterwall, climbing equipment and the wooden tepee. It will be good to have our own building and lots of outdoor space”

4.4 The building design proposal has been shared with Dewsbury West ward members May 2022. Cllr O'Donovan suggested The Mansion at Crow Nest Park, a discussion took place setting out the reasons when The Children's place was preferred over the Mansion at Crow nest Park.

4.5 The building design proposal was approved at Children's Service Senior Management Team and Children's Service Capital Board. Portfolio Leads were consulted and briefed by Service Directors, Strategic Director on the 9th June.

4.6 In addition to the above, officers have throughout this capital scheme worked in partnership with disabled children and young people, families, carers, staff and will continue to do so.

5. Next steps and timelines

5.1 The outline timeline is set out below:

Main milestones and dates:	Proposed start:	Proposed end:
Outline concept design plans completed	Sept 2021	April 2022
Consult with disabled children, young people and parents	Jan 2022	May 2022

Complete design/project delivery costings	Dec 2021	May 2022
Key Decision Notice	30 June 2022	
Design proposal agreed by Children's Capital Board	27 June 2022	
Cabinet Approval	26 July 2022	
Planning Application	August 2022	October 2022
Tender	Nov 2022	Jan 2023
Tender Validation and Letter of Acceptance	Feb 2023	Feb 2023
Complete Works	March 2023	May 2023
Prepare for opening	June 2023	

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

6.1 Cabinet are asked to; approve release of up to £1,358,353 from the agreed Best Start Capital Programme to enable procurement of works to proceed.

6.2 Approval will enable a bespoke building to be developed based on the needs of our most disabled children and young people and enable the Young Peoples Activity Team to provide a new quality standard of short breaks provision.

6.3 The proposed design will create an exciting, stimulating, fun place disabled children and young people will want to visit and enjoy spending time, taking part in the wide range of activities available to them.

7. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

7.1 The portfolio holder supports the recommendation in this report. "We are really pleased to support the recommendation in this report. As it says in the report this proposal is a key part of our approach to transforming SEND provision across Kirklees. It provides not only much needed specialist care and support facilities for our most vulnerable disabled children and young people, but it also provides ideal modern facilities in a good location, and it offers good value for money all round. We look forward to this provision being available next Summer 2023."

8. Contact officer

Gary Wainwright, Commissioning Manager, Children's Integrated Commissioning. gary.wainwright@kirklees.gov.uk phone 01484 221000, mobile 07968 994605

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Cabinet Budget Report 29th January 2019 [Cabinet Budget Report.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)

Council budget 16th February 2022 [Budget Motion - Feb 22.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)

10. Service Director responsible

Tom Brailsford, Service Director, Resources, Improvement and Partnerships, Children & Families tom.braisford@kirklees.gov.uk

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Building Design Proposal

Appendix 2 – Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Tool.

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Young Peoples Activity Team Reprovision Design Proposals

01 Introduction

02 Current Provision

03 The Proposal

04 Cost & Timescale

05 Summary

06 Appendices: Benefits of Outdoor Play



01 Introduction

This report sets out the details of the current in-house Young Peoples Activity Team (YPAT) short breaks service offer and the proposed redevelopment of a council owned former nursery building. The new building will enable YPAT to move from its current location and provide the service with significantly enhanced facilities. Children's Service, best start capital funding has an allocation of £5 million for the development of children with a disability services; YPAT, Elm Grove (long term) and Orchard View (short breaks) children's homes.



Former Nursery Building – existing interior



02 Current Provision

The Young Peoples Activity Team short break service is currently run from a large council owned building on Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe, which it has shared with Adult Services, learning disability day service provision for over 15 years. The council owned building is over 40 years old, of brick and metal construction on an industrial estate.

Adult Services capital programme are planning to build new day service facilities. The current building is not suitable for the delivery of modern social care services. Corporate Landlord are looking to repurpose the Havelock Street site once both services have left.

YPAT short breaks service supports disabled children and young people aged 5 to 18 with profound and complex needs. The short breaks service comprises of;

- **After school clubs** which operate term time evenings between 3pm and 6.30pm.
- **Weekend clubs** which run year round (except bank holidays) between 10am and 2pm.
- **Play schemes** which run in school holidays Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

Pre pandemic YPAT supported 117 disabled children and young people, 63 live in North Kirklees and 54 live in South Kirklees. YPAT also supports one young person during the day 10am-2pm, who is currently NEET providing support to carers who are struggling.

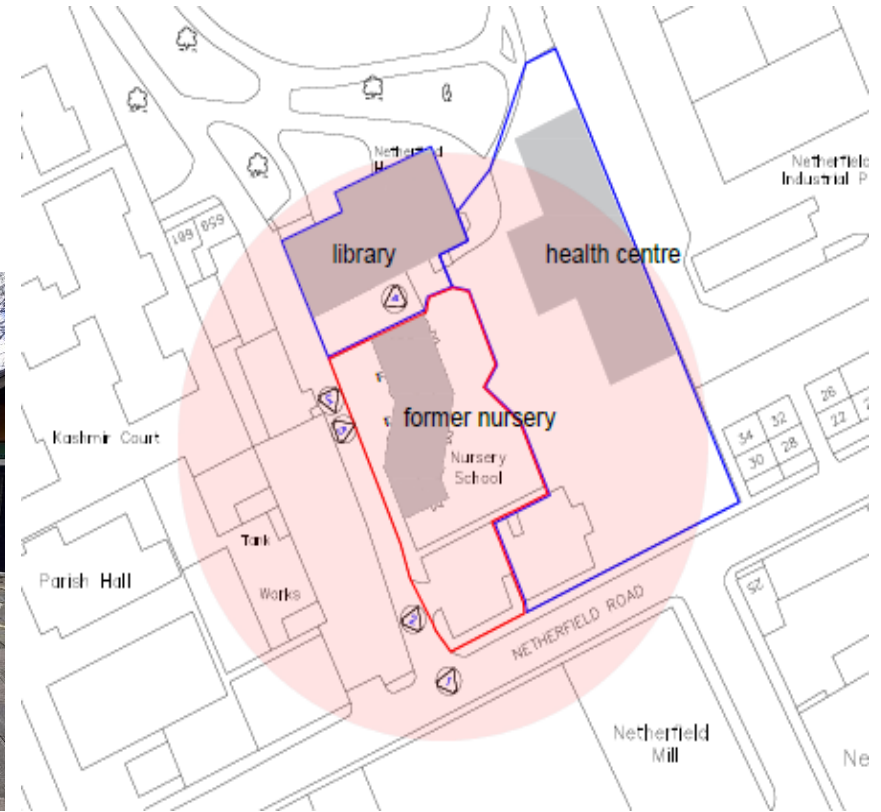
YPAT currently supports around 60 young people this is due to the impact of the pandemic, natural progression, young people turning 18 and some due to the support that was put in place as a result of the pandemic who no longer attend. It is expected numbers will increase, several new referrals have recently been received.

03 The Proposal

The proposed two site YPAT short breaks model would provide easier access for families, larger activity/social spaces and significantly better facilities that disabled children and young people will enjoy more and will assist with managing children's behaviours and needs by offering a far greater range of activities and enable the service offer to be expanded over time if required. The service believes a two site model can be delivered within current revenue budget funding for the current cohort of service users. The children's service capital board in September 2021 supported the proposal to develop two YPAT short break facilities, one in north and one in south Kirklees.



03 The Proposal



An empty council owned ex-nursery building on Netherfield Rd, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, WF13 3JY has been identified as a suitable location for the new YPAT offer in North Kirklees. [Netherfield Rd - Google Maps](#) , [Google Maps](#) The ex-nursery building is situation behind the Greenwood Centre, a council community library building and is only 500 yards from the current YPAT service location. Children's Service operational managers have visited the building and are in agreement the building and location would be suitable and have been fully involved in developing the proposed designs.

03 The Proposal

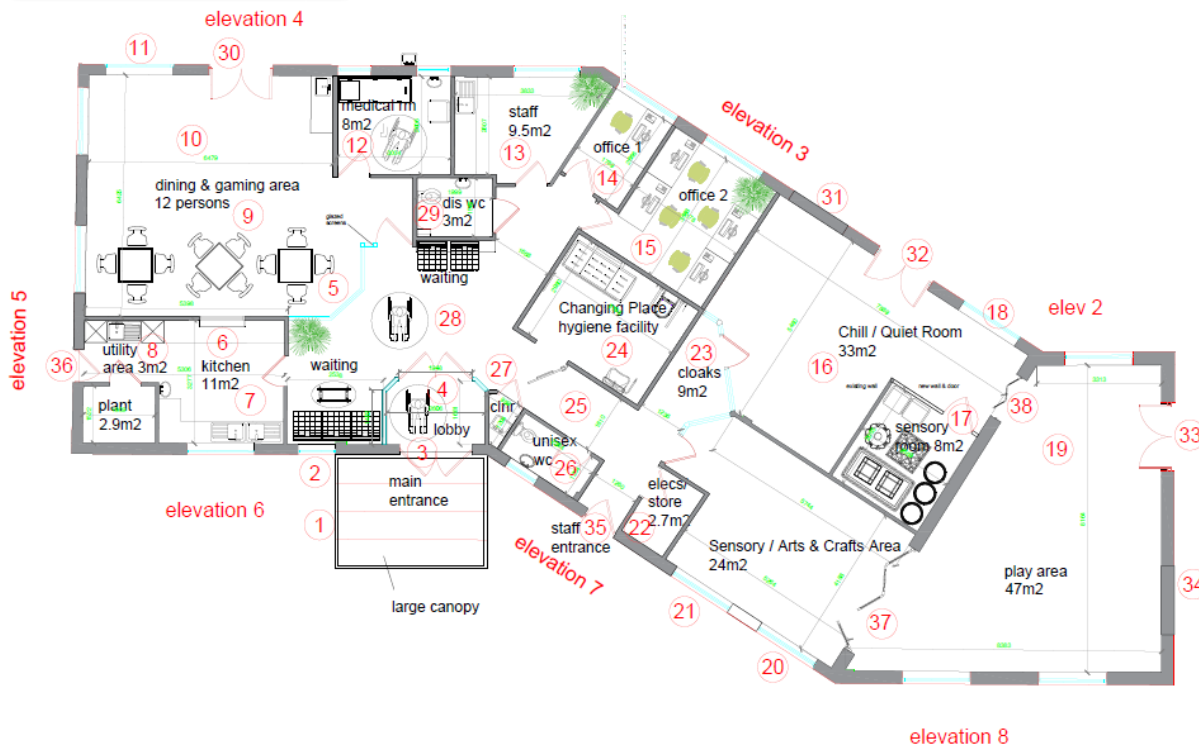


Corporate Asset have been commissioned to carry out a condition survey and feasibility estimate on the building and a project manager has been appointed who has led on developing internal design plans in consultation with key officers from Children's Services.

03 The Proposal



03 The Proposal



Note: This drawing is based on topographical surveys by others. Refer also to separate topographical surveys by for more information where required.
Refer also to Structural Engineer's Drawings.

KEY: Scope of Proposed Works

1. EXTERNAL CANOPY - Proprietary self supporting cantilevered steel canopy with polycarbonate clear roofing sheet
2. EXISTING ENTRANCE 1 - remove existing timber framed window and build up knee brack sill with matching brickwork, for new aluminium dig window unit
3. ENTRANCE DOORS - where existing masonry brick opening for new double aluminium dig doors fully automated with safety sensors, remove existing timber gate & support posts, modify roof as necessary to provide continuous overhang
4. ENTRANCE LOBBY - form new entrance lobby with full height dig aluminium glass screen, withdraw meeting, grid ceiling, automated dig aluminium double doors fully automated with safety sensors, decorations
5. INTERNAL GLAZED SCREENS - full height dig aluminium glazed screen separating reception
6. KITCHEN SERVING HATCH - form new serving hatch complete with min F1000 steel FFC automated roller shutter, to full safe close linked to the alarm
7. MAIN KITCHEN - form new commercial grade kitchen to client recommendations, including table bowl sink, separate sink, base and wall units, grid ceiling, new safety vinyl flooring sheet, decorations
8. UTILITY AREA - form new utility area within kitchen complete with washing machine, dryer and sink unit with base storage units, grid ceiling, new safety vinyl flooring sheet, decorations
9. DINING AREA - new grid ceiling, vinyl safety flooring sheet, decorations, suitable charging power points
10. WINE/BEER CHILLING AREA - new grid ceiling, vinyl safety flooring, decorations, suitable charging power points
11. BAY WINDOW OPENING - mostly existing masonry brick window opening to accept new dig aluminium jpc standard window with operable
12. MEDICAL ROOM - new full height metal stud wall partitions, painted timber door, carpet flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
13. STAFF ROOM KITCHENETTE - new wallbase units & sink, grid ceiling, carpet flooring, decorations
14. OFFICE 1 - new full height metal stud wall partitions, painted timber door with vision panel, carpet flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
15. OFFICE 2 - new full height metal stud wall partitions, painted timber door with vision panel, carpet flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
16. INDOOR PLAY AREA 1 - new vinyl safety flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
17. SENSORY ROOM - new full height metal stud wall partitions, painted timber door, carpet flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
18. BAY WINDOW OPENING - mostly existing masonry brick window opening to accept new dig aluminium jpc standard window with operable
19. INDOOR PLAY AREA 2 - new vinyl safety flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
20. BAY WINDOW OPENING - mostly existing masonry brick window opening to accept new dig aluminium jpc standard window with operable
21. BAY WINDOW OPENING - mostly existing masonry brick window opening to accept new dig aluminium jpc standard window with operable
22. ELECTROFITTINGS - new F1000 timber door, safety flooring, grid ceiling, decorations
23. CLOAKS - new safety flooring, full height glazed dig screens, grid ceiling, decorations
24. HYGIENE FACILITY - form new with full height metal stud walls, glassed partitioning on all walls, walkover facility to changing place standards, grid ceiling, decorations
25. CORRIDOR/CIRCULATION - grid ceiling, safety vinyl flooring, decorations
26. UNISEX WC - ambient disabled standard, ceiling grid, vinyl safety flooring, decorations
27. CLEANERS CPD - ballast cleaner's sink, shelving, grid ceiling, decorations
28. RECEPTION/WAITING AREA - grid ceiling, decorations, carpet flooring, seating
29. UNISEX DISABLED WC - refurbish existing fixtures & fittings, decorative, grid ceiling
30. EXTERNAL DOORS - new double aluminium dig doors
31. EXTERNAL DOORS - remove existing door & frame, brick up opening
32. EXTERNAL DOORS - new double aluminium dig doors
33. EXTERNAL DOORS - new double aluminium dig doors
34. EXTERNAL DOORS - remove existing door & frame, brick up opening
35. STAFF ENTRANCE / CANOPY - cut back & modify existing timber gate & support posts to align with existing overhang
36. EXTERNAL DOORS - new single solid core metal faced security door
37. INTERNAL DOORS - new composite fitting doors
38. INTERNAL DOORS - new composite fitting doors

NOTE: All existing & new doors to have suitable finger guard protection
 - Doors 12, 22 and 27 need lock with key
 - Doors 7, 13, 14, 15 and 17 need to be key
 - Door 36 will be a push bar fire exit, kitchen door will be a fire entry door

The proposed designs maximises the internal and external space, providing a range of separate but linked play and activity spaces, alongside essential facilities. The design has been developed with the current and future needs of disabled children and young people in mind, offering a versatile and flexible indoor and outdoor space.

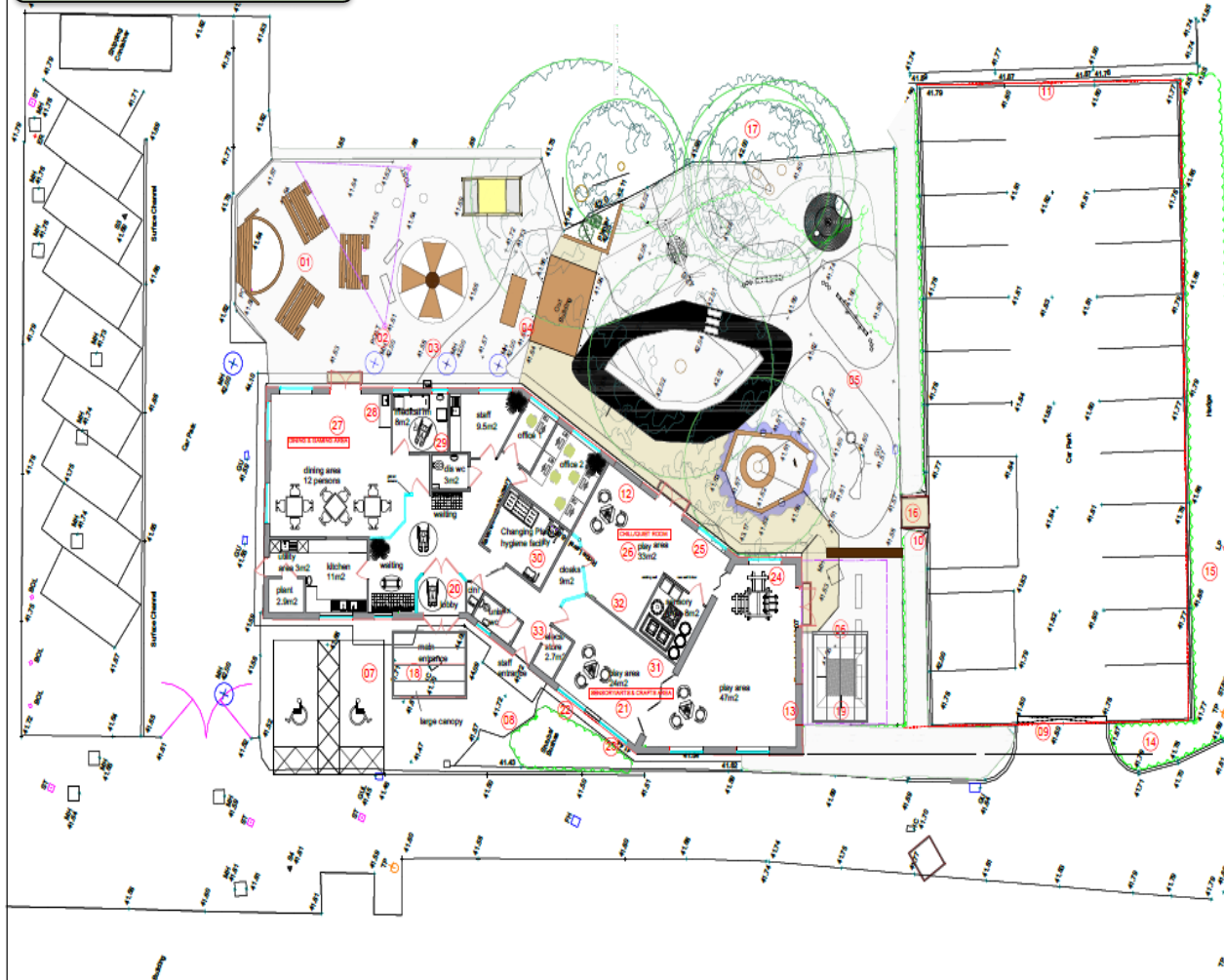
Ravensthorpe Nursery,
Netherfield Rd, Ravensthorpe,
Dewsbury WF13 3JY

Proposed YPAT

Proposed Floor Plan
Dimensioned Scope of Works

Rev	May 2021	Feasibility
Project	CY330544F	
Disc	C	T-50
Author		AY

03 The Proposal



Note: This drawing is based on topographical surveys by others. Refer also to separate topographical surveys by for more information where required.

Refer also to Structural Engineer's drawings.

