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Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning
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Monday 30 June 2025

Notice of Meeting

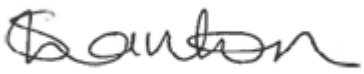
Dear Member

Cabinet

The **Cabinet** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **1.30 pm** on **Tuesday 8 July 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.



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 Cabinet members are:-

Member	Responsible For:
Councillor Carole Pattison	Leader of the Council
Councillor Beverley Addy	Cabinet Member - Public Health
Councillor Moses Crook	Deputy Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member - Transport and Housing
Councillor Nosheen Dad	Cabinet Member - Adult Social Care and Corporate
Councillor Tyler Hawkins	Cabinet Member - Highways and Waste
Councillor Viv Kendrick	Cabinet Member - Children' Services (Statutory Responsibility for Children)
Councillor Amanda Pinnock	Cabinet Member - Communities and Environment
Councillor Jane Rylah	Cabinet Member - Education
Councillor Graham Turner	Cabinet Member - Finance and Regeneration

Agenda
Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of Cabinet

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

2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

1 - 6

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 June 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 Committee.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Cabinet 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: Questions by Members of the Public

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: Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet will receive any questions from Elected Members.

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

8: Council Financial Outturn & Rollover Report 2024/25 incorporating General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account, Capital and Treasury Management (Reference to Council)

9 - 156

To consider Financial Outturn & Rollover Report 2024/25 incorporating General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account, Capital and Treasury Management.

Wards affected: all

Contact: James Anderson, Head of Accountancy

9: Q4 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report

157 - 234

To receive the Q4 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Mike Henry, Head of Data and Insight

10: Corporate Risk Report, Quarter 4 2024-25

235 - 266

To receive an update on the Corporate Risk Register for Quarter 4 2024-25.

Wards affect: all

Contact: Martin Dearnley, Head of Audit & Risk

11: Local Government Association (LGA) Corporate Peer Challenge - Kirklees Council Action Plan Progress Report

267 - 286

To receive an update against the LGA's recommendations and action plan.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Stephen Bonnell, Head of Policy, Partnerships, and Corporate Planning

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12: Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy (Reference to Council)

287 - 332

To consider the Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Jonathan Nunn, Policy & Partnerships Lead

13: Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document (Reference to Council)

333 - 348

To consider proposals in relation to the Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Mathias Franklin, Head of Planning

14: Local Development Scheme Revisions

349 - 374

To consider the revised Local Development Scheme.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Jo Scrutton, Group Leader Policy and Strategy

15: Surplus Property Disposals 2025/26 and consideration of objection to the disposal of Public Open Space at Grasscroft, Almondbury

375 - 392

To consider surplus property disposals and objection to the disposal of Public Open Space at Grasscroft, Almondbury.

Wards affected: Almondbury, Ashbrow, Batley East, Birstall & Birkenshaw, Crosland Moor & Netherton, Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South, Greenhead, Heckmondwike, Holme Valley South, Lindley, Mirfield, Newsome.

Contact: Alistair Kimpton, Strategic Manager – Logistics

16: 2025/26 - 2026/27 Corporate Landlord Capital Plans - Proposed allocation of capital funding

393 - 404

To consider the programmes of work for 2025/26 – 2026/27.

Wards affected: all

Contact: David Martin, Head of Service - Property

17: Update Regarding Progress with the Regulatory Notice

405 - 412

To receive an update on progress with the Housing Regulatory Notice.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Janet Sharpe, Interim Service Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods

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18: Variation to the Terms of the Tenancy Agreement

413 - 584

To consider a variation to the Council's Tenancy Agreement.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Lisa Ramsden, Head of Housing Management and Partnerships

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19: White Rose Forest Strategic Plan 2025-2050

585 - 664

To consider the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan 2025-50.

Wards affected: all

Contact: Guy Thompson, White Rose Forest Programme Director

20: Air Quality Management Areas for Revocation or Amendment 2025

665 - 688

To consider the Council's Air Quality Management Areas.

Wards affected: Ashbrow, Liversedge & Gomersal, Dewsbury West, Birstall & Birkenshaw, Lindley, Heckmondwike, Crosland Moor & Netherton and Newsome.

