

# Public Document Pack

## Kirklees Council



Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield

Tuesday 3 December 2024

Dear Member

**The Council will meet on Wednesday 11 December 2024 at 5.30 pm in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield.**

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

The following matters will be debated:

### Pages

**1: Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive**

To receive any announcements from the Mayor and Chief Executive.

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**2: Apologies for absence**

Group Business Managers to submit any apologies for absence.

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**3: Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**4: Declaration of Interests**

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.

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**5: Petitions (From Members of the Council)**

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

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

The Committee 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.

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**7: 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.

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## **8: Written Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs and Committees and Nominated Spokespersons**

To receive written questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and Nominated Spokespersons in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12. A written schedule of written questions will be tabled at the meeting. One supplementary oral question will be permitted.

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## **9: Minutes of Cabinet**

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To receive the Minutes of the Meetings of (i) Cabinet held on 10 September, 8 October and 5 November 2024 and (ii) Cabinet Committee Local Issues held on 23 October 2024.

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## **10: Holding Executive to Account**

- (a) To receive a Portfolio Update from the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport (Councillor Crook).
  - (b) To receive oral questions/comments to Cabinet Members on their portfolios and relevant Cabinet Minutes;
    - The Leader of the Council (Councillor Pattison)
    - The Deputy Leader of the Council / Housing and Transport (Councillor Crook)
    - Children's Services (Councillor Kendrick)
    - Corporate Services (Councillor Hawkins)
    - Education and Communities (Councillor A U Pinnock)
    - Environment and Highways (Councillor Munir Ahmed)
    - Finance and Regeneration (Councillor Turner)
    - Health and Social Care (Councillor Addy)
- 

## **11: Minutes of other Committees**

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- (a) Corporate Governance and Audit Committee
  - (b) District Wide Planning Committee
  - (c) Health and Wellbeing Board
  - (d) Personnel Committee
  - (e) Strategic Planning Committee
-

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

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

- Appeals Panel (Councillor Longstaff)
  - Corporate Governance and Audit Committee (Councillor Taylor)
  - District Wide Planning Committee (Councillor Ullah)
  - Health and Wellbeing Board (Councillor Addy)
  - Licensing and Safety Committee - including Licensing and Regulatory Panel (Councillor Firth)
  - Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (Councillor Burke)
  - Personnel Committee (Councillor Pattison)
  - Scrutiny Panel – Children’s (Councillor Ali)
  - Scrutiny Panel – Environment and Climate Change (Councillor Cooper)
  - Scrutiny Panel – Growth and Regeneration (Councillor Amin)
  - Scrutiny Panel – Health and Adult Social Care (Councillor J D Lawson)
  - Standards Committee (Councillor Armer)
  - Strategic Planning Committee (Councillor Homewood)
  - Kirklees Active Leisure (Councillor Sokhal)
  - One Adoption Joint Committee (Councillor Sewell)
  - West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Councillor Pattison)
  - West Yorkshire Combined Authority Transport Committee (Councillor McLoughlin)
  - West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Councillor O’Donovan)
  - West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee (Councillor Munir Ahmed)
  - West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel (Councillor Lowe)
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## **13: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty**

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

“This Council notes:

- The Labour Government’s recent decision to restrict the Winter Fuel Payment to only pensioners in receipt of means-tested benefits like Pension Credit, as announced by Chancellor Rachel Reeves.

- The estimated impact of this decision, which Age UK says will mean 2 million pensioners who badly need the money to stay warm this winter will not receive it.
- The significant role that Winter Fuel Payments play in helping older residents of Kirklees Council and across the UK afford heating during the coldest months, thereby preventing 'heat or eat' dilemmas and safeguarding health.
- The criticism from Age UK, the Countryside Alliance and other charities, highlighting the social injustice and potential health risks posed by this sudden policy change.
- The additional strain this decision will place on vulnerable pensioners, many of whom do not claim Pension Credit despite being eligible, further exacerbating their financial hardship.

This Council believes:

- That the Winter Fuel Payment has been a lifeline for many older people across the UK and that restricting its availability solely to those on Pension Credit risks leaving many pensioners in financial hardship.
- While some pensioners currently in receipt of the Winter Fuel Payment may not require it, many thousands across Kirklees Council sit just above the cut-off for Pension Credit and will now lose their allowance.
- The decision to means-test Winter Fuel Payments, especially with such short notice and without adequate compensatory measures, is deeply unfair and will disproportionately affect the health and well-being of our poorest older residents.
- The government's approach fails to consider the administrative barriers and stigma that prevent eligible pensioners from claiming Pension Credit, leaving many without the support they desperately need.

This Council resolves to:

- Bring forward a Council-led local awareness campaign to alert those eligible of Pension Credit which in some respects will help access to the Winter Fuel Payment for those most in need.
- Request that the Council Leader write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, urging her to reverse the decision to means-test the Winter Fuel Payment and asking the government to ensure that vulnerable pensioners, particularly those who do not claim Pension Credit, are protected from fuel poverty.
- Encourage local efforts to promote Pension Credit uptake through council services and partnerships with local charities and community organisations to ensure that all eligible pensioners in Kirklees Council are supported in claiming their entitlement."

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## **14: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Two Child Limit to Benefit Payments**

To consider the following Motion in the names of Councillors Marchington and Munro;

“This Council notes:

- 1) The two-child limit to benefit payments was introduced by the Conservative Government in 2017 and is currently supported by the new Labour Government. The cap restricts Child Tax Credit and Universal Credit to the first two children in most households;
- 2) The recent research conducted by the End Child Poverty Coalition, which has found that:
  - 1.5 million children in the UK live in households subject to the two-child limit on benefit payments. This is roughly one-in-ten children in the UK.
  - In 2023/24 the two-child limit cost families up to £3,235 per child each year.
  - There is a strong correlation between families affected by the two-child limit and those who are living in poverty.
  - Scrapping the two-child limit would lift 250,000 children out of poverty overnight, and significantly reduce the level of poverty that a further 850,000 children live in.
  - Scrapping the two-child limit would cost £1.3 billion. However, it is estimated that child poverty costs the economy over £39 billion a year. This includes increased public service expenditures and lost economic output, due to lower earnings potential among adults who grow up in impoverished conditions.
- 3) New data which reveals that the Yorkshire and Humber region, which includes Kirklees, is a hotspot for children hit by the two-child limit on benefits, with 13% of children in Yorkshire and Humber impacted. As a comparison, across the nations, the figure is 11% for both England and Wales. At the same time, the number of children living in poverty in Kirklees in 2021/22 was 34,969. That is 33.7% of all children living in the district;
- 4) The Liberal Democrat national party has consistently opposed the two-child limit to benefit payments since it was introduced – calling for it to be axed in their 2017, 2019 and 2024

manifestos. Council notes with concern the stance of the Labour Government, who are committed to keeping the cap – going as far as suspending the whip from MPs who rebel against this position.

This Council believes that:

The two-child limit to benefit payments is a cruel and harmful policy that should be scrapped. Research from the University of York has shown that its introduction has had no positive impacts on employment and earnings. Instead, it has dragged thousands of local families into poverty and has been a key driver of child poverty in recent years. Furthermore, the policy has had a negative impact on many people's mental health, increasing stress and anxiety and harming their wellbeing, with knock-on effects on children's opportunities and wellbeing.

This Council, therefore, resolves to:

- 1) Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Prime Minister indicating Kirklees Council's strong belief that the two-child limit to benefit payments should be scrapped – which would help many children and households in Kirklees;
- 2) Further, instruct the Chief Executive to write to all MPs covering Kirklees Council's area, asking them to commit their public support to the campaign to end the cruel two child limit to benefit payments;
- 3) Ensure the number of children a family has is considered when a hardship grant is given out by the Council."

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## **15: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Family Farm Tax**

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

"This Council notes that:

The recent 2024 Autumn Budget change to Inheritance Tax relief announced by the Labour Government will introduce a Family Farm Tax and will have a detrimental impact on Family Farms and farmers' ability to pass on their farms to the next generation of farmers.

This Council believes that:

- The Labour Government have committed a shameful betrayal and let down farmers by breaking their promise to not introduce a Family Farm Tax.
- The Family Farm Tax will damage the ability of farmers to pass on their farms to their children.
- Labour's Family Farm Tax will threaten food security by forcing the sale of family farms.
- The Labour Government's Family Farm Tax will make British food production harder.
- That the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Steve Reed and Keir Starmer promised not to introduce a tax like this.
- Numerous rural and farming organisations such as the National Farmers Union and Country Land and Business Association have warned that countless farms will be harmed, threatening food security and rural areas.
- The comments made by Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Steve Reed that already struggling farmers will have to 'do more with less'.
- At a time when many farmers across Kirklees are struggling with soaring costs and energy prices, this sudden tax rise will damage the future of their farms.

This Council resolves:

- To request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to outline the Council's dismay at this decision and calls on the Government to stop the Family Farm Tax.
- That the Leader of the Council engages with local farmers and community representatives on what the Council can do to support them.
- That the Council seeks to support local farmers by using local produce, produced in Kirklees wherever possible."

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**16: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Opposing Cuts to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Vulnerable Pensioners**

To consider the following Motion in the names of Councillors Hussain, Scott, H Zaman, Moore, A Zaman, Masood Ahmed, Bramwell, Anwar, Safdar, Darwan and Daji;

"This Council notes with deep concern the Labour Government's decision to cut the Winter Fuel Allowance, resulting in over 10 million



pensioners losing up to £300 a year. This loss is equivalent to more than a week's pension income, and the cuts come just as Ofgem has announced an energy price cap increase of £149 this winter. This represents a devastating double blow for millions of vulnerable pensioners.

We believe that austerity policies such as this are not the answer, and pensioners should not be made to bear the burden of government mismanagement. The wealth exists in our society to provide support where it is most needed. For example, energy companies more than trebled their profits during the pandemic, and the 50 richest families in Britain own a combined £500 billion in wealth – equivalent to half of the UK population's combined wealth. A wealth tax on the richest 1% would raise billions, yet the government has chosen to target pensioners instead of seeking fairer solutions.

Some argue that wealthy pensioners receive the Winter Fuel Payment unnecessarily, but we strongly support the universal nature of this payment. Like the state pension itself, a universal payment ensures that nobody falls through the cracks. Linking the Winter Fuel Payment to pension credit will leave millions of vulnerable pensioners without the extra support they need. Currently, over 850,000 pensioners who qualify for pension credit do not receive it, missing out on an average of £2,677 a year. These same pensioners will now face losing up to £300 more with these cuts. Additionally, Age UK estimates that a further one million pensioners who live just £50 above the poverty line will also lose out on the Winter Fuel Payment, pushing them closer to financial hardship.

It is important to stress that the proposed cuts to the Winter Fuel Payment are expected to save only £1.4 billion a year. However, if all pensioners entitled to pension credit were encouraged to apply as a result of these changes, the cost of paying this unclaimed credit would rise to £2.2 billion annually – meaning the government might save nothing at all from these cuts.

The Chancellor's announcement of an extension to the Household Support Fund is a temporary and inadequate measure. It places an additional burden on pensioners, forcing them to rely on charitable grants from their local councils instead of receiving their automatic Winter Fuel Payment. Pensioners, who have worked hard all their lives, should not be forced to go cap-in-hand for basic support.

This Council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to the government and demand that they reverse the proposed cuts to the Winter Fuel Allowance. Our vulnerable pensioners deserve better, and they should not be made to suffer as a result of government decisions that fail to tax the wealthiest individuals and corporations adequately.

We urge the government to reconsider its approach, seek fairer alternatives, and protect the wellbeing of those who rely on this essential support to stay warm this winter.”

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## **17: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Bus Fares**

To consider the following Motion in the names of Councillors Safdar, Bramwell, Anwar and Daji;

“In the light of the recent budget will increase the current bus fare price cap, this Council notes the Labour Government increased the cap by 50%, from £2 to £3.

In practice current fares will be maintained until 31 March 2025. From 1 April 2025 until 31 December 2025 West Yorkshire fares will be £2.50 single and £6 Day Saver (to be approved at the Combined Authority meeting on 12th December.)

As a result, Kirklees residents will experience a significant increase in travel costs. Although an MCard weekly, monthly or annual ticket may still be cheaper than two single tickets a day for 5 days, not all bus users can afford to pre-purchase Mcards.

This Council believes that:

The increase in the bus fares will hasten the decline in passenger numbers. This could have a damaging impact on the district's bus services. As patronage declines operators will seek to reduce frequency or cut uneconomic routes, which so many residents across the Kirklees area rely on.

Such a move will also have a negative impact on young people travelling to access education, and those reliant on buses to reach their place of employment. It will also have a negative impact on elderly people who do not drive but need to access services, healthcare and visit family.

