

Public Document Pack



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Tuesday 4 March 2025

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

The **Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the at **2.00 pm** on **Wednesday 12 March 2025**.

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

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S Lawton".

Samantha Lawton
Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

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

The Panel members are:-

Member

Councillor Andrew Cooper (Chair)

Councillor David Longstaff

Councillor Will Simpson

Councillor John Taylor

Councillor Matthew McLoughlin

Councillor Susan Lee-Richards

Jane Emery (Co-Optee)

Garry Kitchin (Co-Optee)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of the Panel

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

2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 6

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 29th January 2025.

3: Declaration of Interests

7 - 8

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

4: Admission of the Public

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

5: Deputations/Petitions

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

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, Members of the

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

6: Public Question Time

To receive any public questions.

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

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

7: Annual Review of Flood Risk Management Activities

9 - 20

The Panel will consider the Annual Review of Flood Risk Management Activities.

Contact:
Paul Farndale, ER Project Officer

8: Work Programme 2024/25

21 - 28

The Panel will consider its Work Programme for 2024/25 and put forward any items for inclusion in 2025/26.

Contact:
Jodie Harris, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

Contact Officer: Jodie Harris

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL

Wednesday 29th January 2025

Present:

Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Susan Lee-Richards
Councillor David Longstaff
Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Matthew McLoughlin

In attendance:

Councillor Moses Crook, Deputy Leader and Transport
and Housing
Elizabeth Cusick, Operational Manager – Highways
Mark Scarr, Head of Highways
Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer

Apologies:

Councillor Will Simpson

1. Membership of the Panel

Apologies were received from Councillor Will Simpson

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Panel considered the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 20th November 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

3 Interests

No interests were declared

4 Admission of the Public

All items were considered in the public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

No public questions were received.

Highways Safety Update

The Panel considered an update on Highways Safety, which was introduced by Councillor Moses Crook, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Transport and Housing, on behalf of the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways. It was advised the update detailed progress against highways safety targets and the administration's commitment to achieving Vision Zero by 2040. Positive progress against interim targets was highlighted, and officers were thanked for their efforts. Additionally, it was noted that educating young people on road safety remained a key objective, with Cllr Crook expressing satisfaction with progress in this area.

Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer provided a presentation which gave an overview of;

- Vision Zero - The premise that no-one should be killed or suffer lifelong injury due to a road traffic incident.
- The 5 themes to a Safe System approach - Safe behaviours, speeds, roads and vehicles and the response to collisions on the network in Kirklees.
- The Ambition - To eliminate road deaths and serious injuries (KSIs) to zero by 2040 and improve road safety for everyone using the Safe Systems approach.
- The West Yorkshire Vision Zero- Launched August 2024 and focused on the 5 themes to a Safe System approach as well as 4 cross-cutting themes (ensuring community involvement, taking a data led approach, education and providing justice to those who had been injured).
- The launch of the Kirklees Strategic Vision Zero Group which would;
 - Support the aims and objectives of the West Yorkshire's Vision Zero Board and Kirklees Shared Outcomes as the new Kirklees Vision Zero Strategy was developed.
 - Provide intelligence led strategic direction and governance to all relevant Kirklees Boards/ Groups / departments and agencies associated with road safety activities.
 - Drive forward a holistic, safe systems approach to achieving Vision Zero, based on the five themes and fully recognising that it was fundamental to environmental, social, and economic sustainability.
- The Vision Zero Governance including how the new Kirklees Vision Zero Board would feed into the West Yorkshire Board at an executive/strategic level.
- The current position of KSI's aligned to the Vision Zero milestones for 25% by 2026 and 50% by 2030. The current trajectory indicated that the targets were on track to be met.
- The Fatal 5 - Speeding, Drink or Drugs, Distraction, Carelessness and Not Wearing a Seatbelt and their contribution by percentage to fatal collisions.
- The key areas of work in Highways Safety in 2024 including;
 - 11 capital schemes completed leading to 13 pedestrian crossing improvements, 4 traffic calming schemes and 7 junction improvements.
 - 10 traffic management/ parking schemes implemented.
 - 45 road safety audits commissioned and completed internally at various stages in 2024.
 - The integration of the West Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership, the first average camera site installed on site in Dewsbury East and 13 new locations installed and promoted for the new Community Safety Camera Vans.

- 6401 school aged pupils received training from officers within the safety team, 2700 pupils had received Bikeability training, and 76 schools currently signed up to Modeshift.
- The Kirklees Highway Safety Strategy 2025-2040 – One of several strategies being updated and would evolve as Vision Zero became embedded across Kirklees.