Contact: Rebecca Muff, Environmental Health Group Leader

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Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 10th June 2025

Present:	Councillor Carole Pattison (Chair) Councillor Beverley Addy Councillor Nosheen Dad Councillor Moses Crook Councillor Tyler Hawkins Councillor Viv Kendrick Councillor Amanda Pinnock Councillor Jane Rylah
Observers:	Councillor Andrew Cooper Councillor Jo Lawson Councillor Paul Moore Councillor Cathy Scott Councillor Mohan Sokhal
Apologies:	Councillor Graham Turner

1 Membership of Cabinet
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Turner.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting
RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 May 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declaration of Interests
No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public
It was noted that exempt information was contained within Agenda Item 12.

5 Deputations/Petitions
No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Questions by Members of the Public
No questions were asked.

7 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)
Cabinet received the following questions in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

Question from Councillor J D Lawson
"What does the Council's zero tolerance fly tipping actually look like? Over the last year there was over 10,000 reported incidents of fly tipping and less than 1% resulted in any punishment. How many CCTV Cameras does Kirklees Cameras have and where are they?"

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

Question from Councillor Scott
"In regards to Estate Buildings, can the Cabinet confirm exactly when Officers and Cabinet Members first became aware of when Thirteen Group considered the Estate Buildings scheme to be unviable, or were intending to withdrawn from it?"

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

Question from Councillor Moore
"What impact assessment has been carried out to evaluate the increased pressure on Dewsbury tip since the Nab Lane closure, including the impact of a section of Thornhill Road to facilitate the Transpennine Route upgrade?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste (Councillor Hawkins).

Question from Councillor Cooper
"In November last year this Council passed a Motion which asked that Kirklees Council, were at all lawful and practicable, would avoid the purchase of goods from Israeli companies illegally occupying Palestinian territories and that the Council would commit 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 would not be used.
Have we got an answer to this yet?"

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

Question from Councillor Scott
"In regard to Estate Buildings, the report confirms that no funds were allocated for security or maintenance. If the Council now plans to use reserves, why wasn't it forecast in the budget and what is the financial impact for 2025/2026 budgets if the reserves are used. What services could and will be affected by this unplanned spend?"

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

Question from Councillor Cooper
"Will Kirklees Council be submitting a response to the Local Government Association's consultation on whether Councils should have a statutory duty to act on Climate Change?"

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste (Councillor Hawkins).

Question from Councillor J D Lawson
"Can you confirm whether the mobile traffic wardens will be new recruits and not taken out of the parking enforcement team?"

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

Question from Councillor Moore
"Have any new burial sites been identified for Dewsbury, since discussions took place over twelve months ago?"

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

Question from Councillor Scott
"We now know that the Kingsgate Centre is being marketed for sale with a 57 bed hotel and 4 restaurants being advertised. Why is none of this mentioned in the public loan report and how can the public assess the value for money when vital information has been missing?"

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

Question from Councillor Cooper
"I welcome the Council's action regarding traffic enforcement action in Armitage Bridge and Flockton where weight restrictions are regularly flouted by heavy goods vehicles. What will the public engagement process be?"

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

8 Appointment of Cabinet and Portfolios (Notice under Article 7)
Cabinet noted the appointment of Cabinet Members and Portfolio allocations, in accordance with Articles 7.2.4 and 7.3.4 of the Constitution.

9 2025/26 Proposed Allocation of Funding from the Children and Families Directorate, Learning and Early Support Capital Plan
Cabinet gave consideration to a report which identified potential capital projects to be funded from the 2025/2026 Learning and Early Support Capital Plan, as approved by Council in 5 March 2025. The report advised that the funding would be used to address urgent condition related needs in maintained schools. The report also provided an update on investment in the first phase of Additionally Resourced

Provisions and satellite provision to increase local sufficiency of SEND places linked to the Kirklees SEND Transformation Plan.

Cabinet were asked to approve the capital maintenance and Additionally Resourced Provisions and satellite programmes with the identified schemes so that they could be delivered in 2025/2026, which would enable further investment in the creation, expansion or enhancement of places for children with SEND, and the management of the capital maintenance programme. It was noted that undertaking the proposed programmes of work would help to ensure that maintenance schools remained to be warm, dry, secure and safe and that children with SEND could access high quality local provision with facilities to meet their needs, provided in a cost effective state funded model.

