

# 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: Jenny Bryce-Chan

Email: [jenny.bryce-chan@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.bryce-chan@kirklees.gov.uk)

Friday 10 November 2023

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### **Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel**

The **Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Meeting Room 3 - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **10.00 am** on **Monday 20 November 2023**.

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Muscroft', on a light-colored background.

**Julie Muscroft**

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

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

## **The Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel members are:-**

### **Member**

Councillor Hannah McKerchar (Chair) subject to Council approval 15.11.23

Councillor Zarina Amin

Councillor Tyler Hawkins

Councillor Susan Lee-Richards

Councillor Harry McCarthy

Councillor John Taylor

Jonathan Milner (Co-Optee)

Chris Friend (Co-Optee)

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

---

### Pages

**1: Membership of the Panel**

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

---

**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 8

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 10 October 2023.

---

**3: Declaration of Interests**

9 - 10

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

---

**4: Admission of the Public**

Most agenda items take place in public. This only changes where there is a need to consider exempt information, as contained at Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. You will be informed at this point which items are to be recommended for exclusion and to be resolved by the Panel.

---

**5: Deputations/Petitions**

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

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, Members of the Public must submit a deputation in writing, at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting and shall subsequently be notified if the deputation shall be heard. A maximum of four deputations shall be heard at any one meeting.

---

## **6: Public Question Time**

To receive any public questions.

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

Any questions must be submitted in writing at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

---

## **7: Interim Housing Position Statement for Boosting Supply** 11 - 18

The purpose of the report is to:

- highlight the content of the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply which has been prepared as a positive and proactive response to the lack of a five-year housing land supply,
- note the timeline for next steps to progress to Cabinet for a decision to approve the document.

**Contact:** Mathias Franklin, Head of Planning and Development and Andrea Lane, Senior Planning Officer,

---

## **8: Update on Our Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint** 19 - 30

The purpose of this report is to give an update on the progress of Our Cultural Heart programme following Cabinet approval at Gateway 3 on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to progress the delivery of Phase 1 of the masterplan.

Work is now progressing in preparation for Cabinet to review the programme again at Phase 1 Gateway 4 in December 2023.

**Contact:** David Glover, Senior Responsible Officer, Cultural Heart

---

**9: Work Programme and Forward Plan**

31 - 44

The Panel will consider its Work Programme and Forward Plan of Key Decisions items relating to Growth and Regeneration.

**Contact:** Jenny Bryce-Chan, Principal Governance Officer

---

This page is intentionally left blank

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### GROWTH AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL

**Tuesday 10th October 2023**

Present: Councillor Moses Crook (Chair)  
Councillor Zarina Amin  
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards

Co-optees Chris Friend

In attendance: Councillor Elizabeth Smaje, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee  
Councillor Graham Turner, Portfolio Holder, Finance and Regeneration  
Edward Highfield, Service Director, Skills and Regeneration  
Gillian Wallace, Head of Employment and Skills  
Jonathan Nunn, Policy and Partnership Team Manager

Apologies: Councillor Tyler Hawkins  
Councillor Harry McCarthy  
Councillor John Taylor  
Jonathan Milner (Co-Optee)

#### **1 Membership of the Panel**

Apologies were received from Cllr Tyler Hawkins, Cllr Harry McCarthy, Cllr John Taylor and Jonathan Milner.

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

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2023, be approved subject to the following corrections:

That the term REBA be corrected to RIBA, (Royal Institute of British Architects).  
That the term DELUC be corrected to DLUHC (Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities).

#### **3 Declaration of Interests**

No interest were declared.

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

All agenda items were considered in public session.

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

No deputations or petitions were received.

**6 Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

**7 Inclusive Economy Strategy**

Cllr Graham Turner introduced the item, advising that it was recognised that the Economic Strategy needed revisiting, and a decision was taken that rather than a wholesale rewrite, the strategy would be refreshed. Many of the principles and aims of the strategy is based on an inclusive economy and attracting inward investment to create a strong vibrant local economy. Since the strategy was created, there have been changes both nationally and internationally, and therefore a refresh was overdue. The revised strategy will be brought before Cabinet and Council in early 2024.

Edward Highfield, Service Director, Skills and Regeneration, referencing the presentation, highlighted key points in terms of drivers for change. In summary, the Panel was informed that the macroeconomic factors of Covid, the cost of living crisis, the impact of the war in Ukraine, energy prices and inflation would have a greater impact on the Kirklees economy than factors that could be controlled locally. The Panel was further informed that it is not possible to control the economy, however, where possible, the aim is to influence the local economy whilst being cognisant of the bigger economic factors. It is important to accentuate the positive opportunities, by influencing and being aware of macroeconomic factors using proactive resources with partners.

Timing is crucial whilst refreshing the strategy, as economic factors change, therefore it becomes dated very quickly, however, it is important that there is a local articulation of priorities that can be used for multiple audiences. The Panel was advised that Kirklees economic outlook, lags behind the regional and national average, despite recent growth with factors including, gross value added (gva), earnings, productivity and average wages. These are long term priorities which take a number of years to see a positive trend.

Edward Highfield advised that gva and productivity is essential as it drives earnings, quality of life, choices and inclusion in the district. The impact of Covid was less severe than first predicted, for example, the high numbers of unemployment expected never came to fruition. The impact of covid was more entrenched, nuanced and differential to different communities. Kirklees has a relatively high level of employment, however; this masks low wage and insecure employment that impacts on people, and there is significant economic inactivity.

By pulling together data from a number of sources, it gives an overall picture and there are significant headwinds around automation, artificial intelligence, inflation, input costs, energy and climate change that affect the global economy, which also impacts Kirklees. Whilst it is recognised that these factors are global, it is still important to have local articulation and a placed based narrative with an ambition to develop and stimulate the type of economy Kirklees requires. Therefore, it is important to identify opportunities and develop a response to the major headlines.



## Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2023

In refreshing the strategy, the aim is to reach multiple audiences, is concise, speaks to its democratic accountability and political leadership and is readable. It is important that the strategy is not just a Council document, but is owned by a wider set of stakeholders and anchor institutions such as the college or the university. The strategy should be reflective of Kirklees, translating West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and Mayoral priorities down to a local level is also important. Local priorities are captured in the document and then can be matched to funding opportunities that may come along in the future.

The output of the refreshed strategy will focus on some of the long term structural challenges such as skills, aspiration and entrepreneurship and will be owned by the Council and some of its partners. Some key actions will be delivered over the next three to five years, deliverables that can be influenced and controlled with discretionary investment or investment from partners. The Economic Strategy is one of the four top tier strategies in Kirklees which also include, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Inclusive Communities Framework and the Environment Strategy.

Businesses are an important aspect of delivering the strategy as they create jobs, therefore it is important to be an attractive place to encourage businesses to come to Kirklees. The intention is to become a more productive economy in order to command and pay people a better wage which in turn will improve their quality of life and living standards. Referencing the presentation slide, the Panel was informed that nationally the bottom 10% had seen no improvement in living standards over the last 20 years (Indexed (2000/1 = 100) real median household disposable income (after housing cost) by decile, 2000/1). The data showed that a different approach is required to impact on the bottom 10%, and questions need to be asked about what has been undertaken in the last 20 years and what need to be done differently moving forward.