During the subsequent discussion, the Panel raised several questions and comments:

- In response to several questions from the Panel regarding road safety around schools it was advised that;
 - A speed limit review had been conducted in previous years. This review had concluded that most speed limits were adequate but had highlighted some priority schools.
 - Approval had been given to focus on 38 schools the following month. Once collision and speed data were collected, a consultant would be commissioned to conduct an independent review of these 38 schools, including feedback on speed limits.
 - The plan for the 38 schools was expected to be completed by April 2027.
 - It was difficult to judge how far funding would stretch and the intention had been to ask the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) for additional funding as well as considering other streams of funding such as the School Streets where suitable.
 - The ambition was that the in-depth work the consultant would undertake would give a better understanding of the best solution for each school.
 - It was important to note that safety outside schools was generally good and that child pedestrian collisions were not occurring outside schools or during school drop off and pick up times.
 - The Vision Zero initiative focused on prevention at schools due to risk but intelligence suggested that the primary focus should be on educating young drivers, who were most at risk.
- The Panel noted the responses and in respect of school safety, the Panel highlighted how the use of child-shaped bollards used outside a local school were visually very impactful.
- In response to a question from the Panel around whether there was a way to demonstrate a causation between areas where capital schemes had been implemented and a decline in incidents, it was advised that the conditions of the funding from the Combined Authority challenged the Council on interventions. A piece of work around the implemented schemes was in production and the initial data looked positive. The caveat was that while engineering solutions helped driver behaviour was a large influencing factor which could not be controlled.
- The Panel noted the response, and it was agreed that (i) the data demonstrating the causation between areas where capital schemes had been implemented and a decline in incidents be provided to the Panel and (ii) Future updates regarding the implementation of the Vision Zero Strategy continue to be provided to the Panel.
- In response to a question from the Panel regarding the Kirklees Vision Zero Board, it was advised the Chair would be internal to Kirklees and would attend

the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Board to feed into the external governance. The Panel were asked if one of its members would be interested in being a member of the Board once established.

- The Panel noted the response and the offer for Panel member involvement with the Board and it was agreed that the process for formal appointment be investigated.
- In response to a question from the Panel regarding the new devolution white paper and its provisions for powers around highways, it was advised that there wasn't a significant focus on road safety, but officers would monitor this and respond accordingly as the detail developed.
- In response to a question from the Panel around why Kirklees was in the development phase when WYCA had launched its Vision Zero strategy, the Panel were reassured that the Councils progress in this area was in line with neighbouring local authorities and that all West Yorkshire local authorities were working together towards the same vision and strategy.
- In response to a question from the Panel around the spike in data, it was advised that in 2022, the Council had moved towards a different way of recording collisions (CRASH), making it seem like there was a spike in the data. This was a national issue where incidents were recorded as more severe than under the previous system.
- In response to a question from the Panel regarding the possibility of identifying which age groups were most affected by data, it was agreed that this data including a full breakdown of casualties by age be provided to the Panel after the meeting.
- The Panel noted the response and observed that the 2021 data may also be impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions.
- In response to a question from the Panel in relation to educational work being undertaken in sixth forms and colleges, it was advised that during Road Safety Week, the focus was on these age groups. When informed by intelligence, action days could also be undertaken alongside key partners such as the police.
- In response to a question from the Panel in relation to how effective tackling driver behaviour was through education vs enforcement, it was advised that approximately 91,000 drivers had been re-educated, and new technology was continually being introduced to improve enforcement. The police had introduced Operation Snap, allowing people to upload footage of poor driver behaviour. Approximately 70% of the uploaded information resulted in some form of police intervention. Furthermore, the Executive Board had established a West Yorkshire communications group and work being undertaken with Kirklees College would offer invaluable insights into reaching the most at-risk demographics.
- In response to a question from the Panel about the introduction of speed cameras in a particular problem area the Panel were reassured that Highways were aware of the area and it was advised that it may be likely a camera would be installed. It was also highlighted that for any new community concern sites, enforcement would be made easier through the safety camera partnership. The only requirement was that speeds were above enforcement levels and there was community concern for the area in question.

- In response to a question from the Panel around potential links with the charity BRAKE, it was advised that the charity was represented on the Vision Zero Board and there was a funded Collision Officer post.
- In response to a question from the Panel about the potential benefits of implementing a widespread 20mph speed limit policy in residential areas, it was highlighted that though the highways authority were open to considering the measure if deemed suitable for an individual area that this issue had a high level of public sensitivity which was an important consideration. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of 20mph restrictions where they had been implemented elsewhere was important, as well as including the views of residents and local councillors in the discussion.
- The Panel noted the response and highlighted that 20mph zones could also cause challenges, such as frustrated drivers overtaking those obeying the limit, leading to collisions.
- In response to a question from the Panel about the best use of data to prioritise locations and funding it was advised that early conversations were being had at a West Yorkshire level about what a preventative programme may look like.
- The Panel highlighted that it was important to look at the near misses as part of the preventative approach and in response it was noted that the West Yorkshire data group was starting to consider damage only data and the causation to identify if there may be an engineering solution.

RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report 'Public Space Protection Orders' and it was recommended that:

- (1) The data demonstrating the causation between areas where capital schemes had been implemented and a decline in incidents be provided to the Panel.
- (2) Future updates regarding the implementation of the Vision Zero Strategy continue to be provided to the Panel as this work progresses.
- (3) The process for appointing a member of the Panel to be involved in meetings of the Kirklees Vision Zero Board be confirmed.
- (4) Data including a full breakdown of casualties by age be provided to the Panel.

9. **Work Programme 2024/25**

The Panel reviewed its Work Programme for the 2024/25 municipal year.