RESOLVED –

1) That the business case outlining the rationale for the schools condition programme, the availability of funding, the selection process and main categories of work, as set out at Appendix A of the report, be approved.
2) That the detailed list of proposed condition works in schools for 2025/2026, as set out at Appendix B, be approved.
3) That the update on the additionally resourced provisions/satellites phase 1 programme be noted.
4) That approval be given to the two proposed new additionally resourced provision schemes as identified within the report, to support the creation of additional places for children with special educational needs and disabilities.
5) That authority be delegated to the relevant Service Directors as detailed in paragraphs2.16 to 2.18 of the report in order to aid the management of the schools' baseline condition and the additionally resourced provisions/satellites sites special educational needs and disabilities programmes.

10 Housing Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report and Self-Assessment 2024/25

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

Cabinet received a report which set out the mandatory Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report for 2024/2025, including the Council's self assessment set against the Housing Ombudsman Complaint Handling Code for approval prior to submission to the Housing Ombudsman at the end of June 2025. The report provided (i) a review of achieving compliance with the Complaint Handling Code (ii) complaint volumes and performance data (iii) themes and reasons for complaints and escalations (iv) learning from the Housing Ombudsman findings and (v) next steps, along with the measures that have been taken to improve.

Cabinet were also asked to approve the updated Complaints Handling Policy and Redress Policy.

RESOLVED –

1) That the Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report 2024/2025, which includes the self assessment against the Code (Appendices 1 and 2 refer) be approved.
2) It be noted that the Cabinet shall provide its response to the Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report 2024/2025 and Annual Self-Assessment, along with any changes to either document, which will then be submitted to the Ombudsman.
3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Homes and Neighbourhoods) to publish the final report, to include the Cabinet's response and the self-assessment, on the Council's website, post submission.
4) That approval be given to the updated Complaints Handling Policy and Redress Policy.

11 Estate Buildings - Residential Development Update and Delivery approach
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Scott).

Cabinet received a report which set out an update on the residential development of estate buildings, and sought approval for a proposed delivery approach with a delivery partner. The report advised that the development of this landmark building, which was in a strategic town centre location, would support the delivery of the Huddersfield Blueprint. It explained that Estate Buildings had been identified as a Council asset to provide a high quality housing product that was well located to provide residents with access to local jobs and close proximity to rail links.

Cabinet were advised that, due to the heritage value of the site, the cost of development would be significant and there would be a viability gap which would need to be filled through external funding. It was therefore recommended that a competitive sale exercise is conducted to appoint a delivery partner, which would enable the Council to retain a level of control over the quality of the development while benefitting from the funding of a private sector delivery partner. It was noted that the disposal approach would support transferring the asset of the Council's ownership into the private sector, and would contribute to savings by reducing the costs of retaining the asset. Cabinet were advised that, due to the significant viability gap associated with bringing this site forward it is likely that the site would need to be disposed of at 'less than best consideration'. It was noted that the recommendation would enable the appointment of a development partner who would enter into a building lease to bring forward the building for residential use, and that the appointment of the preferred partner would be scheduled for February 2026.

RESOLVED –

1) That approval be given to the proposed delivery approach for Estate Buildings.
2) That approval be given to the disposal of the site at 'less than best consideration' to the preferred partner when appointed in accordance with the General Disposal Consent (England) 2003.

3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director (Place), in consultation with the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) and the Cabinet Member (Finance and Regeneration) to negotiate and agree the terms of disposal for the site with the preferred development partner and determine the appropriate level of discount for the site following a comprehensive assessment of the appointed partner's development viability appraisal reflecting the housing mix which receives planning consent (which may likely be market housing but could include some affordable housing).
4) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into and execute any agreement and other ancillary documents necessary to dispose of the site to the preferred partner for housing, reflecting the housing mix which receives planning consent.

12 Kingsgate Property Investment Fund - Loan Extension

(The report included exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely it contains information relating to financial and business affairs of third parties (including the Authority holding that information)).

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a request for a one year extension of the previously approved Property Investment Fund Loan from the Kingsgate Centre. It was noted that the loan had previously been granted for the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre, for a period of one year until July 2026.

Cabinet were advised that the extension of the loan would support the Huddersfield Blueprint vision for the continued revitalisation of Huddersfield Town Centre. It was noted that, subject to approval, legal documentation would be updated prior to the current loan expiry date of July 2025, and the loan period would then continue until July 2026.