The Panel was directed to the presentation that outlined the 'plan on a page' with the following headings:

- People – The people element is with regards to the Employment and Skills Plan
- Place – Physical and Infrastructure based elements that affect the economy
- Business/Partners – Startup and Entrepreneurship raised across the district

In response to the information presented, the Panel made comment and asked questions including some of the following:

- Given that success is to achieve growth alongside a reduction in inequality, do you feel that sufficient emphasis has been given to that priority within the current strategy or is that being worked on in the refresh, in particular the bottom 10% as outlined in the presentation?
- Is it possible to explain, as referred to in the appended report and during the presentation, the key indicators and what Kirklees has to offer that is distinct to other areas?

## **Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2023**

- If it is recognised that Kirklees has a distinctive offer that attracts businesses, how then do you encourage business growth?
- With regards to the poorest decile, a large portion of those are from the Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, how is this being measured and what steps are being taken to ensure that those communities are getting into jobs and apprenticeships?
- Is Kirklees in danger of falling behind some of its neighbours, for example Leeds and Bradford? The reason being that people might work, spend their leisure time and gain better salaries in other areas, but live in Kirklees because it's cheaper.
- How is the economic strategy going to help develop better transport links across the whole of Kirklees, to enable the movement of people?
- For a number of years there has been a large decline in retail as it has shifted online and leisure facilities. Is the Council looking at offering incentives to get those facilities into Kirklees?
- Where is the affordability, in relation to the financial strategies of the Council, in being able to deliver on the economic strategy?
- Will there be a promotional campaign to say 'This is Kirklees' as there does not appear to be one in the public domain?

In response to the question regarding a promotional campaign, Edward Highfield advised that a promotional video entitled 'Invest Kirklees' had been produced and agreed that it would be shared with panel members.

### **RESOLVED:**

That Edward Highfield, be thanked for providing an update on the Inclusive Economy Strategy.

That the promotion video 'Invest Kirklees' be circulated to panel members.

## **8 An Overview of Post 16 Skills, Training and Apprenticeships**

Gillian Wallace, Head of Employment and Skills provided the panel with an update on activities related to Post 16 employment and skills in Kirklees, and an overview of programmes being delivered directly by the Council.

In summary, the panel was informed that employment skills is a broad area and is growing in scope and importance. The aim of the update today is to give a top line overview of the approach, the reasons, partners and the projects and programmes being undertaken. The focus of the information is based on adult provision and less information on provision taking place with school aged children.

The Panel was provided with the following information:

- Unemployment claimant rate remained steady at 4.3% (August 2023)
- Kirklees employment rate is the lowest in the region at 73%
- Economic inactivity rate, which is where people are actively removing themselves from the labour market, is the highest at 27%

## **Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2023**

The Employment Skills Team, works to address some of the challenges, however this is only part of the solution. The employment and skills infrastructure is complex and is a mix of national, regional, and local provisions that the Council can only deliver a part of. A key part of the role is influencing the delivery that is taking place nationally and regionally and bringing partners together to address this, through the Employment Skills Partnership.

The panel was informed that the Local Skills Improvement Plan is now published, and focus is on a Local Skills Improvement Fund which has the potential to make a real difference to some of the skills provisions on offer in Kirklees.

The Panel was directed to key statistics in the presentation, which outlined a number of graphs, showing that the unemployment claimant rate has remained steady at 4.3%, however, the estimated claimant rate amongst young people (18 – 24) in Kirklees was 6.2% and increasing. Intervention is required as unemployed adults can often remain unemployed for their life cycle; therefore a great deal of attention is required to address this. Comparing Kirklees to the regional and national averages, it is evident that Kirklees has the lowest employment rate and the highest inactivity rate. There is also evidence to show that the economic inactivity rate does vary across selected disadvantaged groups such as disabled people, people with low skills and ethnic minority groups. This needs to be the area of focus in order to influence the figures.

The panel was informed that there has been year on year growth in job postings across all sectors, for all five local authorities in West Yorkshire. In order to address productivity issues, there needs to be a focus on people that are not in the labour market, and match them to available vacancies.

Low skills can often be a barrier to people entering the labour market, however it is recognised that not having a proportion of people with higher skills can also be a barrier to productivity. It is generally accepted that a Level 2 qualification is required to enter the labour market and statistics show that 26% of the population in Kirklees are qualified up to this level, with only 34% up to level 4. On a positive note, young people in Kirklees are achieving qualifications at Level 2 and 3, enabling them to enter into the labour market with the qualifications that they need in order to access well paid jobs.

Young people that can access free school meals are only achieving 64% of the qualifications that are required to enter the labour market, compared to 85% of young people not on free school meals. The Council's responsibility is to address some of these challenges, in conjunction with a number of externally funded skills and employability programmes.

The adult and community learning provision, which is a fair steps provision working with adults that have no or low level qualifications, has seen a record number of learners accessing the provision and also leaving with some qualifications.

The European Social Fund Works Better suite of programmes that supported those out of work, is coming to an end, and is in its final 6 months of delivery, however it is important that people continue to be supported, both in terms of being able to

## Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2023

access work or further skills development. Employment Kirklees, directly supports people that are employed, who still access benefits because the work is low paid, to develop their skills and improve their quality of life.

Apprenticeships are unique in the way they allow people of all ages to develop qualifications while in work. Over the years, Kirklees has put emphasis on developing apprenticeships and will continue to do so going forward. Support is given to employers to help them fund the apprenticeship and training in addition to accessing the talent pool in the district.

To date:

- £91k of Kirklees Council apprenticeship levy has been committed for transferring to Kirklees Small and Medium Enterprises, which will cover the training costs associated with apprenticeships.
- Facilitated the transfer of a further £236k of levy from large employers, supporting 28 apprenticeships.

The Panel was informed that the Local Supported Employment initiative is a new program which actively supports people with Learning Disabilities (LD) and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) into paid and sustainable employment. It is a pilot programme that is part funded by the Department for Work and Pension (DWP), working with both employers and individuals. While it is still early days with the programme, there are some early successes and interest from employers wanting to know how they can support this cohort.

Gillian Wallace advised that it was recognised that with the employment and skills journey, there needed to be a partnership in place that could come together pooling resources. In response to this, an Employment and Skills Partnership (ESP) that would work together to influence regional and national programmes was established. The ESP works closely with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) on Skills connect and Skills Bootcamp programmes to bridge the gap between level 2 and level 4 skills.

The Local Skills Improvement Plan is a document that has been produced by the Chambers of Commerce and funded by Department for Education (DFE), which will help employers articulate their skills needs. The plan for Kirklees, is part of a wider West Yorkshire plan that was published in September 2023. Information from the plan has been used to access the Local Skills Improvement Fund bid. The outcome of the bid will be known by the end of October 2023.

In response to the information presented, the Panel made comment and asked questions including some of the following:

- Can you give an explanation on what the different levels mean for example Level 1 and Level 2?
- How are you breaking down and measuring the BAME community getting into jobs and what positive steps are being taken to ensure that those communities are getting into employment?

## **Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel - 10 October 2023**

- Is it possible to set targets that specifies at least 20% of the workforce must be from specific communities?
- With regards to young people with SEND, what measures are being put in place to support them to move through into further education and employment?
- Are there any specialised skills programmes, for example AI or digital, being promoted in local colleges or universities?
- What opportunities are there available for young people (19+) who have not achieved the necessary levels to get them into employment?
- Due to COVID and the disruption in education, is there likely to be more young people needing extra support at further education level, to get onto the employment ladder with adequate skills?
- Can you provide clarity on how employers can support employees to navigate the benefit system, for example Universal Credit?