At a time when many residents across the Kirklees borough are struggling with soaring costs and expenses, an increase in fares will punish some of the most vulnerable in our community.

Increasing fares will discourage sustainable travel and remove an incentive to use public transport to access our town centres, leading to an increase in the number of cars on the road. Buses need to avoid being held up by congestion - created by increased car use. Where bus priority lanes exist, parking is not adequately enforced.

The resulting impact on emissions and clean air will exacerbates health outcomes.

This Council resolves:

- To request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Transport Secretary to outline the Council's dismay at this decision and ask the Government to reconsider this.
- To request that that the Leader of Kirklees Council writes to Mayor Tracy Brabin to highlight the negative impact of this policy and urge the Combined Authority to continue to support subsidised fares in West Yorkshire beyond 31 December 2025.
- That the Cabinet Portfolio Holder engages with local bus companies to consider ways to maintain the essential bus routes that provide a lifeline for many communities.
- That the Cabinet Portfolio Holders for Transport and Highways engage with WYCA on planned road reallocation schemes that are pipelined and are taking far too long to be enacted; to prioritise those road schemes that would reallocate road space and enable the introduction of more bus priority; making use of temporary schemes, if necessary. “

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## **18: Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Exempting Social Care from the National Insurance Tax Hike**

To consider the following Motion in the names of Councillors Munro and J Lawson;

“This Council notes:

- 1) As part of the Autumn Budget 2024, the Chancellor Rachel Reeves announced a National Insurance increase and reduced the threshold at which employers start paying it. From April 2025, the rate of employers' National Insurance contributions businesses will pay will increase by 1.2 percentage points to 15% and the earnings threshold at which companies pay will be lowered from £9,100 to £5,000. For an employee earning £30,000, the amount a business pays on National Insurance will increase by £865.80 under the new rules, increasing the total cost from £32,884.20 to £33,750. In addition, from April 2025, the National Living Wage (NLW) will increase from £11.44 to £12.21 per hour for all eligible employees;
- 2) The new Labour government has claimed that the change to National Insurance contributions will generate an extra £25

billion in tax revenue, which will aim to make up for the £22 billion 'black hole' left by the previous government;

- 3) Local authorities, including Kirklees Council, are responsible for assessing people's needs and, if individuals are eligible, for funding their care. However, most social care services are delivered by independent sector home care and residential care providers, which are mainly for-profit companies, although also include some voluntary sector organisations.

This Council believes that:

While the Autumn Budget earmarked £680 million of new grant funding to support social care (for both adults and children's services) in 2025/26, the additional pressures on social care providers, including increasing the National Insurance contributions by 1.2%, a reduction in the threshold for employer National Insurance contributions and a 6.7% increase in the

- 1) National Living Wage, will limit the impact of this funding and likely eradicate the extra £680 million allocated. It's subjecting health services to higher taxes and is counterproductive, making it harder to provide care to older, vulnerable and disabled people;
- 2) The Nuffield Trust estimate that the Employer National Insurance Contributions (ENICs) changes will cost independent sector social care employers in the region of an additional £940 million in 2025/26, on top of around £1.85 billion more that will be needed to meet new minimum wage rates. The Nuffield Trust say that the 18,000 independent organisations providing adult social care in England, which constitutes 98% of care providers, will be faced with increased costs of an estimated £2.8 billion in the next financial year. Public sector organisations, including the NHS, will be reimbursed the extra payments, but most care providers are run privately, so will be liable;
- 3) Many social care providers, especially small providers, are now at risk of going bust as a direct result of the National Insurance hike and this could disrupt or end vital care for thousands of older and disabled people across the country, including residents in Kirklees;
- 4) If local authorities, including Kirklees Council, are unable to pay social care providers higher fees, the vast majority of small providers who cannot absorb the extra costs will have to increase prices for people who pay for their own care or may go out of business altogether;
- 5) Hitting small businesses with a tax hike is the wrong political choice, as it will likely result in lower wages and profits for many businesses., It also risks worsening the NHS crisis by

hiking costs for care providers. More widely, the Labour government pledged not to increase the National Insurance paid by 'working people', but when employers' NICs increase, companies' demand for labour decreases, which puts downward pressures on wages. Consequently, it could be argued that employer NIC rises are a tax on working people. Many businesses will be forced to scale back pay increases or hiring plans and the majority of small and medium sized enterprises in the UK will be impacted by the changes;

- 6) Increasing the National Insurance contributions on social care providers will make the crisis in social care worse. The government should exempt care providers from the Employer's National Insurance tax rise. In addition to social care providers, GP surgeries, hospices, NHS dentists, pharmacies and charitable providers of healthcare should all be exempt from the increase. Primary care providers are the backbone of our health services and without them NHS hospitals risk being overwhelmed.

This Council, therefore, resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to request that social care providers be exempt from the Employer's National Insurance tax rise."

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By Order of the Council



Steve Mawson  
Chief Executive

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## COUNCIL

### KIRKLEES COUNCIL

**At the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Kirklees held at  
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield on Wednesday 13 November 2024**

## PRESENT

**The Mayor (Councillor Nosheen Dad) in the Chair**

## COUNCILLORS

Councillor Beverley Addy	Councillor Masood Ahmed
Councillor Itrat Ali	Councillor Zarina Amin
Councillor Ammar Anwar	Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Ali Arshad	Councillor Timothy Bamford
Councillor Donna Bellamy	Councillor Tanisha Bramwell
Councillor Damian Brook	Councillor Cahal Burke
Councillor Aafaq Butt	Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Moses Crook	Councillor Aziz Daji
Councillor Hanifa Darwan	Councillor Paola Antonia Davies
Councillor Eric Firth	Councillor Charles Greaves
Councillor David Hall	Councillor Tyler Hawkins
Councillor Lisa Holmes	Councillor Caroline Holt
Councillor James Homewood	Councillor Yusra Hussain
Councillor Zahid Kahut	Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan	Councillor Jo Lawson
Councillor John Lawson	Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor David Longstaff	Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Harry McCarthy	Councillor Tony McGrath
Councillor Hannah McKerchar	Councillor Matthew McLoughlin
Councillor Paul Moore	Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Darren O'Donovan	Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Councillor Ashleigh Robinson
Councillor Jane Rylah	Councillor Imran Safdar
Councillor Cathy Scott	Councillor Angela Sewell
Councillor Joshua Sheard	Councillor Will Simpson
Councillor Anthony Smith	Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Richard Smith	Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Councillor John Taylor	Councillor Mark Thompson
Councillor Graham Turner	Councillor Sheikh Ullah
Councillor Alex Vickers	Councillor Habiban Zaman

## 97 **Announcements by the Mayor and Chief Executive**

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Damian Brook who had recently been elected to the Holme Valley South ward.

## Council - 13 November 2024

The Mayor informed Council of the death of Pauline Simms, who had served as Mayoress to former Councillor Ken Simms, during the 1995 to 1996 mayoral year. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor conveyed sympathy and expressed appreciation for Pauline's commitment to the role during her year as Mayoress.

The Mayor highlighted that November marked Islamophobia Awareness Month and encouraged Members to support and attend events that were being held in local communities.

With the permission of the Mayor, Councillor O'Donovan highlighted Men's Mental Health Awareness Month, which aimed to raise awareness of men's mental health challenges, and encouraged Councillors to support communities in reaching to the support services available.

### 98 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Munir Ahmed, Karen Allison, Martyn Bolt, Vivien Lees-Hamilton, Gwen Lowe, Amanda Pinnock, Kath Pinnock and Adam Zaman.

### 99 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 16 October 2024 be approved as a correct record.

### 100 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors Sokhal and Thompson declared an 'other interest' in Agenda Item 9 (Petition Debate – Dewsbury Sports Centre) in their capacity as Trustees of Kirklees Active Leisure.

### 101 **Petitions (From Members of the Council)**

Council received petitions from (i) Councillor J D Lawson requesting that Council debate the re-submitted Motion 'Gaza – A Year on, urgent Action is needed' and (ii) Councillor Daji regarding a lack of estate maintenance at Frederick Walker Gardens.

The Mayor advised that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9(3), the subject matter of the petitions be referred to the relevant Executive Director.

### 102 **Deputations & Petitions (From Members of the Public)**

Council received deputations from;

- Angela Nicholls on behalf of the Oakenshaw Monument Preservation Group regarding the restoration and return of the Oakenshaw Cross.

A response was provided by the Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Crook).

- Jake Surman on behalf of Almondbury Business and Community Association, regarding Almondbury and Lepton Christmas Lights.

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



## Council - 13 November 2024

- Suhaib Mohammed and Abdul Jabbar Choudary regarding the submitted Motion on Gaza.

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

- Helen Wilson on behalf of Dewsbury Cemetery Action Group regarding the provision of multi faith burial space in Dewsbury.

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

103

### **Public Question Time**

Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 11, the following written questions were submitted;

- (i) Question from Angela Nicholls

“When will the Council work with local residents to improve the safety of pedestrians, road users, and horse riders on Wyke Lane which has 3 access points on to Spen Valley Greenway and is a rat run to avoid Chain Bar? A 20 mph speed limit is needed.”

A response was provided by the Deputy Leader (Councillor Crook).

- (ii) Question from Angela Nicholls

“Will the Council review the wording and poor positioning of the road signs at the entrance to Wyke Lane from Bradford Road to include length restriction as 16.5 metre articulated vehicles cannot negotiate a heritage site without damage to the site or neighbouring properties? This will necessitate liaison with Bradford Council for similar from the Wyke end of the lane.”

A response was provided by the Deputy Leader (Councillor Crook).

- (iii) Question from Christopher Ellis

“How was the cut to the library budget of 912K calculated and agreed at Cabinet, whilst maintaining a comprehensive and efficient library service?”

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

104

### **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 19 September 2024 were received and noted.

105

### **Key Discussion - Elected Mayor (West Yorkshire Combined Authority)**

The Elected Mayor of West Yorkshire was in attendance for the key discussion and provided an overview of her priorities, prior to a question and answer session.

**106 Petition Debate - Dewsbury Sports Centre**

Council held a petition debate on the future of Dewsbury Sports Centre, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9a.

(It was moved by Councillor Kahut and Councillor J Lawson that Agenda Items 12 and 12 be considered as the next agenda items. The proposal, upon being put to the vote, was carried).

**107 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Gaza - a year on, urgent action is needed**

It was moved by Councillor Arshad, seconded by Councillor Safdar and

**RESOLVED –**

1) That this Council notes that nearly a year on from the start of the latest conflict in Gaza:

- a) 10,000's of innocent men, women and children have been killed or seriously injured. Many more are missing in the debris of Gaza.
- b) Gaza is being raised to the ground. There has been indiscriminate bombing of refugee camps, medical facilities, schools, places of worship of all denominations and the general infra structure.
- c) Aid is still not getting into Gaza in the quantity needed due to interference by the Israeli Govt this has resulted in widespread malnutrition and the remaining medical facilities running without even the basic of medical supplies.
- d) That the Israeli government is guilty of war crimes and breaching International Humanitarian Law. Creating an Apartheid State within the Palestinian Territories of Gaza and the West Bank.
- e) The International Court of Justice has declared the situation in Gaza to be genocide
- f) That many residents of Kirklees remain gravely concerned about the ongoing situation in Gaza and wish to see an end to the genocide in Gaza.

2) That this is Council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to Keir Starmer, the Prime Minister to urge him to;

- revoke licenses which allow the selling of arms and military equipment to Israel until a time the Israeli Government stops the on-going genocide in Gaza, ceases to occupy the Palestinian Territories of the West Bank and Gaza, abides by the IJC rulings and the numerous United Nations resolutions.
- lobby his Israeli counterpart to immediately allowed in aid to Gaza unfettered by obstructions, in a bid to holt the humanitarian crisis that is occurring within Gaza.
- all diplomatic channels at his disposal to call for a ceasefire and the return of the Israeli hostages

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- 3) That we ask that Kirklees Council where at all lawful and practical to avoid purchases of goods from Israeli companies illegally occupying the afore mentioned Palestinian Territories.
- 4) That this Council commits to conducting a thorough review of its procurement practices to ensure that goods and consumables sourced from companies directly or indirectly involved in the conflict are not used.”

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

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

**109 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty**

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

**110 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Providing Similar Support Mechanisms as Ukraine to those impacted by Genocide in Palestine**

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

**111 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to the Situation in the Middle East**

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

**112 Motion submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14 as to Two Child Limit to Benefit Payments**

Item not considered (Meeting terminated in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16:2).

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<b>KIRKLEES COUNCIL</b>				
<b>COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC</b>				
<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>				
Council				
Name of Councillor				
<b>Item in which you have an interest</b>	<b>Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")</b>	<b>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]</b>	<b>Brief description of your interest</b>	

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.