RESOLVED –

1) The approval be given to the extension of a loan from the Property Investment Fund, previously given for the remodelling of the Kingsgate Centre, for a period of one year until July 2026, in accordance with the details as set out in the exempt appendix to this report.
2) That the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) be given delegated authority to enter into any documentation required to agree the extension of the Property Investment Fund loan and to protect the Council's position as lender.

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Name of Councillor

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

Signed: …… **Dated:** ……

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
(a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
(b) either -

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

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

Kirklees COUNCIL

REPORT TITLE: Council Financial Outturn & Rollover Report 2024/25 incorporating General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account, Capital and Treasury Management.

Meeting:	**Cabinet and Council**
Date:	**8th July 2025 and 16th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Councillor Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report:

- To provide information on the Council's 2024/25 financial outturn position for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Plan, including proposals for capital rollover from 2024/25 to 2025/26.
- To seek authority to (a) approve the creation of the Strategic Budget Contingency reserve (paragraph 3.2.21 refers), with a balance of £3.5m at 31/3/25; funded from the Voluntary Revenue Provision Reserve (Cabinet decision) and (b) approve £13.7m capital slippage from 2024/25 to 2025/26 and the removal of £0.4m uncommitted rollover from the Capital Plan (Council decision) (paragraph 3.2.33 refers).
- To provide an annual review of Council Treasury Management activity.

Recommendations

General Fund

1) Note the improved revenue outturn position of +£5.6m overspend for 2024/25 (+£9.9m at Q3);

2) Note the year end position on reserves and balances of £61.0m (excluding Statutory Reserves), particularly that the level of general reserve remains unchanged at £25m (paragraphs 3.2.19- 22);

3) Approve the creation of the Strategic Budget Contingency reserve (paragraph 3.2.21), with a balance of £3.5m at 31/3/25; funded from the Voluntary Revenue Provision Reserve;

4) Note the application of the Councils flexible capital receipts strategy to the value of £5.5m applied against eligible transformation costs in 2024/25 thereby reducing revenue expenditure, in accordance with the agreed budget (paragraph 3.2.32);

5) Note the regular monitoring and review of corporate reserves in 2025/26 to be reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly financial monitoring cycle;

6) Note the year end deficit position on the Collection Fund of £10.2m;

HRA

7) Note the HRA revenue outturn position for 2024/25 as an underspend of £1.3m reducing the contribution to capital in 24/25 by £1.3m. Note the year end reserves balance of £30.6m compared to £33.9m in 23/24;

Capital

8) Note the Council capital outturn position at £140.6m for 2024/25

9) Approve the £13.7m capital slippage from 2024/25 to 2025/26 and removal of £0.4m uncommitted rollover from the Capital Plan (paragraph 3.2.33);

10) Note the revised capital plan for the period 2025/26 onwards after taking into account the re-phasing of schemes and additional grant funding assumptions (Appendix 4a: Summary Capital Plan and Appendix 4b: Detailed Capital Plan);

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

11) Note the cumulative deficit on the DSG of £63.8m, an increase of £20.1m from the previous year. This deficit is excluded from the Council's balance sheet as a result of the Statutory Override as set out in the Local Authority Capital Finance and Accounting Regulations. Also to note the recent two year extension to Statutory Override, which now ends in March 2028 pending further consultation updates from Government expected in Autumn 2025.

Treasury Management

12) Note the Review of Treasury Management activity for 2024/25 (Appendix 5);

Reasons for Recommendations
This financial outturn report updates the Cabinet and Council on the year-end financial position as of 31 March 2025, together with key risks. Council approval is required for changes to the capital plan as noted in item (9) above.

Resource Implications:
To note information on financial monitoring for General Fund Revenue, DSG, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Plan, as at 31 March 2025.

Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	**Rachel Spencer Henshall – 25 June 2025**
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	**Kevin Mulvaney – 25 June 2025**
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	**Sam Lawton – 25 June 2025**

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes. This report contains no information that falls within the scope of General Data Protection Regulations.