KEY: BASIC OUTLINE SCOPE OF PROPOSED WORKS

- HARD/PAVED EXTERNAL EATING AREA** - take up existing floor finishes, excavate as required for new paving e.g. Saxon buff 600x600x30mm (approx 60m²)
- AWNING / BLIND** - open drain automatic electrical well mounted blind/awning over part external eating area for shade.
- SAND PIT PLAY** - take up existing sand play pit, timber bench seating etc, clear for new proposed outdoor play area to client specification. (see below)
- SHED/STORE** - new roller shutter door to side of existing shed/age & refurbish as necessary for equipment store. Fully render all sides to allow possible use for mural / art work. Advise survey to cover roofing sheets for ACM.
- RUBBER CRUMB PLAY AREA** - take out all redundant / obsolete furniture/equipment and prepare ground for new outdoor play space to client specification. (see below)
- OUTDOOR SENSORY GARDEN** - re-level and clean existing paving, clear all planters/furniture, redundant fixtures and fittings, fence / posts etc. Prepare for new outdoor sensory play space to client/Landscape Architect specification (to be confirmed).
- DISABLED / ACCESS PARKING AREA** - clear existing vegetation, take up existing paving, excavate for new tarmac/stone parking areas.
- FRONT PAVING AREA** - remove existing paving, overgrown vegetation, redundant fixtures and fittings, retain / renew right hand side fence / posts etc.
- BARBICUE CONTROL** - automated electrically operated fold / dig controlled coded entry handle to designated nursery parking area.
- PERIMETER FENCE** - remove existing perimeter spiked top security metal fence and gate, replace with new 2.4m high spc stripe mesh paladin style metal fence as spc 20x200 steel box section fence posts. (approx 20m length)
- METAL RAILING FENCE** - reuse existing fence around Nursery Car Park Area for security & prevent unauthorised parking from adjacent Health Centre car parking area.
- DOUBLE DOOR OPENING REAR** - fully brick up existing double door opening and allow plaster finish internally, tinting colour match/render finish externally, render to allow possible use for mural / art work.
- DOUBLE DOOR OPENING GABLE END** - fully brick up existing double door opening and allow plaster finish internally, tinting colour match/render finish externally, render to allow possible use for mural / art work.
- SIGNAGE** - remove existing Overwood Centre signage & replace with new signage (frame to be confirmed by client)
- THORNY HEDGE** - retain thorny hedge around car park & trim back
- METAL SIDE GATE** - retain existing gate from the car park to the outdoor play area to remain with new internal double system to fireing specification
- EXISTING MATURE TREES** - Trees to be checked they are safe and do not need trimming before the work is completed
- NEW ENTRANCE CANOPY** - Property barrel vaulted polycarbonate sheet outdoor canopy offset to entrance due to building design.
- OUTDOOR TRAMPOLINE CANOPY** - new suitably sized outdoor canopy to Landscape Architect specification min 3.5m high
- ENTRANCE COBBY DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM** - new double door entrance to be kept secure to fireing specification in conjunction with the fire safety team
- SENKOFF / BATHS & CHAITS AREA** - Only one standard size sink needed, remove the two children's sinks. The sink will be fitted with built in full height storage the length of that internal wall.
- PLAY AREA 2x2x2 WINDOW** - Both large windows will have two flush glass panels, with only one window being able to open (with restrictions on)
- PLAY AREA 2xM2 WINDOW** - Both large windows will have two flush glass panels, with only one window being able to open (with restrictions on)
- PLAY AREA 4xM2 WINDOW** - Both large windows will have two flush glass panels, with only one window being able to open (with restrictions on)
- PLAY AREA 4xM2 WINDOW** - Both large windows will have two flush glass panels, with only one window being able to open (with restrictions on)
- CHILL/QUIET ROOM** - only one sink needed with full light storage the length of the sink wall
- GAMING AREA** - dining area will also be used as a gaming area, wheel chair charging area to be removed.
- DINING/GAMING AREA** - Sink will be needed in the dining/gaming area
- MEDICAL ROOM** - Sink & wall fixed lockable cupboard for medical storage.
- CHANGING & LAUNDRY FACILITY** - floor will need electrics in the changing/laundry facility and the sensory room so tracking can be fitted. Tracking type to be confirmed by client.
- SENKOFF / BATHS & CHAITS AREA SINKS & STORAGE** - remove childrens small wash hand basins, retain standard sink, provide wall-fixed built storage to remaining wall space.
- CHILL/QUIET ROOM SINKS & STORAGE** - remove childrens small wash hand basins and standard sink, provide wall-fixed built storage to remaining wall.
- ELECTRIC CUPBOARD** - new lockable secure door & frame to be provided.

03 The Proposal



Rev: C Client approved drawings 03.0

Kirklees
COUNCIL
Creating a Better
Community & Future

Ravensthorpe Nursery,
Netherfield Rd, Ravensthorpe,
Dewsbury WF13 3JY

Proposed YPAT

Elevations Proposed

Rev:	May 2021	Rev:	
Project:	CY330544F	Phase:	Feasibility
Sheet:	11	Scale:	C 1:50

04 Cost & Timescale

The feasibility estimate for delivering the above proposal is £949,000k (this excludes any remedial works required following completion of the condition survey.) Please see separate feasibility estimate which provides a breakdown of costs and exclusions. Currently there is £5 million allocated in principle for disabled children services in 2019. It is highly likely the current in principle capital funding will not be sufficient to cover the new YPAT facility costs together with the proposed Elm Grove and Orchard View reprovision. However the proposed plans/costs have not been agreed and may change. Below is the initial estimated delivery timescale.

Project Stage / Milestone	Start Date	Finish Date	Duration
Approval of the business case by Children’s Service capital board and Children’s Service Senior Leadership Team.	10/12/2021	31/12/2021	3 weeks
Approval of the consultation plan	10/12/2021	31/12/2021	3 weeks
Implement the consultation plan	10/01/2022	30/03/2022	12 weeks
Cabinet approval period (of funding allocation)	10/01/2022	15/04/2022	14 weeks
Planning Period (assuming approval is needed)	TBC		
Kirklees Stage 4 – Tendering	TBC		
Construction Period (on site)	TBC		
Handover - Preparation for opening	TBC		
Official opening ceremony	TBC		

05 Summary

The Young Peoples Activity Team design proposal will create a significantly improved short breaks service offer facility, providing a fun and exciting place to visit and represents a transformation in the facilities currently used by disabled children and young people.

There is potential for the new facility to be used more often, on a more flexible basis and to further develop the range of support the YPAT short breaks team could offer;

- expand the day time support to NEET children and young people, if appropriate
- develop outreach family support and community enablement offer for disabled children from 14 years of age, as they begin to prepare for adulthood and learn to become more independent
- enable parent and carer coming together meetings, for a coffee, chat, exchange ideas and mutual support
- use the facility for one off events, sleep clinics, parenting strategies, the delivering of SEN family links courses
- Test the potential application of assistive technologies to support and enhance the lives of disabled children and young people

The above proposal together with the future reprovision of Orchard View will provide a significantly improved and more flexible in-house short breaks offer, capable of meeting the current and future needs of the growing range of disabled children's needs, including the most disabled children and young people in Kirklees. The proposed new Young People Activity Team building will set a new quality standard in short breaks provision across Kirklees.

06 Appendix 1

Benefits of outdoor play and equipment

All children need the opportunity to have access to outdoor play and appropriate facilities to develop their skills. This is a requirement by Ofsted for services working with children and young people. By providing a safe and secure environment in which children can engage in fun and challenging activities they are able to develop their self-esteem, confidence and independence. This is often an area which is difficult to access for children with disabilities, due to a combination of barriers such as inappropriate equipment or what is deemed as inappropriate behaviours.

We would like to provide an opportunity for all disabled children and young people who access the YPAT service to enjoy these activities. The following equipment will provide the opportunities for every child to have their own unique experience and be able to access apparatus and activities to help them flourish and develop to their full potential whilst having fun and providing respite for the families.

Outdoor Teepee and den will provide private, independent areas where children and young people can have the quiet time and space they require, alongside the feeling of safety and security away from the intrusion of adults (although adults will still have full supervision). These areas will provide safe spaces for children to explore and support them in managing their own feelings and emotions. Enabling them to identify when they feel that they are becoming upset or distressed and using the effects of nature or security of a familiar space to help them regulate or maintain their emotions.

In addition, these spaces will also support children and young people to recognise when they are happy, excited and positive, giving them the opportunities to spend time with others, playing games such as hide and seek, developing their own decision-making skills and developing their confidence in making their own choices and engaging with others.



Outdoor Tepee and den

06 Appendix 1



Water fall & disabled picnic bench with sandpit



Sand and water play offers opportunities for fully inclusive play for children and young people of all abilities. It encourages children to play collaboratively in groups or alongside each other. These opportunities are fundamental for children and young people to develop social skills, such as sharing and turn taking which supports them to build and develop relationships with peers. Activities where children are encouraged to spend time together also builds up communication skills, whether this is through verbal or non-verbal methods and develops understanding of rules and instructions. Sand and water play enables young people to engage in tactile, sensory activities which in turn can offer a calming experience in a minimally restrictive natural environment. In addition to the social and communication development this type of play also supports gross and fine motor movements, encourages creativity and supports in the development of children’s imagination and understanding of cause and effect. Water wall/fountain will provide a calming, relaxing sensory experience to provide tactile exploring. It will also offer a safe space for children and young people to de-regulate and develop skills and strategies to prevent and manage crisis behaviours. Using a large water wall as a divider in the garden will also provide a more visually stimulating piece of furniture which will offer opportunities for children and young people to share experiences, develop communication and encourage social interactions with each other.

06 Appendix 1



Disabled swing will provide sensory stimulation and vestibular input – the feeling of movement and motion throughout the body. This is especially beneficial for children and young people with limited movement and physical abilities as a basket swing offers the opportunity to sit or lie in the swing and get the sensations and freedom of movement they are unable to access from being in a chair. It will provide either a calming, relaxed sensation to reduce stress and anxiety in children and young people whilst also offering a stimulating experience for those who seek more sensory input. The swing will also give opportunities for children and young people to share spaces, work together and develop turn taking and waiting skills. All of which are essential to their social development and learn skills that others see as appropriate and acceptable behaviours when out in the community, ensuring that they become valued members of society.

06 Appendix 1



Stage area will encourage children and young people to develop their creativity and imagination, whilst also providing opportunities to socialise and engage in activities and events with both peers and staff. It will offer an inclusive space for all children to participate in group activities whatever their disability, for instance playing musical instruments and creating their own band or putting on a show. Research shows that engaging in activities outdoors helps relieve anxiety and stress and encourages children and young people to interact with each other. This stage will provide an ideal base for this by offering the space alongside props and resources to encourage parallel and interactive play opportunities. This in turn will encourage children and young people to build up their self-esteem and confidence in a variety of situations and provide them with the foundation and skills to establish appropriate relationships with others.



An inset trampoline will enable the children and young people of all abilities the sensory stimulation they need to manage their sensory requirements. It will also provide an opportunity to offer rebound therapy sessions for our young people. Rebound therapy has been shown to promote movement and improve muscle tone and balance and benefits children and adults across a whole spectrum of disabilities and additional needs. It also helps to build up trust and develop relationships with others, whilst also improving children’s own confidence and self-esteem. Trampolines and rebound therapy have also been shown to help develop communication and concentration skills whilst also providing a safe activity for children and young people to deregulate and manage their emotions.

06 Appendix 1



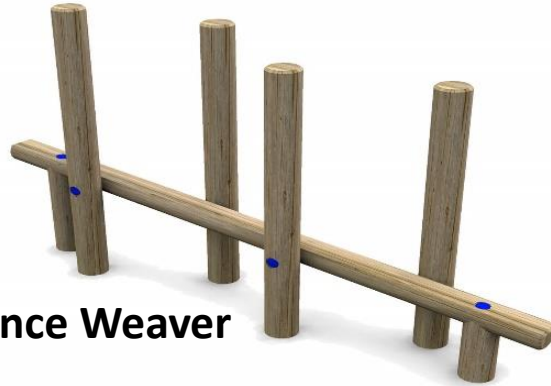
Climbing apparatus can provide children and young people with opportunities to take and manage their own risks within a safe and supervised environment. It will provide support for them to recognise and identify their own feelings of safety and danger and develop problem solving skills and confidence to overcome challenges safely. This equipment will help with both fine and gross motor movements and help to develop coordination, balance and spatial awareness. In addition to the physical benefits the opportunity to climb and balance supports mental and cognitive development. It has been shown to help children with sensory needs, anxiety and to develop independence and confidence, whilst providing the chance to work alongside and with others to establish relationships and trust in each other.

06 Appendix 1



By providing such a rich inclusive outdoor environment all children and young people who access the YPAT service are offered opportunities to engage in play and activities which will enable them to flourish and develop skills in a safe and secure environment. The new outdoor activity space will provide both fun and challenge to encourage self-esteem, confidence and independence to disabled children and young people who have limited access to these facilities within community settings.

06 Appendix 1



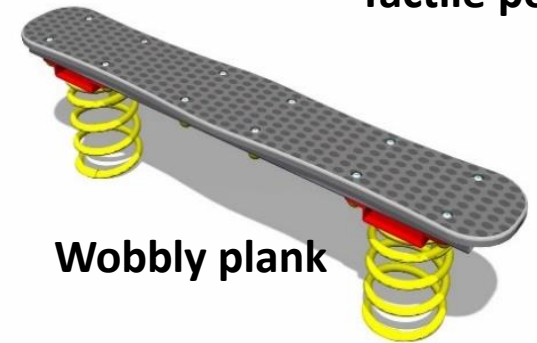
Balance Weaver



Tactile post



Track



Wobbly plank

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EIA STAGE 1 – SCREENING ASSESSMENT

PROJECT DETAILS

Name of project or policy:	
Young Peoples Activity Team - New building	
Directorate:	Senior Officer responsible for policy/service:
Children's Service	Tom Brailsford, Service Director
Service:	Lead Officer responsible for EIA:
Integrated Commissioning	Gary Wainwright,
Specific Service Area/Policy:	Date of EIA (Stage 1):
Children's Short Breaks Service	29.03.2022

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

Relocation of the current Young Peoples Activity Team to a newly refurbished building designed to meet the short break needs of children with a disability.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Theme	Calculated Scores						Stage 2 Assessment Required
	Proposal	Impact	P + I	Mitigation	Evidence	M + E	
Equalities	0	4.2	4.2	0	2	2	No
Environment		4.2	4.2	0	2	2	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)	NO
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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Name of meeting: Cabinet

Date: 14th July 2022

Title of report: Aspire , Achieve, and Include : Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan 2022 - 2025

Purpose of report: To present Aspire , Achieve, and Include : Kirklees Employment and Skills Plan 2022 - 2025. To summarise its co-production and development and outline the priorities and associated actions . The report requests approval for the Council to adopt the plan and seeks delegated authority to progress with our key strategic partners with the implementation and planned delivery of activity.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes More than 2 wards
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – Yes Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes If no give the reason, why not
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	David Shepherd , Strategic Director, Growth and Regeneration
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Not applicable
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Graham Turner , Portfolio Holder Growth and Regeneration.

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: No

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes - no individuals identified in the report.

1. Summary

- 1.1 'Aspire, Achieve, Include' is the 2022-2025 Post-16 Employment and Skills Plan for Kirklees. It explains how the Local Authority, working closely with partners across the borough, will support and invest in the local employment and skills system over the next three years.
- 1.2 The plan proposes a series of new partnership-based actions, and a new collaborative approach to oversee the delivery of those actions. It provides an agreed list of actions and priorities, the details and delivery of which will then be worked on by local stakeholders.
- 1.3 The plan will contribute to the delivery and achievement of the Council Plan – in particular, the 'sustainable economy' and 'aspire and achieve' themes – and will play an important part in our recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.4 The plan will also help us to maximise the opportunities arising from the UK Governments Levelling up White paper, Devolution, and the Mayoral pledge by highlighting priorities to be tackled by increased local investment and the co-design of local, regional and government programmes.
- 1.5 Aspire, Achieve, and Include does not exist in isolation, it sits alongside and builds upon the Our Kirklees Future Learning Strategy and Kirklees Economic Strategy. It is the key link between these key long term strategies allowing Kirklees to harness the economic benefits from the quality of learning Kirklees Futures will deliver and ensuring the Skilled and Ambitious people strand of the Kirklees Economic Strategy is achieved.
- 1.6 The Employment and Skills plan is design to inform and work alongside the forthcoming employer lead Local Skills and Improvement Plan - a key document referenced in the Levelling up White paper as part of the mission to improve skills and Training and the ambition to put Local employers at the heart of skills provision.
- 1.7 Aspire, Achieve, and Include is also designed to align with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority investment prioritises as detailed in the West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (2021 – 2024) which identifies Good Jobs and Skills and Training as key investment priorities. This is necessary in order to ensure we are well placed to maximise on any future funding opportunities which will present themselves as a result of the introduction of the UKSPF.

2. Information required to take a decision

Background

- 2.1** In 2020 work began on the production of a Post 16 Employment and Skills plan for Kirklees. The purpose of the commission was to support the development of a coherent employment and skills plan to support residents with access to employment and skills opportunities.
- 2.2** The plan builds upon a clear evidence base and sets out a partnership action plan that will help residents into work and ensures that businesses can access the skills they need now and in the future.
- 2.3** The development of the Employment and Skills plan involved the following activity :
- Working with EMSI to provide detailed insight into skills and labour market trends ensuring data led intelligence was utilised.
 - Employer Input - An online survey for employers to explore skills gaps , shortages, and attitudes to training.
 - Stakeholder input - An initial list of key stakeholders was provided. Each consultee was given the opportunity to contribute in person , by telephone or in writing . Group sessions were also facilitated when appropriate .
- 2.4** This information was then analysed, and a narrative produced that joins the different parts of the evidence base together to convey the salient messages clearly and concisely.
- 2.5** An initial draft plan was produced in October 2021 . Stakeholders were then reengaged to ascertain their thoughts and opinions on the draft document . This was an important step as many of the key stakeholders had changed and there was a need to re-establish relationships and partnerships .

High level Summary

- 2.6** The plan draws on feedback from over 250 local businesses and education providers as well as key stakeholder engagement.
- 2.7** It proposes a series of new partnership-based actions, a new partnerships group to oversee the delivery of those actions and explains how we will measure success.
- 2.8** The plan was produced with significant partner input and stakeholder engagement which led to the themes of **Aspire** , **Achieve**, and **Include** as the driving principles behind the plan.
- **Aspire:** we want our young people and adults to aim high, to be proud of where they are from and to take advantage of the many opportunities that exist in Kirklees, both now and in the future. We will ensure that the

necessary learning pathways, wraparound support, and opportunities to experience the world of work are in place to help them do that.

- **Achieve:** we want Kirklees to be a place where everyone can fulfil their potential in education, in work and in life. This means making good quality learning available to everyone, supporting people to progress or to retrain, and working with our businesses to invest in the development of the local workforce.
- **Include:** as our local economy grows and evolves, a wide range of new jobs and careers will become available. It recognises and seeks to tackle the challenges the Covid 19 Pandemic has highlighted regarding inequality and loneliness and the effect this has on residents' abilities to engage with and benefit from support. We are committed to ensuring that local people are in the best place to take advantage of these opportunities, regardless of their background or starting point.

2.9 The plan is structured around four priority areas with an agreed list of actions and priorities which will be working on in collaboration with our partners :

- **Empowering our Young People** - The actions in this priority area are designed to help the young people of Kirklees – regardless of their personal circumstances or background – find good quality employment and progress in work.
- **Digital Inclusion** - Employers in Kirklees tell us that skills gaps in IT and digital competencies are more prominent than any other type of skills gap, impacting on both competitiveness and growth.
- **Supporting our communities to Learn and Progress** - Kirklees has a high-quality employment and skills offer that engages residents from disadvantaged groups and reconnects them with the labour market. We know that this kind of provision has a multitude of benefits for learners and for the economy. It can improve health and wellbeing, raise aspirations and achievement, and make people more employable. It can also increase the supply of skills to support our key sectors, reduce the number of residents without any formal qualifications and increase the number qualified to higher levels.
- **Skills for the Future** - We know that different industry sectors will recover from the effects of the pandemic at different rates. Construction, IT, professional services, and green technologies are likely to show strong growth. Health and social care sector remain a priority and will continue to employ many local people .A large number of jobs are also at risk of automation. But with challenge comes opportunity and we are committed to ensuring that our people can obtain the skills and attributes they need to succeed and thrive.

Employment & Skills Partnership Board

- 2.10** The plan recommends the formation of an Employment & Skills Partnership Board to oversee the delivery of this plan. The partnership board will have representation from further and higher education, work-based learning, employers from sectors of local strategic significance, business representative organisations, the voluntary sector, the local authority, and local government agencies.
- 2.11** A non-LA chair would be appointed with all secretariate provided by The Employment and Skills team of Kirklees Council. A suggested membership list is provided in Appendix B.
- 2.12** The partnership board will oversee the agreed list of actions and priorities, and develop the details and delivery plans and measures of success.
- 2.13** An initial meeting will be scheduled for .Followed initially by 6 weekly meeting to begin work on the production of more detailed action plans and agree timelines for specific actions . These meetings will then revert to quarterly to monitor progress and will consider the sustainability of the actions in this strategy, especially those supported by short term funding.

Cost breakdown

- 2.14** There are no specific costs identified in the Employment and Skills plan , however adoption of its principles and goals may mean future investment. The commitment to collaboration We will actively seek opportunities for external sources of funding wherever possible.

3. Implications for the Council

Working with People

- 3.1** Aspire , Achieve, and Include builds on the council's collaborative and restorative approach and reflects its shared outcomes. It will contribute to the delivery and achievement of the Council Plan – in particular, the 'sustainable economy' and 'aspire and achieve' themes – and will play an important part in our recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.2** As a local authority we are ambitious for the place and the people who live and work within our district. Making sure that people have the skills to get a job and progress in work and employers have people with the right skills they need for growth is a key priority .

Working with Partners

3.3 From its inception, Aspire , Achieve, and Include has been co-produced and developed through collaboration and engagement with Stakeholders

3.4 A new Employment and Skills Partnership Board will be established to oversee the delivery of this plan. The Board will have representation from Further and Higher Education, Work-based learning providers, Employers (from sectors of local strategic significance), Business representative organisations, the Voluntary Sector, the Local Authority, and Local Government Agencies.

Place Based Working

3.5 Where Kirklees residents live shapes their experiences and outcomes and has an impact on their personal economic and social circumstances. Places and neighbourhoods are important and influential to both everyday experience and to longer-term outcomes for individuals including their health, economic footprint, and employability.

3.6 Analysis of data, alongside local intelligence, has informed the discussions that shape Aspire , Achieve, and Include . Transparent sharing of data will continue to enable all partners to be responsive to the changing demographics and their changing needs within Kirklees, and our internal place-based analysis will shape future interventions.

3.7 Our understanding of Place will continue to influence the way we collaborate with partners, providing the aspiration and challenge to local people, appropriate to their needs.