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CABINET

**Tuesday 10th September 2024**

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)  
Councillor Beverley Addy  
Councillor Munir Ahmed  
Councillor Moses Crook  
Councillor Tyler Hawkins  
Councillor Amanda Pinnock  
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt  
Councillor Tanisha Bramwell  
Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor Jo Lawson  
Councillor John Lawson  
Councillor Imran Safdar  
Councillor Mohan Sokhal  
Councillor John Taylor

Apologies: Councillor Viv Kendrick

**29 Membership of Cabinet**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Kendrick.

**30 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 9 July and 13 August 2024 be approved as a correct record.

**31 Admission of the Public**

It was noted that all Agenda Items would be considered in public session.

**32 Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Hawkins declared an ‘other’ interest in Agenda Item 8 on the grounds that he is a Trustee of Kirkheaton Community Library.

**33 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**34 Questions by Members of the Public**

No questions were submitted.

**35 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)**

Cabinet received oral questions under Executive Procedure Rule 2.3.

**Question from Councillor Bolt**

“About twenty years ago this Council granted planning approval for a huge development, originally known as Mirfield 25, it has evolved and is now known as AAA Park. It is located on the A62, one of the Council’s strategic economic zones. As part of the development, residents were told that the developers would pay for improvements at the Stocks Bank Moor Road junction and for road safety measures in various places. The improvements at Church Road, Roberttown, have been implemented, but those at Church Lane and Dunbottle Lane, Mirfield, have not yet been designed. How can the public have confidence in the planning scheme when nearly twenty years later the promises haven’t been delivered?”

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

**Question from Councillor J Lawson**

“There are a lot of significant decisions being taken at the moment. In terms of the way that evidence and decisions are presented, do you think its time that we reviewed how we evidence Cabinet decisions?”

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

**Question from Councillor J D Lawson**

“A lot of residents realise the financial constraints that the Council is under, but we do have a lot of reports of fly tipping that isn’t being picked up. What is the target from when it is reported on the website, to it being actually picked up?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways (Councillor Munir Ahmed).

**Question from Councillor Safdar**

“According to the Trussell Trust there has been an increase in foodbank usage across the North of England, and there is also concern regarding the pending increase of gas and electric prices. As a Council, what are we doing to provide extra support, especially in light of possible reduced help from central government, and linking into that, what provisions are we going to put in place to help hard working organisations like the mission and various religious groups working hard to provide food banks?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services (Councillor Hawkins).

**Question from Councillor Bramwell**

“Dewsbury Sports Centre has been closed now for over a year and it is having a continuously significant negative impact on residents across North Kirklees. At the last Cabinet meeting I raised this issue, and Councillor Turner advised that we were



## **Cabinet - 10 September 2024**

waiting on a report. I'm asking for an update, since that last Cabinet meeting, is there a report and where are things at right now?"

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

### **Question from Councillor Bolt**

"The Council is partnering with Network Rail Transpennine Route upgrade on a project to stimulate active travel in what is called 'the first and last mile', encouraging people to walk or cycle the first or last mile of a journey to and from a railway station. The drop in session in Mirfield had very limited time for people to respond and even more limited information on the project, for example, it didn't have any baseline data on the number of people who work of cycle to Mirfield Railway Station. How would Cabinet judge the success of a project if it didn't know the starting point? Because we see a plan that had not been published before to use as part of the canal towpath from Shepley Bridge into Mirfield, which has some very low bridges and narrow paths. I raised safety concerns, there was no risk assessment. Have the Cabinet seen any of these when bringing forward the plans?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Housing (Councillor Crook).

### **Question from Councillor Taylor**

"I've been contacted by Grange Moor residents about the X41 Service, running from Dewsbury to Grange Moor, to Huddersfield. It was a service originally provided by Arriva, and has since been provided by South Pennine Community Transport, who are now considering withdrawing the service. The service is an essential rural route, receiving subsidy from the mayoral authority, who have we tried to engage with but we haven't received any answers. The community are concerned that they are going to be cut off if the service is withdrawn, particularly with regards to accessing the surgery in Middlestown. Can I have some help in keeping this essential service going?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Housing (Councillor Crook).

### **Question from Councillor Bramwell**

"With regard to the Youth Services currently delivered by Kirklees Council, what is the plan in the North Kirklees area? The anti social behaviour in Dewsbury West is across the ward. I have spoken with the detached youth work team who told me that their plan of engagement is changing constantly. There is no longer place based working due to cuts. What is the Council doing to support the grass root organisations working already and what is the Council's Youth Service offer?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Education and Communities (Councillor A U Pinnock).

- 36 To present Cabinet with findings from recent informal consultation and other relevant details to enable a decision to be made on the future library service** (Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt and Taylor).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report, pursuant to a decision of Cabinet on 20 February 2024, which authorised the commencement of an informal engagement with community partners regarding the proposed Community Managed Libraries model, and associated service review. The purpose of the report was to provide insight into the feedback received, provide consideration of an alternative targeted delivery model, set out the requirements for non-statutory public consultation, and the next steps of the process.

The report outlined revised plans for a future libraries' delivery model, following a needs assessment and feedback from an informal engagement exercise. It explained that the proposal was to retain all 24 libraries, aiming to provide an efficient library service within budget limits that can respond to community needs. The model proposed the retention of all libraries within the statutory network and advised that this would require a review of opening and staffed hours across all library services to meet the savings target. The review would ensure that all future staffing and management structures align to the proposed model.

It was noted that, subject to approval, a period of public consultation would commence and that a final proposal would be submitted to Cabinet for consideration early next year.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to the revised targeted libraries delivery model, retaining some paid staffed hours across all 24 Kirklees library locations.
- 2) That the consultation process on the option of targeted reduction in staffed hours and opening hours that will seek community and partner input through surveys and focus groups, as well as ensure the proposed model meets the legal requirements for a comprehensive and efficient service that meets the needs of the communities served, be endorsed.
- 3) That the Integrated Impact Assessment be noted, before making a decision to consult.
- 4) That the outcome of the public consultation process be submitted to Cabinet prior to implementation.

**37 Damp, Mould and Condensation Policy**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of the Damp, Mould and Condensation Policy, in response to the Regulatory Notice issued by the Regulator of Social Housing on 6 March 2024.

The report advised that the policy outlined resident safety as a priority and set out the actions that would be taken to manage and resolve issues of damp, mould and condensation in the Council's housing stock. It was noted that the policy would meet regulatory requirements and demonstrate the Council's commitment to maintaining high housing standards. The report explained that the policy, which was attached at

Appendix A of the report, underpinned the importance of the resident within their house and had been designed to achieve positive outcomes for residents.

**RESOLVED** - That the Damp, Mould and Condensation Policy be approved.

**38 Inclusion and Diversity Strategy 2024-2027**

Cabinet gave consideration to the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy 2024-2027, which set out the Council's vision for inclusion and diversity by providing equal access to opportunities and resources and recognising, supporting and celebrating the diversity of communities and workforce.

**RESOLVED** - That the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy 2024-2027 be approved.

**39 Council Budget Strategy 2025/2026 and future years (Reference to Council)**

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out a framework for the budget setting process and future financial planning. The report set out (i) an update in regards to Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring (ii) overarching principles of the financial strategy (iii) risk and uncertainty within the financial strategy (iv) update of the medium term financial strategy (revenue) 2025/2030 (v) specific funding assumptions (vi) cost pressures (vii) balances and reserves (viii) the general fund revenue budget (ix) update of the medium term capital plan 2024/2029 (x) collection fund (xi) dedicated schools grant and (xii) the housing revenue account.

It was noted that the report would be submitted to the meeting of Council on 18 September 2024, and that subject to approval, work would be undertaken on the identification and development of draft budget proposals and options, as set out within the framework. The report advised that Cabinet would present initial proposals for the 2025/2026 budget in December 2024.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be referred to Council with a recommendation that;

- (i) the key risks to the delivery of the budget in 2024/2025 be noted and submitted to Cabinet on a quarterly basis as part of budget monitoring reports.
- (ii) the continued uncertainty with the future funding outlook for the Council be noted.
- (iii) the update and the revised budget gap to the Medium Term Financial Strategy for the period 2025/2026 to 2029/2030 (as set out at Appendix A) be noted and that, in view of the uncertainty with some of the assumptions upon which the Strategy is based, it remain under review as the Council's budget process progresses.
- (iv) it be noted that there is a significant gap of c£30m in 2025/2026 which requires either reduction in budget pressures or increased savings proposals to be brought forward at pace.
- (v) the scenario analysis, as shown at Appendix C, which models the worst/best case scenarios around the baseline MTFP, as part of the assessment of potential risks facing the Council, be noted.

## Cabinet - 10 September 2024

- (vi) the Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved.
- (vii) it be noted that, as delegations allow, and in view of the significant financial challenge faced by the Council, early action be taken to identify and implement budget reduction measures, consistent with the Medium Term Financial Strategy, as a means of reducing the funding gap, as set out in the report.
- (viii) in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members, Officers be requested to identify and bring forward proposals consistent with the Medium Term Financial Strategy for consideration by Cabinet and Council as part of the development of the budget for 2025/2026.
- (ix) the timetable as set out at Appendix E for the development of the Council Budget 2025/2026 be noted.
- (x) it be agreed that, subject to consideration by Cabinet Members, any budget proposals arising from the work be considered by Cabinet in due course (subject to (xi) below).
- (xi) it be noted that it is proposed to undertake consultation on the budget proposals in late 2024 with a view to informing decisions on the Council's budget 2025/2026.
- (xii) subject to the continuation of the Business Rates Pooling arrangements, authority be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Service Director (Finance), in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Regeneration, to determine whether the Council should continue as a member of the Leeds City Region Business Rates Pool in 2025/2026.

### 40 **Kirklees Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024 - 2029 & Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy 2024**

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

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for (i) the draft Kirklees Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029 (as attached at Appendix 1 of the report) and (ii) the refreshed Kirklees Council – Housing Solutions Service Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy 2024 (as attached at Appendix 2 of the report).

The report advised that the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy would enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duty to formulate and publish such a strategy every five years, and provide a framework for service development, resource prioritisation and partnership support to enhance outcomes for residents who are vulnerable or facing homelessness.

Cabinet noted that the Strategy focussed upon achieving better outcomes for vulnerable children, providing high quality, joined up and accessible services that safeguard children and adults from harm, and working collaboratively to support people to live in suitable and affordable homes within a supportive community. It was also noted that the Housing Solutions Service Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy 2024 set out how homeless households would be prioritised for temporary

accommodation, both within and outside of the district.

The report advised that, subject to approval, the priorities would be delivered through an action plan which would be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis and would include a regular review of key performance indicators associated with homelessness and rough sleeping.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That the draft Kirklees Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029 be approved.
- 2) That the refreshed Kirklees Housing Solutions Service Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy 2024 be approved.

**41**

**Kirklees Major Transport Capital Schemes; Annual Report 2024**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36 (1), Cabinet received representations from Councillor Bolt and Councillor Sokhal)

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the delivery and governance of the Council's major capital transport infrastructure projects, and sought delegated authority to progress the delivery of the schemes.

The report included a progress to date summary, which provided feedback in respect of each individual project. Appendix 2 of the report set out a summary of the project budgets and future forecast spend profiles. It was noted that future spend profiles were established and, subject to achieve necessary consents and approvals to award contracts, and subject to agreement of final contract sums.

Cabinet were advised that Officers would continue to progress the projects in accordance with both internal and the WYCA quality assurance processes.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That the annual update on the Council's major transport capital programme be noted.
- 2) That approval be given to the necessary delegated authority to progress the schemes as detailed within the report.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Skills and Regeneration) in consultation with the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into any procurement, funding or contract documentation to enable individual projects and schemes to proceed, as set out within the report, in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Skills and Regeneration) in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and Service Director (Finance) to enable changes to individual projects and funding allocations in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules to facilitate efficient delivery of this programme and the spend of available budgets to allow the outcomes to be realised.

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CABINET

**Tuesday 8th October 2024**

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)  
Councillor Beverley Addy  
Councillor Munir Ahmed  
Councillor Moses Crook  
Councillor Tyler Hawkins  
Councillor Viv Kendrick  
Councillor Amanda Pinnock  
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt  
Councillor Tanisha Bramwell  
Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor Musarrat Khan  
Councillor Jo Lawson  
Councillor John Lawson  
Councillor Paul Moore  
Councillor Andrew Pinnock  
Councillor Imran Safdar  
Councillor Cathy Scott  
Councillor Joshua Sheard  
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje  
Councillor Mark Thompson

**42 Membership of Cabinet**

All Members of the Cabinet were present.

**43 Admission of the Public**

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

**44 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

**45 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**46 Questions by Members of the Public**

No questions were received.

**47 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)**

Cabinet received the following oral questions under the provision of Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

**Question from Councillor Jo Lawson**

“Can you tell me if the teams collecting fly tipping still have the same compliment of staff that they had this time last year, or have they been affected by the vacancy freeze?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways (Councillor Ahmed).