1. Executive Summary

The attached slides provide information on financial outturn for General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), DSG and Capital Plan, as at 31st March 2025.
The outturn position improved significantly to a £5.6m overspend from a projected overspend at Q3 of £13m, which had been netted down to £9.9m by an assumed use of general reserves. The outturn on Children and Families was in line with the Q3 projection; however in all other services the position has improved significantly. This, combined with the year-end position on reserves and balances of £61.0m (£61.2m at 31.3.24 (excluding Statutory Reserves), highlights that the in-year position hasn't been underpinned by significant drawdowns in reserves and the increase in underlying stability in the Council's financial position.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 The slides accompanying this report provide a more detailed breakdown of the outturn position, as follows:

General Fund revenue outturn position in 2024/25 by service area;

General Fund reserves and balances movements in-year;

HRA revenue outturn position including movements in HRA reserves in-year;

DSG Outturn position

Capital outturn position in 2024/25;

Treasury management prudential indicators.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 **Council Plan**
N/A

3.2 **Financial Implications**

3.2.1 The outturn position improved significantly to £5.6m overspend from a projected overspend at Q3 of £13m which was netted down to £9.9m from an assumed use of general reserve. The outturn on Children and Families was in line with the Q3 projection; however in all other services the position has improved significantly and the variances are explained below.

3.2.2 Throughout the year controls have remained in place with regard to recruitment with posts only released following agreement with Executive Directors and People Panel. Budget holders are reminded to only spend where necessary for service delivery and all services, but especially those in Place Directorate, have been encouraged to maximise all available external funding opportunities.

Outturn Position 2024/25

	Revised Budget £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000	Variance Q3 £000	Change from Q3 £000
Children and Families	105,910	111,649	5,739	**5,823**	(84)
Adults and Health	112,624	113,927	1,303	**2,785**	(1,482)
Place	56,672	62,996	6,324	**8,486**	(2,162)
Public Health and Corporate Resources	56,576	56,725	149	**1,602**	(1,453)
Central Budgets	30,793	22,834	(7,959)	**(5,705)**	(2,254)
General Fund	**362,575**	**368,131**	**5,556**	**12,991**	**(7,435)**
Use of unallocated reserves				(3,043)	**3,043**
Use of earmarked reserves		(8,691)	(8,691)	**-**	**(8,691)**
Contribution to Budget Contingency Reserve		3,135	3,135	**-**	**3,135**
Adjusted General Fund Total	**362,575**	**362,575**	**-**	**9,948**	**(9,948)**



3.2.3 The £5.6m overspend position is made up of £3.2m net underspends on base budgets, offset by £8.8m savings slippage. The key service variations (outlined in more detail in the slide deck) are summarised below.

3.2.4 The outturn position for **Children's Services** is £5.7m (Q3 position was £5.8m). The main reason for the pressures in this service mainly arise from increasing costs of External Residential Placements, due to increased demand, increased placement costs due to complexity and lower than anticipated savings from the use of internal capacity.

3.2.5 The variance includes funding from the Earmarked Demand Reserve of £1.5m and therefore there is an underlying pressure of £7.2m.

3.2.6 In the Learning & Early Support area of the service, there are continued pressures of £0.3m relating to the necessary use of Educational Psychology Locums to support service delivery, this is also linked to increased demand and complexity.

3.2.7 The outturn position for the **Adults & Health** Directorate is an overspend of £1.3m (1.1%) which is £1.5m lower than the previous quarter.

3.2.8 Within the Adult Social Care related portfolio, variances were seen across key demand-led headings, on Independent Sector Home Care (+£3.4m, with all client groups showing higher weekly unit costs), on Self-Directed Support (+£1.7m, with overspends on commissioned services and Direct Payments, predominantly on Learning Disability). These were offset by an underspend on external care home placements (£1m under, mainly on Older People volumes, and on Physical Disability unit weekly costs) and on Shared Lives (£0.6m under, due to lower activity levels). There is also a variance in relation to the savings target around income/debt (£2.1m not achieved) within the Adults Transformation programme. An underspend was seen across employee budgets (£1.6m) due to vacant posts.

3.2.9 Within the Directorate, the Communities and Access portfolio has an underspend of £1.8m, with £1.3m of this being in relation to underspend on staffing.

3.2.10 The outturn position for the **Place** directorate is an overspend of £6.3m which is a £2.2m favourable movement from Q3.

3.2.11 Highways and Streetscene overspent by £6.4m, including £1.2m on Waste with pressures from fleet costs, regulatory changes related to Persistent Organic Pollutants and Inflation on chemicals. There was also a £0.6m overspend on Transport relating to increased cost of parts, the cost of fuel and external hire charges linked to an ageing fleet. Adverse Weather overspent by £1.5m due to significant weather events throughout the year. Parking also saw an overspend of £2.3m due to delays in implementation of new tariffs, permits and charges in new car parks, lower than expected income across car parks and a reduction in income from penalty charges as more customers choose to pay using apps. In addition, there was a deficit within Highways of £0.9m mainly relating to £0.3m street lighting, £0.2m horticultural maintenance.