### **RESOLVED:**

That Gillian Wallace be thanked for giving an overview of post 16 skills, training and apprenticeships.

This page is intentionally left blank

**KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

Name of Councillor

Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: .....

Dated: .....

## NOTES

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) either -

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

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





**Name of meeting: Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Title of report: Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply**

**Purpose of report:**

- To highlight the content of the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply which has been prepared as a positive and proactive response to the lack of a five-year housing land supply, and to allow questions and comments about the content of the document.
- To note the timeline for next steps to progress to Cabinet for a decision to approve the document.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £500k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards? Decisions having a particularly significant effect on a single ward may also be treated as if they were key decisions.</b>	<b>Affects all wards.</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?</b>	<b>Key Decision – Yes</b> <b>Private Report/Private Appendix – No</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>David Shepherd (7<sup>th</sup> November 2023)</b> Strategic Director Growth and Regeneration  <b>Isabel Brittain (7<sup>th</sup> November 2023)</b> Interim Service Director Finance (Section151)  <b>Julie Muscroft (7<sup>th</sup> November 2023)</b> Service Director, Legal and Governance
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr Graham Turner</b>

**Electoral wards affected: All**

**Ward councillors consulted:**

Portfolio holder Briefing: (Cllr Graham Turner)

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?**

No personal data is contained in this report.

**1. Summary**

The Kirklees Local Plan identified a housing requirement of 31,140 homes (1,730 per year) between 2013 and 2031 to meet local needs. Local planning authorities are required to identify and update annually a supply of sites sufficient to provide a five-year supply of housing against their Local Plan housing requirement. However, the 2023 annual update of the five-year housing land supply position demonstrates 3.96 years supply of housing land.

In the absence of a five-year housing land supply, planning applications for housing must be considered in the context a presumption in favour of sustainable development (the tilted balance). This requires planning applications to be considered favourably subject to other policy tests and material considerations.

As a response to this, officers have prepared an Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply which provides a positive and proactive mechanism for dealing with planning applications for new housing development in the absence of a 5-year housing land supply.

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

Since adoption of the Kirklees Local Plan in February 2019, the council has successfully maintained a continuous five-year supply of housing land and over 3,840 new homes have been delivered across the district. However, the 2023 update of the council's five-year housing land supply position demonstrates only 3.96 years supply of deliverable housing sites within the next five years.

In the absence of a 5-year housing land supply, the material housing supply policies of the Local Plan are deemed 'out of date'. As such, the authority must apply the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' in positively determining planning applications for housing, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework 2023 (paragraph 11d).

## **Implications for decisions on planning applications**

- The presumption in favour of sustainable development means that planning applications for housing developments should be granted unless the site is protected under national planning policy and there is a clear reason for refusal, or the negative impact of approving the development outweighs the benefits.
- The NPPF is clear that there are strong caveats to the application of the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' in that the starting point for decision making remains with the statutory development plan for determining planning applications, along with any material considerations, and that the sustainability and quality of proposals must not conflict with the policies within the NPPF as a whole.
- The development plan retains a significant degree of weight despite "the most important policies relevant for determining the application being out-of-date" (NPPF paragraph 11d). That does not mean that they carry no weight. Where there is a conflict with the Local Plan, it is necessary to make a judgement on whether the adverse impact of the development plan conflict, and any other identified harms, significantly and demonstrably outweigh any benefits of the proposal.

## **Implications for the Local Plan**

- Local Plan Review and Update - The council must publish a review of whether the Local Plan remains up to date by February 2024 (5 years after Local Plan adoption). A report was presented to Cabinet 17<sup>th</sup> October outlining that the Plan was considered out of date in several areas, including housing delivery and the 5-year housing land supply position.

## **Review of the Statement**

- The interim statement will be reviewed annually following publication of the latest Authority Monitoring Report and five-year housing land supply position and will remain in place until this evidence indicates it is no longer required.

## **The Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply**

In response to the absence of a five-year land supply, officers have prepared an Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply as a positive and pro-active way forward. This Statement does not set new policy and does not replace the Development Plan for decision making purposes but provides a mechanism for inviting landowners, developers, agents, and the public to submit planning applications for housing in sustainable locations. It sets out the following principles which if addressed by applicants will help speed up decision making:

- Principle 1 - Application of the presumption in favour of sustainable development
- Principle 2 - Potential release of safeguarded land for housing development

- Principle 3 - High quality design to ensure developments continue to achieve well-designed high-quality homes and quality places.

It should be noted that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill has recently become law, having been granted Royal Assent as an Act of Parliament on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The Act is designed to underpin the government's levelling up agenda and provides legislation to overhaul planning and plan-making. Bringing the provisions of the Act into effect will require further technical consultations and secondary legislation. Additionally, an updated National Policy Planning Framework (NPPF) is intended to be published in due course with the potential to remove the current requirement for a rolling five-year supply of housing land where the plan is up to date.

### **Review of the Statement**

The interim statement will be reviewed annually following publication of the latest Authority Monitoring Report and five-year housing land supply position and will remain in place until this evidence indicates it is no longer required.

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

The main implication for the council in producing the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply is that it provides a positive and proactive approach to dealing with planning applications in the absence of a 5-year housing land supply. It set outs a mechanism to help boost supply and provides clarity for landowners, developers, agents, and the public submitting planning applications for new housing development in the district. The interim statement will also help facilitate the council's Development Management service and enable more effective and timely decision-making through the planning application process.

### **3.1 Working with People**

The main aim of the interim statement is to help implement the policies set out in the adopted Local Plan and help boost the supply of housing land to ensure new homes are provided to meet the housing needs of all members of the community across Kirklees.

### **3.2 Working with Partners**

The interim statement provides a positive and pro-active mechanism for landowners, developers, agents, and the public to submit planning applications for housing in sustainable locations and sets out the framework by which they will be considered.

The development of this interim statement has involved input from Housing Growth and Homes and Neighbourhoods colleagues in relation to the wider council actions that contribute to boosting housing land supply and delivery.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

The mechanism and principles set out in interim statement provide a district wide approach to be applied to housing proposals where the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is triggered. This includes the principle that high quality design is a key aspect of sustainable development and should be at the heart of decision making.

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

Where the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is triggered, the interim statement is clear that the council will continue to expect housing developments to be designed to a high quality in line with the Local Plan policy LP24 (Design) and the council's Quality Places Supplementary Planning Documents, including incorporating measures to reduce and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

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

The interim statement aims to help boost the supply of housing land to ensure sufficient new homes are provided to help meet local housing needs across Kirklees, and that these achieve the required high-quality design necessary to deliver quality places.

### **3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees**

In the absence of a five-year housing land supply, the interim statement seeks to boost the supply of housing land and encourages applicants to advance proposals for sustainable and high-quality well-designed developments to meet housing needs across Kirklees.

### **3.7 Other (e.g., Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)/Legal/Financial or Human Resources) Consultees and their opinions**

- **Legal** – Planning law, set out in section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, states that planning applications must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. This is also set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) at paragraph 2. The requirement to apply the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' in the absence of a five-year housing supply is also set out in NPPF (paragraph 11d). The 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is considered a material consideration when applying section 38(6).
- **Financial** - There are no specific costs associated with the approval of the interim statement. However, the added clarity provided by the interim statement will allow developers to submit policy compliant developments to enable effective and timely decision making, and to help avoid unnecessary delays to granting housing permissions and

reduce the possibility of costs being awarded against the council at planning appeals.