The Panel requested that Winter Maintenance be added to the work programme to consider lessons learned in the previous month, preparedness should a similar inclement weather event arise again and addressing some of the key issues.

RESOLVED: The Panel noted the Work Programme and it was agreed that an update on Winter Maintenance be added to the work programme.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Name of Councillor

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



REPORT TITLE: Annual Review of Flood Risk Management Activities

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| Meeting: | Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Panel |
| Date: | 12th March 2025 |
| Cabinet Member (if applicable) | Cllr Graham Turner |
| Key Decision Eligible for Call In | No. This is an annual review. |
| Purpose of Report : To provide an annual review of Flood Risk Management Activities. | |
| Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note and comment on the contents of the annual review of activities of the Flood Risk Management. | |
| <p>Resource Implications: The potential enactment of Schedule 3 of the Floods and Water Management Act 2010 for 2024/25 will have significant resource implications. DEFRA have given no indication of a fixed time frame to date and is yet to perform a national consultation exercise. This is detailed in Appendix B.</p> <p>Kirklees Flood Management & Drainage has been successful in obtaining grants for capital schemes in 2024/5. In addition to this, grants have been secured for detailed study works which will in turn lead to several substantial bids to implement flood resilience and alleviation schemes in the near future. This has potential to dwarf similar activity recorded over the last 20 years.</p> <p>Flood Risk Mental Health and Well Being £36,000 Middlemost Pond Flood Alleviation Feasibility Study £32,000 Howley Beck Capital Scheme £150,000 Ludhill Dike Natural Flood Management Design and Landowner Engagement £55,600 Natural Flood Management Design and Landowner Engagement (Selected Clusters) £128,000</p> | |
| Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name | David Shepherd (Edward Highfield in absentia 21/2/2025) |
| Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? | Kevin Mulvaney by email 21/2/2025 |
| Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning? | Sam Lawton by email 24/2/2025 |

Electoral wards affected: All wards affected.

Ward councillors consulted: No consultation undertaken.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? YES

| Strategic Theme | Ref | LFRMS Strategic Measure | Promoted Actions 2024/5 |
|-----------------|-----|--|---|
| PLACE | 1 | Engage early with spatial planners and growth strategies to ensure new development and plans make best use of land in making space for surface water, fluvial water, sustainable drainage systems and promote the use of adaptive pathways to adapt to climate hazards. Share our understanding of flooding in the area to avoid inappropriate development. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide preapplication responses to planning consultations. (ongoing) Lead on the production of a new Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to inform the Local Plan and its policies. (2024/25)(Consultant appointed, modelling completed, to be ratified by the EA) To be presented at committee. |
| PLACE | 2 | Work with the Local Planning Authority, Highway Authority, Environment Agency and water companies to ensure the planning process and development design account fully for land drainage and surface water managements issues. Ensure our practices secure sound management and maintenance regimes that are proportionate and appropriate to the flood risk in the area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with planning and legal services to create management companies to secure separate maintenance plans for SUDS and Watercourses through section 106 T&C planning Act 1990. (Established) Secure safe flood routing via conditions on major applications using highway network and open space as conduits. Partner with section 38 (road adoptions) as an enforcement tool. (ongoing) |
| PLACE | 3 | As a Lead Local Flood Authority engage with others to advise on climate change allowances for sources of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. To share and inform others of current guidance, research and best practice on sustainability and water management to inform decision making. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide consultation advice for planning and preplanning applications reflecting the latest forecasts for location of the property and volume of attenuation required. (Statutory Task - Ongoing) Ensure information documents on our website are up to date. (annual review) Completed. To be reviewed 2025 Partner other Local Authorities and the Environment Agency through ASA workshops and West Yorkshire land drainage meetings. (Established and ongoing) |
| PLACE | 4 | Enhance our early engagement with developments and commit to targeted periodic inspections of new development to ensure compliance/enforcement with drainage planning conditions and Land Drainage Act legislation. Seek 106 contributions where appropriate and promote environmental net gain. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide audit to key sites to ensure construction phase drainage plans are implemented on site. (2025) Audit commercial sites on an annual basis (select 10) for the fitting of private flow control devices. (2025) |
| PLACE | 5 | Improve our asset data on drainage assets within the district including highway gullies, culverts, carrier drains, debris screens and others to build our evidence base. Where considered significant make this publicly available. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record additions of nodes and linear drainage features and produce a performance indicator to check monthly. (Established and ongoing) Review Asset Data on trash screens especially ownership and maintenance requirements – produce clear access to information via Kompass. (2025) Presentations on importance of asset Recordings (Highways). (2025) Initial work completed. Working with OSAMS team on developing new asset management tool and integrating work processes. |