3.2.12 There was an overall underspend of (£0.2m) across Development. This included an underspend of (£0.8m) on Housing Services (maximising staff charges to capital and grants, and underspends of (£0.2m) within both Housing Growth linked to vacancies and Town Centres (£0.1m) due to recharges to capital schemes.

3.2.13 There was a net overspend of £0.9m in Property, this included overspends in Corporate Landlord maintenance £1m, Assets and Estates also overspent by £0.3m which included the cost of holding assets for major capital schemes such as the Piazza. These were offset with surpluses from Capital Delivery, Technical Advice and Asset Maintenance (£0.5m) from maximising charges to capital and other external funding.

3.2.14 Environmental Strategy & Climate Change overspent by £1m. This included a £1.4m pressure on Home to School Transport linked to increased demand and cost inflation. This was offset by a (£0.4m) underspend in the Directorate Programme Office linked to holding of vacancies.

3.2.15 Skills and Regeneration underspent by £1m. Various underspends were seen across the portfolio including within Major Projects (£0.3m), Employment & Skills (£0.3m), Business & Economy (£0.1m), Planning and Building control (£0.2m) and Flood Management (£0.1m).

3.2.16 **Public Health and Corporate Resources** overspent by £0.149m, but with significant variances across the directorate. There was a significant overspend of £4.98m on Housing Benefit subsidy loss due to rising numbers of people in bed and breakfast and other temporary accommodation for which 100% subsidy is not payable by the DWP. Strategy and Innovation underspent by £1.36m, and Peoples Service underspent by £0.76m due to vacancy management, and a continuation of IT savings. Culture and Visitor Economy underspent by £2.86m, due to catering, and caretaking and cleaning underspending by £1m each. An underspend on Sports and Physical Activity Energy costs created an underspend of £0.3m.

3.2.17 There is an underspend of £8.0m in **Central Budgets** (£5.7m at Q3). Within this position is the release of £3.8m of inflation budgets no longer required following the 2024/25 pay agreement and reconciliation of final energy costs. There are also savings in contingencies of £2.5m identified across Central Budgets. A further £0.7m underspend relates to the redistribution of business rates levy surplus from Government which was announced in the

Provisional Finance Settlement in December 2024. Treasury Management budgets underspent by £0.8m; due to a reduction in capital plan spend and interest rates on borrowing being lower than budgeted.

3.2.18 A number of activities aimed at reducing spending further within the financial year were identified, and continue to be managed and monitored, including: stopping expenditure not deemed as critical to service delivery; implementing a process whereby all recruitment is approved by senior management; ongoing review of discretionary fees and charges and increasing these by inflation where possible; exploring all external funding opportunities to bring in additional income and an ongoing review of the Council's capital investment programme to manage the overall treasury management budget. These controls will be kept under close review and will be amended accordingly based on the financial position through 2025/26. The first report for 2025/26 will be presented at Cabinet in September.

Reserves

3.2.19 The S151 Officer, in line with Financial Procedure Rules, has undertaken a review of all balances, earmarked reserves, grant reserves.

3.2.20 Members will note that, at outturn, the Council's General (Unallocated) Reserve remains at £25m. An assessment of the minimum and desirable level of reserves was made as part of the 2025/26 budget process. They were assessed to be a minimum balance of £16m and a desirable balance of £29m. The balance at outturn remains towards the assessed desirable level with plans to top up by a further £1m in 2025/26 as per the approved budget.