- **Human Resources** - Existing staff resources have been used to prepare the interim statement and once approved by Cabinet it will be used as part of the existing Development Management process to help determine planning applications for housing development.
- **Communications** - The interim statement will be published on the council's website and the council will ensure applicants are made aware of the approach to dealing with planning applications for housing in the absence of a five-year housing land supply.

**Integrated Impact Assessment** – The IIA is available to view on the council's website at [Integrated Impact Assessments - IntegratedImpactAssessment \(kirklees.gov.uk\)](https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/IntegratedImpactAssessment)

#### **4. Consultation**

The council's Housing Growth and Homes and Neighbourhood teams have engaged in the preparation of the document in relation to the wider council actions that contribute to boosting housing land supply and delivery.

#### **5. Next steps and timelines**

- Cabinet decision to approve the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply – Cabinet date: To be confirmed (week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> December – possible date 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023).
- If Cabinet resolve to approve the guidance note, it will be published on the Council's website and used as part of the planning applications process.

#### **6. Officer recommendations and reasons**

Scrutiny Panel to note the content and timeline of the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply and provide feedback during the Scrutiny Panel session.

Reason: Scrutiny Panel requested to have early input into the content of the interim statement.

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

Cllr Graham Turner was briefed on the Interim Housing Position Statement to Boost Supply on (24<sup>th</sup> October 2023).

## **8. Contact officer**

Andrea Lane  
Planning Policy Team Leader, Planning Policy Group  
[andrea.lane@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.lane@kirklees.gov.uk)  
(01484) 221000

Mathias Franklin  
Head of Planning and Development  
[mathias.franklin@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:mathias.franklin@kirklees.gov.uk)  
(01484) 221000

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

Kirklees Local Plan adopted 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019: ([www.kirklees.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/localplan))

## **10. Service Director responsible**

David Shepherd  
Strategic Director Growth and Regeneration  
[david.shepherd@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:david.shepherd@kirklees.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank





**Name of meeting:** Scrutiny

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Title of report:** Update on Our Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint

**Purpose of report:**

The purpose of this report is to give an update on the progress of Our Cultural Heart programme following Cabinet approval at Gateway 3 on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to progress the delivery of Phase 1 of the masterplan.

Work is now progressing in preparation for Cabinet to review the programme again at Phase 1 Gateway 4 in December 2023.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>No decision sought from Scrutiny</b>
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?</b>	N/a
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	N/a
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>	David Shepherd: 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>	Isabel Brittain: No
<b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	Julie Muscroft: No
<b>Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u></b>	Cllr Graham Turner – Finance and Regeneration Portfolio Holder

<b>Electoral wards affected:</b>	<b>Newsome</b>
<b>Ward councillors consulted:</b>	<b>Newsome ward councilors were consulted on the progress of the scheme as part of the public consultation for planning.</b>
<b>Public or private:</b>	<b>The 27/6/23 Cabinet Report had a public report with public and private appendices.</b>

The appendices to the Cabinet Report (27/6/23) are set out below. In the public report where appendices are private parts may be redacted or the appendix may have been withheld.

**The public appendices are not attached to this report but can be viewed by referring to the Cabinet Gateway 3 report dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

Appendix 1, Royal Institute of British Architects Stage 3 Report, Executive Summary(public)

Appendix 2, Royal Institute of British Architects Stage 3 Report, (private)  
 Programme Board presentation  
 Part 1 & Part 2

Appendix 3, Statement of Community Engagement (public)

Appendix 4, Phasing Options Review (private)

Appendix 5, Phase 1 plan (public)

Appendix 6, Design Monitoring proposals (public)

Appendix 7, Phase 1, stage 1 tender report (private)

Appendix 8, Phase 1 Gateway 3 to Gateway 4 Capital Development Budget (private)

Appendix 9, Phase 1 Gateway 4 to Completion Capital Development Budget (private)

Appendix 10, RIBA 3 Sustainability Summary (public)

Appendix 11, Master Plan Social Value paper (public)

Appendix 12, Integrated Impact Assessment (public)

**Has GDPR been considered?                      Yes**

# 1 Summary, Introduction and Context

## 1.1 Delivering Our Cultural Heart Programme

Launched in June 2019, the Huddersfield Blueprint aims to transform the town centre. As one of six key elements of the blueprint vision, Our Cultural Heart will help to deliver many of the council's strategic social, economic, and cultural objectives by being a catalyst for change and regeneration in the town centre, creating a coherent, safe, inclusive, and family friendly cultural offer. Set on a central campus in the Queensgate and Piazza area Our Cultural Heart will celebrate the heritage of Huddersfield while offering new cultural experiences for residents and visitors alike.

The council's investment in Our Cultural Heart will create core facilities and stimulate the provision of ancillary facilities, services, and opportunities by private, third and academic sectors, helping to secure the future of existing businesses and attract new investment. This catalytic role will help in creating a platform to deliver inclusive economic growth and social vibrancy of Huddersfield and the wider Kirklees area for the benefit of all communities.

It is also encouraging that these changes are already happening with the council's commitment to the blueprint and Our Cultural Heart being matched by Huddersfield University on their National Health Innovation Campus and will be significantly enhanced by the £1.5 billion Transpennine Route Upgrade now confirmed by Network Rail.

Proposed elements of the Our Cultural Heart include:

- A new library.
- A new museum & gallery
- A new food hall.
- Queen St development plot
- A new event venue which can be scaled up or down for live music, theatre, cultural events, and conferences.
- A new town park and outdoor event space.
- New parking.

As a major transformational programme, progress is regularly reviewed by Cabinet through the gateway process with key milestones for progressing the programme. This approach allows Cabinet to take stock of progress and consider factors such as changing market conditions, phasing, the developing design, affordability, and stakeholder views. At each stage, Cabinet is invited to endorse the outcomes of the gateway and decide whether and how to move forward to the next gateway.

To date the programme has been to Cabinet on four occasions where the proposals were considered and approval to proceed given.

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Programme initiation                    | 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021      |
| • Strategic Outline Case (SOC), Gateway 1 | 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021  |
| • Outline Business Case (OBC), Gateway 2  | 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2022 |
| • RIBA 3, Gateway 3                       | 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2023      |
| • Phase 1 Gateway 4                       | Dec 2023, target                |

The programme has been to both public and private Scrutiny on a number of occasions with the last time being on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

The ongoing preparation up to Phase 1 Gateway 4 will take a significant amount of resource from the delivery team and support from Council staff over the remaining months.

## **1.2 Securing Appropriate Resources**

The Strategic Development Partner (SDP) was appointed on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and brings together the necessary skills and resources to deliver the programme. The SDP is comprised of the specialist disciplines that together with the designers (architect and engineers) are needed to produce the necessary deliverables for a programme of this scale.

The SDP brings the capacity and experience of similar masterplan scale programmes that was not available to the council in house. Led by their Programme Manager, the SDP has been working alongside the council, using recognised processes and procedures, to bring forward the programme.

Funding totaling £18.055m from the council's approved multi-year capital plan was approved by Cabinet to progress the programme to Gateway 3. This included Gateway 1 (SOC) costs of £1.99m, with a further £5.56m to get to Gateway 2 (OBC) and then up to £10.5m (RIBA 3, planning application, design & build (D&B) contractor procurement) to Gateway 3.

However, with the introduction of phasing and Phase 1 becoming the current focus, there were items included in the Capital Development Budget that didn't need progressing as originally envisaged and are more appropriately dealt with as part of the next gateway or later phases. This has resulted in an underspend of £5.747m up to Gateway 3.