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| PROTECT | 6 | Identify and develop flood risk improvement schemes for Kirklees to reduce the risk of surface water flooding and flooding from ordinary watercourses to better protect properties and the highway network in high-risk areas. Be open to new financing models. Promote a range of resilience actions and climate change scenarios. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit and develop a further studies based on NFM opportunities mapping study to acquire grant funding (Completed) • Application for funding through an EA initiative for 3 new opportunities for funding for NFM. (Ludhill Dike 2024, cluster 2024) – Funding Awarded Working with River Holme Connections for developing Ludhill Dike To be presented at committee. • From Debris Screen Assessments, aim to replace/upgrade Council Assets to current standards. (2025-26) (Scheme Assessment Completed) • Receive training on grant funding applications (2024) and incorporate the use of Grant Finder to access different funding pots and partnership funding. (Completed) • Middlemost Pond (2027) Albert Street (2025), Howley Beck (2025), Woods Mount (2027). Grant in Aid funding cuts may delay Middlemost Pond. Albert Street & Howley Street on target. |
| PROTECT | 7 | Improve the awareness, understanding and delivery of Property Flood Resilience measures to manage local flood risk within our communities. Encourage homeowners and business owners to undertake Property Flood Surveys and seek grant funding to support resilience measure installations to support a build back better approach. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint working with WYCA on promoting resilience grants for Kirklees businesses (2024/5) (On line meetings held, and face to face with Mirfield business affected on 1/1/25 floods. Widening Scope with Kirklees Business Support Colleagues. • Review 2022 grant take up of surveys and Property Flood Resilience (PFR) in all areas of the district (2024/5) (Liaising with Bradford MDC work through WY Flip. • Update website to best promote PFR in the community (2025) |
| PROTECT | 8 | Work with our partners, learned institutions, communities to develop integrated solutions and maintenance programmes to deliver multiple benefits to reduce flood risk and look to improve economic, social and environmental benefits. Be innovative in our approach. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYFLIP – Progress funding bid for Mental Health Resilience to tackle consequences of flooding for victims, involving WY FLIP, ICASP and mental health charity, Huddersfield/Leeds/York University. (2025-6) • WYFLIP – Progress opportunities for funding bids for the use of cameras/telemetry to replace site inspections visits with instant remote observation. (Alpha Stage Completed) (Wakefield MDC bid rejected – focusing on alternative sources (2025) |
| PROTECT | 9 | Engage with catchment partnerships and landowners to embrace land management techniques and natural flood management to help to manage surface water runoff. Seek out opportunities to use Working with Natural Processes in managing flood risk to promote multiple benefits such as environmental net gain. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit, develop a further studies based on NFM opportunities mapping study to acquire grant funding (2025-2026) Submitted and grant awarded. Presented at Committee • Ludhill Dike catchment NFM with River Holme Connections – develop opportunities for NFM in 3rd party land. (2025-6) Grant Awarded. Presented at Committee • Internal partnership working with landscape and woodland departments for a trial sites at Woods Mount, Marsden & Leeds Road Huddersfield (housing estate) Topographical Surveys completed. Provisional scheme developed by consultants. |

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| PROTECT | 10 | Support the severe weather incident management function the Council undertakes through technological advancements to ensure it is an intelligence led approach. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trash Screen Asset Management Review to optimize maintenance schedules (completed) Additional work required at Spring Grove, Clayton West and Crimble Clough, Slaithwaite. • Central Government funding with Wakefield and Leeds to look at level detection on watercourses and trash screen remote observation. (Alpha Stage completed) Awaiting funding for Beta stage. Funding rejected. Examining other opportunities. • Use of extended Spotters list for information gathering covering wider areas (Completed) • Review of Spotter Locations and Health and Safety Assessment to facilitate the above (Completed) • Introduction of hand held devices to record before and after trash screen clearance, aiding work and asset management review (2025). |
| PROTECT | 11 | Maintain assets based on a risk-based approach to ensure high flood risk assets are prioritised and allowances made for climate change projections are considered. Try new technological approaches. Assess which Council assets require capacity improvements as a last resort. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trash Screen Asset Management Review to optimize maintenance schedules – (completed) • Review priority gulley list – (completed) Autumn Gulley Blitz scaled back due to resource issues. Flood Management provided intelligence behind the decision. • Progress opportunities for funding bids for the use of cameras/telemetry to replace site inspections visits with instant remote observation. (Alpha Stage Completed) Initial funding bids rejected. |
| RESPONSE | 12 | Provide intelligence to ensure policy frameworks and emergency plans are robust. Work with other services to establish the basis of the Council's response to severe rainfall events in supporting communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Spotter Locations with a risk assessment for safety. Provide training for new volunteers COMPLETED • Review Gulley Blitz areas (annual) - COMPLETED • Review Sandbag pre-deployment agreements after each event with a view to improving resilience (ongoing) • Continue to work with Emergency Planning and Highways as a subgroup for severe weather management (ongoing) • Work with Emergency Planning to Review Post Flood Plans (COMPLETED and updated) • Provide 365 days a year standby cover for severe weather management (ongoing) |
| RESPONSE | 13 | Work with the local communities and landowners to increase their awareness and preparedness for flooding in Kirklees to improve flood resilience in homes, businesses and communities through education campaigns with our partners. Enhance our online content to deliver a one-stop shop. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Emergency Planning for a web page review – Web Page Review, taking best practice from around the UK (2025) • Formalise flood hub/groups where appropriate and encourage households located close to trash screens as observers for flood management (2024-26) • Liaise with West Yorkshire Council partners regarding promoting and working with communities to improve resilience by promoting PFR via an awareness campaign on web pages and social media (2024-27) • Work with WYCA/EA on specifically looking at business resilience grant opportunities – target Mirfield and Albert St. (2024-2025) (On line and face to face meetings held) |