3.2.21 The 2025/26 budget provided additional resources in excess of £50m to help fund budget pressures across all services However, since the budget was approved in early March, a number of issues have emerged issues that could affect the delivery of the 2025/26 budget and it is therefore appropriate that these are recognised and addressed by the creation of a Strategic Budget Contingency reserve totalling £3.5m. These issues include:

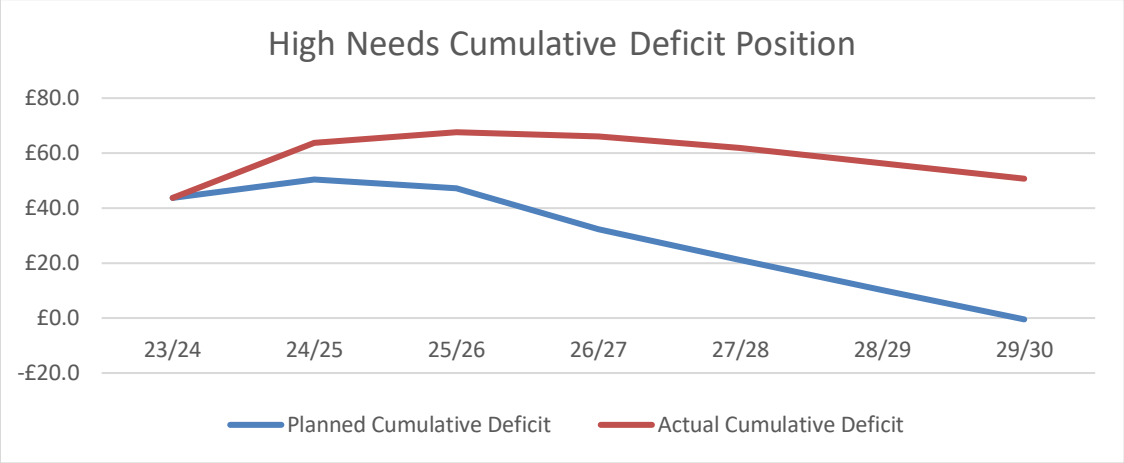
- Employers pay offer of 3.2% (Unions recommending rejection) is in excess of the 3% budgeted, estimated at £0.4m
- Ongoing demand pressures within Children's Services and Home to School Transport
- Delay in the transfer of the Dementia Care Homes savings proposals
- Additional adverse weather budget may be required if the 2024/25 weather was repeated

3.2.22 Total usable reserves at March 2025, are £61.1m, of which £36.0m are identified as earmarked. This is in line with the equivalent figure at March 2024.

DSG

3.2.23 The 23/24 in-year deficit was £15m taking the total DSG Deficit to £43.7m at 31st March 2024. The increase in costs was mainly due to rising complexity and demand in mainstream schools and inflationary increases from external providers. These pressures have continued into 24/25 and the outturn position is an in year overspend of £20.1m on High Needs expenditure. The cumulative deficit in this area has now increased to £63.8m. The service is working collaboratively with schools to change the way in which funding is allocated to mainstream schools for children with SEND through the introduction of "Cluster Working" and it is anticipated that over time this will lead to stabilisation of costs and

reductions. A more robust approach to contract management has also been introduced and this is helping to mitigate the impact of provider increases. Quarterly submissions are made to the DfE in respect of performance against the Safety Valve plan and following this funding is released in accordance the Safety Valve plan. Meetings are also held with DfE Advisors to provide assurance that monitoring processes are robust and the Local Authority is doing all it can to mitigate the deficit position. The graph below illustrates the current cumulative deficit position against the planned trajectory in the Safety Valve plan.



3.2.24 The DSG is currently subject to a Statutory Override meaning that the deficit is excluded from the Council's balance sheet. The statutory override has recently been extended by a further two years and now ends in March 2028. As referenced in the 2025/26 budget report, should the statutory override end at that date without additional funding then the Council (in common with many across the country) will need address the deficit and ongoing budget pressures. The Council awaits further updates from Government in the Autumn around the treatment of historic and ongoing deficits.

HRA

3.2.25 The HRA outturn is an operational underspend of £1.3m. However, an additional revenue contribution to capital of £4.6m was made. To ensure the HRA is balanced this has necessitated a use of reserves of £3.3m. Pressures relate to additional investment for building safety, maintenance of housing stock, costs associated with disrepair and rent loss from void turnaround times, The aim is to achieve a full cost recovery of service charges, for 2024/25 there was a shortfall of £3.4m and action has now been taken to increase income from district heating schemes effective from 1st January 2025 and increase other service charges from 1st April 2025.