**Question from Councillor Moore**

“Historically ward budgets have allowed Councillors to give out relatively small grants and financial support to grass root organisations. Cutting this budget by 50% will have a huge impact on many groups without which they will struggle to operate and survive. Will the Council revisit this decision and give a commitment not to out the ward budget in the future?”

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

**Question from Councillor Safdar**

“I’m concerned about disability parking permits, is there any way we can revisit the costs, could it be reduced to zero? It’s an extra cost for disabled families who are struggling.”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways (Councillor Ahmed).

**Question from Councillor Scott (on behalf of Councillor Darwan)**

“In total the UK has committed £12.8 billion for the Ukraine. Perhaps Kirklees needs to change its name to Ukraine to get funding for our much needed services. If the Ukraine is getting better British taxpayer’s money why isn’t the Leader of the Council applying more pressure on Keir Starmer and demanding more funding for the needs of people of Kirklees?”

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

**Question from Councillor Scott**

“There appears to be a severe blue badge backlog, which is still ongoing. Can you offer some reassurance to getting this resolved? It is causing anguish and distress for local people?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways (Councillor Ahmed).



**Question from Councillor Bramwell**

“The rate of domestic violence in my ward is very high compared to other areas. What is the offer for domestically abused victims and is the Council working on preventative measures, eg, educating young people on healthy relationships?”

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

**Question from Councillor Scott**

“What is your commitment to a burial site within Dewsbury?”

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

**Question from Councillor Scott**

“Is there any plan to bring an update/presentation on the integration of KNH services back into the Council, to a meeting of full Council?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport (Councillor Crook).

**Question from Councillor Bramwell**

“Dewsbury Cemetery has been a long standing issue for many of my residents. On 27 June 2023 it was claimed that £500k had been set aside for investment in Dewsbury burial provision. Can I ask if that amount still stands?”

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

**Question from Councillor Thompson**

“This year’s budget appendix included a section headed ‘delay and repayment or default on loans’ which highlighted four loans that are outstanding, totalling £33.5m. What are we doing on a day to day basis to make sure that we are reclaiming these loans?”

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

**48**

**Future of Dementia Care Home Provision**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bramwell, Cooper, J D Lawson, J Lawson, Khan, A Pinnock, Safdar, Scott and Smaje.)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out a progress update on the future of dementia care homes provision. The report advised that, following an earlier public consultation exercise whereby a subsequent decision was taken not to

pursue the closure, options for the transfer of the homes as a going concern were explored.

Paragraph 2.10 of the report set out the indicative basis upon which the Council could look to transfer the homes as going concerns and it was advised that potential operators had been made aware of the likely challenges and issues involved if options for sale were pursued, including the possible need for a form of public consultation process. Details of the financial and legal implications were set out at paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 of the report.

The report highlighted that the homes continued to lose more than £1.25m per annum and required capital investment, and that three operators had expressed an interest in pursuing a business transfer option. Cabinet were asked to authorise the progress of negotiations regarding entering into a contract with an alternative provider, subject to final agreement by Cabinet.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to a consultation process being undertaken for a period of six weeks with staff and families regarding the proposal to transfer one or both homes to a private sector operator.
- 2) That approval be given to progressing negotiations to the point of being able to enter into a contract with an alternative provider, subject to final agreement by Cabinet.
- 3) That approval be given to carrying out consultation on the principles of the proposal and that authority be delegated to the Service Director (Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Provider Services) to agree the nature and scope of the consultation.

**49 Councillor's Devolved Ward Budgets - Updated Criteria and Decision-Making Process**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Cooper, Khan, J Lawson and Smaje)

Cabinet were asked to consider a revised set of criteria and decision making process for devolved budgets, as attached at Appendix A of the report. It was noted that, at the meeting of Budget Council (2024), a decision had been taken to reduce the ward budget from £20k to £10k per ward, to help the delivery of budget savings.

The report advised that the revised criteria would enable Councillors to ensure that their ward budgets are used effectively, deliver value for money, respond to local priorities, maximise resources and ensure transparent decision making.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to the Devolved Ward Budgets criteria and decision making process, as set out at Appendix A.
- 2) That, pursuant to (1) above, any further amendments be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member

**50 Fleet Replacement and Investment**

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out details of fleet replacement and investment, and the vehicle replacement programme. The report advised that a vehicle replacement programme had been developed which would ensure that fleet are replaced at the right time, before there is an impact on service delivery, cost and environmental impact.

Cabinet were advised that the investment focussed upon the replacement of critical frontline fleet, achieving the highest possible environmental standards and continuing to deliver on vision zero. It was noted that the Council's fleet was essential to core service delivery and that work would continue to reshape and model the vehicle replacement programme and service fleet operating models to ensure that only essential fleet was replaced to minimise financial risk and impact upon operational effectiveness.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to proceed with expenditure of (i) £21.7m from the agreed Capital Plan for the Vehicle Replacement Programme (years 2025/2026-2030/2031), supporting critical fleet replacement and transformation models over the next six year forecast (ii) £3.26m to replace Waste and Recycling hired fleet with capital purchase, supporting the reduction of the Council's expensive fleet hire costs by generating a fleet whole-life cost saving model (offsetting hire costs v capital), removing reliance on unreliable hired fleet and providing frontline operational stability by capitalising fleet requirements and (iii) £1.8m to replace the current fleet of hired bulk gritting vehicles with capital purchase fleet to achieve a financial saving from year 5 and add flexibility for the future in terms of how the service could be delivered.
- 2) That approval be given to the procurement and award purchase contracts for the replacement of critical fleet and hired fleet assets outlined within the three capital scheme proposals (£26.76m over three years).
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Highways and Streetscene) in consultation with the Cabinet Member, to commence procurement activity for Vehicle Waste Replacement, Waste and Recycling hired fleet and hired bulk gritters replacements in line with UK procurement regulations and Contract Procedure Rules.

**51 Household Waste Recycling Centre Efficiency Savings**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt, J Lawson, J D Lawson, Sheard, Smaje and Thompson. Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 37, Cabinet received a representation from Richard Hodgson).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which proposed operational changes to household waste recycling centres. The report set out proposals for (i) the closure of Nab Lane Household Waste Recycling Centre (ii) the closure of Bromley Farm

Household Waste Recycling Centre on Wednesdays and Thursdays and (iii) the closure of Meltham Household Waste Recycling Centre on Mondays and Thursdays, in order to meet financial efficiency savings. It was noted that the Council operated five sites across the borough and that the reduction of hours at Bromley Farm Household Waste Recycling Centre and Meltham Household Waste Recycling Centre would allow service provision to continue at peak times.

The report advised that the site at Nab Lane Household Waste Recycling Centre did not comply with Waste and Resource Action Programme Guidance 2018, or Health and Safety Executive Guidance, and would require investment which was deemed to be affordable. It was noted that alternative capacity was available at Weaving Lane site.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That Nab Lane Household Waste Recycling Centre be permanently closed from Autumn/Winter 2024.
- 2) That Bromley Farm Household Waste Recycling Centre be closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays from Autumn/Winter 2024 onwards.
- 3) That Meltham Household Waste Recycling Centre be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays from Autumn/Winter 2024 onwards.

**52 Car Parking charges and restrictions for Resident Parking Permits and currently free off-street car parks**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt, Bramwell, JD Lawson, J Lawson, Khan, A Pinnock, Thompson, Scott and Sheard. Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 37 Cabinet received representations from Jamie Ellison and Amanda Gray).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out proposals to introduce car parking charges and restrictions for resident parking permits. The report advised that the proposals had been developed following a statutory consultation process and were designed to meet the parking needs of shoppers, commuters, residents and visitors with the provision of short and long stay off street parking and on street permit parking options. It was noted that the proposals would contribute towards relieving and preventing traffic congestion and local traffic management and would generate £431k to contribute to the income target, leaving a shortfall of £573k.

Appendix 1 of the report set out proposals for resident and visitor permit parking proposals and Appendix 2 set out parking charges, tariffs and restrictions.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to the proposals for resident and visitor permit parking as set out at Appendix 1, and that they be implemented as soon as possible.
- 2) That the findings of the Integrated Impact Assessments be noted.
- 3) That approval be given to the new parking charges/tariffs and restrictions, including two hours free parking charges in 15 car parks as set out at Appendix 2, and that they be implemented as soon as possible.

- 4) That approval be given to the existing Traffic Regulation Order being amended as advertised to enable changes to the application for and issue of permits, including the introduction of 'virtual permits', negating the need for a physical permit to be displayed in the vehicle.
- 5) That future decisions regarding revisions to parking charges be delegated to the relevant Executive Director, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

**53 Community Asset Transfer of Honley Village Hall and adjoining open space land**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of the community asset transfer of Honley Village Hall to Honley Village Community Trust Charitable Incorporated Organisation. It was noted that the property, located at Roundway, Honley, consisted of a building and external open space, and that the freehold of the property was owned by the Council. The report proposed that the property be transferred, by way of a 125 year lease in accordance with the Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy 2020.

It was noted that it would be necessary for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation to surrender its existing lease on parts of the property prior to the new lease being granted. Cabinet were advised that the transfer would provide the Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the security needed to satisfy grant funding requirements whilst ensuring that the property remained available to the local community for the long term future.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to proceed with the grant of a 125 year lease to Honley Village Community Trust Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the related surrender of the existing leases.
- 2) That the Service Director (Development), in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Finance and Regeneration) be authorised to negotiate and agree terms for the grant of a 125 year lease of Honley Village Hall (plan reference 18-0213) and the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) be instructed to execute and enter into all necessary documentation in connection with the grant of a 125 year lease of Honley Village Hall, Roundway, Honley to Honley Community Trust Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

**54 Update Regarding Progress with the Regulatory Notice**

Cabinet received a report which set out an update on the service improvement plan which was being implemented to deliver actions in response to the Notice to improve that was served by the Regulator of Social Housing.

The report advised that a number of significant overdue fire remedial actions had been identified and that, since December 2022, there had been a consistently high number of homes with unresolved cases of damp and mould.

In terms of progress, the report advised that a programme had been put in place to rectify the failures and that statutory action would not be taken at this stage as the

## **Cabinet - 8 October 2024**

breach of standard was being remedied. It was noted that there would be continued progress on the delivery of the action plan, agreed with the Regulator, to ensure that timescales were being met and that the Regulator was satisfied with progress.

**RESOLVED** - That the update report be noted and that the content be shared with key stakeholders.

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CABINET

**Tuesday 5th November 2024**

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)  
Councillor Moses Crook  
Councillor Beverley Addy  
Councillor Tyler Hawkins  
Councillor Viv Kendrick  
Councillor Amanda Pinnock  
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Ammar Anwar  
Councillor Bill Armer  
Councillor Tanisha Bramwell  
Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor Hanifa Darwan  
Councillor Yusra Hussain  
Councillor John Lawson  
Councillor Jo Lawson  
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards  
Councillor Paul Moore  
Councillor Imran Safdar  
Councillor Cathy Scott  
Councillor Angela Sewell  
Councillor Joshua Sheard  
Councillor Mohan Sokhal  
Councillor Habiban Zaman

Apologies: Councillor Munir Ahmed

**55 Membership of Cabinet**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Munir Ahmed.

**56 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 10 September and 8 October 2024 be approved as a correct record.

**57 Admission of the Public**

Cabinet noted exempt information was provided under items 9, 9 and 10.

**58 Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Viv Kendrick declared an 'other' interest on agenda item 8 as a Member and President of Pennine Canoe Club, which was a former user of Dewsbury Sports Centre.

**59 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**60 Questions by Members of the Public**

Cabinet received written questions under Executive Procedure Rule 2.3

**Question from Christine Cagna**

"Your report states that there is a range of exercise offers in Dewsbury. Apart from private gyms which target a specific and narrow demographic, over the past year, what additional provision has been put in place?"

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

**Question from Pat Lister**

"I have been a regular attendee and user of Dewsbury Sports Centre for many years and attended eight classes per week mainly at Dewsbury (but also at Deighton Sports Arena and Batley Baths, both now closed). On reading the report and recommendations I realised that my data, potential income from my membership fees and future needs have not been taken into account and I feel I have been excluded from consultations and discussions on what I and other local residents in the wider North Kirklees area need. I would like to know why data, information on members, volumes, potential income from other users, residents and members from other Wards in North Kirklees has not been taken into account. Why has only data about the three named Dewsbury Wards formed the basis of the recommendations for Option 4 to close and demolish the Dewsbury Sports Centre?"