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| RESPONSE | 14 | Encourage flood community action groups to be set up in key areas of flood risk and through this work, in conjunction with partners, provide a higher standard of community led resilience by developing a network of community resilience leads. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise flood groups, where appropriate, look to involve households close to trash screens as observers for Flood Management 2026/27 Work with Environment Agency to complement their flood warden work in the district, promoting individual and community flood plans 2026/27 Utilise opportunities through mental health project and training of spotters and flood response staff to work closer with community. 2024-26 Initial grant awarded. To be presented at committee. |
| RESPONSE | 15 | Ensure flood risk management actions reach out and remain inclusive in our approach within our diverse communities and areas of deprivation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although flood studies concentrate on areas of risk, flood management will ensure diversity is always considered in terms of location and make up of population. This can be tested through looking at integrated impact assessments as part of the brief. Consider Equalities Act for Grant In Aid/Local Levy Opportunities for flood alleviation schemes in deprived areas will be promoted due to the incentivised cost benefit analysis weighting for Grant in Aid Funding (ongoing). |
| RESPONSE | 16 | Establish and maintain a Communication Plan in line with national and other Council services to provide coordinated and timely information to communities at flood risk. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe weather plan and communications – provide intelligence alongside Highways and Emergency Planning partners for communications on Kirklees Website and Social Media (ongoing). Utilise the role of spotter to convey live information back a central hub. (ongoing) |
| RECOVERY | 17 | Provide follow up recovery support and advice to residents, business owners and communities that have been affected by flooding on funding, wellbeing support and signpost to affordable flood insurance to help them recover quicker. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Emergency Planning to formalise post flood action plan (completed). Will seek opportunities to develop appendices incorporating advice to residents. Ensure Web site has latest information regarding Flood Re from Association of British Insurers. Work with communications on promoting this on social media and targeted letter drops. (see above) WYFLIP – Progress funding bid for Mental Health Resilience to tackle consequences of flooding for victims. (2024-6) Initial funding secured. To be presented at committee. Work with ward members to promote better resistance and resilience techniques using property level protection grants where available as an improvement to sandbag usage. (2025-26) |

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| RECOVERY | 18 | Investigate flood incidents of all sources and establish flood outlines with our partners to validate existing flood models to help inform future grant fundings and flood risk management projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to follow up incidents with investigations and record flood incidents and findings (cause and effect) – ongoing. This incorporates published Section 19 investigations for significant flooding where the cause is not immediately obvious, leading to requests for relevant flood risk management authorities to take this further. (ongoing) • Continue to offer support to our partners at the Environment Agency post fluvial flood events, establishing wrack marks and sharing knowledge from the community as to the extent of flooding. (ongoing). • Carry out social media and traditional media searches for reports of flooding to properties not reported to the Council. media. (ongoing) • Record on site reporting of flood extent information gathered from community spotters. (ongoing) • Support and encourage the wider use of PDA's for Kirklees Staff to provide photographic validation of flood extents. 2024-2025 |
| RECOVERY | 19 | Work with Partners and health bodies to ensure mental health impacts from flooding are factored into long term recovery planning. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYFLIP – Progress funding bid for Mental Health Resilience to tackle consequences of flooding for victims utilising experience and knowledge of mental health experts. (2024-6) Initial funding acquired. To be presented at committee. • Work with Emergency Planning to formalise post flood action plan (completed) opportunity to work on appendices 2025 • Train staff on psychological first aid (2025) To be presented at committee. |
| RECOVERY | 20 | Support Review Briefings and feedback learning from communities to inform our plans and policies to ensure a more efficient and effective response in the future. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support Emergency Planning in flood event debrief with various internal Kirklees partners including Highways and communication departments to see what was successful and what could be improved... Ongoing. • Investigate the effectiveness of the use of sandbags/gelbags as a first line of defence with community flood groups/councillors. Ongoing. • Take opportunities to promote property flood protection/resilience on the back of major flood events....ongoing. • Review severe weather action plan after each event with Emergency Planning... ongoing. |

Guide to implementation of Schedule 3

What is Schedule 3 and what does it mean for my local authority?

Schedule 3 originates from the Flood & Water Management Act 2010. Schedule 3 was not enacted with the rest of the Act. Instead, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated in addition to making LLFAs statutory consultees to planning, to require the use of SuDS, seeking to implement the intentions of Schedule 3 using the current planning system. The [Jenkins review](#) (2020) concluded this approach was not working. DEFRA undertook a [review into the implementation of Schedule 3](#), published in January 2023, concluding that Schedule 3 should be implemented as written, with unitary or county councils as approving bodies. This conclusion was accepted by ministers with government now considering how to implement, alongside final scope, threshold and process, ahead of public consultation later this year (expected November) and implementation in 2024.

Schedule 3 provides a framework for the approval and adoption of drainage systems, an approving body (SAB), and national standards on the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of SuDS. Also, it makes the right to connect surface water runoff to public sewers conditional upon the drainage system being approved before any construction work can start.