Climate Change and Air Quality

3.8 The recommendations contained within this Cabinet Report and the appended Employment and Skill plan do not directly impact on the climate and air quality. However, many of the key priorities and actions contribute towards a cleaner and greener future for the people of Kirklees.

Improving outcomes for children

3.9 The recommendations contained within this Cabinet Report and the appended Employment and Skill plan do not directly impact on improving outcomes for Children . However, many of the key priorities and actions contribute indirectly towards improving outcomes of Children in Kirklees.

Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

3.10 There are no direct legal implications in adoption of the plan

3.11 The development of a detailed delivery plan to support the priorities and actions will have implications for future commissioning however as this is partnership document it is likely that this will be beyond the LA itself .

4. Next steps and timelines

4.1 Upon endorsement by Cabinet .An initial meeting of the Employment and Skills Partnership Board will be arranged, and terms of reference agreed.

4.2 Work will begin immediately on the development of detailed actions plans against each of the priority areas and identified actions.

5. . Officer recommendations and reasons

That cabinet note the report and formally adopt Aspire , Achieve and Include as our Employment and Skills plan 2022 - 2025.

That Cabinet delegate authority 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 take forward the implementation of the plan .

Cabinet agrees to receive regular progress reports on the delivery of the plan.

Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

The Cabinet Portfolio Holder supports the endorsement of 'Aspire, Achieve, Include' the Post 16 Employment and Skills plan for Kirklees. Our economy is changing rapidly, this poses both challenges and opportunities for Kirklees. Making sure that people have the skills to get a job and progress in work and employers have people with the right skills they need for growth is a key priority. 'Aspire, Achieve, include' explains how the council, collaborating closely with partners across the borough, will support and invest in the local employment and skills system over the next three years. This will ensure we are well placed to support the Mayoral Combined Authority with the delivery of its Employment and Skills related Mayoral pledges and maximise the opportunities arising from the UK Governments Levelling up White paper and its ambition to put local employers at the heart of skills provision.

Contact officer

Edward Highfield – Service Director, Skills, and Regeneration

Edward.highfield@kirklees.gov.uk 01484 221000

Gillian Wallace , Head of Employment and Skills

Gillian.wallace@kirklees.gov.uk 01484 221000

Background Papers and History of Decisions

Kirklees Economic Strategy

Our Kirklees Futures :Our Approach to Learning (Kirklees Council , September 2021)

West Yorkshire Investment Strategy 2021 - 2024

Levelling Up the United Kingdom White Paper - DLUHC, February 2022

Service Director responsible

Edward Highfield - Service Director Growth and Regeneration

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Aspire, Achieve, Include:

**The Kirklees Post-16 Employment and Skills Plan
2022-2025**

Foreword

Our economy is changing rapidly, this poses both challenges and opportunities for Kirklees. Making sure that people have the skills to get a job and progress in work and employers have people with the right skills they need for growth is a key priority.

As employers grapple with Skills shortages and inability to recruit, residents are facing challenges around exclusion and loneliness. The solution lies in sustained and significant investment in skills, at all levels, underpinned by aspiration, achievement and inclusion.

We need an approach that is sufficiently nimble to successfully respond to local needs with a focus on outcomes and impact. We recognise that we cannot operate in isolation and that creating the conditions for local growth requires intense collaboration across the public, private and third sector.

'Aspire, Achieve, Include' is the 2022-2025 Post-16 Employment and Skills Plan for Kirklees. It explains how the council, working closely with partners across the borough, will support and invest in the local employment and skills system over the next three years.

It will ensure we are well placed to support the Mayoral Combined Authority with the delivery of its Employment and Skills related Mayoral pledges and maximise the opportunities arising from the UK Government's Levelling up White paper and its ambition to put local employers at the heart of skills provision.

The plan proposes a series of new partnership-based actions, and a new Collaborative approach to oversee the delivery of those actions. It provides an agreed list of actions and priorities, the details and delivery of which will then be worked on by local stakeholders.

Aspire, Achieve and Include does not exist in isolation, it sits alongside and builds upon the Our Kirklees Future Learning Strategy and Kirklees Economic Strategy and will work alongside the forthcoming employer lead Local Skills and Improvement Plan.

It is the key link between these key long term strategies allowing Kirklees to harness the economic benefits from the quality of learning Kirklees Futures will deliver and ensuring the Skilled and Ambitious people strand of the Kirklees Economic strategy is achieved.

It seeks to tackle not only issues brought forward as a result of the Covid 19 Pandemic but also lay the foundations for future success in our key sectors .

Improving residents' skills and careers, whilst being clear about our role and the role of our partners will be critical to our success.

Introduction

'Aspire, Achieve, Include' is the 2022-2025 Post-16 Employment and Skills Plan for Kirklees. It explains how the council, working closely with partners across the borough, will support and invest in the local employment and skills system over the next three years. It will contribute to the delivery and achievement of the Council Plan – in particular, the 'sustainable economy' and 'aspire and achieve' themes – and will play an important part in our ambitions for economic growth. It will also help us to maximise the opportunities arising from devolution, both in terms of increased local investment and the co-design of government programmes.

The plan draws on feedback from over 250 local businesses and education providers. It proposes a series of new partnership-based actions, a new commission to oversee the delivery of those actions and explains how we will measure success.

Aspire: we want our young people and adults to aim high, to be proud of where they're from and to take advantage of the many opportunities that exist in Kirklees, both now and in the future. We will ensure that the necessary learning pathways, wraparound support and opportunities to experience the world of work are in place to help them do that.

Achieve: we want Kirklees to be a place where everyone can fulfil their potential in education, in work and in life. This means making good quality learning available to everyone, supporting people to progress or to retrain, and working with our businesses to invest in the development of the local workforce.

Include: as our local economy grows and evolves, a wide range of new jobs and careers will become available, many of which don't yet even exist. We are committed to ensuring that local people are in the best place to take advantage of these opportunities, regardless of their background or starting point.

The Local Context

Kirklees is a great place to live, learn and work. We have three high performing colleges, a world-class university and renowned innovation and training assets such as the 3M Buckley Innovation Centre and the Textiles Centre of Excellence. GCSE and A-level results have been improving, high proportions of our learners progress into higher education and apprenticeship participation rates have historically been strong.

University of Huddersfield	20,000 students
	Work experience opportunities for all undergraduates
	Best University Employability Strategy Award 2021
	Queen's Award for Enterprise for International Trade, and Queen's Anniversary Prizes for the Centre for Precision Technologies and the Institute of Railway Research
Greenhead College	In the top three designated sixth form colleges in the country based on A-level results.
Huddersfield New College	Ranked number one in England for equality and diversity
Kirklees College	Links to over 1,000 businesses
	In the top ten colleges in England for apprenticeships

Our diverse business base includes world-renowned textiles manufacturers, precision engineering firms and a fast-growing creative sector. In fact, web design is now the area's leading export. Evidence gathered in 2021 shows that most local businesses intend to grow or stay the same size over the next three years (only 4% expect to reduce their headcount) and many tell us they are interested in working with the education sector to help ensure that Kirklees has the right talent pipeline for the years ahead.

Kirklees is an attractive location for inward investment, with a strategic location and a competitive labour market that is well placed to build on the skills of the workforce and graduate talent. But we also have a number of important learning, skills and employment challenges that require a concerted, partnership-based effort if they are to be addressed. For example:

- Too many jobs in Kirklees still pay below the Real Living Wage.
- An above average proportion of jobs in Kirklees are, or will be, at risk of automation.
- Local employers continue to voice concerns about the technical and employability skills of the young people and adults that apply for vacancies.
- A below average proportion of our young people achieve good GCSE grades in English and Maths, which can impact on their employment and earning potential as adults.
- Black and minority ethnic groups are more likely to be in less secure, low wage jobs that will be most at risk.

Before COVID-19, more local people were achieving higher level qualifications while the number of people without the basic skills needed for employment was falling. We are committed to getting back on that trajectory as soon as possible and to closing the gaps between Kirklees and the rest of the country. At the time of writing, 34% of our working age residents are qualified to Level 4 – an impressive improvement on the 2016 figure of 29%, but still some way below the national figure of 43%. We also need to reduce the number of working age adults without any formal qualifications (currently 9% in Kirklees compared with an England average of 6%) and increase the number of people qualified to at least Level 2 (currently 74% in Kirklees against an England average of 78%).

Unemployment in Kirklees has been low in recent years, but COVID-19 has affected the types of jobs that are available and the capacity of Kirklees businesses to invest in training for some time to come. With some sectors reporting high numbers of hard-to-fill vacancies, it is essential that we support local people to develop the skills and attributes they need to thrive, whether that means helping them to return to the labour market after a period of unemployment, brokering apprenticeship opportunities or supporting them to achieve higher level qualifications.

COVID-19 has also accelerated the rate at which employers (and society as a whole) have become more reliant on digital skills and interaction. While many of us take this for granted, for some it is a significant barrier to employment or progression. A Kirklees-wide commitment to digital inclusion for all is therefore very much within our plans.

This skills and employment plan celebrates our past, acknowledges the challenges of the present but, most importantly, looks boldly ahead to a bright future. It is structured around four priority areas:

- Empowering our Young People
- Digital Inclusion
- Supporting our Communities to Learn and Progress
- Skills for the Future

Each of the priority areas includes actions that are designed to augment and complement the great work taking place every day in education and training providers across Kirklees. Together with Kirklees Futures and the forthcoming Local Skills Improvement Plan, they will help us achieve our vision for Kirklees: where aspiration, achievement and inclusion are the norm.

Empowering our Young People

The actions in this priority area are designed to help the young people of Kirklees – regardless of their personal circumstances or background – find good quality employment and progress in work.

The pandemic has accentuated local inequalities and has affected the employment prospects of some young people in Kirklees (10% of local employers say it is ‘very likely’ they will recruit an apprentice over the next two years, compared with 17% who employ one now). We also know that young people without good qualifications in English and maths can find it much harder to access employment opportunities and apprenticeships, or to progress once in employment, and can become drawn into a low skill/low wage equilibrium.

We must therefore take a partnership-based approach to creating an inclusive jobs market for young people in Kirklees, building on our existing offer that includes Works Better 15-25 and borough-wide provision from C&K Careers. The actions below are an important part of that and sit alongside those proposed under ‘Supporting Our Communities to Learn and Progress’.

We will continue to:

<p>Help young people find and secure the apprenticeships they want.</p>	<p>Why? Apprenticeships provide excellent career pathways and help develop core competencies for work and life.</p>
<p>Ensure that good quality pre-apprenticeship provision is available in Kirklees and that the additional capacity made available.</p>	<p>Why? Many young people need a stepping stone, in the form of pre-apprenticeship provision, to progress into the industry of their choice. This is particularly the case at a time when the job market is more challenging and the risks of higher youth unemployment have risen.</p>

We will also:

<p>Make it easier for local employers to recruit apprentices at all levels, from intermediate to degree.</p>	<p>Why? It is not always easy for employers to recruit apprentices and there is evidence that higher and degree level apprenticeships don't yet have the profile they deserve.</p>
<p>Ensure that young people in Kirklees have access to meaningful, high quality employer encounters involving real-life assignments and ongoing assessment.</p>	<p>Why? Meaningful employer encounters improve young people's knowledge of jobs and careers, develop enterprise and work readiness skills and increase earning potential. They also significantly reduce the risk of young people becoming unemployed.</p>
<p>Work with local employers to identify the work readiness and employability attributes that are most important to them. These will then be shared across the full spectrum of education providers and employment support agencies.</p>	<p>Why? Having the right work readiness and employability skills is essential, especially for young people entering the labour market for the first time. Only half of our local employers say the work readiness of new starters is good or better, so there is still work to do on this topic.</p>
<p>Support young people who do not achieve good GCSEs in maths and English at Key Stage 4 to achieve those qualifications by age 19 (this is a long-term action that will continue beyond the life of this strategy).</p>	<p>Why? Achieving at least GCSE grade 4/C in English and maths is linked to better further and higher education opportunities, employment prospects, earning potential and health. It is therefore essential that young people in Kirklees are given high quality post-compulsory support to achieve at this level by age 19.</p>
<p>Support young people to progress to higher education, including degree apprenticeships, preparing them for the higher skilled jobs in great demand including those in health, care and digital.</p>	<p>Why? Achieving degree-level qualifications and above will empower young people to access higher level jobs, achieve higher earnings and meet local skills needs from employers.</p>

Develop practical actions to improve graduate utilisation by businesses in Kirklees . Enabling more graduates to achieve career success in Kirklees.

Why ? For university towns, retaining the students that have studied there after graduation means adding talented young minds into the local workforce. This in turn will address high level skills shortages and improve productivity .

Digital Inclusion

Employers in Kirklees tell us that skills gaps in IT and digital competencies are more prominent than any other type of skills gap, impacting on both competitiveness and growth. Around half the workforce does not have the right digital skills, despite digital technology having transformed nearly every aspect of modern life. While many of us now take digital skills and digital confidence for granted, for some it remains a very daunting area.

Demand for digital skills at all levels – from introductory to higher level – is increasing and has been accelerated by the pandemic. It is now estimated that 95% of jobs will need some level of digital skills in the future. As such, it is important that our people and our businesses can access and develop the right digital skills for modern life and work and that we take the necessary steps to remove digital skills as a barrier to employment, progression and productivity.

We will do this as an active member of the West Yorkshire Local Digital Skills Partnership as well as providing accessible support and interventions that are tailored to the specific needs of Kirklees residents and businesses.

We will continue to:

<p>Implement Kirklees Council's Digital Work Forward Programme, through which we will improve digital training facilities, develop a new digital skills strategy and develop a Young Digital Citizen model.</p>	<p>Why? Digital skills will play an important role in the post-pandemic reshaping of the Kirklees economy. A programme of work dedicated to improving the digital skills of our citizens is therefore very important.</p>
<p>Provide Digital Hubs and Digital Champions, helping more residents to improve their digital confidence and access digital services in a safe and secure way.</p>	<p>Why? Improved digital confidence can help people to better manage their money, health, housing and more. It also makes them more employable (which in turn benefits our businesses), helps them to feel more independent and be less isolated.</p>

We will also:

<p>Support SMEs in Kirklees to improve their digital productivity, from everyday digital competencies and selling online, to more advanced digital skills, using the cloud and back office functions.</p>	<p>Why? Digital technology offers fantastic opportunities for growth and diversification. But smaller businesses can be vulnerable to digital change and it is therefore important they are supported to help take advantage of the opportunities that are available.</p>
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<p>Promote and encourage the take-up of free-to-access digital skills qualifications via the Lifetime Skills Guarantee.</p>	<p>Why? Evidence consistently points to the growing importance of digital skills for employment and progression. The Lifetime Skills Guarantee enables people to access digital qualifications at all levels up to and including Level 3.</p>
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<p>Promote higher level digital skills access including Digital Boot Camps and digital degrees via the University of Huddersfield</p>	<p>Why? We need more young people, especially females and those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to see the attraction of digital roles and to see routes for them to secure the skills needed to secure the many opportunities available.</p>
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Supporting Our Communities to Learn and Progress

Kirklees has a high quality employment and skills offer that engages residents from disadvantaged groups and reconnects them with the labour market. The offer includes the suite of Works Better programmes, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision, Adult and Community Learning (Rated 'Good' by Ofsted in 2019) and is supported by effective pre-engagement activity through First Steps.

Whilst participation in adult and community learning fell by almost a half nationally during the COVID-19 lockdowns, Kirklees recorded an increase. Provision was quickly refocussed to help with home schooling, with mental health and wellbeing, and to support people that had become unemployed as a result of the pandemic.

The University of Huddersfield attracts a high proportion of commuter students who live at home and travel in from the local area. Nearly half of the students are from ethnic minorities, while 57% are first generation students.

The foundations for an expanded employment and skills offer in Kirklees are therefore strong. We are well placed to support more local people of all ages, characteristics and backgrounds, be it to re-engage with learning, to improve their confidence and work readiness, to progress in work or to develop the new skills needed for a change of direction.

We know that this kind of provision has a multitude of benefits for learners and for the economy. It can improve health and wellbeing, raise aspirations and achievement and make people more employable. It can also increase the supply of skills to support our key sectors, reduce the number of residents without any formal qualifications and increase the number qualified to higher levels.

Working with partners across the West Yorkshire Combined Authority area, we are therefore committed to Kirklees being seen as a recognised place of excellence for employment and skills.

We will continue to:

<p>Work closely with colleagues at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to ensure that activity commissioned through the devolved Adult Education Budget addresses local need in Kirklees.</p>	<p>Why? The West Yorkshire devolution deal provides more local control and accountability for adult skills delivery. This will allow us to target local priorities such as supporting the unemployed, making learning more inclusive and addressing prominent skills gaps.</p>
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<p>Expand the offer of support for people that have been out of work for a long time, young people that are unemployed and older unemployed residents, to help them progress towards and into employment, including self-employment.</p>	<p>Why? The longer people are out of work, the harder it can be to find employment. For young people, this can mean reduced life chances in the future, while over 50s are almost three times more likely to be long-term unemployed than other age groups.</p>
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<p>Maintain a high quality ESOL offer, delivered in safe, supportive environments and covering the real-world English skills that local employers expect.</p>	<p>Why? A good grasp of the English language can improve communication skills and job opportunities. Students on ESOL courses can gain real-world experience and enterprise skills that help them successfully engage with the world and people around them.</p>
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We will also:

<p>Seek further funding to expand the adult and community learning offer in Kirklees, aligning with local employer need and increasing participation amongst under-represented groups.</p>	<p>Why? It is important that we reduce the number of people in Kirklees without formal qualifications and increase the number qualified to at least Level 2. An expanded adult and community learning offer is a</p>
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	key mechanism through which we can achieve that.
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<p>Enable access to good quality training and progression programmes in numeracy and literacy for people whose skills in these areas prevent them from securing the job or career they would like.</p>	<p>Why? People without basic numeracy and literacy skills are twice as likely to be unemployed. Where local people in Kirklees are struggling to find work because of their numeracy and literacy, they should have access to the right training to help them overcome that challenge.</p>
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<p>Stimulate the development of intermediate and higher level skills through a range of routes including apprenticeships, higher education, employer investment and the Lifelong Loan Entitlement.</p>	<p>Why? Higher level skills drive up productivity and carry a wage premium. We need more people in Kirklees with higher level skills, but to achieve that they must be able to learn in a flexible way. The Lifelong Loan Entitlement gives them the opportunity to do that.</p>
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Skills for the Future

We know that different industry sectors will recover from the effects of the pandemic at different rates. Construction, IT, professional services and green technologies are likely to show strong growth. Health and social care sector remains a priority and will continue to employ a large number of local people (the new National Health Innovation Campus in Huddersfield is a flagship opportunity to grow the health sector). Other sectors have been harder hit and will take longer to recover, giving the potential for an increase in the number of insecure, low-paid jobs.

Approximately one third of all working time in Kirklees is spent on tasks that are at high risk of automation, which is more than across England as a whole. This risk is particularly pronounced in lower skilled occupations and in manufacturing, both of which are heavily represented in our local economy. Kirklees also has a concentration of migration-sensitive production roles which may see higher levels of churn as the effects of Brexit unfold.

Most companies recognise the importance of improving leadership, management and innovation skills to remain competitive in global markets, yet very few have a skills plan, particularly smaller companies. It is important that we have high quality provision available with support from government, including Help to Grow for SMEs, to ensure our local leaders are well prepared and aware of the importance of investing in the workforce.

These are significant challenges. But with challenge comes opportunity and we are committed to ensuring that our people can obtain the skills and attributes they need to succeed and thrive. How we will do that is explained below.

We will continue to:

<p>Build on the success of national and regional reskilling initiatives by supporting Kirklees residents to acquire important transferable skills that are valued by employers across a range of industries.</p>	<p>Why? COVID, automation and Brexit will mean that some of our residents need to change job and work in different industry sectors. Employers tell us that transferable skills such as communication, teamworking and numeracy are very important to them, in many cases more so than job-specific or technical skills.</p>
<p>Work with employers to make it easier for them to understand the local training offer, provide apprenticeship opportunities for staff of all ages, invest in workforce development and raise job quality.</p>	<p>Why? Less than half of local employers say they 'definitely' know where to find information about local training and that they find it easy to understand.</p>
<p>Take forward plans for a new construction skills training facility, linked to the Council's capital investment programme, the Transpennine Route Upgrade rail improvements and significant residential housing developments planned in North Kirklees. The facility will include on-site working and will be delivered in conjunction with employers.</p>	<p>Why? Kirklees (and the wider region) has a shortage of skilled construction workers, especially given our ambitious capital programme. The new facility will provide a talent pipeline, raise awareness of the wide range of careers in construction, increase apprenticeship numbers and enable us to leverage more social value from large capital schemes.</p>

We will also:

<p>Support individuals and businesses to develop 'green skills'¹ and to take advantage of opportunities associated with green industry.</p>	<p>Why? The council has a vision to make Kirklees carbon neutral by 2038 and there is a Combined Authority mayoral pledge to build 5,000 sustainable homes. Achieving this will require a significant growth in 'green skills' and much wider use of green technologies.</p>
<p>Work with the Kirklees Top 100 Companies and those sectors experiencing significant local recruitment and retention challenges to help ensure that career opportunities are widely promoted and understood, that they are available to local people and that we address outdated perceptions about working in those sectors.</p>	<p>Why? Some of our largest employing sectors are facing a recruitment and retention crisis. Health and care, for example, suffers from misunderstandings about the nature of the work, high turnover and a mass of unfilled vacancies (amidst ever growing demand). Working collaboratively across the education and skills system to address this has never been more important.</p>
<p>Help people to develop the enterprise and leadership skills they need to become high quality employers and leaders, and to start and grow new businesses in Kirklees.</p>	<p>Why? Enterprise skills and an entrepreneurial spirit are central to the growth of our economy and to the progression of our people into positions of leadership and management. We must ensure these qualities are well embedded across our area.</p>
<p>Ensure that Kirklees residents can benefit as much as possible from West Yorkshire-wide employment and skills offers in adult re-training, careers, school engagement, business support and start-up provision.</p>	<p>Why? There is a strong and varied employment and skills offer in West Yorkshire, with evident efficiencies and savings to be had in the local deployment of those elements that will most benefit Kirklees residents.</p>

¹ Defined as the knowledge, abilities, values and attitudes needed to live in, develop and support a sustainable and resource-efficient society.