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

**Question from Pat Lister**

"Why has the report recommendation been made that there is currently sufficient alternative provision available in Dewsbury when those of us (who live in the other wards of North Kirklees & who were displaced by the closure of DSC struggle to find suitable accessible alternative provision in either North or South Kirklees, and Spenborough Leisure centre classes are often not suitable and those that are often oversubscribed. Why have the recommendations have been made without the correct data, incorrect information, and incomplete statistics to make an informed decision and without the correct processes and procedures being adhered to?"

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



**Question from Iqbal Mohammed MP**

“Could the Council provide a detailed breakdown of the quoted repair costs of £9-10 million, along with the projected annual running cost of £1.2 million? I would also request that this breakdown be published to ensure transparency and to support my formal submission to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media, and Sport. Following my recent meeting with the Secretary of State, I was asked to submit a comprehensive written request, and having full clarity on these financial details will be instrumental in presenting the case effectively.”

61

**Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)**

Cabinet received oral questions under Executive Procedure Rule 2.3.

**Question from Councillor J Sheard**

“I have recently seen a planning decision relating to the use of the Nab Lane waste and recycling centre, which states that if the site ceases to be a household waste and recycling centre in excess of 12 months, the council is required to return the site to woodland. To return this site to woodland could cost more than the savings made due to the closure and could result in a huge net loss for the Council. Was the Cabinet aware of this planning decision before approving the decision to close the site?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor C Pattison).

**Question from Councillor T Bramwell**

“Westborough and Dewsbury Moor was once a vibrant, quiet, family centred area that has been hijacked recently by relentless antisocial behaviour and crime with business owners facing multiple armed robberies and attacks which are increasing every day. Residents are facing fireworks being put through their letterboxes, fences are being kicked down, wheelie bins have been stolen and they are being threatened by ‘thugs’ with zombie knives. Are there any plans to prioritise safety in Westborough and will the Cabinet to support and work alongside residents and businesses to combat this?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Communities (Councillor A Pinnock).

**Question from Councillor Jo Lawson**

“With the abolishment of the winter fuel payment, an elderly person must have an income of £11,800 or below to qualify for pension credit in order to receive the winter fuel payment. When some try to claim pension credit, they find that they are a few pounds over the income limit. We know that 37% of people do not claim pension credit when eligible, with that figure possibly higher in Kirklees due to language difficulties, and areas of deprivation. What is the Council doing to help elderly people claim this benefit?”

## **Cabinet - 5 November 2024**

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate (Councillor Tyler Hawkins).

### **Question from Councillor B Armer**

“In relation to the recent budget statement what are the ramifications of changes to employer National Insurance contributions for adult social care in Kirklees?”

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

### **Question from Councillor A Anwar**

“The Dewsbury Sports Centre (DSC) is on the boundary of Dewsbury Town. With the footfall likely to increase when the arcade reopens, would not the reopening of the DSC enhance these investments and contribute to the towns economic and social growth? What influence does the Council have to ask the Dewsbury Town Board to reconsider a boundary change to include DSC?”

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

### **Question from Councillor A Cooper**

“In the recent Government budget statement, it was announced that £600m would be made available for Adult Social Care. Employer National Insurance contributions will be covered for the Council by the Government, but not for the private sector, with the increase in the minimum wage also affecting the private sector more than the public sector. Bearing all those things in mind, will you now be reconsidering whether the Council should privatise Castle Grange and Claremont House?”

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

### **Question from Councillor C Scott**

“Does the Cabinet believe all Section 106 agreements be made public, and should be public be made aware of how much the Council holds in relation to Section 106 money?”

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

### **Question from Councillor H Darwan**

“The cost of the refurbishment of the George Hotel has now spiralled by 50% in two years to £30m, with the Cabinet seeing it is a key part of the regeneration of Huddersfield Town Centre and a priority within the Huddersfield Blueprint. The repairs to DSC are £10m for a centre that loses £1m per year. Why can't the same be done for DSC and get a private investor to run it as part of a regeneration? Can

## **Cabinet - 5 November 2024**

you give a breakdown of the £10m needed for the refurbishment, how many quotes you obtained for the cost of repairs? Why can't the parking fees paid by Dewsbury residents be put back into DSC".

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

### **Question from Councillor P Moore**

"At the last Cabinet meeting we saw a debate on the privatisation of two dementia care homes where elected Members were silenced and threatened to be removed from the Council Chamber for wanting to ask further questions. Can the Council Leader offer me reassurances that democratic debate will be allowed to take place on the closure of DSC?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor C Pattison).

### **Question from Councillor Y Hussain**

"We have heard today from the public that certain sports centres are oversubscribed and with residents having to travel a distance to access sports centres. Could the Council look at scaling back operations at DSC instead of closing the site and converting part of the site to a more financially sustainable option?"

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

### **Question from Councillor H Zaman**

"In light of public safety and the role the Council has in delivering the prevention agenda, can you clarify how many IDF soldiers reside in Kirklees?"

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council (Councillor C Pattison).

### **Question from Councillor John Lawson**

"I have been in ongoing correspondence with Councillor Munir Ahmed who has confirmed there has been no change made yet in the refurbishment and replacement of the Oakenshaw Cross. I am still unsure whether it is highways or assets who oversee the refurbishment and replacement. Please could an invitation be passed on to Councillor Ahmed to meet with the residents of Oakenshaw ahead of the deputation at the next Council meeting?"

A response was provided by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport and Housing (Councillor M Crook).

## Cabinet - 5 November 2024

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36 (1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bramwell, Anward, John Lawson, Scott, Darwan, Moore, Zaman, Hussain, Jo Lawson and Sheard.)

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 37, Cabinet received representations from C Cagna, P Lister, J Devlin and L Bramwell.)

Cabinet considered a report which outlined a range of options in relation to the future of Dewsbury Sports Centre (DSC). The options were detailed at paragraph 1.4 of the considered report, with the recommendation being the permanent closure of DSC based on critical factors such as financial constraints, the significant cost of refurbishing the facilities and the alternative provisions available in the area.

The report highlighted that prior to its closure, DSC was a significant loss-making site for Kirklees Active Leisure (KAL), operating at an annual revenue deficit of around £1.113m per annum. Cabinet noted the permanent closure would require an expected capital cost of £3.483m for the demolition of the wet site and negotiations with the Landlord regarding the dry side and wider building site.

### **RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to permanently close Dewsbury Sports Centre and declare the existing buildings surplus to the Council's requirements.
- 2) That, subject to the approval of capital funding in the Council's revised Capital Plan at Council on 5th March 2025, approval be given to demolish the wet side facility.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place to initiate negotiations with the Landlord of the dry side building regarding the existing lease and the potential future redevelopment of the building and wider site.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into and execute any necessary documentation or instruments in relation to the above matters.
- 5) That authority be given to write off KAL's outstanding borrowing costs of £126k for 2024/25 and a total cost of £697k until 2035 and that the adjustment be made to the Treasury Management budget to accommodate the change.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Public Health and Corporate Resources to:
  - (i) work with partners, including funders such as Sport England and sporting governing bodies, to secure external investment enabling a programme of physical activity opportunities to be delivered in Dewsbury, and
  - (ii) begin a promotional campaign to highlight existing activities in the area, with proposals aiming to deliver a new style of provision to enhance health and wellbeing outcomes.
- 7) That authority be given to commission a strategic needs assessment to explore approaches to effectively address the health, well-being and social needs of the Dewsbury population.

- 8) That the Integrated Impact Assessment which was appended to the considered report be noted.

**63 Buxton House Compulsory Purchase Order**

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

Cabinet considered a report which sought approval to make a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the acquisition of interests in land to enable the remodelling of Buxton House.

The report advised that the remodelling of Buxton House would address critical fire safety issues and create accommodation that met modern standards. Cabinet noted that it approved the budget allocation in July 2021 and the site assembly strategy in March 2024, with an agreement that a further report would be considered if it was necessary to make a CPO.

Cabinet noted that the CPO would cover the one leasehold flat in Buxton House that the Council had not yet required, with the other necessary acquisitions being achieved voluntarily. Cabinet was advised that the project was time sensitive and needed to progress to ensure it could be completed within the allocated budget and provide the new affordable housing.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That authority be given to the making of a CPO of the land shown coloured pink and edged red (“the Order Land”) on the plan considered at Appendix 3 under section 226(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the reasons set out in the Statement of Reasons (Appendix 1) and because: -
  - (i) the acquisition would facilitate the development, redevelopment, or improvement (including regeneration) on or in relation to the Order Land; and
  - (ii) the development, redevelopment or improvement was likely to contribute to the achievement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the Council’s area.
- 2) That the purchase of the ALB Group headlease will engage section 203 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and allow the Council to override rights to facilitate the temporary closure of the Albion Street Car Park to provide a site compound and safe working space be noted.
- 3) That it be noted compensation may be payable under section 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 to those whose rights are interfered with from the project budget.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning to: -
  - (i) take all necessary steps to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the CPO, including, making further amendments by way of finalising the draft Statement of Reason

the publication and service of all relevant notices and the presentation of the Council's case at any future local public inquiry;

- (ii) take all necessary steps to resolve any compulsory purchase compensation claims, including, if necessary, by way of making (or responding to) a reference to the Upper Tribunal (Lands Chamber);
- (iii) negotiate agreements to temporarily amend rights over the Albion Street Car Park: and
- (iv) make payment of any compensation due under section 204 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016.

- 5) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Legal Governance and Commissioning to finalise and enter into all appropriate contracts, deeds and documents required.

**64 George Hotel - Project update and proposed way forward**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36 (1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Sheard, Munro and Cooper.)

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update regarding the George Hotel project and sought approval for an increased capital allocation.

The report advised that the George Hotel remained a key Huddersfield Blueprint project, with the renovation transforming visitor and investor perceptions of Huddersfield Town Centre. Cabinet noted that it approved the refurbishment and development of the site in October 2022 with a capital allocation of £20.2m.

Cabinet was advised that since the approval was given to the redevelopment, increases in constructions costs and unforeseen occurrences on site such as the presence of asbestos and historical underpinning had resulted in the hotel development project cost increasing to £30m. A further £9.8m additional capital funding was therefore required to provide the total allocation of £30m.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1) That approval be given to the continued redevelopment of the George site as a hotel as a key part of the Huddersfield Blueprint.
- 2) That further to the approved £20.2million in the Capital Plan, approval be given to the reprofiling of £9.8million from future phases of the Our Cultural Heart budget within the Capital Plan to the George site project to provide a total budget of £30million.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration in consultation with the Executive Director for Place, Service Director for Finance, and Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning to:

-

- (i) approve any further increase in costs up to a maximum of 5% of the total project cost, accommodated through further reprofiling of the Capital Plan;

## Cabinet - 5 November 2024

- (ii) explore cost reduction and grant funding opportunities;
  - (iii) approve the final design; and
  - (iv) award the building contract subject to necessary consents.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Place, and Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning to: -
- (i) negotiate and enter into a variation to the Hotel Management Agreement within the limits of resolutions (2) and (3); and
  - (ii) negotiate and enter into License/Licenses and formal agreements with Network Rail to facilitate necessary access and egress.

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES

**Wednesday 23rd October 2024**

Present: Councillor Graham Turner (Chair)  
Councillor Munir Ahmed  
Councillor Viv Kendrick

- 1 Membership of the Committee**  
Councillor Kendrick substituted for Councillor Crook under the provision of Part 3.4 of the Constitution.
- 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**  
**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2024 be approved as a correct record.
- 3 Declaration of Interests**  
No interests were declared.
- 4 Admission of the Public**  
It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.
- 5 Deputations/Petitions**  
No deputations or petitions were received.
- 6 Public Question Time**  
No questions were asked.
- 7 Member Question Time (Oral Questions)**  
No questions were asked.
- 8 To consider an Objection received to Proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) - 'Amendment Order No 10 of 2024' - Kitson Hill Road, Mirfield**  
The Committee gave consideration to a report which set out details of an objection that had been received to proposed Traffic Regulation Order 'Amendment Order No 10 of 2024' at Kitson Hill, Mirfield.

The report that Kitson Hill Road, Mirfield, met the criteria for the introduction of a pedestrian crossing facility, located between the school and artificial pitches on the opposite side of the road, and had been subject to notice during the period 1 to 29 August 2024, when no formal comments were received. The notices, which were advertised on-street and in the press, were attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

## **Cabinet Committee - Local Issues - 23 October 2024**

The Committee were advised that as there were existing 'keep clear' markings at the proposed location of the zebra crossing, as illustrated at Appendix 2, it would be necessary to reduce the length of the markings in order to accommodate the crossing. The Traffic Regulation Order to revoke the restrictions was advertised between 15 August and 5 September 2024 and a formal objection was received from ward member, Councillor Bolt.

The report indicated that, whilst Councillor Bolt was supportive of the road safety measures, he requested the delivery of a more holistic approach which would help to resolve term time parking and traffic issues. It was noted that the Council was aware of the wider problems associated with school traffic in the area and that a solution was actively trying to be sought.