DEFRA has acknowledged implementation of Schedule 3 will require professionals with the skills and knowledge to design, construct, assess and maintain SuDS. This would also extend to administrative and back-office functions. The review recommends that actions are developed to ensure there is sufficient access to the right skills and capabilities to deliver and maintain SuDS.

Construction work that meets the SAB threshold cannot begin until SAB approval is received. This is separate to planning permission. The SAB threshold and any staged rollout is likely to form part of the public consultation.

Schedule 3 implementation would lead to local authorities having new duties. The net additional cost of all new burdens placed on local authorities by central government must be assessed and funded. These costs will fall under the New Burdens Doctrine and a new burdens funding assessment will be required.

New workload:

- Back office review of roles and structure (management of the activities)
- Customer enquiries
- Receiving, validating, and taking payments for SAB pre-applications and full applications
- Discussions with applicants
- Site visit for initial assessment
- Technical evaluation of all new surface water drainage systems in accordance with national and local standards
- Managing the application process from validation to adoption
- Liaising with consultees (consideration and determination), both internal and external
- Ensuring a consistent response to both the SAB and Planning Application, for the same development proposal
- Calculating and processing non-performance bonds and commuted sums (arrangements TBC)
- Writing letters of refusal with reasons, letters of approval with conditions and letters requesting additional information
- Preparation for, and representation at appeals, hearings and inquiries
- Inspecting on site, all new surface water drainage during construction and discharging SAB approval conditions
- Enforcement issues (stop notices / legals / records) – note, LPA enforcement costs are not funded through application fees, with the cost borne by central budgets
- Statutory undertakers remedial work
- Negotiating and securing legal agreements (easements, transfer of land, maintenance, access etc)

- Recording assets on systems / designating assets
- Adopting, maintaining & inspecting all new “SAB adoptable” drainage systems, inc. managing S106 contributions (in accordance with Flood & Water Management Act 2010, Section 17).

Whilst costs to set up the SAB will come from New Burdens funding. Running costs are envisaged to be covered from the applications and approval processes.

The three main costs and funding are around:

a) The costs to set up the SAB :

The net additional cost of all new burdens placed on local authorities by central government must be assessed and funded.

b) The running costs of the SAB :

As part of the application process, the developer will pay an application fee, which will provide a means of funding the SAB’s operational costs. This is expected to result in a net-zero cost for the local authority. A DEFRA-led review of the SAB arrangements enacted in Wales reported SABs rely heavily on charges for technical assessment of pre-applications (including provision of advice and negotiation etc.) but are generally running at a loss.

c) The operation and maintenance costs of SAB adopted SuDS:

This may form part of the consultation. Various views on where this funding should come from including the following suggestions by DEFRA:

- Developers to provide means of funding, e.g. commuted sum
- There is a charge for surface water drainage as part of water bills. This amount for each house on a new development that drains rainwater to a SuDS could be transferred by the water company to the SAB
- Or, the household could get rebate on their water bill and instead pay a service charge of the same amount of the rebate to the SAB.

What can we expect?

DEFRA are currently undertaking multiple pieces of work prior to a public consultation. Current discussions on National Standards have looked to align with the changes proposed in the [review of the non-statutory technical standards](#) alongside a seventh standard to cover fees, adoption and maintenance. This is part of ongoing discussions and is expected to form part of the public consultation.

Schedule 3 was implemented in Wales in 2019. [Wales have recently published their lessons learnt](#) and DEFRA are keen to incorporate this learning into the implementation of Schedule 3 in England. We can learn a lot from Wales and we would encourage all Councils to take the time to familiarise themselves with the [Welsh statutory guidance](#) and [statutory standards](#) documents along with some of the local processes which can be found on each local authorities website.

What can we do now?

Internal briefings

Ensure that senior leadership and councillors are briefed on what Schedule 3 is and what the impacts are likely to be. Some of these will be consistent across all Councils, whilst some may have more specific concerns. It is encouraged to include Schedule 3 implementation on local Business Risk Registers

Think about your local standards

Whilst National Standards will be set, there may still be a requirement for local standards in some areas. It may therefore be prudent to delay any planned updates to local guidance until we have further clarity on Schedule 3. Alternatively, you may wish to discuss this with neighbouring LLFAs to collaborate on any future local standards to develop regional standards, as is the case for some LLFAs already.

Investigate local adoption processes

Talk to your Highway Authority and Water and Sewerage Company (WaSC). Both of these organisations already have adoption processes (from validation through to adoption and maintenance) and skilled staff. Now is the perfect time to understand how they work, the systems they use (case & asset management) and the skills their staff need. There could be opportunities for secondments, internal training or resource sharing.

Encourage team members to attend relevant CPD sessions and undertake further training

This could include free CPD sessions looking at new products/materials/software, specialist training from organisations such as CIRIA and CIWEM, or informal training internally/with partners looking at biodiversity, landscape etc.