Summary of Actions

Empowering our Young People We will:	Digital Inclusion We will:	Supporting our Communities to Learn and Progress We will:	Skills for the Future We will:
<p>Help young people find and secure the apprenticeships they want.</p>	<p>Implement Kirklees Council's Digital Work Forward Programme, improving digital training facilities, developing a new digital skills strategy and developing a Young Digital Citizen model.</p>	<p>Work closely with colleagues at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to ensure that activity commissioned through the devolved Adult Education Budget addresses local need in Kirklees.</p>	<p>Build on the success of national and regional reskilling initiatives by supporting Kirklees residents to acquire important transferable skills that are valued by employers across a range of industries.</p>
<p>Ensure that good quality pre-apprenticeship provision is available and that the additional capacity made available through Kickstart is continued.</p>	<p>Provide Digital Hubs and Digital Champions, helping more residents to improve their digital confidence and access digital services in a safe and secure way.</p>	<p>Expand the offer of support for people that have been out of work for a long time, young people that are unemployed and older unemployed residents.</p>	<p>Work with employers to make it easier for them to understand the local training offer and to invest in workforce development.</p>
<p>Make it easier for local employers to recruit apprentices at all levels, from intermediate to degree.</p>	<p>Support SMEs in Kirklees to improve their digital productivity, from everyday digital competencies and selling online, to more advanced digital skills, using the cloud and back office functions.</p>	<p>Maintain a high quality ESOL offer, delivered in safe, supportive environments and covering skills that employers expect.</p>	<p>Take forward plans for a new construction skills training facility, linked to the Council's capital investment programme, rail improvements and residential housing developments.</p>
<p>Ensure that young people in Kirklees have access to meaningful, high quality employer encounters involving real-life assignments and ongoing assessment.</p>	<p>Promote and encourage the take-up of free-to-access digital skills qualifications via the Lifetime Skills Guarantee.</p>	<p>Seek further funding to expand the adult and community learning offer in Kirklees, aligning with local employer need and increasing participation amongst under-represented groups.</p>	<p>Support individuals and businesses to develop 'green skills' and to take advantage of opportunities associated with green industry.</p>
<p>Work with local employers to identify the work readiness and employability attributes that are most important to them.</p>	<p>Promote higher level digital skills access including Digital Boot Camps and digital degrees via the University of Huddersfield.</p>	<p>Enable access to good quality training and progression programmes in numeracy and literacy.</p>	<p>Work with the Kirklees Top 100 Companies and those sectors experiencing significant local recruitment and retention challenges to help ensure that</p>

			career opportunities are widely promoted and understood.
Support young people who do not achieve good GCSEs in maths and English at Key Stage 4 to achieve those qualifications by age 19.		Stimulate the development of intermediate and higher level skills through a range of routes including apprenticeships, employer investment and the Lifelong Loan Entitlement.	Help people to develop the enterprise skills they need to become high quality employers and leaders, and to start and grow new businesses in Kirklees.
Support young people to progress to higher education, including degree apprenticeships, preparing them for the higher skilled jobs in great demand.			Ensure that Kirklees residents can benefit as much as possible from West Yorkshire-wide employment and skills offers in adult re-training, careers, school engagement, business support and start-up provision.
Develop practical actions to improve graduate utilisation by businesses in Kirklees . Enabling more graduates to achieve career success in Kirklees			

Delivering the Employment and Skills Plan

A new Employment and Skills Commission will be established to oversee the delivery of this plan. The Commission will have representation from further and higher education, work-based learning, employers from sectors of local strategic significance, business representative organisations, the voluntary sector, the local authority and local government agencies.

Meeting on a quarterly basis, the Employment and Skills Commission will consider the sustainability of the actions in this strategy, especially those supported by short-term funding.

Measures:

1. Reduction in the proportion of working age adults with no formal qualifications.
2. Increase in the proportion of working age adults qualified to at least Level 2.
3. Increase in the proportion of working age adults qualified to at least Level 4.
4. Increase in the number of learning completing digital skills courses.
5. Unemployment in Kirklees, including youth unemployment and long-term unemployment, is below the national average.
6. Year-on-year increase in the number of people starting and completing Apprenticeships in Kirklees, including Higher and Degree Apprenticeships.
7. Employers report improved work readiness skills amongst new starters.
8. Increase in the proportion of young people from Kirklees entering higher education.

Back cover

Contact details etc.

Appendix B - Employment & Skills Partnership

Proposed Membership

The Partnership will be made up representatives from the following organisations:

- Portfolio Holder, Growth & Regeneration
- Kirklees College
- Service Director Skills & Regeneration
- Head of Employment and Skills
- Head of Post 16 , Progression and Partnership
- DWP
- Chair , Third Sector Leaders
- Mid-Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
- West Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Homes and Neighbourhoods Head of Partnerships
- Head of C + K Careers
- Centre of Textiles Excellence
- University of Huddersfield
- Kirklees Place Programme Director NHS Kirklees CCG
- Appropriate representative for Empowering out Young people priority .

Secretariat

Kirklees Council will provide all necessary secretarial support which will include:
Arranging meetings; preparation of agendas; Circulation of relevant papers prior to each meeting; producing minutes of meetings

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Name of Meeting: Cabinet

Date: 26th July 2022

Title of report: Kirklees Annual Education Quality and Standards Report update

Purpose of report: This report summarises the challenges faced by the school systems during the academic year 2021 and the impact on educational outcomes for learners.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not Applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – No No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Information only
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Jo-Anne Sanders Service Director, Learning and Early Support on behalf of Mel Meggs 14/07/22 N/A N/A
Cabinet member http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/you-kmc/kmc-howcouncilworks/cabinet/cabinet.asp	Cllr Carole Pattison – Learning, Aspiration and Communities Cllr Viv Kendrick – Statutory responsibility for children

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or Private: Private

Has GDPR been considered? Yes – the data contained in the report is derived from publicly available sources produced by the Department for Education with some

additional internal analyses. Other data sources include Nexus software, Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) and Statistical First Releases.

Summary

1. This report is to maintain the continuity of information. For a second year, there is little assessment and examination data to report. Nevertheless, there is still much positive activity to highlight and what data can be reported will enable the system to focus priorities for forthcoming years. Such trends, as are available to ascertain, inevitably link to the impact of Covid on the education system.
 - 1.1. Adaptions were made to learning by the school system in response to Government directives and learners' access to provision was changed as a result. The intelligence gathered from engagement with the wider system as outlined below suggests that a clear focus on early reading and phonics, oracy and vocabulary should remain at the heart of school improvement and system engagement. These were issues identified before the pandemic and, therefore, remain as a clear focus for future system improvement opportunities.
 - 1.2. The 2021/22 data release will allow us to provide indicative information and analysis on this information by December 2022. A full report focusing on the progress of the Learning Strategy will be prepared for the end of the Academic Year 2023.
 - 1.3. All statutory tests for Early Years Foundation Stage, Phonics, Key Stage 1, and Key Stage 2 were cancelled due to the continued covid pandemic and therefore no benchmark data will be made available by the Department for Education (DfE) for 2021. The LA do not hold information relating to progress and attainment for these pupils for the year 2020/21.
 - 1.4. The cancellation of exams and the significantly changed method for awarding GCSE grades impacted on the results and led to a set of pupil attainment statistics that are unlike previous years. Comparisons with earlier years are not advised as they are not indicative of changes in underlying pupil performance.
 - 1.5. Data is based on the nationally available statistical data and produced at Local Authority level only.
 - 1.6. The 2020/21 data should not be directly compared to attainment data from previous years for the purposes of measuring changes in pupil performance.
 - 1.7. Ensuring that vulnerable children and young people were kept safe, remained in education, and were supported to achieve good educational outcomes continued to receive growing national and local attention during 2020/21.
 - 1.8. Exceptionally strong partnership work was demonstrated between schools, the Local Authority, learning setting and partners to ensure support for

vulnerable pupils and their families. This work continued throughout the year with the development of the Learning Strategy to 2030 'Our Kirklees Futures' and the work of the Education and Learning Partnership Board in providing system wide influence and direction.

1.9. School leaders continued to collaborate over the last year. School leaders worked tirelessly in partnership with the Council to reshape and adjust priorities that considered the Covid 19 context.

1.10. Stakeholders in Kirklees across the wider educational system committed to the development of a Learning Strategy to guide and focus priorities. Strong partnership engagement led to the co-authorship of 'Our Kirklees Futures'. A Learning Summit was held in June 2022 to provide an opportunity for the key obsessions identified in the strategy – inclusion, resilience, and equity – to be celebrated and embedded in the vocabulary of Kirklees.

1.11. It is our intention to review fully the White Paper for Education, published in March 2022, and to engage with the wider Kirklees system to gather views before considered responses are submitted.

2 Information required to take a decision (this paper is for information only)

2.1 The Covid 19 context and implications

2.1.1 The continued impact of the pandemic presented challenges for leaders, teachers, parents, carers, and the supporting agencies. Their efforts deserve recognition. There was excellent work to be found in the responses of schools and settings. In every institution, leaders worked exceptionally hard, making rapid but difficult decisions and implementing them at pace. Throughout the covid pandemic, a high level of resilience was demonstrated by both teachers and pupils.

2.1.2 This was a difficult year for education settings and a challenging time to be learning. In all phases of education in 2020/21, most children and young people had to adapt to learning in a different way.

2.1.3 For many, the loss of onsite education, disrupted routines and a lack of physical activities provided challenges. A report highlighting the progress of children throughout the pandemic sets out the national picture:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1063488/Understanding_Progress_in_the_2020_to_2021_Academic_Year_Extension_report_covering_the_first_half_of_the_autumn_term_2021.pdf

- 2.1.4.** In Kirklees, we report on outcomes for learners through available data and through our valued and ongoing support and challenge approach which provides intelligence on our school system.
- 2.1.5** The role of the Kirklees Learning Partner was reconfigured in 2020/21. Our learning partners prioritised visits to those schools and settings requiring additional support and challenge during the Autumn term 2020. The expectation was that all schools would reopen to all pupils from September 2020 with risk assessments in place.
- 2.1.6** The remote learning offer and the school's ability to identify gaps in knowledge, apply appropriate interventions and monitor the impact of these interventions on pupils' outcomes was the focus of visits.
- 2.1.7** Additionally, school leaders were responsible for continuing to develop their school's curriculum, ensure teachers had access to high quality Continuing Professional Development to enhance and grow subject specific knowledge.
- 2.1.8** Outcomes data has taken less precedence within the Ofsted framework. There is an increased emphasis on formative assessment and evidence from the classroom, gathered through pupil, staff voice and workbooks, to benchmark the school.
- 2.1.9** Ofsted inspections carried out under Section 5 of the Education Act 2005 resumed in September 2021.
- 2.1.10** Ofsted inspections carried out under Section 8 resumed in September 2021.
- 2.1.11** Section 8 inspections do not fall under section 5 of the Education Act 2005. These include:
- inspections of schools previously judged to be good,
 - inspections of special schools, pupil referral units and maintained nursery schools previously judged to be outstanding,
 - monitoring inspections for schools previously judged inadequate or requires improvement,
 - inspections where Ofsted have a particular cause for concern (for example, about behaviour and attitudes, safeguarding or leadership).
- 2.1.12** The need to observe classroom practice, review books and speak to stakeholders was more pronounced than ever, and proved extremely challenging because of the pandemic. Robust quality assurance opportunities were limited both internally and with external partners as public health measures took precedence over site visits.

- 2.1.13** In spring 2021, school improvement visits were significantly impacted by the pandemic, with planned monitoring activities conducted either remotely or postponed to the summer term.
- 2.1.14** Face to face visits resumed during summer 2021, which allowed learning partners to quality assure school improvement activities, and triangulate evidence collated with self-evaluation judgements.
- 2.1.15** Networks and training continued to be offered to schools. A new standardisation and moderation package was offered to all Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 schools in the spring and early summer of 2021.
- 2.1.16** The pause on primary assessment and the schools' abilities to engage in internal and external professional dialogue identified the need for this offer.
- 2.1.17** Schools and settings in Kirklees continued to have access to high quality professional development to enable them to develop their curriculum offer.
- 2.1.18** Recognition of reduced transition activities between schools identified the need to provide a bespoke package, enabled by the Learning Service, for the first and middle school settings in the LA, where the children transition at the end of Year 5. The opportunity to bring professionals together, albeit virtually, from the two phases was welcomed and well attended.
- 2.1.19** Moderation and teacher assessment was prioritised and strengthened in secondary schools throughout the pandemic. The change in the GCSE awarding methodology, meaning that teacher assessed grades were awarded rather than outcomes based on exams, resulted in an increased amount of training, standardisation, and school-based quality assurance as part of the teacher assessment process.
- 2.1.20** A summer data capture in 2021 to support school self-assessment was offered to all schools. Analysis of data in 2019, Phonics data from Autumn 2020 and KS4 data from 2020, identified Oracy, early reading and reading comprehension as curriculum areas of focus.
- 2.1.21** Schools Forum, in collaboration with the Education Improvement Committee of the Education and Learning Partnership Board, supported a small-scale project with Voice 21, a national charity. We recognised through our data analysis that reading is a key area to improving outcomes. There are ten schools participating in the project, including one with specialist provision and a range of primary and secondary schools.
- 2.1.22** Throughout the pandemic, Kirklees Learning Partners worked closely with safeguarding teams ensuring that where attendance was low, support was offered to the school and family.

2.1.23 There were periods of lockdown where children were not required to attend school and remote learning was in place. Kirklees Learning Partners supportively challenged schools to ensure that their remote learning offer was in line with government guidance and that wellbeing checks were in place for children learning at home, with provision for the most vulnerable made available on school sites.

2.1.24 During 2020/21, there was a much larger focus on home-learning during lockdown. As part of the Department for Education initiative, Kirklees rolled out a programme of providing IT devices to the children and young people who needed them the most ensuring pupils received an IT device to access online lessons. Kirklees supplied over 5,300 pieces of IT equipment making Kirklees one of the leading authorities in the country for providing this support.

2.2 Educational Outcomes for the Academic Year 2020 / 2021

2.2.1 We are unable to report on Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 2 outcomes as formal teacher assessments or testing did not take place in summer 2021.

2.2.2 Key Stage 4 results

The sector consensus is that the increases seen in the headline statistics reflect the changed methodology used for awarding grades rather than demonstrating a step change improvement in standards.

2.2.3 The government published local authority data for GCSE results for 2020 and 2021 but not individual school's data. Detailed analysis of the data that we have is at appendix 1.

2.2.4 Key Stage 5 results

Following the use of Centre Assessed Grades and Teacher Assessed Grades in 2019/20 and 2020/21, KS5 performance in Kirklees has dipped relative to national benchmarks. This was signalled as an issue within partnerships and networks prior to the 2020/21 results.

2.2.5 The data seen in the 2021 results in Kirklees and regionally reflects the patterns seen in the grades achieved by school type. Most Local Authorities had seen a significantly different grade profile between smaller school sixth forms and larger sixth form Colleges.

2.2.6 It is highly unlikely that all regions improved their underlying quality or performance to this extent in these years, and there has been no indication of an internal drop in quality at any A level institution.

2.2.7 It is likely then that when rigorous externally assessed grades return for the summer 2022 exams that Kirklees will return to its position above

regional and national averages and in its historic position within the A and B quartiles.

2.3 Priorities for 2021/22 and beyond

2.3.1 The focus for the 2021/2022 academic year has been to work in partnership with the Education Learning and Partnership Board and its committees to support schools to continue to operate safely and recover to the best of their abilities to help all pupils catch up any identified lost learning.

2.3.2 The Learning Strategy, Our Kirklees Futures, sits at the heart of our ambitions.

Our Kirklees Futures has been co-produced with stakeholders across the district and sets out the following key priorities for learners:

By 2030, Kirklees is a place where children and young people have the best start in life and are:

Safe: Learners in Kirklees are safe and feel safe from harm, benefitting from nationally recognised, exceptional safeguarding practice.

Healthy: Learners live healthy lifestyles and maintain these into adulthood.

Achieving: Learners across Kirklees make outstanding progress, access a high performing education system, and achieve well in external examinations. They enjoy a curriculum offer that celebrates cultural, creative, sporting, and social pursuits that are amongst the best in the country.

Gaps in achievement for those deemed disadvantaged or with additional needs are significantly and consistently reduced, with inequalities addressed.

Happy: Learners report being happy and optimistic for their future.

Attending: Attendance across our education system is higher than national average, with all Kirklees learners able to access their local school, setting or college.

And our system is:

Inclusive: There is no need to use permanent exclusion in Kirklees because learners, families and schools are supported in a timely and effective way.

Sustainable: The education and learning infrastructure will work towards being carbon free and actively promotes understanding of the science of climate change.

A summary of the ambitions of Our Kirklees Futures can be found here:

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/kirklees-futures.aspx>

- 2.3.3** Raising outcomes at all phases across schools and settings in Kirklees is a priority based on the Learning Strategy.

3 Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

Working together with our families, we encourage every learner to be ambitious, hold high aspirations and to strive to reach their potential as well as helping them to be kind, brave, compassionate, tolerant, and reflective.

3.2 Working with Partners

It is imperative that the council and wider partners work together to ensure they can provide world class educational opportunities removing barriers and supporting children, young people, and their families to realise their potential and succeed in adult life.

This year we have continued to collaborate with sector specialists and the local research schools and the Kirklees and Calderdale Teaching School Hub to provide evidence-based interventions, bespoke professional development for our leaders and strengthen pedagogy for our educational professionals.

3.3 Place Based Working

Our schools, and settings work collaboratively as part of our learning family and understand the children, young people, and their families whom they serve well. The diversity and scale of the district requires a commitment to place-based working and in meeting the differing needs of local communities. Our schools and learning settings play a vital role in delivering this place-based approach and in supporting children, their families, and the wider community. Strong, well-established partnerships continue to strengthen and develop and together, we have a shared commitment to meet the aspirations of all children, young people, and families within our communities

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Not applicable

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

3.5.1 All our educational settings are part of the Kirklees learning family.

3.5.2 It is the intention that the limited data available is used by officers to add further value to our joined-up approach to ensure every learner, regardless of circumstance, has the very best educational opportunities available, as measured by a range of outcomes including, but not exclusive to, performance data.

3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

The skills and knowledge that our children acquire in Kirklees schools and settings will place our learners in a better position to secure financial stability in adulthood. Our Kirklees Futures will join with the developing Skills Strategy to ensure economic resilience for citizens in Kirklees.

3.7 Other (e.g., Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions

N/A

4 Next steps and timelines

4.1 Nationally, the government has invested significant funding to help schools provide additional support for their children and young people via £1.8 billion into catch up. Further to this, in February 2022, the government launched their 'Levelling Up White Paper' where they announced plans for 55 new Education Investment Areas (EIAs) in parts of the country. Kirklees is one of these areas and may benefit from government strategies such as support to improve attendance and recruitment and retention incentives for teachers.

But Kirklees Council are already committed to go further. Our Kirklees Futures sets out the obsessions we have for our 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.

The Education and Learning Partnership Board will agree a plan of action that will develop the Learning Strategy into its next phase. It is proposed that, with the resumption of exams and testing in Summer 2022, a report on the outcomes for 2021/22 be produced with the indicative data available in December 2022 and a full report on the progress of Our Kirklees Futures be produced for Cabinet on an annual basis at the end of each Academic year.

5 Officer recommendations and reasons

This report is submitted for information.

6 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

The content of the report should be noted and the good work that officers, and the wider school community have undertaken, to provide evidence of educational outcomes during this difficult period.

7 Contact officer

Chris Jessup – Head of Educational Outcomes

chris.jessup@kirklees.gov.uk

Emma Brayford Acting Senior Kirklees Learning Partner

Emma.brayford@kirklees.gov.uk

Dr. Phil Mark – Head of Service Post-16

Phil.mark@kirklees.gov.uk

Narinder Kaur – Kirklees Learning Partner

Narinder.kaur@kirklees.gov.uk

8 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Our Kirklees Futures Learning Strategy can be found here:

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/kirklees-futures.aspx>

9 Service Director responsible

Jo-Anne Sanders Service Director, Learning and Early Support

2021 Kirklees Annual Educational Quality and Standards Report – Appendices.

1. Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

- 1.1 All statutory testing for Early Years Foundation Stage, Phonics, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 were cancelled due to the pandemic.
- 1.2 Benchmark data has not been made available by the Department for Education for 2021. The Local Authority do not hold information relating to the progress and attainment of pupils for the year 2020 - 2021.
- 1.3 Assessments at all stages will proceed in 2022.