The reallocation (no 'new' money is required) of £5.620m from the underspend will fund the capital work for Phase 1 Gateway 4 for the items listed below.

- Delivery team fees
- Others fees
- Pre-Contract Services Agreement (PCSA) with the contractor
- Allowance for enabling works
- Master plan developments

The design and build contractor (BAM Construction Limited) has now joined the team to progress the RIBA 4 design and agree the construction contract sum.

The Programme Board was established from the outset to provide governance and strategic direction for the programme, the chair for this board is the Strategic Director Growth and Regeneration.

A Technical and Quality group and a Master Plan group comprising mostly council staff have also been convened to provide technical checks and balances at appropriate milestones for the work completed by the SDP, architect and engineer.

A Finance group, interim chair Head of Commercial Services – Finance & Accountancy, has also been established. This group has responsibility for reviewing

the cashflow of the programme, and maintains the overall financial model of the development, and to periodically update the Board as required.

Also, internal Kirklees service department stakeholders have been consulted in a mixture of group and one-to-one sessions to define the requirements of the core elements that make up Our Cultural Heart.

A legal framework firm (Addleshaw Goddard) is assisting Legal Services with the appointment of consultants and contractors and the process of securing vacant possession of properties on the site (particularly the Piazza Shopping Centre) and advise generally on other property and legal related matters.

The programme is regularly presented to the Executive Leadership Team, Executive Board, and the Regeneration Portfolio Holder Board.

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

### **2.1 Background**

The blueprint, and the part that Our Cultural Heart plays in the aspirations, has been considered by Cabinet a number of times and the links to those reports are set out in section 8 of this report.

Directly related to the delivery of Our Cultural Heart was the purchase of the Piazza Shopping Centre, this was agreed by cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and was a precursor to the blueprint launch in June 2019.

It is recognised that maintaining activity in and around Our Cultural Heart throughout the lifetime of the programme will be important and therefore meanwhile uses will be encouraged when and where possible. Also, the importance of maintaining a functioning town centre during the implementation phases is recognised.

### **2.2 Progress since Cabinet approval on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The programme board is chaired by the Strategic Director for Growth and Regeneration, and meetings continue monthly. The last meeting was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023, with the next one scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Our Cultural Heart programme reports every two months to the Regeneration PHB. The last report was given on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Work progresses towards Phase 1 Gateway 4, including,

- The design and build contractor, BAM Construction Limited, have been appointed under the Pre-Contract Services Agreement (PCSA). During this period BAM, their designers and subcontractors are,
  - Reviewing the RIBA 3 stage design
  - Progressing the RIBA 4 stage design (technical design)
  - Negotiating the contract sum on an open book basis with the SDP

- Preparing for a start on site, subject to Cabinet approval at Phase 1 Gateway 4
- Reviewing possible beneficial works during the PCSA period,
  - surveys
  - enabling works
  - asbestos removal
  - early orders
- The appointment of the SDP has been extended to Phase 1 Gateway 4.
- The appointments of the architect and engineer have been extended to Phase 1 Gateway 4 with their services now providing a monitoring role.
- Following approval of the Phasing strategy at Cabinet, the immediate focus is to progress Phase 1 to construction on site.
- At the same time any necessary preparation will continue for future phases that make up the master plan. Issues being progressed are,
  - **Museum & Gallery.** Following approval at Cabinet the museum and gallery will be combined in the ex-library. The options for the necessary works to the building are being reviewed.
  - **Queen St Plot.** Moving the gallery into a combined facility with the museum will free up this plot for other uses. The council is currently in discussions with Greenhead College who have expressed an interest in developing the site for a further education facility.
 

Alternative potential third party uses for the plot include a hotel.
  - **Vacant Possession.** Queensgate Market is now vacant and the timing for vacation of the remaining retail units on Princess Alexandra Walk is being finalised.
- Continue periodical cost and cashflow reviews and refinement of the Development Capital budget as the design and contract sum negotiations develop during the PCSA period.
- Service teams are developing requirements and the associated budgets (and how these are funded) for furniture, fixtures & equipment (FF&E), pre-opening and operational costs for staff and specialist support requirements.
- Our Cultural Heart website and the brand went live on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023. <https://ourculturalheart.co.uk/>
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 the Strategic Planning Committee approved the plans for the programme, with the planning and listed building consents being issued on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.
- The sustainability strategy and KPI's for the programme have been developed in parallel with the RIBA Stage 3 design work. Wherever possible minimising embodied and operational carbon have been a priority and the buildings have

been designed to be capable of connecting to the proposed town centre heat network project.

- The SDP, architect and engineer are delivering their social value commitments and the Social Value Portal is being used to measure the outputs which are reviewed at monthly programme board meetings.

The Social Value offer from the contractor is now being developed in preparation for the construction phase on site. This will include establishing the Our Cultural Heart Fund for cash contributions.

- Town Centre Operational Board established to review the management of Huddersfield town centre including Our Cultural Heart and assist in developing service team budgets for the programme.
- The risk management strategy for the Cultural Heart is supported by the programme gateway method of decision and delivery. At each gateway Cabinet are invited to review progress to date, reflect on the current and specific circumstances, and determine the most appropriate way forward for the overall programme.

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

#### **3.1 Working with People**

This report deals with the delivery aspect of one part of the blueprint. The blueprint was subject to a number of engagement exercises commencing in 2018 as part of the blueprint development and then again late in 2019 after the blueprint launch the council undertook a Place Standard exercise to benchmark public reaction to the approach and projects. The key report for this can be found by accessing the following link:

<https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/huddersfield-town-centre/>

As part of initial development work into options around the core projects for Our Cultural Heart a number of internal and external stakeholders have been consulted as a way of testing out and developing options and then in May and August during 2022 public consultations took place as part of the planning application process to help inform the design. This consultation included a drop-in centre, presentations and workshops with groups and interested parties.

#### **3.2 Working with Partners**

Collaboration and working together with partners are the key to ensuring the council get the best outcomes for citizens, communities, and Kirklees as a whole. In addition to the consultations already undertaken and the work with stakeholders there will also be third party operators as part of Our Cultural Heart.

Phase 1 will include a food hall operator and the process of operator selection will commence in Q1 2024.

The form of the commercial arrangement and partnership with the operator has not yet been determined but will be influenced by further market engagement, the preferred operator selection process and what is in the best interest of the council.

The library, events square/public realm and service areas will be managed by the council.

### **3.3 Place Based Working**

The development of the blueprint and the associated Place Standard exercise has already engaged town centre stakeholders, businesses, and users to help shape the overall approach to redeveloping Huddersfield Town Centre, including the plans for Our Cultural Heart. The buildings and spaces to be delivered as part of Our Cultural Heart create opportunity for wider use.

It is proposed to establish the Our Cultural Heart Fund for cash contributions which will help strengthen community and voluntary sector partners who are delivering place-based working throughout Kirklees. Other opportunities for the communities of Kirklees will also be available through the programmes social value deliverables.

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

The reduction of carbon emissions and the minimization of air quality problems is a key objective for the blueprint wherever possible.

Both Climate Change and Air Quality are key parts of the master plan and design. This in turn informed the planning application and will be developed as part of the future detailed design work.

In addition, climate change initiatives are associated with the delivery and promotion of other projects and programmes for example sustainable transport modes that help to reduce adverse transport derived impacts on communities and public health and the proposed Huddersfield town centre heat network.