The Committee were sympathetic to the issues raised by Councillor Bolt but were supportive of the proposal to install a zebra crossing facility. It was therefore determined that the objection be overruled.

**RESOLVED** – That the objection to proposed Traffic Regulation Order 'Amendment Order No 10 of 2024' at Kitson Hill, Mirfield, be overruled and that the Order be implemented as advertised.

Contact Officer: Nicola Sylvester

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Friday 27th September 2024**

Present: Councillor John Taylor (Chair)  
Councillor James Homewood  
Councillor Angela Sewell  
Councillor Caroline Holt  
Councillor Kath Pinnock  
Councillor Imran Safdar

Co-optees Chris Jones

In attendance: Rachel Spencer- Henshall, Strategic Director, Corporate Strategy  
Samantha Lawton, Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)  
Naz Parkar, Service Director, Homes and Neighbourhoods  
Leigh Webb, Acting Head of Governance  
Martin Dearnley, Head of Risk and Internal Audit  
James Anderson, Head of Accountancy (Virtual)  
Sean Westerby, Corporate Safety and Resilience Manager  
Deborah Nicholson, Democracy Manager, Liaison & Support  
Erin Wood, Information Governance Manager & Data Protection Officer  
David Cleaver, Service Manager, Assets & Development  
Scott Wise, Head of Assets & Development  
Jacqui Fieldhouse, Head of Finance, Transactional Services  
Chris Brown, Head of Housing Management & Partnerships, Homes & Neighbourhoods  
Greg Charnley, Grant Thornton

**1 Membership of the Committee**

No apologies were received.

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> July be approved as a correct record.

**3 Declaration of Interests**

Councillor John Taylor declared another interest in item 9 as Chair of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.

**4 Admission of the Public**

All items were considered in public.

**5 Deputations/Petitions**

No Deputations/Petitions were received.

**6 Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

**7 Annual Corporate Health and Safety Report 2023/24**

The Committee received a report providing an overview of review and performance monitoring activity of the Council's Health and Safety risk management system and policies undertaken by the Corporate Safety Team over the past 12 months to ensure that the organisation had clearly set out its commitments to manage health and safety matters effectively.

The report demonstrated that the work of the Corporate Safety Team supported the Council Plan, and the Council's subsequent delivery of cross-council priorities. It was noted that Kirklees Council had a well-established and embedded health and safety management system.

In response to a question relating to inspections and resource pressures, the Corporate Safety and Resilience Manager advised that the emphasis was on improving the position of risk. It was noted that health and safety was not being taken out of the organisation but had to be worked within budgets.

The Committee raised concerns relating to the risk matrix for homes and neighbourhoods being in red, the Corporate Safety and Resilience Manager advised that work was being carried out with the service to improve health and safety performance, it was noted that some standards were not met as expected by the regulator, but that did not mean that health and safety for employees or residents was poor.

**RESOLVED-** That the Annual Health and Safety Report 2023/24 be noted.

**8 Information Governance Annual Report 2023/24**

The Committee received a report providing an update on the Information Governance service and offer to the Council, outlining key events and activities across the year. The report focused on compliance, both statutory and best practice, as well as examining the challenges faced, successes and next steps.

Presentation slides were submitted to accompany the report which highlighted the challenges and achievements throughout the year including details of the Subject Access Requests (SARS) backlog, current resources and service demands.

During discussion of this item, Members acknowledged the increased number of Freedom of Information requests and felt this was due to decision making

information not being readily available and asked that there was a change in attitude across the Council in releasing or sharing information. The Committee suggested that using the 'My Kirklees Account' to share more local information would be beneficial to the community.

**RESOLVED-** That the Information Governance Annual Report 2023/24 be noted.

**9 Report of the Members Allowances Independent Review Panel**

The Committee received a report on Independent Review Panel who met to consider the Members Allowance Scheme.

The Members Allowance Independent Review Panel meets to consider and recommend the Members Allowances Scheme to Council, having regard to evidence received and associated developments that would affect the scheme.

The Independent Panel met in June 2024, their report including recommendations to be considered at Council (Appendix A in the report). The report also responded to the resolution of Council at the meeting held on 23 September 2023, relating to the scheme having regard to the financial position of the Council and the request for Members to voluntarily forgo increases based on pay award and reduce basic and SRA allowances by 5%. The recommendations within the report relating to the 2024/25 Members Allowances Scheme advised that the Members Allowance Scheme could be managed within overall base budget of the scheme.

During discussion of this item the Committee felt that items three and four of the recommendations included within the report presented were what the Panel wanted to look at and to preserve the independence of the panel, this was not for this committee Council to agree, and amended the recommendation to the resolved below (2.iii)-

**RESOLVED-**

- 1) That the report of the Members Allowances Independent Review Panel be noted.
- 2) That the Committee recommends that Council approve the recommendations of the Members Allowances Independent Review Panel MAIRP (as set out in Appendix A) with the following:
  - (i) That no changes be made to the 2024/25 scheme other than to apply the same percentage pay award awarded to officers to the Basic Allowance and SRAs and to be backdated to 1 April 2024 when known.
  - (ii) To continue to apply the same percentage pay award awarded to officers to the Basic Allowance and SRAs in subsequent years, as per the 2017 recommendation of the Democracy Commission.
  - (iii) To note that the Panel will reconvene to consider the scheme for 2025/26 in line with the issues identified in the report (set out at Appendix A) along with any additional issues determined by the Panel.

**10 Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25 (Quarters 3 & 4)**

The Committee received a report which provided the Internal Audit Plan for the second half of 2024/25.

The Council had an internal audit function lead by the Head of Risk and Internal Audit who reported for governance purposes to this committee. Each year it was necessary to identify how internal audit resources were to be deployed. It was considered good practice to determine an audit plan for half a year, based on a risk assessment. The second half plan proposed reflected comments made at the meeting of the Committee in April 2024 meeting.

The Committee noted that Internal Audit is a statutory obligation for local authorities and existed to provide independent assurance about the business processes for the Council. Internal Audit work was designed to provide assurance through following a programme of work to give coverage across the organisation areas of risk. The report covered the following areas:

- Audit Planning & Resourcing 2024/25
- Performance Standards
- Fraud Work

During consideration of this report the Committee asked the Head of Internal Risk and Audit if he was confident in providing assurance at the end of the year given the resource constraints and the removal of three items. The Head of Risk and Internal Audit advised that they were confident in giving an opinion this year, however future years could be a risk if there were no further resources secured.

In response to a question on cyber security, the Committee was advised that cyber security was a specialist area which Internal Audit did not fully have the skills to review. It was noted that there were external experts who could provide assurance. The Committee requested a private update from the IT service providing assurance on what was being done around cyber security.

**RESOLVED-** That the Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25 (Quarters 3 & 4) be approved noting the resource position.

**11 District Heating - Request for Officer attendance**

The committee received a report advising of progress against the recommendations made by internal audit in relation to the Councils District Heating Service.

At its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the committee considered the first Quarterly report of Internal Audit 2024/25 (April to June 24) and decided that they were not content with the matters identified in the audit report that related to District Heating. The Committee requested that management from the service attend a future meeting to discuss progress.

## **Corporate Governance and Audit Committee - 27 September 2024**

The 2024/25 audit followed a previous internal audit review of district heating schemes which were undertaken in October 2019, which highlighted significant weaknesses relating to the scheme not achieving break-even, the need to prepare to renew the contract for support services and the management of the vulnerability criteria. It was noted these had not been addressed due to there being no inhouse technical capabilities to develop and manage an energy strategy that would inform decisions around heat networks in Kirklees.

The report highlighted that original unit costs for gas had not been reviewed since the commencement of the contract in 2013. This resulted in under recovery of income, which had become even more significant since 2022/23 when energy costs rose substantially. Currently the Housing Revenue Account was subsidising the shortfall in district heating payments and the actual cost of energy usage was not being recovered. It was noted that going forward there would be an increase in charge to residents and a report was being prepared for Portfolio Holder approval for the end of September 2024, however it would not be possible to recover the losses that arose in previous years.

During consideration of this report the Committee raised concerns around residents underpaying for energy which left the Housing Revenue Account supporting the failure to recover sufficient income. The Service Director advised that there had previously been a lack of governance and control in this area, it was difficult to establish even with hindsight why the arrangements had not been effective for eleven years. The Service Manager advised that a corporate project team had been established to ensure that the audit report and all recommended actions were addressed along with overseeing a compliant procurement; ensuring key stakeholders were consulted; producing a realistic and achievable timeline for procurement of a new contractor for meters and billing; having a robust contract for meters and billing in Kirklees and to establish arrangements to recover the full costs of energy and system management.

**RESOLVED-** That the District Heating – Request for Officer Attendance be noted.

### **12 Agenda Plan 2024/25**

**RESOLVED-** That the Agenda Plan for 2024/25 be noted.

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Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### DISTRICT-WIDE PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Thursday 19th September 2024**

Present: Councillor Sheikh Ullah (Chair)  
Councillor Donna Bellamy  
Councillor Paola Antonia Davies  
Councillor Eric Firth  
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards  
Councillor Mohan Sokhal

Apologies: Councillor Tony McGrath

- 1 Membership of the Committee**  
Apologies were received from Councillor Tony McGrath.
- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**  
**RESOLVED -**  
That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 be approved as a correct record.
- 3 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying**  
There were no declarations of interest or lobbying.
- 4 Admission of the Public**  
All items were considered in public session.
- 5 Public Question Time**  
No questions were asked.
- 6 Deputations / Petitions**  
No deputations or petitions were received.
- 7 Site Visit: Planning Application 2024/90881**  
Site visit undertaken.
- 8 Application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to record a public footpath at Old Lane, Scapegoat Hill, Colne Valley on the Definitive Map and Statement, and two other discovered routes**  
The Committee considered an application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to record a public footpath at Old Lane, Scapegoat Hill, Colne Valley on the Definitive Map and Statement, and two other discovered routes.

## District-Wide Planning Committee - 19 September 2024

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received representations from Claire Atkinson and Paul Hobson (in objection).

### **RESOLVED –**

That determination of the application be deferred to allow a site visit to be undertaken.

A recorded vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Bellamy, Paola Davies, Firth, Lee-Richards, Sokhal and Ullah (6 votes)

Against: No votes

### **9 Planning Application - Application No: 2024/90881**

The Committee gave consideration to Application 2024/90881 in respect of the erection of two dwellings on land adjacent to 155 Longwood Road, Paddock, Huddersfield.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 37 the Committee received a representation from David Irving (the applicant).

### **RESOLVED -**

That approval of the application, and the issuing of the decision notice, be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development in order to complete the list of conditions, including those contained within the report, as set out below:

1. Time limit to commence development
2. Plans list
3. Approval of materials
4. Highway structures
5. Boundary treatments
6. Finished floor levels to be in accordance with plan
7. Drained surfaces for parking
8. Biodiversity enhancement plan
9. Land contamination phase 1
10. Land contamination phase 2
11. Remediation Strategy
12. Works to be carried out in accordance with Remediation Strategy
13. Verification of Remediation Strategy

A recorded vote was taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5) as follows:

For: Councillors Bellamy, Paola Davies, Firth, Lee-Richards, Sokhal and Ullah (6 votes)

Against: No votes

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

## **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**Thursday 26th September 2024**

Present: Councillor Beverley Addy (Chair)  
Councillor Carole Pattison, Leader of the Council  
Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director for Public Health and Corporate Resources  
Carol McKenna, (ICB) Accountable Officer/Place-based Lead  
Stacey Appleyard, Director, Health Watch  
Christine Fox, Director of Customer and Community Services, Connect Housing  
Liz Mear, Independent Chair of the Kirklees Integrated Care Board Committee  
Alasdair Brown, Chief Executive of Kirklees Active Leisure (KAL), representing Third Sector Leaders  
Warren Gillibrand, Acting Head of Department, Nursing, Huddersfield University  
James Creegan, CEO of Kirklees Care Association (Virtual attendance)

In attendance: Alex Chaplin, Strategy and Policy Officer, Kirklees Council  
Victoria Valence, Locala  
Emily Parry-Harries, Consultant in Public Health, Kirklees Council  
Carmain Gibson-Holmes, South-West Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust  
Matt England, Mid Yorkshire NHS Foundation Trust  
Cath Simms, Service Director, Adults and Social Care Operations  
Vicky Dutchburn, Director of Operational Delivery and Performance  
Lisa Williams, Assistant Director of Transformation & Partnerships  
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director, Learning and Early Support  
Adrian Wisniewski, Programme Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Planning  
Owen Richardson, Data and Insight Enablement Lead

Apologies: Tom Brailsford  
Richard Parry  
Karen Jackson  
Dale Gardiner  
Chief Supt Jim Griffiths  
Sean Rayner

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

Len Richards  
Catherine Riley  
Dr Vanessa Taylor

### 13 **Membership of the Board/Apologies**

Apologies received from, Catherine Riley, Vanessa Taylor, Richard Parry, Karen Jackson, Sean Raynor, Tom Brailsford, Dale Gardiner, Len Richards and Chief Superintendent James Griffiths.