2 Context

- 2.1 The national summer GCSE examinations were cancelled for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 2.2 In the 2019/20 academic year, pupils were awarded a Centre Assessed Grade, referred to as CAGs, based on a school prediction of what the pupil would most likely have achieved if examinations had gone ahead or using the calculated grade using an algorithm from Ofqual. The higher grade of the two was awarded to the pupil.
- 2.3 In 2020/21, a different model, referred to as Teacher Assessed Grades, or TAGs was introduced.
- 2.3 Pupils were only assessed on the content they had been taught in each subject. Schools were given authority to decide how to assess their pupils.
- 2.4 GCSE grades were determined by teachers based on the range of evidence of each pupil's performance in each subject, such as mock exams and class assessments.
- 2.5 Due to the changes in the way GCSE grades have been awarded over the last two years with CAGs and TAGs replacing examinations, 2020/21 pupil attainment data should not be directly compared to pupil attainment data from previous years for the purposes of measuring year on year changes in pupil performance.

2.6 The government plans to return to a pre-Covid model of examinations and assessments from 2022. This will allow trend data to build up.

3 How to read this report

3.1 Data sources: Results for all measures are validated data. Data is derived from publicly available data produced by the Department for Education. Other data sources used were the Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT).

3.1.2 Acronyms:

APS	Average Point Score
CLA	Children Looked After
DfE	Department for Education
EAL	English as an Additional Language
EBacc	English Baccalaureate (Maths, English, Science, Humanities and language Pillars)
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan
FSM	Free School Meals
GCSE	General certificate in secondary education (KS4 qualifications)
LAIT	Local Authority Interactive Tool
NCER	National Consortium of Examination Results (NEXUS)
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability
SFR	Statistical First Release
SSIF	Strategic School Improvement Fund

4 – Contextual Data (LAIT Jan 2022)

4.1 The table below looks at the social context in Kirklees in comparison to 152 Local Authority's which feed into the Local Authority Interactive Tool. (LAIT).

Social Context:					Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019	
	Primary FSM Eligibility 2020 (inc. Nursery)	Secondary FSM Eligibility 2020	Primary First language other than English 2020	Secondary First language other than English 2020	Average Score	Rank of Average Score
Percentage	19.10	22.80	27.70	21.30	25.15	64*
Rank	88	125	101	102		
England %	17.70	15.90	21.30	17.10	* - 1 being most deprived	

2020

Social Context:					Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019	
	Primary FSM Eligibility 2021 (inc. Nursery)	Secondary FSM Eligibility 2021	Primary First language other than English 2021	Secondary First language other than English 2021	Average Score	Rank of Average Score
Percentage	22.80	24.60	26.10	21.30	25.15	64*
Rank	80	114	99	102		
England %	21.60	18.90	20.90	17.20	* - 1 being most deprived	

2021

4.2 Comparisons in the context have been made from 2020/21 in two areas, firstly the percentage of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and secondly where the first language is other than English.

4.3 Free School Meals

4.3.1 In 2021, the percentage of primary aged pupils and secondary aged pupils eligible for Free School Meals in Kirklees was higher than the national average.

4.3.2 Over the past 12 months, the percentage of primary aged pupils eligible for FSM in Kirklees increased by 3.7% (from 19.1% to 22.8%)

4.3.3 The national average has increased at a faster pace by 3.9%.

4.3.4 In 2021, the gap between the national average and Kirklees primary pupils eligible for FSMs is 1.2%, this gap has closed by 0.2% since last year.

4.3.4 As a result of this, Kirklees have moved up 8 places and ranked 80th position out of 152 local authorities.

4.3.5 The percentage of secondary aged pupils eligible for FSM in Kirklees has increased by 1.8% since last year, this increase is at a slower rate compared to primary aged pupils.

4.3.6 The national average for secondary aged pupils has risen at a faster rate, with an increase of 3%. The gap between the national average and Kirklees is 5.7%, this closed by 1.2% since last year.

4.3.7 Kirklees is ranked at 114th position, moving up 11 places from 2020.

4.3.8 The number of eligible pupils for FSM in Kirklees has increased, the increase is at a slower rate in comparison to national.

4.3.9 Due to the challenging circumstances of the pandemic, we have seen an increase in the percentage of parents made redundant, as a result more pupils are eligible for Free School Meals.

4.4 English as an additional language

- 4.4.1 Kirklees has a higher percentage of primary aged pupils with EAL and secondary-aged pupils with EAL in comparison to the national average.
- 4.4.2 Over the past 12 months, the percentage of primary aged EAL pupils in Kirklees have decreased by 1.6% (from 27.7% to 26.1%).
- 4.4.3 The decrease in Kirklees is at a much faster pace in comparison to the national average which saw a decrease of 0.4% (from 21.3% to 20.9%).
- 4.4.4 In 2020, the gap between Kirklees and national primary aged EAL pupils was 6.4%, this gap is now 5.2% closing by 1.2% since last year.
- 4.4.5 The percentage of secondary aged pupils with EAL in Kirklees has remained constant between 2020 and 2021. Nationally, the average has seen a slight increase of 0.1% (17.1% to 17.2%).
- 4.4.6 Since last year, the gap between the percentage of secondary aged pupils with EAL in Kirklees compared to national has closed slightly by 0.1%.

5. Data comparisons

- 5.1 The performance of schools in Kirklees is compared throughout the report with Yorkshire and Humber, statistical neighbours (**based on employment, ethnicity and demographics**) and England where comparative data is available.

Yorkshire and Humber	Calderdale, York, East Riding of Yorkshire, North Yorkshire, Leeds, Sheffield, Barnsley, North-East Lincolnshire, Rotherham, Doncaster, Bradford, North Lincolnshire, Kingston Upon Hull, Wakefield
Statistical Neighbours	Bolton, Calderdale, Bury, Dudley, Derby, Lancashire, Stockton-On-Tees, Leeds, Rochdale, Telford and Wrekin
National	All local authorities in England

5.2

6 Table of key performance indicators

Indicator		Notes
Key Stage 4	Attainment 8 (point score)	Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications including English (double weighted if both language and literature are taken), maths (double weighted), three further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and three further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications on the DfE approved list.
	Ebacc APS	From 2018, the headline EBacc attainment measure is the EBacc average point score (EBacc APS). This replaces the previous threshold EBacc attainment measure. EBacc APS measures pupils' point scores across the five pillars of the EBacc – with a zero for any missing pillars. This ensures the attainment of all pupils is recognised, not just those at a particular grade boundary encouraging schools to enter pupils of all abilities and support them to achieve their full potential.
	Progress	The progress of students is the focus of the new accountability system. This measure is a value-added progress measure for academic and applied general qualifications, and a combined completion and attainment measure for tech level and level 2 technical certificate qualifications. This year, there is no progress measure for KS4.
Key Stage 5	Attainment	The attainment measure shows the average point score per entry, expressed as a grade and average points. Separate grades are shown for level 3 academic (including a separate grade for A level), applied general, tech level and level 2 technical certificate qualifications.
	English & Maths Progress (for those students who have not achieved GCSE Grade 9-4 or A*-C by the end of Key Stage 4)	This measure shows the average change in grade separately for English and maths. The methodology for the measure is closely aligned with the condition of funding rules, which means that students that do not reach grade 9-4 or A*-C are required to continue to study English and/or maths at post-16
	Retention	As the participation age has increased to 18 it is increasingly important that all young people are given suitable education and training opportunities that they see through to completion. The retention measure therefore shows the proportion of students who are retained to the end of their main programme of study.
	Destinations	Including destination information in performance tables broadens the information available to the public and gives schools and colleges the opportunity to demonstrate other aspects of their performance.

7 GCSE attainment data 2021

- 7.1 State funded schools include academies, free schools, city technology colleges and state funded special schools but excludes independent schools, independent special schools, non-maintained special schools, hospital school and pupil referral units. *In Italics for comparison*

England average taken from [LAIT](#)

7.2 Key Stage 4 (GCSE) Headline Measures in Kirklees

	Kirklees	National (State Funded)	England (All Schools)	Yorkshire & Humber	Comments
Attainment 8	49.5	50.9	48.9	49.1	The A8 score for the Kirklees cohort of children is 1.4 points below the state funded average. The gender gap in Kirklees is slightly larger than the national gap (0.3 points)
Basics 9-5	50.0	51.9	48.4	49.4	The percentage of children achieving a strong pass in the basic qualification for the Kirklees cohort of children is 1.9 points below the state funded average. There is a 9.3% difference in attainment of girls and Boys. This gender gap is 1.7% larger than the national gap
Basics 9-4	71.0	72.2	67.1	70.0	The percentage of children achieving a standard pass in the basic qualification for the Kirklees cohort of children is 1.2 points below the state funded average. There is a 6.7% difference in attainment of girls and Boys. This gender gap is 0.5% larger than the national gap
EBACC Entry	36.7	38.7	35.6	35.6	The percentage of Kirklees children entered into the EBACC subjects is 2% lowest than the national figure. Interestingly there is a larger percentage (+1.6%) of Kirklees girls entered for Ebacc subjects than girls nationally, however almost 5.7% less boys are entered for the EBacc suite of subjects. This creates a 17.9% gender gap, 7.3% larger the national gap.
EBACC 9-5	18.2	21.5	20.0	18.6	3.3% less children in Kirklees have achieved the strong Ebacc pass compared to their peers nationally. The average Ebacc strong pass for girls is 1.5% lower than girls nationally and 5.4% lower than the average strong pass nationally for boys. This creates a 13.2% gender difference in Kirklees compared to 9.3% nationally.

	Kirklees	National (State Funded)	England (All Schools)	Yorkshire & Humber	Comments
EBACC 9-4	27.0	29.5	27.3	26.5	2.5% less children in Kirklees have achieved the standard Ebacc pass compared to their peers nationally. The average Ebacc standard pass for girls is 0.1% higher than girls nationally and 5.3% lower than the average standard pass nationally for boys. This creates a 16.3% gender difference in Kirklees compared to 10.9% nationally.
EBACC APS	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.2	The average EBACC APS also suggests that Kirklees children have a lower average point score in the Ebacc subjects than their peers nationally.

7.3 The headline figures above focus on the GCSE results of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in Kirklees, in comparison to national state-funded schools, all England schools and schools in the Yorkshire & Humber Region.

7.3.1 Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, additional considerations are to be considered when reviewing the attached data, these are:

7.3.2 Given the unprecedented change in the way GCSE results have been awarded in the Summers of 2020 and 2021 there have been significant changes to the distribution of grades in comparison to examination results, pupil level attainment in 2020/21 is not comparable to that in 2019/20 and to that of the previous exam years for the purposes of measuring changes in pupil performance.

7.3.3 The cancellation of exams and the substantially changed methods for awarding GCSE grades has impacted greatly on the results.

7.3.4 The DfE state the increases seen in the headline statistics likely reflect the changed method for awarding grades rather than demonstrating a step change in improvements.

7.3.5 Due to adaptations and adjustments implemented for the Summer 2022 exam series, we will not have a comparable set of data next year. It is expected the DfE plan return to the pre-covid examinations system in 2022-23 exam series returning to trend data by 2024.

7.3.6 2021 is the second year where all students awarded GCSEs have studied the reformed GCSE specifications and received numerical 9 to 1 grades.

- 7.3.7** In October and November 2021, there have been an exceptional exam series for GCSEs and A levels to provide another opportunity for pupils who wanted to improve on their final grade, and for pupils who were not able to receive a grade this Summer.
- 7.3.8** The results of the Autumn GCSE series will be published in February 2022. This report is based on the grades received in the Summer 2021 exam series where GCSE results were announced on 12 August 2021.
- 7.3.9** The Progress 8 measure is not being published in 2021 as the main value of the Progress 8 measure to compare school performance and school level data is not being published this year.

8 2021 KS4 (GCSE) Awards

- 8.1** This report is based on 31 schools and 4858 pupils in the cohort at the end of KS4 in the 2020/21 academic year.
- 8.2** The following table shows a breakdown of cohort numbers based on characteristics to provide further context to this report.

Year 11	All Pupils	Boy	Girls
All Pupils	4858	2443	2415
Disadvantaged	1372	660	712
Non- Disadvantaged	3486	1783	1703
FSM	1186	573	613
Non-FSM	3672	1870	1802
No identified SEN	4218	2028	2190
SEN	640	415	225
SEN Statement/EHCP	188	131	57
SEN Support	452	284	168
First Language EAL (other than English)	953	487	466
First language (English)	3884	1949	1935
Not identified	21		
White	2973	1509	1464
Black	102	52	50
Asian	1365	671	694
Chinese	7	5	2
Mixed	299	147	152
Not identified	112		

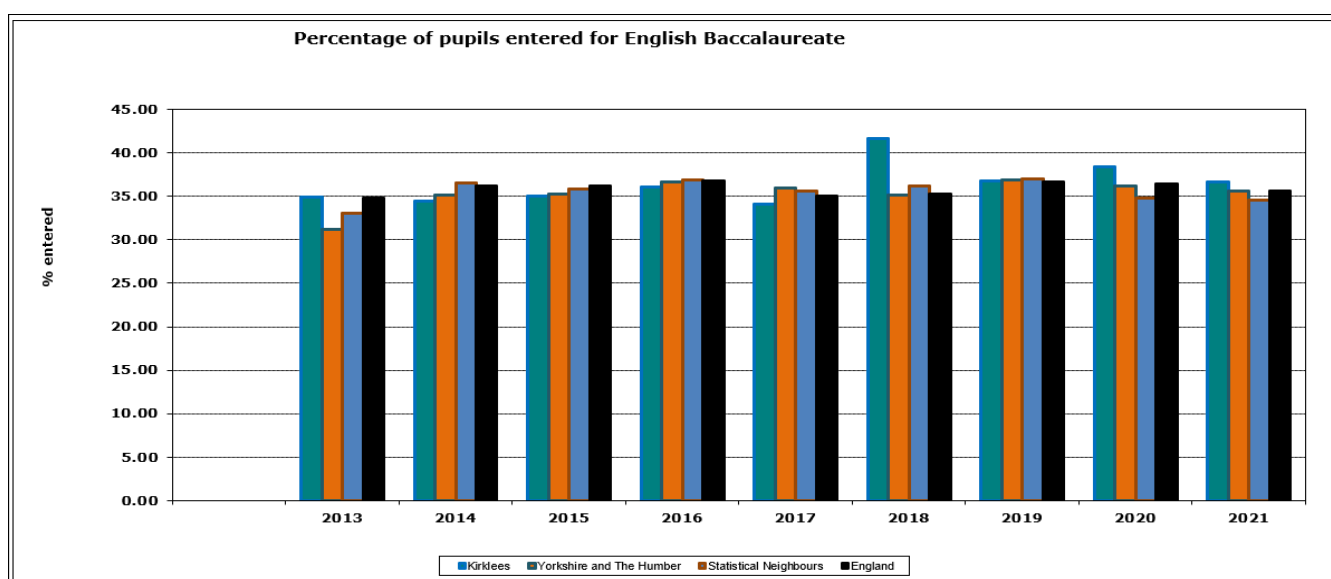
9. Definition of characteristics

- 9.1** Pupils are defined as disadvantaged if they are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years if they have been recorded as being looked after or adopted from care for at least one day.
- 9.2** ‘First language’ is the language to which a child was initially exposed during early development and continues to be exposed to in the home or community.
- 9.3** The SEN category indicates whether a pupil has learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than most children of the same age. Pupils with special educational needs include those with SEN support or an education, health, and care (EHC) plan.
- 9.4** SEN Support – Extra or different help is given from that provided as part of the school’s usual curriculum. The SEN co-ordinator may receive advice or support from outside agencies.
- 9.5** Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan – A pupil has an EHC plan when a formal assessment has been made. Prior to 2019, this included instances where a pupil had a statement of SEN however this was discontinued, and statements were transferred to EHC plans.

10 The English Baccalaureate (Ebacc) Entry

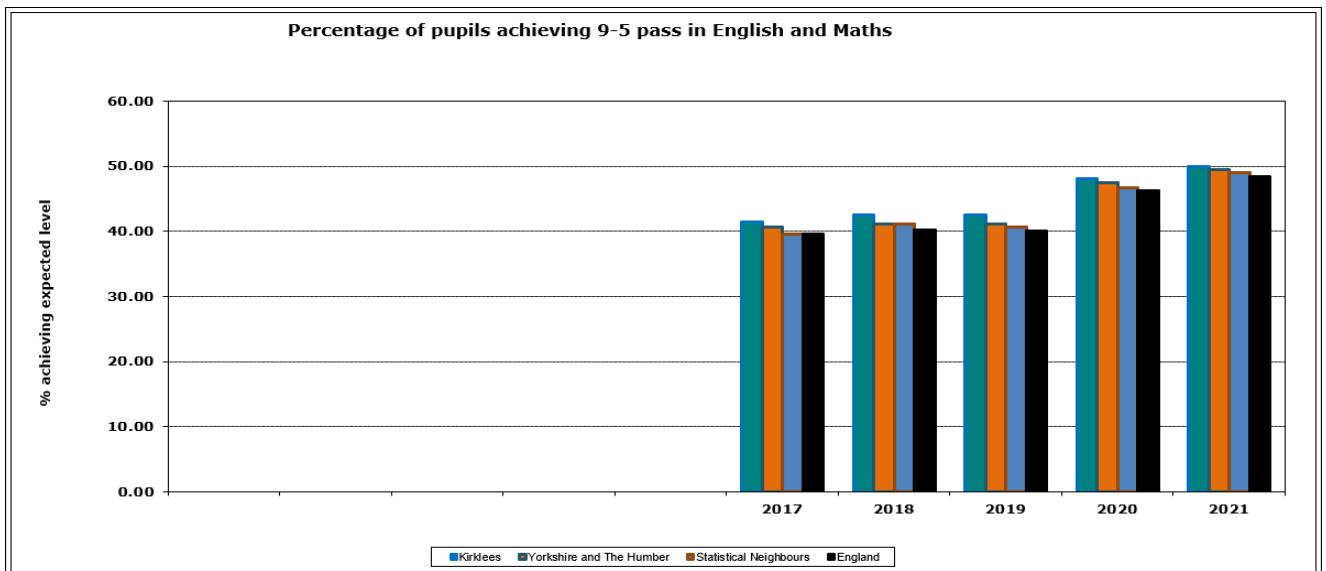
- 10.1** The EBacc shows how many pupils are entering GCSEs in core academic subjects at KS4. The EBacc consists of English, maths, science, a language, and either history or geography. To count in the EBacc, qualifications must be on the [English Baccalaureate: eligible qualifications](#).
- 10.2** 36.7% of pupils in Kirklees are entered for all five EBacc components, this is 2% below national state-funded schools, this gap has widened by 0.6% since last year.
- 10.3** The percentage of pupils entered for the EBacc has fallen by 1.7% since last year, from 38.4% to 36.7% in Kirklees. In comparison, national state-funded schools have seen a smaller decrease of 1.1% since last year.
- 10.4** Kirklees is in rank position 82 and Band C.
- 10.5** The governments ambition is to see 75% of pupils studying the EBacc subject combination at GCSE by 2022 and 90% by 2025.

- 10.6** 45.7% of girls and 27.8% of boys were entered for the EBacc in Kirklees in 2021. This creates a 17.9% gender gap; this gap has increased by 2% since last year.
- 10.7** The gender gap in Kirklees is 7.3% larger than the national gap and 5.5% larger than the regional gap. Interestingly, there is a larger percentage (1.6%) of girls in Kirklees entered for EBacc subjects than girls nationally, however almost 5.7% less boys are entered for the EBacc suite of subjects.
- 10.8** Whilst entries for English, Maths and Humanities are higher than the national average for both boys and girls, entries in Science and Languages are lower than those found nationally.
- 10.9** EBacc language entries continues to be the limiting factor. Entry into language constitutes 40.3% of the cohort, this is 4.7% lower than the national EBacc language entries.
- 10.10** EBacc language entries continue to have the widest gender gap (20.4%), this is greater than the gap seen regionally and nationally.
- 10.11** The following chart shows the trend of EBacc entry over the last 9 years.
- 10.12** Subject entries may have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the cancellation of exams in 2019/20 and 2020/21.



- 11. Attainment in English and maths – strong pass (grades 5 or above)**
- 11.1** This measure looks at the percentage of pupils achieving grade 5 or above in both English and maths GCSEs.
- 11.2** To meet the English requirement in this measure, a pupil would have to achieve a grade 5 or above in either English literature or English language. There is no requirement to sit both.
- 11.3** In 2021, the percentage of pupils achieving grades 5 and above in English and Maths in Kirklees increased to 50%, this is an increase of 1.9% since last year.
- 11.4** The cancellation of exams and the changed methods for awarding GCSE grades has impacted greatly on the results, with England state-funded schools seeing an increase in grades 5 and above by 2.1%.
- 11.5** The percentage of pupils achieving a strong pass in English and maths (50%) in Kirklees is 1.9% below the national state-funded average.
- 11.6** This gap has increased slightly from 2020 results (by 0.1%). Kirklees achieved above regional averages and our Statistical Neighbours in this measure.
- 11.7** The gender gap in Kirklees is 9.3%, this is 1.7% wider than the national state-funded gap and 0.6% wider than the regional gap.
- 11.8** In Kirklees, 54.7% of girls achieved a grade 5 or above in English and maths, 45.4% of boys met this threshold, there is a 9.3% difference in the attainment of boys and girls.
- 11.9** Over the last 12 months the gender gap in this measure narrowed by 0.4%. This is a slower pace in comparison to the national data, nationally the gap closed by 0.6%.
- 11.10** In Kirklees, 57.6% of non-disadvantaged pupils achieved a grade 5 in English and maths compared to 30.8% of disadvantaged pupils.
- 11.12** Disadvantaged pupils in Kirklees are performing 0.9% lower than the national state-funded schools. The gap in Kirklees between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils has widened by 1.8% since last year, this is at a faster rate than the national state-funded average gap which widened by 1.1%.