Explore options for a paid advice service

Welsh SABs have experienced a very high uptake for pre-application/paid advice. This is an additional source of income for SABs which is reported to help reduce the workload of applications once they are made as officers are aware of sites and any issues have already been identified and hopefully resolved. Does your service already offer a paid advice service? If not, could this be easily implemented? What would it look like? Do your local planning authorities currently offer a paid advice service? If you already offer paid advice, could this service be easily adapted for the SAB role?

Engage with local with Developers & Consultants

The SAB journey will have lots of hurdles for local authorities, but it's important to remember it will be a big change for other stakeholders too. Are you talking to your local Developers & Consultants about these changes? What more could you do to improve working relationships and keep them updated on the changes at a national and local level? Mailing lists, developers forums and regular 'catch-ups' are options currently being used by some LLFAs.

Build links with Local Planning Authorities, Highways, Internal Drainage Boards, Open Space

Whilst the SAB role will be a standalone function, it's important to build relationships with other stakeholders where possible. These stakeholders may have valuable expertise/advice they can offer to help with establishing and running the SAB process, along with resources to help with the longer-term inspection and maintenance of adopted SuDS.

Construction training and experience of being on live construction sites

Most LLFAs do not currently inspect SuDS during construction. Working with partners (including housing developers) will help to identify knowledge gaps and opportunities for further informal training and identify where more formal training is required. It will also help staff to become more familiar with working on live construction sites, which only comes with experience.

Think about the number of staff you will need and where these people will come from

There's no obvious answer as to how many new staff each SAB will require and this will no doubt vary between authorities. Some LLFAs have estimated the need to expand staff numbers (which includes specialists in other teams, such as ecology & landscape) by a factor of between 2-4, however this estimate can only be refined further once we have a better idea of what the national standards and thresholds look like, and this will of course need to be calculated within future budgets. CIWEM has undertaken a review of local authority capacity to deliver current and future surface water flood risk management function: ['Surface water management – A review of the opportunities & challenges'](#).

It would be a worthwhile exercise to view your LPA Monitoring Report and national statistics, alongside any internal statistics, to see the number of major sites you're currently being consulted on. This number, multiplied by the application fee (once decided) could be a quick way to estimate annual income at an early stage and as such the number of people that could be employed. It could also help to identify any shortfall in funding/staff which can be flagged with DEFRA, or help to influence the fees charged for pre- applications and paid advice.

Commutated sums for SUDS

Work with other departments to understand how commuted sums may be calculated for SUDS assets, in line with the ADEPT (formerly County Surveyors Society) guidance document 'Commutated Sums for Maintaining Infrastructure Assets', with an accompanying design standards document to support this. Some authorities may already have relevant examples where the Highways authority adopt SUDS under Sections 38 and/or 278 of the Highways Act 1980.

Update your local webpage

Updating your local webpage so it's ready to host SAB information and updates to the development community could be a quick win and is [something Warwickshire have done already](#).

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL

Work programme 2024/2025

Members: Cllr Andrew Cooper (Chair), Cllr David Longstaff, Cllr Susan Lee-Richards, Cllr Will Simpson, Cllr John Taylor, Cllr Matthew McLoughlin, Jane Emery (Co-Optee), Garry Kitchen (Co-Optee)

| FULL PANEL DISCUSSION | | |
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| THEME/ISSUE | APPROACH / AREAS OF FOCUS | OUTCOMES / ACTIONS |
| Cleansing Performance Update | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 14th August 2024</u></p> <p>A report setting out an update on progress to address issues raised by Panel Members around waste collection.</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report Cleansing Performance Update and recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thanks be given to the ward councillors involved for their support to the council and the public around missed collections. 2. When re-routing the South Councillors should be made aware of changes in advance to help support the dialogue with residents. 3. Learning should be taken from the best performers in waste collection across all Local Authorities. 4. The possibility of a joint tender for narrow track vehicles be investigated with neighbouring local authorities. 5. A heat map be used to monitor performance and track missed collections by area. 6. An update be presented to the Panel on the steps taken to reduce contamination. 7. Opportunities for Education for the Student population be explored (i.e.- Freshers Fairs) and working with |

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| | | <p>students agencies to best support their management of household waste.</p> <p>8. Opportunities for engagement around the introduction of Food Waste Collection be explored through liaising with the Local Government Association.</p> <p>9. A communications/education campaign be used to show the journey of a recycled item from bin to reuse demonstrating to the individual the impact they had though recycling and recycling correctly.</p> |
| <p>Statutory Food Hygiene Plan 2024 – 2025</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 25th September 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the Statutory Food Hygiene Plan 2024 – 2025.</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report Food Safety Service Delivery Plan 24-25 and recommended that Leanne Perry and the team be thanked for their positive work.</p> |
| <p>Statutory Health & Safety Plan 2024 – 2025</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 25th September 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the Statutory Health & Safety Plan 2024 – 2025</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report Statutory Health and Safety Service Plan 24-25 and recommended that James Kaye and the team be thanked for their positive work.</p> |
| <p>Lane Rental Scheme</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 20th November 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider a report on the Lane Rental Scheme for pre-decision scrutiny.</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report ‘Proposed Lane Rental Scheme’ and recommended that the selection process for which streets will be put forward for the Lane Rental Scheme be communicated clearly with all members of the Council.</p> |
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| <p>Public Space Protection Orders</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 20th November 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider an update on Public Space Protection Orders.</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel noted the report ‘Public Space Protection Orders’ and it was recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Statistics be provided to the Panel that showed the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued and the success rate of recovery. (email sent to Panel 11/12/2024) (2) A discussion around the enforcement of fixed penalty notices and the statics provided be included as part of an informal update to the Panel. (3) It be made clearer in the report that the Use of Temporary Structures Without the Landowner’s Permission Public Space Protection Order isn’t aimed at targeting homelessness in Kirklees. (4) The monitoring and review process to target the potential displacement of issues following the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order be included in the report. (5) The support element of Public Space Protection Orders be emphasised in the report as well as enforcement. |
| <p>Kirklees Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003 and Cumulative Impact Assessment under</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 20th November 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider a report on the Kirklees statement of licensing policy and CIA (under the licensing Act 2003)</p> | <p>RESOLVED: The Panel supported and welcomed the report Proposed Revision to Statement of Licensing Policy 2025 – 2030 and the Cumulative Impact Assessment</p> |