Cath Simms, attended as sub Richard Parry, Lisa Williams attended as sub Catherine Riley, Victoria Wallace attended as sub for Karen Jackson, Carmain Gibson-Holmes attended as sub for Sean Raynor and Matt England attended as sub for Len Richards.

### 14 **Minutes of previous meeting**

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be approved as a correct record.

### 15 **Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

### 16 **Admission of the Public**

All agenda items were considered in public session.

### 17 **Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

### 18 **Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

### 19 **Appointment of the Deputy Chair**

Dr Warren Gillibrand, Acting Head of Nursing, Huddersfield University was appointed Deputy Chair of the Board for the 2024/25 municipal year.

### 20 **Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Update**

Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director, Learning and Early Support and the Senior Responsible Officer for the SEND transformation in the local area, and Adrian Wisniewski, Programme Manager, Strategy Innovation and Planning, attended the meeting to provide an update on the SEND Transformation Programme.

Jo-Anne Sanders reminded the Board that the last update on the programme was in January 2024, and as the Health and Wellbeing Board is the most senior part of governance for this programme, it is important to report back on the progress that has been made and the next steps.

The Board was informed that the update would focus on:

- Some of the work that has been undertaken in terms of the shifting culture,
- Key focuses and also the challenges,

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

- Key milestones that have been achieved since the last update
- Further examples of progress and impact
- Next steps
- Deep dive – for the Board to suggest areas to be presented at the next deep dive

The Board was informed that there has been an attempt to try and change the culture, and it requires a system approach to make things better for children and families, and children as they prepare to become adults. There have been opportunities that have been recognised, regarding how to work together in partnership for families with anyone who wants to provide help and support and drive some of the shared accountability.

There are some cogs that have to work together such as:

Co-production - which is something that the local area needs to be proud of. There is an active parent/carer forum that holds to account, challenges but are also very supportive

Governance – clear governance, there are three levels of governance, making sure there is the right buy-in at each level. The highest strategic level of governance, partners, then the operational level

Quality and compliance – there is a clear focus on making sure things are done in a timely way, but also making sure they are of quality, ensuring that they are set up to have impact. Rather than sitting behind a desk it is important to step out, and listen to people's lived experiences and trying to make a difference on the ground. An example, is the local offer live event, supported by a range of partners, but was led by the parent/carer forum, held in June and the feedback has been extremely positive.

Clusters - Some of this involves being brave and trying to look at innovation. Rather than looking inwards in Kirklees, it also involves looking up and down the country and seeking out opportunities. An example of this is a new way of working that is just being undertaken with mainstream schools, of which there are approximately 170. Work has started with groups called clusters, wrapping a team around those schools, to identify needs early and meet those needs as early as possible.

In addition, there are some system changes with the investment that the local area is making into rebuilding two of the special schools, to ensure there are enough places to cater for needs locally. Crucially, there was success in securing government support for an alternative provision free school. All of the different aspects of the cog need to work together to ensure the best outcomes for children.

The Board was provided with information that outlined what the focus has been and also some of the challenges. The Board was reminded that at the last SEND update, information was provided on 'The Big Plan'. In response, across the local area and beyond, there has been positive feedback about the accessibility and the language being easy to understand. It is important to evolve this rather than changing everything at once because that would become confusing to the system.

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

There are challenges with all this as demand is not staying static. There is not only an increase in demand, the complexity of some young people and families have also increased and this is whilst operating in a challenging financial landscape. There is a deficit within the high needs block, and work is being undertaken with the government to resolve this and there are resource capacity challenges across the system, which is nationally recognised and not just bespoke to Kirklees.

The Board was provided with information which outlined the key milestones since the last SEND update:

- In February, as a local area following an inspection, a 'Written Statement of Action' was issued and there has been follow up monitoring visits by the Department for Education (DfE) and NHS England. There has been a positive meeting, with many of the actions taken, the progress whether qualitative or quantitative and lived experiences being improved, and this was acknowledged by the DfE. This was a reflection of all the hard work of the partnership.
- In March, with regard to the Safety Valve, there has been a great deal of engagement with the DfE, and they acknowledge the challenges in being able to deliver a balanced budget, and was therefore able to renegotiate the terms of the Safety Valve. This gave a little more time to achieve and remove the high needs deficit
- In April, with the cluster working, the task and finish group co-produced and shared recommendations and a pathfinder group of schools was established to start trialling the new approach with schools.
- In June, Cabinet received a report regarding the clusters and were supportive of moving forward and those arrangements being put in place.
- In September, previously there had been opportunities to support young people to inclusion, therefore work was undertaken to refresh and update the Inclusion Fund Policy to reflect the changes to the early education and that new entitlement. Schools were asked to submit expressions of interest to roll out the next phase of the additional resource provisions.

The Board was informed that the clusters have now gone live, and the early years transition fund, the new approach is also live. Online from September another additional resource provision with more in the pipeline, and very successfully led by the Designated Clinical Officer, parent/carers forum for inclusion of neurodiversity (PINS) has gone from bidding to the actual delivery for 14 primary schools. This belies the amount of work, energy and effort the partnership has undertaken.

Referring to the presentation slides the Board was presented with statistical information relating to the Healthy Child Programme:

- Mandated new birth visits within 14 days was 8% at the time of inspection in 2022, now 79%; 6- week reviews 65% now 77%; 12 months was 68% now 89%, 2.5 yr reviews was 43% now 80%. This is impressive in terms of the improvements made in performance.

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

- Education Health Care Plans compliance is improving. There is month on month improvement with July and August being the best with over 200 plans issued. That means two record months since April 2024.

The Board was informed that while there has been progress, is any of this making a difference? One of the things that is being undertaken regularly is capturing people's lived experience. An example of the some of the impact can be seen with the Healthy Child Programme where families are generally happy with the service. In the last quarterly reporting, 96% of families surveyed rated Locala as good or very good.

In terms of next steps and what is being planned. It has been fortunate that there has been an opportunity to start a conversation with RISE partnership, and RISE stands for Research and improvement for SEND excellence and that is the council for disabled children and National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi). There is an opportunity to work with them and focus on the preparation for adulthood. Part of the transformation there was an opportunity to meet with them to scope out what that support could look like.

The clusters workforce development aims to look at the review for special school funding, to ensure that they can be equipped with all the tools they need to meet the needs of young people. The Quality assurance framework is being able to connect with colleagues from the third sector and Kirklees Care Associations and those conversations have already started.

The Board was asked whether there are any areas of the programme that the Board would want to know more about ?

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

- The information presented reflects some of the discussions at the ICB Place Committee where the focus was on the Starting Well Programme, and there was a lengthy discussion around the neurodiversity in particular, the waiting time for assessments. One of the things that came out of the discussion, and it wasn't fully understood, was the extent to which having a diagnosis unlocks access to other services and support. When people are waiting for an assessment, how can we ensure that their children have access to the right level of support even though they haven't received a formal diagnosis. It is an area that seems to come up quite frequently.
- This is a really big challenge, and it isn't anything that one organisation can solve. What would be really valuable is more information in the way of data because it is important to understand where the demand is coming from. It is also important to look at the inequality's because it is known that people often go for private diagnosis and that risks creating inequalities in terms of the ability for people to get the diagnosis and therefore the support they need. Understanding the trends in relation to data and demand would be helpful.

- The cluster is an innovative way of looking at it because it is saying that rather than a statement leads to a special package of care, it is about ensuring that schools work together to share resources across the cluster, thereby making best use of the resources available rather than schools competing for precious resource when it is recognised there isn't enough to go around.
- The cluster only just launched in September; however, it would be good to see how that has impacted over the first term, appreciating that these things will take some time.
- The information came to life on the examples of impact outlined towards the end of the presentation, on the individual children being supported and the example of my happy mind programme being rolled out to nearly 35,000 pupils and that sounds like a really great intervention for supporting pupils and young people with their mental health. Will there be a continual roll out across schools and how will the impact of this be monitored?
- Healthwatch regularly hear from parents/carers particularly around ADHD and Autism assessment waiting times, how can people be connected who are having difficulties? Healthwatch also hears from people who have had to remove their child from school because the school is unable to meet their needs and also the support takes an exceptionally long time to put in place, therefore having their children at home is easier. How are these families being supported? This is difficult for anyone to understand with the number of improvements, challenges, pathways and different things that are happening, how is this being explained to local families?

## **RESOLVED**

That Jo-Anne Sanders and Adrian Wisniewski, be thanked for providing an update on SEND transformation, and that information relating to trends, data and demand to be brought back to a Board meeting at a later date.

**21**

### **Better Care Fund Update**

Cath Simms, Service Director, Adults and Social Care Operations and Vicky Dutchburn, Director of Operational Delivery and Performance, provided the Board with an update on the Better Care Fund (BCF). The aim of the update would be to outline the plan spend through the BCF for the 2024/25 financial year, and also the plan for next year, and to get agreement from the Board.

The Board was provided with an overview of the BCF, which is a mechanism for joint spending between the ICB, health and the council. It is not new money it is direct from the council and the ICB. The only exception to that is there has been some additional three year national non-recurrent funding specifically for adult social care, supporting hospital around discharge. The final year for the funding is 2024/25 and it is not clear whether there will be a repeat of that funding, although there may be some additional monies coming through for that.



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There are some very clear national conditions and requirements that have to be followed in order to spend this money. Essentially it is around enabling people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer providing the right care, in the right place, at the right time. There is a clear planning framework that needs to be followed. The recent one was a two year planning framework, the BCF plan covered from last year 2023/24, through to this year 2024/25.

The Board was provided with a summary of how both partners, the ICB and the Council contribute to the pooled funding as follows:

Source	£ ICB	£ Kirklees Council
NHS Contribution	£37,652,094	NA
Discharge Funding	£3,617,048	£4,164,306
Improved BCF	NA	£17,821,765
Disabled Facilities Grant	NA	£3,952,873

The Board was informed that in terms of how the spending has been planned for this year, a working group was established with representation from the ICB and Kirklees Council to oversee the planning process. For the 2024/25 plan, each scheme has been subject to a review to determine:

### Review criteria

- Delivery against national objectives
- Risk to future delivery
- Value for money
- Opportunities for efficiency through transformation

### Update and approvals

- In terms of approvals, the Health and Wellbeing Board (H&WB) is required to complete a planning template and delegated authority for this has been given to Vicky Dutchburn and Cath Simms to submit on behalf of the H&WB. Updates have also been delivered to the Joint Kirklees Senior Leadership Team.
- The plans were submitted to the BCF team in August, and the Section 75 agreements is being updated. This is a legal agreement to outline how the money is to be spent

The Board was informed that there is often an element of back and forth with the national BCF team regarding whether the narrative about how the money is going to be spent is explained to them.

In terms of key points:

- It is imperative that the plans meet the minimum financial contributions
- Aligned with financial planning assumptions
- Compliant with national conditions
- Aim to maintain or improve on 2023/24 outturn for BCF metrics

One of the aims is to improve on performance for 2023/24, which is why there has been planning regarding what worked well and what didn't. The Board was

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

provided with a summary of the seven key scheme which forms part of the BCF spend, as outlined in the appended report.

- 1 Aids to Daily Living
- 2 Transforming Intermediate Care and Reablement
- 3 Carers Support
- 4 Supporting Social Care
- 5 Supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector
- 6 Care Home Support
- 7 Discharge

The Board was informed that one of the learning points from undertaking the planning cycle for 2024/25, was that some of the timings did not align very well for example, the budget planning cycle started before the NHS planning cycle for budget, which started at a different time to the BCF planning cycle. To address this, a new process has been set up, with the aim of starting the planning cycle earlier for next year with the intention of getting the indicative plans together by mid-October, to then feed into the Council and NHS Plans.

Each of the leads for the different schemes are asked to present, what has been achieved, how it has contributed to the core objectives, any challenges or pressures and if there are any opportunities to use the money differently.

The Board was informed that all the schemes are currently being reviewed, and the minimal level of investment will be maintained, regardless of what happens with the scheme.