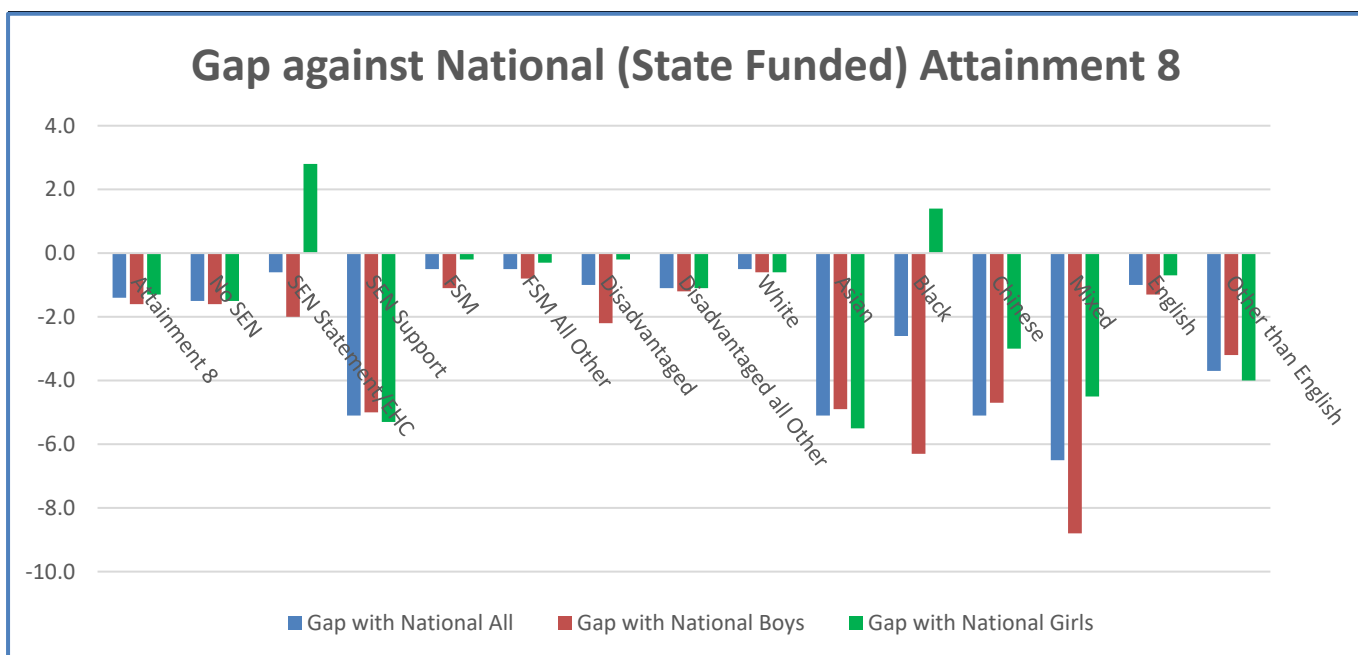
- 11.13** Disadvantaged girls are performing better than disadvantaged boys, the gap between boys and girls has widened by 0.7% since last year.
- 11.14** Kirklees is ranked in 90th position in Band C for disadvantaged pupils on this measure.
- 11.15** Kirklees are part of an Education Endowment Foundation project working with the Bradford research school to narrow the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils.
- 11.16** In 2021, pupils with English as an additional language are attaining 4.2% below pupils where English is their first language.
- 11.17** Since last year, this gap has widened by 2.6% which is at a faster rate to the national gap which has widened by 0.8%.
- 11.18** Pupils with a Special Educational Needs statement/Educational Health Care plan are attaining 3% lower than the national state-funded average. This gap has widened by 0.7% since last year.
- 11.19** Pupils with Special Educational Needs or a disability are attaining 5.6% below the national average in this measure. This gap has widened by 2.3% since last year.
- 11.20** The graph below shows the significant increases since 2019 in comparison to regional, statistical neighbours and national percentages.



- 12 Attainment in English and maths – standard pass (grades 4 or above)**
- 12.1** The percentage of pupils achieving a standard pass in both English and Maths is 71% in Kirklees. This is 1.2% below the national state-funded average. This places Kirklees in Rank 91, Band C.
- 12.2** Compared to last year's data, pupils achieving grade 4 or above in both English and Maths in Kirklees increased by 1.6%. This is a faster rate of increase compared to the national increase of 1% and the Yorkshire and Humber Region (0.2%).
- 12.3** 74.3% of girls achieved a grade 4 or above. This is 1.1% below the national average. Last year, Kirklees girls achieved higher than the national average.
- 12.4** 67.6% of boys achieve the standard pass at Grade 4 or above, this is 1.6% lower than the national average. The gap has closed from last year.
- 12.5** 78.9% of non-disadvantaged pupils achieved a Grade 4 in English and Maths compared to 51% of disadvantaged pupils in Kirklees. Disadvantaged pupils in Kirklees are attaining 2.1% lower than the national state-funded schools in this measure.
- 12.6** The gap in Kirklees between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils has widened by 1.7% since last year, this is at a faster rate than the national state-funded average which widened by 0.6%.
- 12.7** Disadvantaged girls are attaining better than disadvantaged boys by 14.8%. The gap between disadvantaged boys and girls has closed by 2.5% since last year.
- 12.8** In 2021, pupils with English as an additional language attained 5.4% below pupils where English is their first language. Since last year, the gap has closed by 0.4% compared to the national gap which closed by 1%.
- 12.9** In Kirklees, pupils with a SEN statement/EHC plan are attaining 3.6% lower than the national state-funded average. This gap has closed by 2.1% since last year. SEN pupils with a support plan are attaining 7.1% below the national average. This gap has widened by 0.9% since last year.

13 Attainment 8

- 13.1** Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications. This includes English language; English literature (if only one GCSE in English is taken then it is double weighted); maths (double weighted); three further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc); and three further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications on the [DfE approved list](#).
- 13.2** In 2020/21, the average Attainment 8 score of all pupils nationally in state funded schools is 50.9 points, in comparison, Kirklees is 49.5 points, 1.4 points below the national state funded average
- 13.3** The average in England all schools is 48.9. Kirklees is 0.6 points above this measure. This places Kirklees in 96th position out of 152 Local Authorities, placing Kirklees in Band C.
- 13.4** Since last year, the average attainment score in Kirklees has increased to 49.5, from 48.6 points. This is a 0.9 increase from last year and equivalent to the England all schools average increase of 0.9 (48.0 to 48.9).
- 13.5** When comparing by Region, Yorkshire & Humber saw an average Attainment 8 increase of 0.8 points over the last year. In Kirklees, the Attainment 8 increased by 0.9 points.
- 13.6** The Attainment 8 score has increased faster in Kirklees than in England all schools, our statistical neighbours and the Yorkshire and Humber region.
- 13.7** The graph below shows the relative attainment (using the Attainment 8 statistics) of pupils by their characteristic. *NB. This is using state funded information.*



14. **KS4 Attainment focusing on pupils by Gender**

14.1 In 2020/21 in Kirklees, the Attainment 8 score for boys was 46.5 percentage points, with girls attaining a score of 52.6 percentage points.

14.2 Kirklees girls have attained an Attainment 8 score 6.1 percentage points higher than boys, which is an equivalent picture to last year.

15. **KS4 Attainment focusing on pupils by Free School Meals (FSM)**

15.1 In 2020/2 in Kirklees, the attainment of FSM pupils is 14.5 points lower than the attainment of non-FSM pupils, the gap is equivalent between FSM and non-FSM national averages.

15.2 In Kirklees, the gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils has widened by 1.8 percentage points since last year, compared to national state-funded schools which saw the gap widen by 0.8 percentage points.

15.3 FSM boys and girls are again this year attaining higher than regional averages but performing less well in comparison to national state-funded schools.

15.4 When examining pupils by FSM and ethnicity based on cohort size, pupils from the Asian and Mixed ethnic category group saw

the largest differences in comparison to national state funded schools.

- 15.5** The Asian ethnic category makes up a larger percentage of all pupils in Kirklees, both FSM boys and girls from the Asian ethnic category are attaining lower than national figures, with girls seeing the biggest differences.

16. KS4 Attainment by all pupils by ethnicity

- 16.1** All major ethnic groups in Kirklees have attained less well in comparison to national state-funded schools. The largest gap was seen in the Asian ethnic group with a 5.1 percentage point difference.

17. EBacc average point score (EBacc APS)

- 17.1** The EBacc APS measures pupils' point scores across the five pillars of the EBacc - English, maths, science, a language, and history or geography – with a zero for any missing pillars.
- 17.2** This ensures the attainment of all pupils is recognised, not just those at particular grade boundaries, encouraging schools to enter pupils of all abilities, and support them to achieve their full potential.
- 17.3** The cancellation of exams and the changes in the way grades have awarded over the last two years has led to significant grade increases in GCSEs with higher grades nationally. The average EBacc APS score per pupil in 2020/21 is 4.45 points in 2020/21 from 4.38 in 2019/20.
- 17.4** The EBacc APS has stayed stable in Kirklees (4.3) and Y&H (4.2) since last year. Kirklees pupils have a lower APS in the EBacc subjects than their peers nationally. Kirklees is in Rank 93 Band C.
- 17.5** The proportion of pupils who achieved all five components of the EBacc at grades 5 or above was 18.2%. This is lower than pupils from national state-funded schools, regionally and our statistical neighbours.
- 17.6** The proportion of pupils who achieved all five components of the EBacc at grades 4 or above was 27%. This is higher than our statistical neighbours and region, however, it is lower than pupils from national state-funded schools.

- 17.7** For the individual language pillars, attainment has been the highest in English, then maths followed by science, humanities and the lowest attainment in languages.
- 17.8** EBacc APS in languages remains the limiting factor with an APS of 2.11.
- 18. Outcomes for Children with a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**
- 18.1** In 2020/21, in Kirklees, 640 of pupils at the end of KS4 had a special educational need, with 188 on an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan and 452 with SEND Support needs.
- 18.2** Pupils with SEND have had significantly lower attainment than pupils without SEND across all the headline measures.
- 18.3** The Attainment 8 score for all pupils was 49.5 percentage points in Kirklees in 2020/21.
- 18.4** The Attainment 8 score of SEND pupils with an EHC plan (15.1) improved since last year but below the national average. The gap between Kirklees and the national average has closed from 2.1 to 0.6 percentage points.
- 18.5** SEND pupils with support attained a score of 31.6 percentage points, below the national average by 5.1 percentage points. The gap between Kirklees and the national average has widened for this cohort of pupils since last year.
- 18.6** The percentage of SEND pupils achieving a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths has remained the same at 21.4% since last year, the gap between national averages in this measure for SEND pupils has widened by 3%.
- 18.7** In Kirklees, the proportion of any SEND pupil entered for the EBacc decreased by 3.3%, in comparison to the national average where the reduction in entries was 0.1% since last year.

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Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 26th July 2022
Title of report: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – Transformation plan update

Purpose of report:

To provide an update on the high needs Safety Valve funding and seek authority to progress plans to create additional specialist places to support the needs of children with special educational needs.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes – this will have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards because of the reach of SEND provision and the sites proposed.
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?	Key Decision – Yes Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name.	Mel Meggs – Director of Children's Services – 18/07/22
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston – Service Director for Finance – 18/07/22
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft – Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning – 18/07/22
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr Carole Pattison – Learning, Aspiration and Communities Cllr Viv Kendrick – Children's Services Cllr Paul Davies – Corporate Services

Electoral wards affected: All Ward councillors consulted: SEND provision serves children from across the district, all Ward Councillors have had the opportunity to engage with and respond to a non-statutory consultation about proposed new Additionally Resourced Provision.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes, personally identifiable data is not present in this report.

1. Summary

1.1 Improving the outcomes for our children with special educational and additional needs is at the heart of our agreed 'Inclusive Ambitions' (see Appendix 1) to tackle key inequality issues in Kirklees. By investing in and working with our children and young people and their families at the earliest opportunity, this will support us to help them to achieve their best possible outcomes.

Kirklees wants:

- All our children and young people to have the best start in life
- Our children and young people to be proud to come from Kirklees
- Our children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to live and be educated in Kirklees
- Our children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to make good educational progress, have high aspirations and good life opportunities.

1.2 This report provides an update about an agreement that Kirklees Council has entered into that will support our approach to secure a sustainable financial basis as part of the High Needs funding. This is referred to as 'Safety Valve' funding.

1.3 Kirklees has a comprehensive SEND Transformation Plan (STP) with robust governance. The STP has, at its core, a sufficiency strategy which focuses on enabling more children and young people to secure places and thrive in local educational settings. One part of that strategy is to commission more Additionally Resourced Provisions to meet the needs of our local learners.

1.4 The STP has been fundamental in successfully securing funding from the Education & Skills Funding Agency following two submissions. The first brought in £33.5m to help address the cumulative historic High Needs deficit (See Appendix 2 for a copy of the agreement) and the second, £8.2m capital to further support our ambitions.

1.5 Fundamental changes were introduced nationally as part of legislative reforms under the Children and Families Act 2014, and the Special Educational Needs and Disability code of practice: 0-25 years 2015. Since that time, and like other local areas, Kirklees has experienced an increased demand for Education, Health and Care Plans and subsequent rises in costs. Like many other authorities, over recent years Kirklees Council has seen rising numbers of children with SEND who need additional support.

1.6 Current trajectories, in terms of annual revenue expenditure from the High Needs Block for the education of children with SEND, are unsustainable in the medium to longer term. As part of our wider transformation plans, securing sufficient and suitable places for our learners is a key element to enable us to address this. There has been a significant rise in children with an Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) since 2015 in Kirklees and across the rest of the country.

1.7 Subject to the outcome of a non-statutory consultation which closed on 22nd July 2022, approval is requested to publish statutory proposals and progress plans to

create Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) in a number of schools to support the needs of children with special educational needs.

- 1.8 Increasing the number and type of ARPs in mainstream schools is at the heart of the key recommendation of this report.
- 1.9 Many children and young people with additional learning needs can make better, more sustained progress when they attend mainstream schools. An ARP is a provision in a mainstream school, designed to provide specialist and targeted support for children with SEND. We already have some ARPs across the borough which are very successfully meeting children's needs. We want to build on that model and increase provision for some areas of need – in this case specialising in social, emotional and mental health; cognition and learning; and complex communication and interaction needs.
- 1.10 The ARP proposals in this report are intended to increase the number and geographical spread of ARP provision. Together with a range of supporting projects featured within the SEND Transformation Plan, our plans for more ARP is a fundamental element of our Kirklees strategy to improve outcomes for children, parents and carers whilst mitigating the pressures outlined above and throughout this report.
- 1.11 Kirklees Council has carried out a four-week non-statutory consultation with interested stakeholders on the proposals between 24th June and 22nd July 2022. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review the proposals and comment on them.
- 1.12 Following the publication of the statutory proposals and the outcome of the representation period, the creation of ARPs in maintained schools will be subject to a further report and a final decision by Cabinet. The decision maker for the creation of ARPs in academies is the Regional School Commissioner.

2 Information required to take a decision

Background

The following areas will provide key context and background:-

- Transformation plan
- Safety valve agreement
- Current ARP position and gaps
- School organisation process

Transformation plan

- 2.1 Our partnership across Education, Health and Social Care aims to improve the lives and life chances of children and young people (aged 0-25) with SEND. We shape and co-produce this together with our parents and carers.

- 2.2 A comprehensive SEND Transformation Plan (STP) has been established and implementation of the multi-year programme is well underway. It is noted that work is founded on outcome / financial trajectories and the plans will continue to evolve over the lifetime of the 5-year programme in order to harness emerging best practice and capitalise on opportunities for innovation all with the aim of improving the outcomes for our learners and their families.
- 2.3 The STP focuses on early identification of needs, key strategic investment to flexibly increase capacity and sufficiency, effective transitions for our children as they grow into adulthood, and a focus on inclusivity across all our settings and provision.
- 2.4 A key strand of the SEND Transformation Plan is 'Commissioning and Sufficiency', which includes improving local sufficiency of places across a graduated approach model. (Please see Appendix 3)
- 2.5 A diagram confirming the shape, scale and ambition of Kirklees SEND programme along with its robust governance can be seen at Appendix 4.

Safety Valve Agreement

- 2.6 Kirklees Council was invited to be part of the Safety Valve Conversations with the Department for Education (DfE) in December 2021. Following a period of engagement and negotiation with the DfE a robust deficit reduction plan was submitted and approved which forms the basis for our safety valve agreement. Kirklees Council will receive a total of £33.5m over 5 years to help address the cumulative historic High Needs deficit (See Appendix 2 for a copy of the agreement).
- 2.7 In addition to this funding agreement, Kirklees has also been successful in a submission to the DfE for additional high needs capital of £8.2m funding to support our deficit reduction plan, this is profiled across 2022/23 – 2023/24.
- 2.8 Both of the above successful submissions were based on our existing SEND transformation plan and the ambitions we have for our children, young people and families.
- 2.9 As part of the work towards securing the agreement, trajectories were development in relation to our EHCP numbers and rebalancing or mix of educational placements. The trajectories are linked to each workstream in the SEND transformation plan and form the basis for improving outcomes for our children and young people whilst securing a balanced high needs budget. These workstreams focus on the creation of additional capacity within Kirklees (ARP and New Special Schools) whilst ensuring that our children are educated in the most appropriate settings that suit their needs. Ensuring needs are identified and met early is a key aspect of the SEND Transformation plan. We have developed an Inclusion Support Offer which gives early support and advice to SENCO's, a Graduated Approach in order to support mainstream settings to meet need and supporting staff with the skills and knowledge to ensure outcomes are met.

- 2.10 The outcome of these trajectories was a position at 2026/27 where the High Needs Block will achieve a break-even in year position and result in a cumulative deficit of £33.5m (hence the Safety Valve agreement figure).
- 2.11 In order to achieve this cumulative deficit position and the balanced in year position the DfE were explicit that there should be contributions from both Schools (as part of a block transfer from the Schools Block in the Dedicated Schools Grant) and the Council. As such the Council will 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 High Needs at about 32m per annum, to cover a proportion of the High Needs Costs. Schools Forum had previously agreed to a 0.5% transfer per annum equating to £1.6m each year from 2022/23 onwards and as part of this agreement, investment back into the system will take place – this is starting with the development of the ARPs. An additional £500k annual schools block contribution from 2023/24 and a further £500k from 2024/25 was also submitted as part of the approved plan, following engagement with DfE about their expectations, and subsequently communicated by officers to Schools Forum, acknowledging that the further £500k contributions will still need to formally need to be consulted on and approved by Schools Forum in line with existing DfE guidance on proposed block transfer proposals.
- 2.12 Investment has already started in terms of outreach teams, strand leads (e.g. SEMH, Cognition and Learning), Early Years specialist teachers and practitioners and inclusion partners.
- 2.13 Kirklees has already received £13.5m of the Safety Valve funding in March 2022 and will receive the balance of £20m across 5 equal payments until 2026/27 commencing in 2022/23. This will be based on the performance towards the achievement of the annual target High Needs deficit position. As part of this, monitoring returns will be submitted to the DfE on a quarterly basis and explain if our actual costs are not in line with the trajectories.
- 2.14 As part of the Safety Valve trajectories the Council has committed to a significant Capital investment that will result in two new Special Schools and the creation of 100+ new places to enable our children to be educated locally – Kirklees Council will need to borrow £28m to help fund this. This was the subject of a report to Cabinet on 5th October 2021. Further capital investment will to be required to ensure suitable accommodation is available for ARPs. This work on sufficiency overall, as outlined within this report, will be further supported by the successful £8.2m capital submission to the DfE.

Current ARP Position and Gaps

- 2.15 A key element of our Kirklees SEND strategy is to increase capacity through ARPs. By increasing this provision, space is made available within Specialist Schools which then enables a local response to be taken, positively impacting on the volume of need for out of area placements.