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

The blueprint includes within it a key objective of providing a family friendly town centre. This means that uses, streets and places will favour all age groups including children. Part of the strategy to renew the town is to bring in new uses that attract families and young people in a way the town does not at present. This means that the introduction of cultural activities and associated food and beverage offers need to be managed in a way that appeals to all age groups.

Additionally, streets and spaces are being designed with all generations in mind promoting safety and inclusivity and as part of the master plan the range of destinations that will be clustered in Our Cultural Heart including the park, museum, art gallery, library, food hall and the venue will provide opportunities for children to explore, learn and have fun.



### **3.6 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees**

When the assets that make up Our Cultural Heart are operational and available for use by the residents of Kirklees, it is anticipated that a number of them will be free to use and being centrally located are easily accessible by public transport. The campus style development also means that there are many attractions in one place with a variety of offers that are family friendly and appealing to all age groups.

As well as a place for leisure Our Cultural Heart will also create a variety of new job opportunities that are accessible by bus and train and these new 'workers' in the town centre will need the services that already exist thereby increasing spend in the town and supporting those businesses.

### **3.7 Other (Financial, Legal, IIA, Human Resources)**

#### **3.7.1 Finance**

The financial implications arising from Our Cultural Heart ambition are significant, and the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Cabinet report set out the overarching rationale for the resource implications.

However, through the gateway process Cabinet limit expenditure from the £262m council capital allocation, to progress Our Cultural Heart programme, to monies needed to progress those phases currently under delivery or consideration.

The service teams are developing their requirements and the associated budgets (and how these are funded) for furniture, fixtures & equipment (FF&E), pre-opening and operational costs for staff and specialist support requirements which would then subsequently need to be incorporated into emerging 2024/25 and future year budget proposals.

The council's existing multi-year revenue and capital medium term budget plans and financial strategies for 2023/24 and future years, approved at Budget Council on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023, had previously acknowledged that this programme would be a significant strategic investment priority commitment to deliver major long term regeneration for the district.

The 2023/24 MTFS report highlighted the emerging scale of the global, national, and local economic, financial, and societal impacts from the current cost of living crisis and modelled the impact on the council's current and future years forecast financial position. The MTFS report also acknowledged that the environment within which local government, and all sectors of the economy, are currently operating, is volatile, fast moving. In recognition of this, it is anticipated that further financial reports would be brought back to Cabinet and Council to further update on the council's forecast financial position going forward.

#### **3.7.2 Procurement & Value for Money**

For this stage of the programme up to Phase 1 Gateway 4 the delivery team appointments have been extended up to Gateway 4 only. This includes the SDP (Turner & Townsend), architects (Feilden Clegg Bradley) and the engineers (Arup).

The council also have direct appointments for surveys, investigations and BREEAM assessor.

The design and build contractor (BAM Construction Limited) has been selected following the procurement process and appointed under the Pre-Contract Services Agreement (PCSA) to develop the RIBA 4 design and negotiate the contract sum prior to awarding the main construction contract (subject to Cabinet approval at Phase 1 Gateway 4).

### **3.7.3 Legal**

Legal Services, and Addleshaw Goddard LLP (an external framework firm), are involved in the procurement process and appointment of the SDP, the wider team and the contractors in accordance with the council's Contract Procedure Rules.

There are a number of occupiers of the Piazza Shopping Centre who have security of tenure. Legal Services, and the external framework firm, are involved in the process to complete any relevant documentation in order to secure vacant possession of the Piazza Shopping Centre to enable delivery of the proposed programme.

There are also occupiers outside the boundaries of the site who have rights to use the access and service areas associated with the Piazza Shopping Centre. Legal Services, and the external framework firm, will be involved in the process to complete any relevant documentation so that any necessary works can be carried out to these accesses. Other potential impacts on neighbours are also being assessed.

Legal Services, and the external framework firm, will be involved in the procurement process and contractual arrangements with the third party operators in accordance with the council's Contract Procedure Rules.

There are a number of powers that the council will rely on to carry out this project.

### **3.7.4 Integrated Impact Assessment**

An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been undertaken to assess the impact of the proposed Our Cultural Heart programme and what needs to be considered and incorporated into the design of the scheme. The IIA considers equality impact, covering the nine protective characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010, plus environmental impact and the effects on low earners and unpaid carers.

The stage 1 assessment indicated that a stage 2 was required, and this was completed for Gateway 3.

## **3.8 Consultees and their opinions**

Consultations have taken place as already set out in this report and the latest 27<sup>th</sup> June Cabinet report. Consultations will continue as required into the delivery stages.

Officers last presented an update on progress of Our Cultural Heart to the Ad-hoc Regeneration Scrutiny Panel chaired by Cllr Liz Smaje on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

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

The key milestones and Gateways for the Cultural Heart programme are as set out below.

<b>4.1</b>	Programme Initiation		22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021
<b>4.2</b>	Gateway 1 –	SOC	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>4.3</b>	Gateway 2 –	OBC RIBA 2 design & master plan	21 <sup>st</sup> September 2022
<b>4.4</b>	Gateway 3 –	RIBA 3 design & master plan Phase 1 ➤ Scope of works ➤ Preferred design & build contractor	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
<b>4.5</b>	Gateway 4 –	Phase 1 ➤ RIBA 4 design ➤ Construction contract Sum ➤ Award design & build contract Master plan developments	Q4 2023, target
<b>4.6</b>	Start on site –	Phase 1 ➤ Demolition ➤ Construction	Q1/Q2 2024
<b>4.7</b>	Completion –	Phase 1	Q4 2025, target
<b>4.8</b>	Future Phases –	Repeats of gateway's 3 & 4	TBC

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

Scrutiny is invited to note the progress made in developing the programme and the next steps.

#### **6 Contact officer**

David Glover  
Senior Responsible Officer, Cultural Heart  
01484 221000  
[david.glover@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:david.glover@kirklees.gov.uk)

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

- **March 2019** – Cabinet Report - Assembling land and property – Huddersfield Town Centre (Piazza) -  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s29122/Item%2014%20Land%20Assembly.pdf>

- **June 2019** – Huddersfield Blueprint Launch Event
- **August - Oct 2019** - Huddersfield Blueprint Place Standard Exercise – Results at <https://howgoodisourplace.org.uk/huddersfield-town-centre/>
- **February 2020** – Cabinet Report - Huddersfield Blueprint - Next Steps - <https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s34958/Item%2015%20CAB%20-%2020%20-%20071%20-%202020-02-25%20Cabinet%20Huddersfield%20Blueprint%20-%20Next%20Steps%20Final.pdf>
- **September 2020** – Cabinet Report - Dewsbury and Huddersfield Town Centre Finance - <https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s37506/Town%20Centre%20Finance%20Cabinet%20Report%20-%20Final%20Version.doc.pdf>
- **June 2021** – Cabinet Report - Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint – Next Steps  
[Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint – Next Steps](#)
- **November 2021** – Cabinet Report – Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint – Gateway 1.  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s43757/PUBLIC%20CUTLURAL%20HEART%20Cabinet%20Report.%20Final%2016.11.21.pdf>
- **September 2022** – Cabinet Report – Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint – Gateway 2.  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s48238/PUBLIC%20Cultural%20Heart%20Cabinet%20Report%2021.9.22.pdf>
- **June 2023** – Cabinet Report – Cultural Heart, part of the Huddersfield Blueprint – Gateway 3.  
<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s52438/Cabinet%20Report%2027.6.23%20public.pdf>