### Outcomes

- Integrated Dashboards - joint activity and performance dashboards (EG integrated health and social care dashboard) provide a uniform system voice on flow, using historical data to understand variations throughout the year
- Modelled Bed Capacity - evidence based data and insight support our modelled bed capacity in Kirklees and there is confidence in the planned bed capacity and bed mix, with arrangements in place to handle system pressure. Shortfalls in community capacity will be met through spot purchase arrangements
- Demand Shift - anticipated 'left shift' in demand from P2/P3 volumes to P1 ensures more people receive the right level of support to get them home. Admission avoidance services like UCR will continue to support the system
- Home First Strategy – the system wide Home Strategy and Plan aims to divert investment from bed-based solutions to home based offers, enhancing services like Reablement Therapy, consolidating bed-based offers, and supporting hospital transfers

## Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024

- Dedicated Resources –1) IMC bed base with dedicated nursing and therapy resources to maximise independence 2) Recovery Bed Base with a dedicated therapy team for intense in-reach therapy

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

- Do Community Champions and Community Anchors play a part in this. Social prescribing has been around for a while and has a strong role and there are innovative things happening through the VCSE in Kirklees and it would be good to see how that might be helping to contribute to this.
- When there is a better picture of what is coming in the years ahead, when there may not be defined funding, when would be a good time to come back to the Board and provide an update on how the landscape may have changed?

### RESOLVED

That Cath Simms and Vicky Dutchburn be thanked for providing an update on the Better Care Fund.

## 22 **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Update**

Owen Richardson, Data and Insight Enablement Lead advised the Board that there are two parts to the appended briefing paper. The first part is to update the Board on pharmacy changes in Kirklees, in the past year, since the last update. There were a list of changes, including change of ownerships, six supplementary change of hours, five of which were a reduction in hours with one being an increase in pharmacy hours. There was also a change of trading name and two pharmacy closures in Kirklees.

A small subgroup regularly meets to discuss the changes and the impact they may have on local pharmacy provision. Looking at both those closures, it was decided that there would be no significant impact on the local population. There has been one new pharmacy opened which is a distance selling premises with no face to face interactions, and one pharmacy that has moved slightly.

The second part of the update is to inform the Board on where things are at with the next Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). PNA's need to be refreshed or rewritten every three years, and this will be due to be published in September 2025 and that will be the 3 years up for the current PNA.

The approach taken last time was to convene a West Yorkshire wide steering group, to collectively undertake the PNA, but write individual reports as every Health and Wellbeing Board has to have its own PNA. This will be the approach taken to refresh or rewrite the PNA. The steering group has started meeting regularly and there are some key milestones that will be coming up, as follows:

- October/November 2024, a survey will go out to the public and pharmacies to get views on current pharmacy provision,

## **Health and Wellbeing Board - 26 September 2024**

- February 2025, there will be a draft of the report circulated to the Board prior to public consultation. The report has to go out to 60 day public consultation before it is published
- March/April 2025, public consultation
- The report will be brought back to the Board for final sign off July/August/September time. It will then be published in time of the old PNA running out

### **RESOLVED:**

That Owen Richardson be thanked for providing an update on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments and that the information be noted.

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**Wednesday 6th November 2024**

Present: Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair)  
Councillor Viv Kendrick  
Councillor Jo Lawson  
Councillor John Lawson  
Councillor Graham Turner

Apologies: Councillor Andrew Cooper  
Councillor David Hall

**1 Membership of the Committee**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Cooper and Hall.

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 2 July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

**3 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

**4 Admission of the Public**

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

**5 Deputation/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**6 Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

**7 Update on Senior Management Arrangements**

The Committee gave consideration to a report which provided an update on the Senior Management Structure and sought agreement to commence recruitment to the posts of (i) Service Director - In House Provision, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health and (ii) Service Director – Homes and Neighbourhoods.

The Committee were asked to note the appointment of Michelle Cross to the role of Executive Director for Adults and Health, and that this appointment had consequently created a vacancy for the post of Service Director - In House Provision, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health. The report advised the responsibilities of each of the three Service Directors within the Adults and Health Directorate would be reviewed in order to ensure appropriate leadership to each of the specialist areas.

## Personnel Committee - 6 November 2024

With regard to the post of Service Director – Homes and Neighbourhoods, which would be vacant from the end of December due to the retirement of the current post holder, the Committee were asked to note the potential difficulty in recruiting to such a specialist role and the need for interim support to be put in place whilst a search and selection process takes place for permanent recruitment to the role.

### **RESOLVED –**

- 1) That the recent appointment to the post of Executive Director – Adults and Health be noted.
- 2) That approval be given to commence permanent recruitment to the post of Service Director – In House Provision, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health, in accordance with the Council’s approved practice for Chief Officer recruitment.
- 3) That approval be given to commence permanent recruitment to the post of Service Director – Homes and Neighbourhoods, in accordance with the Council’s approved practice for Chief Officer recruitment.
- 4) That, pursuant to (3) and (4) above, Member Appointment Panels be convened to recruit to the roles.

Contact Officer: Sheila Dykes

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Thursday 5th September 2024**

Present:

Councillor Sheikh Ullah (Chair)  
Councillor Ammar Anwar  
Councillor Andrew Pinnock  
Councillor Mohan Sokhal  
Councillor Mark Thompson

Apologies:

Councillor James Homewood  
Councillor Bill Armer  
Councillor Paul Moore

- 1 Election of Chair**  
**Resolved –**  
That Councillor Sheikh Ullah be elected Chair for the meeting.
- 2 Membership of the Committee**  
Apologies were received from Councillors Bill Armer, James Homewood and Paul Moore.  
  
Councillor Sheikh Ullah substituted for Councillor Homewood.
- 3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**  
**Resolved –**  
That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1st August 2024 be approved as a correct record.
- 4 Declaration of Interests and Lobbying**  
No interests or lobbying were declared.
- 5 Admission of the Public**  
All items were considered in public session.
- 6 Public Question Time**  
No questions were asked.
- 7 Deputations/Petitions**  
No deputations or petitions were submitted.
- 8 Site Visit - Planning Application 2023/90668**  
Site visit undertaken.

**9 Site Visit - Planning Application 2023/92887**

Site visit undertaken.

**10 Planning Application - Application No: 2023/90668**

The Committee considered Planning Application 2023/90668 for the demolition of existing buildings, erection and operation of a single building comprising a Sui Generis land use limited to the purpose of storage, assembly, sale and distribution of custom-built computers, laptops and their components as well as any associated development (those being a replacement wind turbine, utility provision, drainage, access, hard and soft landscaping), within the red-line boundary, alongside business operations pursuant to the effective administration of the Sui Generis use at Grange Moor Coachworks, Barnsley Road, Grange Moor, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37, the Committee received a representation from Hamish Gledhill (on behalf of the applicant).

**RESOLVED -**

- (1) That approval of the application and the issuing of the decision notice be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development in order to:
  - (a) complete the list of conditions including those contained within the report, as set out below:
    1. Three years to commence development.
    2. Development to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and specifications
    3. Pre-commencement condition (excluding demolition and site intrusive works) to remove all scrap vehicles, plant, machinery and external storage off site.
    4. Samples of external facing materials to be approved.
    5. Pre-commencement condition for sectional details (east to west) indicating how retaining wall and fence to be erected along western part of site without damage to existing hedge outside application site.
    6. Full details of boundary treatment to be submitted and approved, to be erected prior to occupation of building.
    7. Pre-commencement Construction Environmental Management Plan (Biodiversity) condition.
    8. Pre-commencement condition for re calculation of BNG prior to development commencing.
    9. Landscaping/soft planting to be planted in first growing season following completion of new building or as otherwise stated by other conditions.
    10. Five-year maintenance plan for landscape scheme.
    11. Tree protection around existing trees in accordance with submitted Tree Constraints plan.
    12. Wind turbine conditions including its removal if not used for 6 months.
    13. Noise Management Plan.
    14. Pre-commencement Construction Environmental Management Plan (noise, dust, and artificial lighting/strategy).
    15. Full lighting strategy details



## Strategic Planning Committee - 5 September 2024

16. Working Hours 06:00 to 22:00 Monday to Saturday.  
Deliveries/dispatches restricted to between 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Saturday with no deliveries on Sundays/bank holidays.
  17. Post demolition and site clearance intrusive site investigations with supplemental Phase 2.
  18. Remediation strategy measures.
  19. Validation report.
  20. Restricting noise from fixed plant and equipment.
  21. Details of acoustic barrier to be submitted and approved in accordance with recommendation in Noise Impact Assessment. to be erected prior to occupation of building and thereafter retained.
  22. Pre-commencement drainage condition detailed design scheme detailing foul, surface water and land drainage.
  23. Pre-commencement drainage condition, overland flow routing.
  24. Pre-commencement drainage condition construction phase surface water flood risk and pollution prevention plan.
  25. Pre-commencement drainage condition scheme demonstrating surface water from vehicle parking and hard standing areas.
  26. Archaeology – pre-commencement condition (and two other conditions) to ensure the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological recording to take place within the area indicated.
  27. Yorkshire Water condition – no piped discharge of surface water from the application site shall take place until works to provide a satisfactory outfall, other than the existing local public sewerage, for surface water.
  28. Yorkshire Water condition - No building or other obstruction including landscape features shall be located over or within 3 metres either side of the centre line of the public sewer.
  29. Yorkshire Water condition – No development shall take place until details of the proposed means of disposal of foul water drainage for the whole site.
  30. Electric vehicle charging points.
  31. Installation of solar panels prior to occupation of building.
  32. Operational Management Plan (highways).
  33. Site access to be complete in accordance with drawing 151716-001 Rev C – Proposed Works (Site Accesses).
  34. Off-site highway works (speed limit and other associated works).
  35. Travel Plan to be submitted prior to occupation of building.
  36. Construction traffic management plan (highways).
  37. Highway condition surveys (pre- and post-construction) and remediation.
  38. Car park/servicing external areas to be laid out in accordance with approved plan and made operational prior to occupation of building.
- (b) secure a Section 106 agreement to cover the following matters:
- (i) Bus stop contribution of £34,000, to secure real-time displays at two bus stops.
  - (ii) (Stop ID 20680 and 20681) located on Wakefield Road at a cost of £10,500 per bus stop, and to provide a replacement bus shelter at bus stop ID 20681.

## Strategic Planning Committee - 5 September 2024

(iii) Travel Plan monitoring fee - £15,000 (£3,000 x 5yrs).

(iv) Employment and Skills Agreement.

- (2) That, in the circumstances where the Section 106 agreement has not been completed within 3 months of the date of the Committee's resolution then the Head of Planning and Development shall consider whether permission should be refused on the grounds that the proposals are unacceptable in the absence of the benefits that would have been secured; and if so, the Head of Planning and Development be authorised to determine the application and impose appropriate reasons for refusal under delegated powers.

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5), as set out below:

For: Councillors Anwar, Pinnock, Sokhal and Ullah (4 votes)

Against: Councillor Thompson (1 vote)

### 11 **Planning Application - Application No: 2023/92887**

The Committee considered Planning Application 2023/92887 for the change of use of egg production unit to research and development or industrial uses falling within E(g)(ii) and(iii) Use Class, and associated elevational alterations and provision of access, gates, forecourt, parking areas and landscaping at Bradley Villa Farm, Bradley Road, Bradley, Huddersfield.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 36(3) the Committee received a representation from Councillor Zarina Amin.

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37 the Committee received a representation from Rachael Martin (on behalf of the applicant).

#### **RESOLVED -**

That the Committee is minded to approve the application, for the reasons set out below:

The harm caused by the departure from the development plan and the impact in terms of meeting the housing need for Kirklees are outweighed by:

- The benefits of re-use of the application site,
- The creation of employment,
- The opportunities for local people to access the employment created by the development,
- The benefits of a mixed community development,

and that authority be delegated to the Head of Planning and Development to approve the application and issue the decision notice, subject to the completion of a list of conditions, including those set out within the report, as set out below:

1. Three years to commence development.
2. Development to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.
3. Submission of a Construction (Environmental) Management Plan, including details of engagement with local residents.

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4. Cycle parking provision to be provided within the site.
5. Provision of Electric Vehicle charging points.
6. Highway condition surveys and remediation.
7. Submission of a Service Management Plan.
8. Provision of site access.
9. Provision of areas to be used by vehicles and pedestrians.
10. Submission of details of highway retaining walls / structures.
11. Submission of attenuation tanks / pipes.
12. Provision of waste storage and collection.
13. Implementation of drainage strategy.
14. Submission of flood routing details.
15. Submission of details of parking surface treatments.
16. Submission of an Intrusive Site Investigation Report (Phase II Report).
17. Submission of Remediation Strategy.
18. Implementation of Remediation Strategy.
19. Submission of Validation Report.
20. Submission of details of external materials.
21. Submission of details of boundary treatments.
22. Submission of details of external lighting.
23. Submission of full landscaping scheme.
24. Installation of bat box.
25. Submission of Biodiversity Net Gain assessment.
26. Implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain plan

A recorded vote was taken, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 42(5), as set out below:

For: Councillors Anwar, Pinnock, Sokhal, Thompson and Ullah (5 votes)

Against: 0 votes

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