- 2.16 Many children and young people with additional learning needs can make better, more sustained progress when they attend mainstream schools. An ARP is a provision in a mainstream school, designed to provide specialist and targeted support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- 2.17 ARPs receive extra funding, which means they can offer additional support and resources for the pupils who attend the provision. ARPs can offer:
- i. Teaching and support staff with additional knowledge, skills, expertise and allocated time in a particular area of SEND.
 - ii. Specialist environments which support the learning, behaviour and social and emotional needs of each pupil.
 - iii. Systems to identify, plan for and track small-step progress to inform next steps.
 - iv. Lessons in mainstream classes, but with additional specialist resources and teaching.
 - v. Additional Educational Psychologist and specialist health input as necessary.
 - vi. Accommodation and environment that is adapted to meet need. Each ARP specialises in a particular area of special educational need and places are allocated according to the specific needs of the child or young person. Each ARP is an integral part of the school.
- 2.18 Admissions to the ARPs follow a different procedure from that operating for the rest of the school. Admissions into the ARP are made through the Kirklees SEND decision-making groups. These groups include representation from the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Assessment and Commissioning Team, Educational Psychology, School Head Teachers/Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinators, and other multi agency professionals.
- 2.19 We already have ARPs in Kirklees (currently called specialist provisions). The ARP model has been highlighted as an area of good practice in the recent Kirklees SEND inspection. Feedback from parents has been positive and the majority of learners attending ARPs are making very good progress.
- 2.20 Currently we have nine ARPs hosted at mainstream schools in Kirklees. This equates to around 5% of our schools. The greatest proportion of provision is located in the south of the borough, which has significant impact on some learners from other parts of Kirklees attending ARP; travelling time; and emotional regulatory status on arrival at, or on leaving, school.
- 2.21 There are currently no ARPs specialising in either Cognition and Learning needs or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, despite growing demand particularly in the SEMH area.

The processes required to establish ARPs

2.22 The process differs depending on whether a school is maintained by the local authority or an academy.

Maintained schools

2.23 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (the 2013 Regulations) require a statutory process to be followed for establishing, removing or altering special educational needs provision at a mainstream school.

2.24 Table 1 is extracted from the DfE statutory guidance [Making significant changes \(prescribed alterations\) to maintained schools](#) and sets out who can propose to establish, remove or alter SEN provision and what process must be followed:

Table 1.				
Proposer	Type of proposal	Process	Decision-maker	Right of appeal to the adjudicator
LA for community	Establish, remove or alter SEN provision	Statutory process	LA	CofE Diocese RC Diocese
LA for voluntary and foundation	Establish or remove SEN provision	Statutory process	LA	CofE Diocese RC Diocese GB/Trustees
GB of foundation and voluntary	Establish, remove or alter SEN provision	Statutory process	LA	CofE Diocese RC Diocese GB/Trustees

2.25 The DfE Guidance explains that, as the Proposer, the LA must follow the four-stage statutory process set out below:

Table 2. The four-stage statutory process			
Stage	Description	Timescale	Comments
Stage 1	Publication (statutory proposal/notice)		
Stage 2	Representation (formal consultation)	Must be 4 weeks	As set out in the 'Prescribed Alterations' regulations
Stage 3	Decision	LA must decide a proposal within 2 months otherwise it must be referred to the Schools Adjudicator	Any appeal to the adjudicator must be made within 4 weeks of the decision

Table 2. The four-stage statutory process			
Stage	Description	Timescale	Comments
Stage 4	Implementation	No prescribed timescale	It must be as specified in the published statutory notice, subject to any modifications agreed by the decision-maker

2.26 There is no statutory requirement to carry out a 'pre-publication' consultation for altering provision at community or voluntary controlled schools. However, Kirklees carried out a four-week non-statutory consultation with interested stakeholders on the proposals between 24th June and 22nd July 2022. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review the proposals and comment on them. Supporting information shared with the public can be seen at Appendix 5.

Academies

2.27 Feedback from the non-statutory consultation on the proposals will inform a decision by the relevant Academy Trust on whether to submit a significant change business case to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for approval.

2.28 A significant change is defined as 'a change which may have a 'significant' impact on the local school environment, through changing the number and/or type of school places and/or where they are offered'. The process for making significant changes to an academy is modelled on the parallel statutory process that local authority-maintained schools are required to follow when making similar changes. A full business case is required for proposals to add or remove a SEN unit or resourced provision.

2.29 After considering the evidence provided and assessing the impact that the proposed change will have on the quality and capacity of the academy and on local provision, in most cases the RSC will decide (on behalf of the Secretary of State) whether proposals are in line with the needs of the local area.

3. The Proposals

The proposals for new ARPs

3.1 Working in partnership with the Kirklees school system, a first phase of proposals for additional ARPs are outlined in the table below. Our first phase of proposals is intended to increase the number and geographical spread of ARP provision. We have more schools who have expressed an interest in hosting an ARP and work will begin shortly on a second phase to further increase provision. This will be the subject of a future consultation.

Name of School	Phase of school	Maintained or Academy	Places up to	North or South	Additional information
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs					
Beaumont Primary Academy	Primary	Academy	12	South	No existing provision. Proposals deliver primary provision in North and South Kirklees.
Carlinghow Academy	Primary	Academy	12	North	
Complex Communication and Interaction Needs					
Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School	Primary	Maintained	12	Central*	Existing provision in the North. Proposals deliver provision in Central Kirklees. Proposals also deliver primary through to secondary provision on one central site.
Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School	Primary	Maintained	12		
Netherhall Learning Campus High School	Secondary	Maintained	20		
Cognition and Learning					
Old Bank Academy	Primary	Academy	16	North	No existing provision.

* Technically South in terms of school organisation but relatively central by distance.

Additional proposal

- 3.2 Although not operational for two years due to a lack of demand for places, Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School and Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School are registered as having an ARP for 5 transitional places associated with Physical Impairment.
- 3.3 It is proposed that the registered provision for Physical Impairment at Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School and Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School be removed to reflect the current operational position
- 3.4 Taking account of the information in this report the establishment of additional ARPs is considered to be a very positive proposal which will widen services available for children with SEND. It is also important to the commitment made with the DfE in the Safety Valve agreement. To ensure to timely progress of these proposals, Members are asked to approve delegated authority for the Strategic Director for Children's Services to publish statutory proposals for ARPs in maintained schools taking account of the outcome of a non-statutory consultation. The final decision will be made by Cabinet who can also take account of the non-statutory consultation and representations made during the representation period.

4 Implications for the Council

4.1 Working with People

With a focus on early intervention and supporting co-production and design, the approach we are developing illustrates our organisational commitment to working with families, partners, stakeholders and communities. This is highlighted in the development and agreement of a shared set of 'Inclusive Ambitions' across the Kirklees SEND partnership.

Integral to those ambitions and our approach is working with, not 'doing to' our children, young people and families - ensuring voices are heard and valued and views are used to shape provision and support. We want to create a truly person-centred approach to supporting children and young people and their families with a commitment of: "No decision about me is made without me."

In producing change and transformation of outcomes, we are seeking to improve the life experiences and chances of a cohort of young people who consistently benchmark below their peers in relation to educational attainment and employment prospects. Should the proposals in this report be approved, we are committed to working with our families as we progress the delivery of the ARPs.

We commissioned an external review of Specialist Provision which sought the view of parents and other interested parties. The outcome of this has informed the proposals in this report.

4.2 Working with Partners

The transformation of the SEND system to deliver better outcomes and on a sustainable financial basis is reliant on a strong partnership approach with Kirklees internal and external partners.

This opportunity for increased ARPs for Kirklees children and young people cannot be realised without good relationships and collaboration with our education providers, local elected members and communities. Ensuring that we maximise opportunities for the next stages to be shaped by partners will be crucial to ensure that services are joined up and well understood.

4.3 Place Based Working

One of the cornerstones of our SEND transformation plan is building provision within Kirklees to ensure there is sufficient capacity locally to meet need wherever possible. We recognise that some children may need to receive support outside of Kirklees, but we want to ensure that is kept to a minimum through better integration of provision and support across partners.

We are passionate about ensuring services are accessible to our Children and Young People and their families and plan to move towards a place-based approach of joined up working with services across Education, Health and Care.

4.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The aspiration for our SEND strategy is that fewer young people will leave or travel outside of Kirklees. Having services more local and accessible to where people live can have a positive impact on their mode of travel and in doing so, we will contribute to the Council's net zero ambition.

4.5 Improving outcomes for children

The whole of the SEND Transformation Plan focuses on improving outcomes for children. The proposals in this report are integral to successful achievement of our ambition.

Across the partnership, Kirklees have taken significant action to improve SEND services for children and young people aged 0 to 25. This is now captured as part of a clear Inclusion strategic plan.

With the development of our 'Inclusive Ambitions', the direction for us is to work towards shared vision and equal partnership with a clear pathway of improvement across a range of partners, striving for the best outcomes for children and young people with SEND. In modelling the proposals, meeting the needs of children and young people and their preparation for adulthood, has been our key underlying principle and is intrinsic in the proposed delivery of Additionally Resourced Provision.

'Our Kirklees Futures' is our Learning strategy which describes our ambitions for learners in Kirklees. From engagement, three 'obsessions' emerged that would be our areas of relentless focus:

- Inclusion: Children, young people and learners of all backgrounds learn and grow side by side, to the benefit of all.
- Resilience: The ability and support to overcome adversity.
- Equity: Everyone gets the support they need

These obsessions are at the heart of everything we do when planning services for education of children and young people.

The updates and proposals contained in this report contribute to our inclusive ambitions which will lead to improved outcomes for children.

4.6 Financial implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

Providing suitable school places nearer to where families live not only supports place-based working and outcomes for children, but it can also save families time and money because they can travel smaller distances to school events such as parents' evenings.

4.7 Financial – Revenue and Capital

- 4.7.1 As noted earlier in the report at paragraph 2.10 and 2.11, successful submissions to the Education & Skills Funding Agency have brought £33.5m into Kirklees and an additional £8.2m in capital, alongside DfE expectation of additional schools block transfers in 2023/24 and 2024/25, and Council contributions through a combination of earmarked demand reserves and base budget equivalent to £23m additional Council contribution over the 5-year plan. This supports the achievement of an in-year balanced budget, alongside the delivery of improved outcomes and associated savings.
- 4.7.2 In calculating outline investment required we have made the assumption that secondary school capacity is not immediately available (currently accommodating the bulge of secondary) therefore adaptation of existing space for suitability plus provision of additional accommodation may be needed.

Capital Proposal	Description	Total Estimated Cost	Link to overarching Safety Valve proposal
Additionally Resourced Provisions	4 new primary and 3 new secondary	£2.25m	There is an insufficiency of primary specialist provision in most geographical areas and a limited mix to meet the evidenced need.
			There is an insufficiency of specialist provisions focused on social and emotional mental health (SEMH) which is the largest area of growth.

- 4.7.3 The following table demonstrates the potential revenue savings in the High Needs Block based on placing a pupil at an independent school compared with a placement in Additionally Resourced Provision.

Proposal	Average cost of existing placement for this type and category of SEND	Expected cost of placements in new provision	Expected savings to the DSG from new place creation after 3 years	Expected savings to the DSG from new place creation after 5 years
Additionally Resourced Provisions - Primary	£53K (External Placement Cost at Independent School)	£18K	£1.8m	£1.8m
Additionally Resourced Provisions - Secondary	£53K (External Placement Cost at Independent School)	£26K	£1.4m	£1.4m

4.7 Legal Implications

Statutory proposals and Significant Changes to Academies

Details of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 applying to the requirement for a statutory process to be followed for establishing, removing or altering special educational needs provision at a mainstream school are included in the main body of the report.

A similar process is required for significant changes to an academy. The responsibility to submit a business case associated with the proposals rests with each academy trust with the final decision being made by the Regional Schools Commissioner or Department for Education.

4.8 Governance and statutory compliance

The SEND Programme Board oversees the implementation of the SEND Transformation Plan. This work would feature as one of the projects within that plan.

As the work progresses a project team would be created to include school representatives, partners as well as Council Officers to design, plan and deliver all activity to successfully deliver the required outcomes and outputs.

5. Consultees and their opinions

5.1 Kirklees have carried out a four-week non-statutory consultation with interested stakeholders on the proposals. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review the proposals and comment on them. This closed on 22 July.

6. Next steps and timelines

Given the different processes described above, post consultation, the next steps differ depending on whether a school is an academy or is maintained by the local authority.

Maintained schools

All feedback from the non-statutory consultation described above will be published on the council's website in a consultation outcome report. This will inform a decision by the local authority on whether to move to the next stage. Moving to the next stage for one or more of the proposals would mean the publication of statutory proposal followed by a representation period. The representation period would provide another chance for interested parties to comment on the proposal them before a final decision is made by Cabinet.

The following table shows the next steps involved in the process. Dates are subject to change and would be dependent on Cabinet approvals requested in this report.

Milestone	Date
Publication of consultation outcome report	August/September 2022
Publication of statutory proposals/notices and representation period	September/October 2022
Final decision by Cabinet (within 2 months)	November/December 2022
Implementation from	January 2023

Academies

Feedback from the non-statutory consultation will inform a decision by an academy on whether to move to the next stage. Moving to the next stage for one or more proposals would involve relevant academy trust submitting a business case to the RSC.

The following table shows the next steps involved in the process. Dates are subject to change as they are not in the direct control of the council.

Milestone	Date
Publication of consultation outcome report	August/September 2022
Significant change business case submitted to the RSC from	September 2022
Final decision by RSC	To be confirmed
Implementation from	January 2023

Subject to the outcomes of the consultation and Cabinet approval to the recommendations in this report, Officers will work in partnership with relevant academy trusts to provide the support they required to complete the 'significant change process'.

7. Officer recommendations and reasons

7.1 Based on the content of this report, Officers make the following recommendations to Cabinet. Members are asked to:

- a. Note the Safety Valve update / agreement with the Education & Skills Funding Agency.
- b. Authorise 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 proposals to establish, change or discontinue Additionally Resourced Provision in schools maintained by the Council as prescribed in the 2013 Regulations. Cabinet shall consider and determine the published proposals following the end of the representation period.

- iii. Authorise Officers 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.

8. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

This report continues to affirm Kirklees ambition to make a difference for and with the people of Kirklees. This is founded on engagement, working with and creating local provision for local children.

Working together with schools, we can see the opportunities that Additionally Resourced Provision can bring to meet the needs of some of our most vulnerable learners locally within Kirklees.

These proposals represent significant investment and illustrate our commitment to removing barriers and addressing inequalities – this is about doing the right thing for children and their families both now, and for years to come. It is for these reasons that we support the officer recommendations and will want to ensure that officers commit their time to working with pupils, parents and carers and partners as the ARP proposals are developed and implemented.

9. Contact officer

Kelsey Clark-Davies – Head of Education Safeguarding and Inclusion
01484 221000 kelsey.clark-davies@kirklees.gov.uk

Martin Wilby – Head of Education Places and Access
01484 221000 martin.wilby@kirklees.gov.uk

10. Background Papers and History of Decisions

- SEND Code of Practice 2015
- 16th March 2021 Kirklees Council Cabinet Report - Proposed changes to top-up funding allocations for children in mainstream schools with an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) from 1st April 2021
[210227 Mainstream Funding Top Ups Cabinet report V4.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)
- 16th March 2021 Kirklees Council Cabinet Report - Procuring an External Business Partner - SEND
[Cabinet report SEND Transformation FINAL V2.pdf \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](#)
- 5th October 2021 Kirklees Council Cabinet Report -
[Capital investment and rebuild of 2 Special Schools](#)

11. Service Director responsible

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director for Learning and Early Support 01484 221000 jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk

Tom Brailsford - Service Director- Resources, Improvement and Partnerships 01484 221000 tom.brailsford@kirklees.gov.uk

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Our Kirklees Inclusive Ambitions

Appendix 2 – Safety Valve Agreement

Appendix 3 – Continuum of provision / Graduated approach

Appendix 4 – SEND Programme governance

Appendix 5 – Non statutory consultation supporting public information

Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 26th July 2022
Title of report: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – Transformation plan update

12. Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Our Kirklees Inclusive Ambitions
- Appendix 2 – Continuum of provision / Graduated approach
- Appendix 3 – SEND Programme governance
- Appendix 4 – Safety Valve Agreement
- Appendix 5 – Non statutory consultation supporting public information

Appendix 1

Kirklees Inclusive Ambitions (Developed in Workshops Autumn/Winter 2020)

1. We will have a renewed focus on responsive and holistic early intervention for children and young people, refocusing resources to produce a varied multi agency offer including the use of the community and assistive technology and building the skills of the workforce to work preventatively.
2. Families and carers feel empowered and supported. They have strong knowledge of the support available and there is a clear culture of trust between professionals and families. This will enable a shared understanding of needs; the joint support required to meet them and a clear focus on aspirations.
3. Children and young people feel included across the community and within education settings. Schools are celebrated and held accountable for their pupil centred inclusive practice, and the contribution of individuals with additional needs is better understood across the system. This will mean that more children are able to be supported in mainstream settings across Kirklees.
4. Children and young people are able to thrive within their education settings and are supported to access an education that is flexible and empathetic to their needs. Needs are addressed in a proactive and individual way. Schools focus on and measure an individual's holistic outcomes, recognising success outside of purely academic achievements.
5. The system works in an integrated way, using its resources to take a holistic and targeted approach to needs whilst creating a seamless journey for children, young people and their families. This means that bureaucracy is reduced, and that children and young people are able to receive the right support at the right time.
6. Professionals are empowered to meet the needs of children and young people and support them to achieve their aspirations. This is achieved through embedding a shared culture of proactivity; holistic skills and knowledge across the workforce; and creating clear pathways for meeting needs.
7. Children and young people are supported to have clear aspirations for the future, with a focus on independence and preparing for adulthood. Throughout a young person's journey, they are supported to achieve their aspirations through the support they receive. Ultimately, this will mean more young people enter education, employment and training as they progress into adulthood.

Appendix 2 – Safety Valve Agreement

1. This agreement is between the Department for Education and Kirklees Council and covers the financial years from 2021-22 to 2026-27.
2. The authority undertakes to reach a positive in-year balance on its Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) account by the end of 2026-27 and in each subsequent year. The authority undertakes to control and reduce the cumulative deficit as follows, not including any contribution made by the department through this agreement:

Year	Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end¹ £m
2021-22	£34.0m
2022-23	£36.5m
2023-24	£37.6m
2024-25	£37.0m
2025-26	£35.1m
2026-27	£33.0m

3. The authority agrees to implement the DSG management plan that it has set out. This includes action to:
 - 3.1 Ensure inclusive co-production and engagement is and will be central in approach to understand children's, young people's and family needs and how these are best met by a range of settings services, local schools and at home;
 - 3.2 Implement joint commissioning and sufficiency strategies, re-balancing the range of placements, services and provision locally. These will include rebuilding and creating additional SEMH and Complex ASD special school places and increasing additionally resourced provision, to ensure a sufficient mix of flexible services and local placements for children and young people;

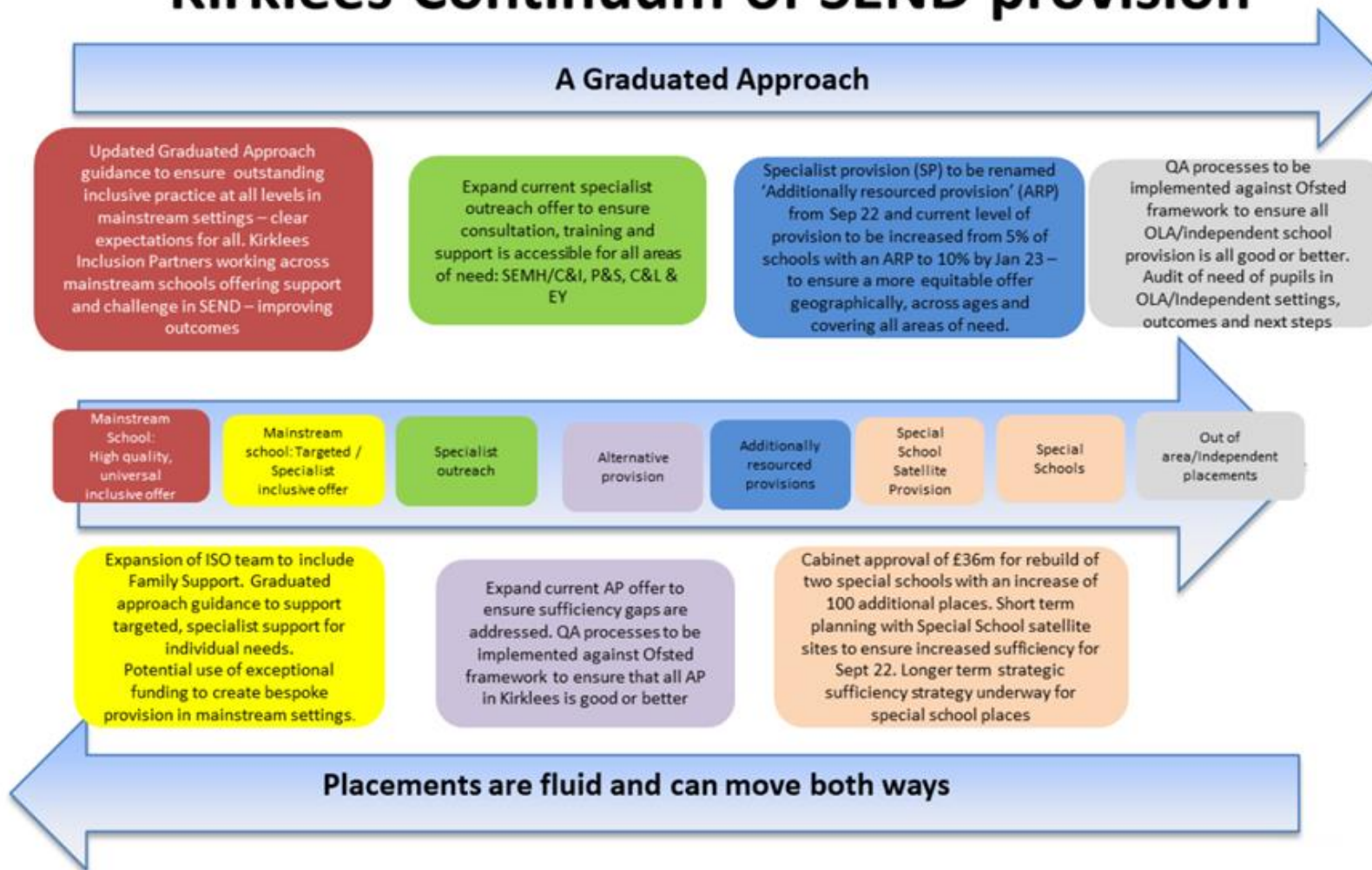
- 3.3 Support children with SEND in mainstream schools by continuing to develop and implement the graduated approach, outreach support model and inclusion strategies which further develop the skills, expertise and capacity of the workforce;
- 3.4 Ensure that children and young people are being prepared for adulthood throughout their life course, promoting a focus on independence and transition as early as possible in a child's and families journey;
- 3.5 Ensure that children, young people and families have the right help at the earliest possible opportunity at a time that is right for them. This will mean having their needs met at the most appropriate level of provision without the need escalate into formal processes in order to have that need met. This will build on approaches being implemented including outcome-based tools such as VSEND ensuring need is understood holistically and can be met at school and at home; and our inclusion support offer (ISO) providing advice and support for professionals and families;
- 3.6 Continue to review assessment and decision-making processes to ensure decisions are made transparently, in a timely manner and in partnership with children young people and families. This will involve the implementation of a range of holistic assessments tools engaging professionals and families and consolidating improvements and timeliness in our EHCP assessments and reviews;
- 3.7 Develop and implement inclusion strategies to further develop skills, expertise, and capacity to support children with SEND in mainstream schools.
4. The authority also agrees to ongoing monitoring of its performance in fulfilling this agreement. The authority will:
 - 4.1 Report quarterly (as a minimum) in writing to the Department (Funding Policy Unit) on its progress towards implementing the plan as per the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3;
 - 4.2 The monitoring reports should include progress against the conditions of grant and a financial dashboard detailing various metrics relating to demand and cost. DfE will provide a template for this;
 - 4.3 Inform the Department (Funding Policy Unit) of any unforeseen difficulties or impacts of carrying out the agreement, or any significant risks to reaching the agreed financial position as soon as they arise;
 - 4.4 Meet with the Department at any time when the Department deems it necessary to discuss progress towards the agreement.
5. The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £13.5 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2021-22. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in paragraph 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Kirklees should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2026-27.