## 8 **Service Director responsible**

Edward Highfield  
 Skills and Regeneration  
 01484 221000  
[Edward.Highfield@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Edward.Highfield@kirklees.gov.uk)

## GROWTH & REGENERATION – SUGGESTED WORK PROGRAMME PRIORITIES 2023/24

**PANEL MEMBERS:**

PANEL MEMBERS	
Cllr Hannah McKerchar	Lead Member (Subject to council approval 15.11.23)
Cllr John Taylor	Panel Member
Cllr Tyler Hawkins	Panel Member
Cllr Harry McCarthy	Panel Member
Cllr Susan Lee-Richards	Panel Member
Cllr Zarina Amin	Panel Member
Chris Friend	Panel Member (Co-optee)
Jonathan Milner	Panel Member (Co-optee)

**GOVERNANCE OFFICER: Jenny Bryce-Chan**

<b>FULL PANEL DISCUSSION</b>				
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS</b>	<b>OUTCOME/ACTIONS</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR/SERVICE DIRECTOR AND LEAD OFFICERS</b>	<b>DATE TO PANEL</b>
Introduction to Growth & Reg	An introduction to the Growth and Regeneration Directorate	To enable Panel members to understand the service area and remit of the directorate	Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	3 July 2023
Housing Growth	- Bradley Park - Planning applications		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holders – Cllr M Ahmed	3 July 2023
Small Centres Programme	- Update of small centres including budget. Holmfirth, Heckmondwike and Cleckheaton		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	3 July 2023
Damp Mould and Condensation	- High volume of cases – bring a status update on the situation within the public and private rental sector		Naz Parkar Portfolio holder – Cllr M Ahmed	14 August 2023

Tenant Safety	To also include information on temporary accommodation/bed & breakfast		Naz Parkar Portfolio holder – Cllr M Ahmed	14 August 2023
Huddersfield Town Centre	Maintenance plans on regeneration areas, ie litter picking		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	25 September 2023
Dewsbury Town Centre	Dewsbury Town Deal Board  Opportunity for panel to visit the area		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr C Scott	25 September 2023
Small Centres Programme	Batley Small Centre		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	25 September 2023
Local Plan Review	Feedback on the results of the Local Plan review and next steps		Johanna Scrutton Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	25 September 2023
Economic Strategy Refresh			Edward Highfield  Cllr G Turner	10 October 2023
Skills (post 16)			Edward Highfield  Cllr E Reynolds	10 October 2023
'Interim Housing Position Statement for Boosting Supply'				20 November 2023

Cultural Heart updates Gateways 3/4			Edward Highfield/Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	20 November 2023
Corporate Risk	Informal session to consider corporate risk relating to G&R		Martin Dearnley/Alice Carruthers	20 November 2023
Transport Strategy Invite rep from WYCA to the meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Active Travel</li> <li>- Understanding the WYCA Transport Strategy</li> <li>- Reference to Greater Manchester and South Yorkshire Transport strategies</li> </ul>		Edward Highfield Portfolio holder: Cllr C Scott	15 January 2024
Transport Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delivery of individual transport schemes</li> <li>- What has been achieved so far and looking ahead</li> <li>- Transport &amp; Work Act Order</li> <li>- TRU</li> <li>- How the programmes link to the wider strategy</li> </ul>		Edward Highfield Portfolio holder: Cllr C Scott	15 January 2024
Small Centres Programme	- Marsden		Joanne Bartholomew Portfolio holder – Cllr G Turner	26 February 2024
Local Plan Review	Remit of the Local Plan		Edward Highfield Cllr G Turner	26 February 2024

Complaints Handling (Council Housing Tenants/Private Sector)	Learning from ombudsman cases Should include private housing sector & supported housing Neighbour complaints Anti-social behaviour Repairs		Naz Parkar/Jill Greenfield/Joanne Bartholomew  Portfolio holder – Cllr M Ahmed	25 March 2024
Potential to invite chair of the Housing Board				
Building Safety & Compliance Combined Action Plan  (Formerly known as Ad Hoc Scrutiny Recommendations)			Naz Parkar  Portfolio holder – Cllr M Ahmed	25 March 2024
Housing Growth (progress update from 3 July 2023)	To include - Homelessness - Adaptations - Building life-time homes - Impact on decrease in buy to let		Portfolio holder – Cllr M Ahmed	25 March 2024
Review work programme				
<b>PRE-DECISION</b>				
Station to Stadium Regen work				

**Meeting dates:**

3 July 2023  
14 August 2023  
25 September 2023  
10 October 2023  
20 November 2023  
15 January 2024  
26 February 2024  
25 March 2024



**EXAMPLE PLAN - Forward Plan - 1 November onwards  
FOR THE PERIOD 1 DECEMBER 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024**

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2023</p> <p>The Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, has a legal duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to produce, implement and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Local Strategy). Council's original strategy was published in 2013, a summary refresh was made in 2019 to provide an up-to-date evidence base to support the measures identified in the current Action Plan.</p> <p>The Local Strategy summarises the duties, responsibilities and actions that the Council will embrace to manage local sources of flood risk. It must align with the National Strategy produced by the Environment Agency.</p> <p>A revised National Strategy was published in July 2020 and was formally adopted by government in September</p>	Cabinet	16 Jan 2024	<p>Engagement via workshops have taken place at the very beginning prior to drafting the strategy so key stakeholders can help shape the new strategy from the outset.</p> <p>Internal workshops have taken place with internal services such as Planning, Highways, Climate Change and Emergency Planning colleagues.</p> <p>An external workshop has taken place with Yorkshire Water, Environment Agency, and key partners such as the National Trust and many others.</p> <p>Periodic updates have been given to the Portfolio Holders.</p>	Open		Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration <i>Paul Farndale</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>2020. This strategy describes what needs to be done by all risk management authorities (RMAs) involved in flood and coastal erosion risk management for the benefit of people and places.</p> <p>This has been a key driver to reviewing our current Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in ensuring alignment with the National Strategy.</p>			<p>A public consultation exercise will be undertaken on the new strategy and its associated documents. A survey will be set up to encourage residents to express their thoughts and opinions.</p> <p>All Members and Parish Councillors will be directed to the draft documents for comments. A separate workshop is intended to be set up with local flood community groups.</p> <p>A summary Consultation Report will be prepared to capture comments received.</p>			
<p>Asset Review To establish working principles, and to bring forward a holistic asset review considering the optimisation, rationalisation, mothball, closure, and disposal of property assets and interests across the Council's estate.</p>	Cabinet	14 Nov 2023		Open		Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>This report will set out some early recommendations for consideration. Options and recommendations will be offered across a series of reports over the coming months for consideration and presented in alignment with ongoing budget planning and organisational change activity.</p>						
<p>Withdrawal of Netherton and South Crosland Neighbourhood Plan Forum Designation The report seeks to withdraw the Netherton &amp; South Crosland Neighbourhood Plan Forum designation which was established for the purposes of progressing a neighbourhood development plan (NDP). The Forum was designated at Cabinet 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021.</p> <p>The Forum Chair has informed the Council that they are no longer progressing with the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), and that the forum would no longer run. Therefore, under Neighbourhood Planning Regulation (General) 2012,</p>	Cabinet	14 Nov 2023	<p>Subject to a Cabinet resolution to withdraw the forum designation, the Council must publish a withdrawal statement as soon as possible, as per the Neighbourhood Planning Regulation (General) 2012, regulation 12.</p> <p>The Council has actively engaged with the Neighbourhood Plan Forum throughout the designation period, to progress the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</p> <p>Ward members for Netherton and</p>	Open		Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration <i>Jacob Parker-Henry</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>regulation 12, the forum designation is recommended to be withdrawn.</p> <p>Had the council not received formal conformation from the Forum of their intention to not progress a NPD, the council's intention was to withdraw the designation themselves. This was on the grounds of no progress being made on the NDP, and non-compliance with statutory requirements in relation to publicising contact details of a forum member, in the public domain, as set out in section 61F(5) TCPA 1990 and Regulation 8 (Application for designation of a neighbourhood forum) of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (General) 2012.</p> <p>Background papers;</p> <p><i>Cabinet report for the designation of the Neighbourhood Area Forum and Neighbourhood Plan Area: <a href="#">Microsoft Word - 2021_11_16 Netherton and South Crosland Neighbourhood Forum and</a></i></p>			<p>Crosland were consulted on the Council's intention to withdraw the Neighbourhood Forum prior to confirmation from the Forum Chair.</p>			