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| <p>the Licensing Act 2003</p> | | |
| <p>Highway Safety Strategy</p> | <p><i>Background:</i></p> <p><i>The former Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel received a presentation around Highways Safety which set out The Councils statutory responsibilities, (as per the Highways Safety Act), (i.e.- Safe vehicles, speeds, roads and behaviours as well as Post collision learning and care). The presentation also covered issues in relation to capital funding, and the Vision Zero ambition to eliminate road deaths and serious injuries (KSI's) to zero by 2040 and improve road safety for everyone using a safe systems approach. The Panel recommended that more emphasis be placed on enforcement and that the council continue to promote, persuade and influence driver behaviour as well as maintaining strong partnership work with the Police.</i></p> <p><i>At its meeting held 10th January 2024 the Panel received a report on Highways Safety Update and recommended that work be undertaken around collision data, and that this be filtered to differentiate between avoidable and unavoidable casualties and to help identify trends and differences. It was also recommended that the recording and consideration of locations where there were multiple minor incidents be investigated and that examples of successful interventions made in high-risk areas are showcased to demonstrate which schemes were effective.</i></p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 29th January 2025</u></p> | |

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| | <p>The Panel will consider a report on Road Safety to include a focus on achieving Vision 0.</p> | |
| <p>Flood Risk Management</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 12th March 2025</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the Flood Risk Management Plan.</p> | |
| <p>Emergency Planning Document (severe weather)</p> | <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 16th April 2025</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the Emergency Planning Document (severe weather)</p> | |
| <p>2-year Highway Capital Plan 2024-25 25-26</p> | <p><i>Background:</i></p> <p><i>At its meeting of the Panel held 10 January 2024 the Panel considered an update in relation to the 2 year Highways Capital Plan and it was recommend that:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. That clarity around the location and future planned moves of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS) be investigated provided to the Panel.</i> <i>2. The Panel be provided with information about the potential impact the recent changes to national policy and climate change targets may have on local schemes following discussion with Transportation Officers.</i> <i>3. The issue of blocked drains in the specific location raised by Co-optee (Garry Kitchen) be investigated.</i> | |

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| | <p>4. <i>The road name A636 Denby Dale Road be amended in the report to Wakefield Road for clarity.</i></p> <p>5. <i>Further opportunities for pre-decision scrutiny in respect of the Capital Plan be considered.</i></p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 16th April 2025</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the 2-year Highway Capital Plan 2024-25-26.</p> | |
| <p><u>Informal Briefings</u></p> | | |
| <p>Future of Bereavement Services</p> <p>Air Quality Update (Action Plan, Strategy and Annual Status Report)</p> | <p><u>Informal meeting of the Panel held on 5th November 2024:</u></p> <p>To consider an update in relation to Bereavement Services</p> <p>To consider an update and for opportunity for scrutiny to have early input.</p> | <p>The Panel noted the update.</p> <p>The Panel noted the update</p> |

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| <p>Fleet Replacement Programme and O Licence compliance (to include link to particulate matter impact on air quality)</p> | <p>To consider an update and for opportunity for scrutiny to have early input.</p> | <p>The Panel noted the update</p> |
| <p>Kirklees Enforcement Policy</p> <p>Waste Procurement Update</p> | <p><u>Informal meeting of the Panel held 21st March 2025</u></p> <p>To consider an update and for opportunity for scrutiny to have early input.</p> <p>The Panel will consider a update on Waste procurement and give early input into simpler recycling.</p> | |

Golden Threads:

The Panel will consider and would like to receive information around the following themes throughout its programme of work

- Climate Impact
- Risks and Opportunities
- Partnership work, links to other opportunities and engagement
- Communications; i.e.- how is the council using communications to deliver messaging, raise awareness of issues and provide information

Items not yet scheduled:

- Air Quality Update (Action Plan, Strategy and Annual Status Report)
- Kirklees Internal Carbon Reporting
- Fly tipping
- Parks and Greenspace Vision (to include Biodiversity and net gain) (informal early input)
- Events Update