The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £m of DSG by year end 2021-22 £13.5m 2022-23 £4.0m 2023-24 £4.0m 2024-25 £4.0m 4 2025-26 £4.0m 2026-27 £4.0m.

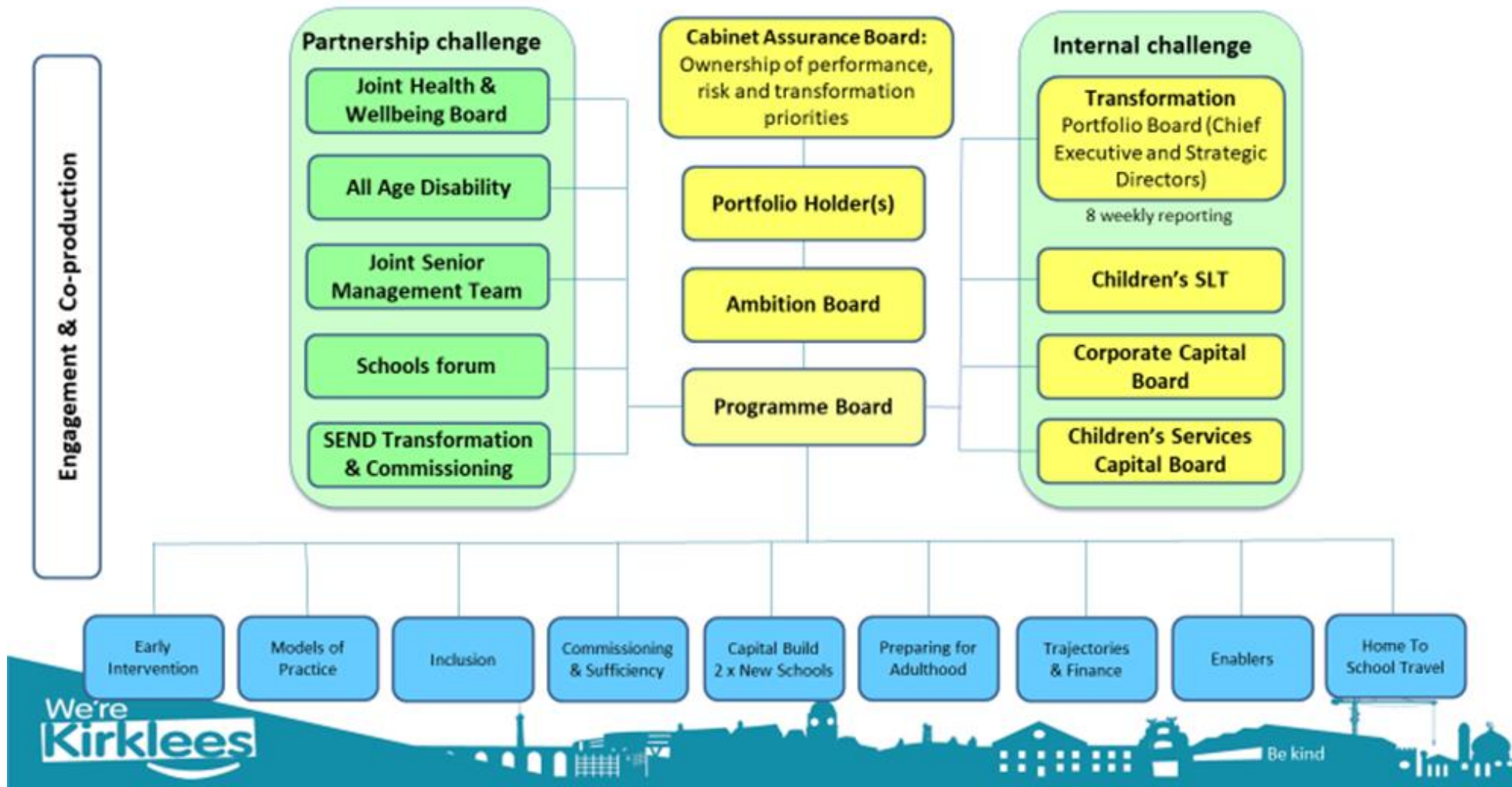
6. The Department has also sent a commission relating to the local authority's capital plans for the creation of new places for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or those requiring alternative provision (AP). It is critical that the authority considers its revenue and capital plans holistically – in developing capital proposals, the Department expects local authorities to have a keen eye on the efficiencies that need to be made and how they can invest wisely to secure financially sustainable high needs systems.
7. As such, capital proposals will need to demonstrate how investment is aligned to, or further develops, the reform plans and savings outlined in this agreement. Proposals will need to focus on projects that can be delivered quickly to improve the local provision offer and meet identified gaps in local provision. The Department will assess and review proposals against set criteria which have been outlined in the commission. Subject to that assessment, the Department will consider making a capital contribution to these plans in 2022-23 as a top-up to the local authority's High Needs Provision Allocation (HNPCA), which will be announced in Spring. Progress against delivery of those capital plans should then be integrated into the quarterly reporting to the department as part of the monitoring of this agreement.
8. This agreement is subject to review at any time, for example as a result of the following events:
 - 8.1 Higher or lower DSG formula funding levels for the authority in future financial years than those the authority has assumed;
 - 8.2 Significant changes to national SEND policy, for example as a result of the government SEND Review, which impact on elements of the plan;
 - 8.3 Insufficient progress being made towards the authority reaching and sustaining an in-year balance on its DSG account as set out in the plan;
 - 8.4 Whether Kirklees is awarded additional capital funding support following the capital application process. The review process will include an assessment of the impact of the change in circumstances.

Appendix 3 – Continuum of SEND Provision / Graduated Approach

Kirklees Continuum of SEND provision



SEND Programme Governance



Developing Special Educational Needs (SEND) provision in mainstream schools

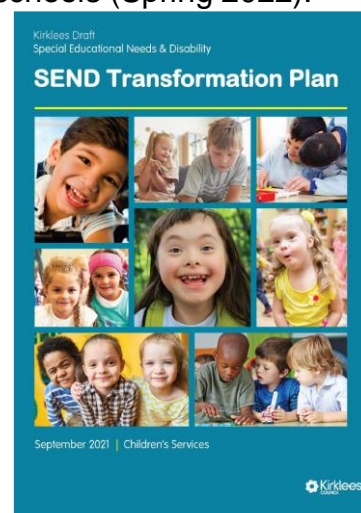
Consultation on the proposal for new **Additionally Resourced Provisions in mainstream schools, specialising in social, emotional and mental health; cognition and learning; and complex communication and interaction needs.**

Introduction and Background

Our vision for children and young people in Kirklees is that they have the best start in life. Our aspirations for children and young people with SEND are no different to those we hold for all children.

62,665 pupils between the age of 4 and 16 years attend 170 publicly funded mainstream schools in Kirklees - from infant to secondary and all-through schools. There is a diverse mixture of maintained schools and academies within Kirklees. There are 10,098 pupils aged 4 to 16 years with SEND - 7,866 at SEND Support and 2,232 with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Of these, 9,407 pupils are educated in mainstream schools and settings and 691 in special schools (Spring 2022).

Our partnership across Education, Health and Social Care aims to improve the lives and life chances of children and young people (aged 0-25) with SEND. We will achieve this through delivering our [SEND Transformation Plan](#) which focuses on early identification of needs, key strategic investment to flexibly increase capacity and sufficiency, effective transitions for our children as they grow, and a focus on inclusivity across all our settings and provision.



Within our SEND Transformation Plan we have worked with stakeholders across Kirklees to develop our 'Inclusive Ambitions', which are:

- Responsive and holistic early intervention
- Culture of trust with parents and families
- Inclusive practice in the community and within education settings
- Children and young people thriving in education settings and celebrating more holistic outcomes and achievements
- An integrated system
- Embedding a shared culture of proactivity, holistic skills and knowledge
- Supporting children to have clear aspirations with a focus on preparing for adulthood

A key strand of the SEND Transformation Plan is 'Commissioning and Sufficiency', which includes improving local sufficiency of places across a graduated approach model.

Kirklees Continuum of SEND provision

A Graduated Approach

Updated Graduated Approach guidance to ensure outstanding inclusive practice at all levels in mainstream settings – clear expectations for all. Kirklees Inclusion Partners working across mainstream schools offering support and challenge in SEND – improving outcomes

Expand current specialist outreach offer to ensure consultation, training and support is accessible for all areas of need: SEMH/C&I, P&S, C&L & EY

Specialist provision (SP) to be renamed 'Additionally resourced provision' (ARP) from Sep 22 and current level of provision to be increased from 5% of schools with an ARP to 10% by Jan 23 – to ensure a more equitable offer geographically, across ages and covering all areas of need.

QA processes to be implemented against Ofsted framework to ensure all OLA/independent school provision is all good or better. Audit of need of pupils in OLA/Independent settings, outcomes and next steps

Mainstream School: High quality, universal inclusive offer

Mainstream school: Targeted / Specialist inclusive offer

Specialist outreach

Alternative provision

Additionally resourced provisions

Special School Satellite Provision

Special Schools

Out of area/independent placements

Expansion of ISO team to include Family Support. Graduated approach guidance to support targeted, specialist support for individual needs. Potential use of exceptional funding to create bespoke provision in mainstream settings.

Expand current AP offer to ensure sufficiency gaps are addressed. QA processes to be implemented against Ofsted framework to ensure that all AP in Kirklees is good or better

Cabinet approval of £36m for rebuild of two special schools with an increase of 100 additional places. Short term planning with Special School satellite sites to ensure increased sufficiency for Sept 22. Longer term strategic sufficiency strategy underway for special school places

Placements are fluid and can move both ways

be kind



What is Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP)?

Many children and young people with additional learning needs can make better, more sustained progress when they attend mainstream schools. An ARP is a provision in a mainstream school, designed to provide specialist and targeted support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). ARPs receive extra funding, which means they can offer additional support and resources for the pupils who attend the provision. ARPs can offer:

- Teaching and support staff with additional knowledge, skills, expertise and allocated time in a particular area of SEND.
- Specialist environments which support the learning, behaviour and social and emotional needs of each pupil.
- Systems to identify, plan for and track small-step progress to inform next steps.
- Lessons in mainstream classes, but with additional specialist resources and teaching.
- Additional Educational Psychologist and specialist health input as necessary.
- Accommodation and environment that is adapted to meet need.

Each ARP specialises in a particular area of special educational need and places are allocated according to the specific needs of the child or young person. Each ARP is an integral part of the school.

Our existing ARPs

We already have Additionally Resourced Provisions in Kirklees (although we currently call these specialist provisions). The ARP model was highlighted as an area of good practice in the recent Kirklees SEND inspection. Feedback from parents was positive and the majority of learners attending ARPs are making very good progress.

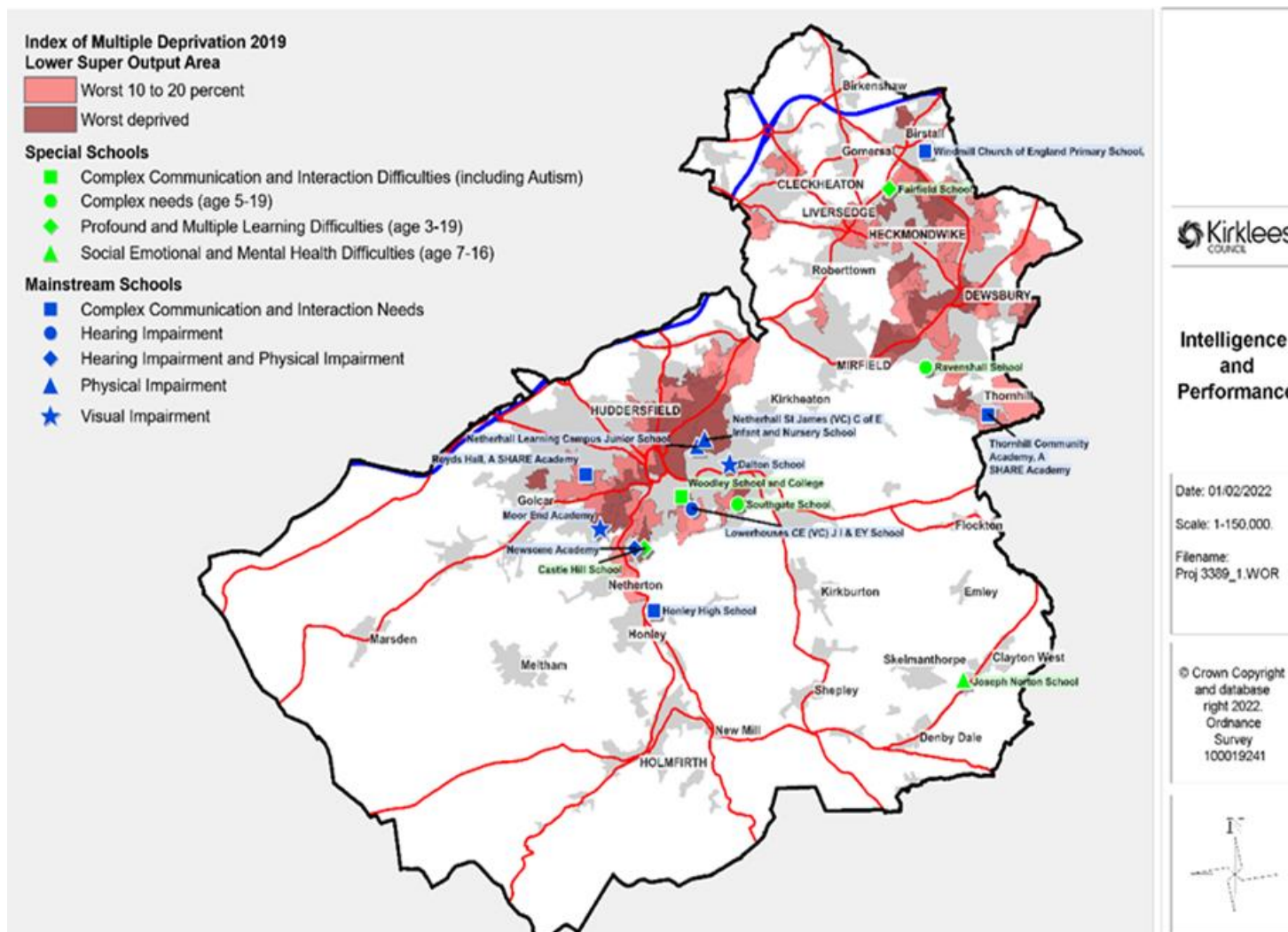
Currently we have nine ARPs hosted at mainstream schools in Kirklees. This equates to around 5% of our schools. The greatest proportion of provision is located in the south of the borough, which has significant impact on some learners from other parts of Kirklees attending ARP; travelling time; and emotional regulatory status on arrival at, or on leaving, school. There are no ARPs specialising in either Cognition and Learning needs or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, despite growing demand particularly in the SEMH area.

Existing ARPs:

Strand	Primary	Secondary
Hearing Impairment	Lowerhouses CE (VC) JI & EY School (South) 14 places	Newsome Academy (South) 14 places
Visual Impairment	Dalton School (South) 14 places	Moor End Academy (South) 14 places
Complex Communication and Interaction Needs	Windmill Church of England Primary School (North) 12 places	Royds Hall Community School (South) 24 places Honley High School (South) 20 places Thornhill Community Academy (North) 20 places
Physical Impairment	see additional proposal below	Newsome Academy (South) 14 places

Location of existing provision

Special Schools and Mainstream Specialist Provision



Additionally Resourced Provision in Kirklees has been known up to now as Specialist Provision.

In this document and going forward, we will refer to all such provision as **Additionally Resourced Provision**.

This will bring us in line with terminology used by the Department for Education and other local authorities.

The proposals for new ARPs

Working in partnership with our schools, we have identified a first phase of proposals which are outlined in the table below. Our first phase of proposals is intended to increase the number and geographical spread of ARP provision. We have more schools who have expressed an interest in hosting an ARP and work will begin shortly on a second phase to further increase provision. This will be the subject of a future consultation.

Name of School	Phase of school	Maintained or Academy	Places up to	North or South	Additional information
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs					
Beaumont Primary Academy	Primary	Academy	12	South	No existing provision. Proposals deliver primary provision in North and South Kirklees.
Carlinghow Academy	Primary	Academy	12	North	
Complex Communication and Interaction Needs					
Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School	Primary	Maintained	12	Central *	Existing provision in the North. Proposals deliver provision in Central Kirklees.
Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School	Primary	Maintained	12		
Netherhall Learning Campus High School	Secondary	Maintained	20		Proposals also deliver primary through to secondary provision on one central site.
Cognition and Learning					
Old Bank Academy	Primary	Academy	16	North	No existing provision.

* Technically South in terms of school organisation but relatively central by distance

Additional Proposal

Although not operational for two years due to a lack of demand for places, Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School and Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School are registered as having ARP for 5 transitional places associated with Physical Impairment.

Proposal: Remove the registered provision for Physical Impairment at Netherhall St James CE (VC) Infant and Nursery School and Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School

Admission and pupil numbers

Admissions to the ARPs follow a different procedure from that operating for the rest of the school. Admissions into the ARP will be through the Kirklees SEND decision-making groups. These groups include representation from the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Assessment and Commissioning Team, Educational Psychology, School Head Teachers/Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Co-ordinators, and other multi agency professionals.

What happens next?

This consultation is open between 24 June 2022 and 22 July 2022. During this time, we are inviting feedback about the proposals outlined in this consultation. You can express your views online, by email, or in person at a consultation event.

Once the consultation has finished, the next steps in the process will differ depending on whether a school is an academy or is maintained by the local authority.

Maintained schools

All feedback will be published in a consultation outcome report. This will inform a decision by the local authority on whether to move to the next stage. Moving to the next stage for one or more of the proposals would mean the publication of legal notices and another chance to view the proposals and comment on them before a final decision is made. The following table shows the next steps involved in the process. Dates are subject to change and would be dependent on Cabinet approval to move to each stage.

Milestone	Date
Publication of consultation outcome report	August/September 2022
Publication of statutory proposals/notices and representation period	September/October 2022
Final decision by Cabinet (within 2 months)	November/December 2022
Implementation from	January 2023

Academies

All feedback will be published in a consultation outcome report. This will inform a decision on whether to move to the next stage by the relevant Academy Trust. Moving to the next stage for one or more of the proposals would mean the Academy Trust will submit a significant change business case to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for approval.

Milestone	Date
Publication of consultation outcome report	August/September 2022
Significant change business case submitted to the RSC from	September 2022
Final decision by RSC	To be confirmed
Implementation from	January 2023

Have your say

Online: You can take part in the consultation by completing the online consultation form on our website at:

www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation

In person: You can find out more about the proposals by attending one of the consultation drop-in sessions. Details of these events will be published on the following website: www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation

Email: Please note that you can contact us via email should you have any queries regarding these proposals. Please send emails to: school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk

Please make sure you respond by **Friday 22 July 2022** to ensure that your views are heard.