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p><a href="#">Area applications.docx (kirklees.gov.uk)</a></p> <p><i>Netherton &amp; South Crosland Neighbourhood Plan</i>  webpage: <a href="#">Netherton and South Crosland Neighbourhood Development Plan   Kirklees Council</a></p>						
<p>Housing Delivery Plan Update  To provide an update on progress with housing delivery across the district.</p> <p>Background Papers;</p> <p>Cabinet Report – Housing Delivery Plan. Approved 29th August 2018  <a href="https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g5703/Public%20reports%20pack%2029th-Aug-2018%2016.00%20Cabine t.pdf?T=10">https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g5703/Public%20reports%20pack%2029th-Aug-2018%2016.00%20Cabine t.pdf?T=10</a></p> <p>Cabinet Report – Dewsbury Riverside Masterplan. Approved 19th March 2019  <a href="https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g5613/Public%20reports%20pack">https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g5613/Public%20reports%20pack</a></p>	Cabinet	14 Nov 2023	<p>Engagement Process:</p> <p>Engagement with ward members regarding sites within the programme takes place on a site-by-site basis, as proposals for each site progress. For example, local ward members are informed when survey work takes place on site, and at key points during the development process e.g. when planning applications are made, when there is a start on site.</p> <p>Portfolio holders are informed of progress on the overall housing growth programme via their regular briefing</p>	Open		<p>Portfolio Holder for Finance &amp; Regeneration  <i>Adele Buckley,</i>  <i>Head of Housing Growth</i>  <i>adele.buckley@kirklees.gov.uk</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p><a href="#">%2019th-Mar-2019%2016.00%20Cabine t.pdf?T=10</a></p> <p>Cabinet Report – Housing Delivery Plan Update. Approved 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020</p> <p><a href="https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g6297/Public%20reports%20pack%2020th-Jan-2020%2010.00%20Cabine t.pdf?T=10">https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/g6297/Public%20reports%20pack%2020th-Jan-2020%2010.00%20Cabine t.pdf?T=10</a></p> <p>Dewsbury Riverside Development Strategy. Approved 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 25th February 2020, 4.00 pm   Kirklees Council</a></p> <p>Cabinet Report – Housing Delivery Plan Update. Approved 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023</p> <p><a href="#">Agenda for Cabinet on</a></p>			<p>sessions, and specific, strategic issues and decisions in relation to each site are taken to them for decision.</p> <p>Consultation:</p> <p>Consultation on sites within the programme happens on a site-by-site basis at key points which require decisions. This is led by the Council or by its partners dependent on the approach to the site.</p> <p>Consultation is a key part of any planning application which is made on any site and takes place prior to the submission of any planning application, and as part of the planning application.</p> <p>Portfolio holders are consulted about key decisions in relation to sites.</p> <p>Ward members are</p>			

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<a href="#">Tuesday 27th June 2023, 2.00 pm   Kirklees Council</a>			kept updated and informed at key points within the site development process.			
<p>19-33a John William Street, Huddersfield Shop Front Grant, Grant Offer To agree to offer grant support from the Huddersfield Shop Front Grant for the replacement of the shop fronts to 19-33a John William Street.</p> <p>Throughout the scheme local business owners, the Huddersfield Civic Society have been engaged and their views taken on board over the area and the shops concerned. The Huddersfield Civic Society have campaigned over the years for better shop fronts that are more in keeping with the heritage of the town. The Civic Society have continued to seek improvements to 19-33a John William Street and have welcomed and supported the proposals that are the subject of this grant application.</p> <p>Ward Councillors and the Portfolio Holders have been</p>	Cabinet	12 Dec 2023	During the planning application process, public consultation was carried out and no objections were made and one letter of support was received.	Part exempt	Background Information	Councillor Graham Turner, Cabinet Member - Finance and Regeneration <i>Nigel Hunston, Conservation/Design Group Leader</i> <i>nigel.hunston@kirklees.gov.uk</i>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>consulted on the scheme and have been supportive.</p> <p>This part of the town is included in the Huddersfield Town Centre Conservation Area and concern has been raised by Historic England over the quality of the shop fronts. This resulted in the conservation area being placed on their "At Risk Register". Historic England are supportive of the changes to these shop fronts and will go towards removing the conservation area from the register.</p> <p>Consultation has been carried out with the tenants of the shop fronts throughout the design of the shop fronts. Concerns have been raised over the impact of their businesses during the construction works, whether they have to close, the costs of the project and ensuring disabled access is achieved with the new entrances. The contractor and the Council have worked together to ensure that the units will</p>						



Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
<p>remain open, with safety regulations in place, and disturbance will be to the minimum. The costs of the project will not be down to the tenants and will be covered by the freeholder and if approved a grant from the Council. All the new entrances are designed to be disabled friendly and are compliant Access Regulations.</p> <p>Before any applications were submitted for planning approval, the Huddersfield Civic Society were consulted upon them. They were in support of the designs and felt they would be big improvement to the town centre.</p>						
<p>Leisure Centre Review To provide cabinet with findings from the leisure centre consultation and other relevant information to enable Cabinet to make an informed decision around future changes to the leisure centre estate. The report will seek agreement for the rationalisation of the estate to be managed by Kirklees</p>	Cabinet	12 Dec 2023	<p>The following will be consulted on the context of the cabinet report before publication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Service Director Finance, Legal &amp; Governance Section 151 Officer Executive Leadership Team Portfolio Holder</li> </ul>	Open		<p>Portfolio Holder for Finance &amp; Regeneration <i>Adele Poppleton,</i> <i>Service Director for Culture and Visitor Economy</i> <i>adele.poppleton@kirklees.gov.uk</i></p>

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Likely Exemption	Background documents	Member / Officer Contact
Active Leisure (KAL) and request delegated authority to progress alternative delivery options and/or uses for those sites from which KAL will withdraw.			Executive Board Kirklees Active Leisure (KAL) A non-statutory consultation around the future of the leisure offer in Kirklees is due to be completed on 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2023.			
Changes to the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation Management Agreement Changes to governance arrangements and decision making at Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO), a Local Authority Joint Committee in which the Council is 1 of 13 participants.	Cabinet	12 Dec 2023		Open		Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration <i>Martin Dearnley,</i> <i>Head of Risk - Internal Audit &amp; Risk Management</i> <i>martin.dearnley@kirklees.gov.uk</i>