Capital Plan

3.2.26 This time last year, the Council Financial Outturn and Rollover Report 2023/24 reported the Capital Plan budget for 2024/25 as £340.8m, as a starting position. Capital Plan updates have been presented periodically throughout the year through quarterly financial monitoring. As part of the Quarter 3 Corporate Financial Monitoring Report on 11 March 2025, the 2024/25 capital budget was reset at £169.2m. The budget has decreased further by £16m since Quarter 3 largely due to the re-profiling of budget into latter years of the plan (-£17.8m) offset by increased grants and contributions (+£2.2m) and other minor changes (-£0.4m). A breakdown of the budget change since Quarter 3 is shown in more detail in Appendix 3.

3.2.27 The Council's revised capital plan budget was **£153.2m** at year end. Capital expenditure in 2024/25 totalled **£140.6m**; equivalent to 91% against budgeted investment.

3.2.28 The 2024/25 capital outturn of £140.6m is about £7.7m lower than equivalent capital outturn spend in 2023/24 of £148.3m. The variance at year end is **£12.6m**; £10.4m General Fund, £2.2m HRA.

3.2.29 The capital outturn position is summarised in Table 1 below and Appendix 1. Of the total £140.6m actual spend, £69.2m relates to strategic priorities (49%), £64.9m relates to baseline capital spend (46%), the balance of £6.5m to projects of a one-off nature (5%).

3.2.30 Capital expenditure at year end was funded by the following sources of finance; borrowing £31.5m, grants and contributions £66.1m, capital receipts at £14.4m, Major Repairs reserve (HRA) at £24m and HRA reserves/revenue contributions at £4.6m. This is shown in more detail at Appendix 4 (a).

Table 1 - Capital Outturn

EXPENDITURE CAPITAL PLAN	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Variance %
Children and Families	26.4	12.8	8.8	(4.0)	(31%)
Adults & Health	8.3	5.5	3.2	(2.3)	(42%)
Place	230.4	91.7	86.0	(5.7)	(6%)
Public Health & Corporate Resources	12.2	6.1	7.7	1.6	25%
General Fund	**277.3**	**116.1**	**105.7**	**(10.4)**	**(9%)**
Housing Revenue Account	**63.5**	**37.1**	**34.9**	(2.2)	**(6%)**
COUNCIL TOTAL	**340.8**	**153.2**	**140.6**	**(12.6)**	**(8%)**

3.2.31 The key service capital variations are outlined in more detail in the slide deck (Appendix 1). The nature of capital schemes and funding means that the variance is largely slippage due to the size and complexity of schemes resulting in larger lead times than original profiled for in capital budgets or due to the timing of external funding being secured.

3.2.32 The Council's budget strategy set out 'in principle' proposals to allow officers the flexibility to consider a range of funding options in-year to meet intended transformation objectives, hence under the flexible capital receipts policy, £4m for Transformation Capitalisation was originally set aside in the budget for transformation costs. At year end £4.5m revenue transformation costs and £1m pension strain/voluntary redundancy costs were capitalised resulting in an overspend of £1.5m. The Council used the powers under the government guidance to fund the increase in costs from higher 'in-year' generated capital receipts, so the overspend in not being rolled forward into the new financial year.

3.2.33 As part of the year end Uncommitted Rollover exercise undertaken by the Capital Assurance Board, £0.4m of uncommitted capital budgets no longer required has been

removed from the Capital Plan and will not be rolled forward. This includes £351k for the Carephones Digital Switchover project which is now complete and the underspend is no longer required. The balance is due to smaller releases on budgets uncommitted at year end for Corporate Landlord Wellbeing (£50k), Property Investment Fund (£28k), Homes for Children (£20k) and KAL (£7k).

3.2.34 The proposal is to effectively re-profile the remaining planned spend totalling £13.7m (£12.6m outturn plus £1.5m flexible capital receipts underspend not carried forward, less £0.4m uncommitted resources removed) from 2024/25 to 2025/26; £11.5m General Fund and £2.2m HRA. This largely reflects deferred spend against existing schemes rolled forward into future years.

Updated Multi-year Capital Plan

3.2.35 The Quarter 3 Capital Plan approved at Cabinet on 11th March 2025 for the period 2025/26-2032 totalled £1.25bn. The Conservative budget amendment approved at Council 5th March, removed a net £20.6m from the overall Plan, revising the Quarter 3 multi-year Capital Plan position to £1.23bn. During the last financial quarter, the plan for 2025/26 onwards increased by a net £19.3m, due to further re-profiling from 2024/25 in later years (+£17.8m) (paragraph 3.2.26) and additional grant and capital allowances (+£1.4m). At outturn, the multi- year capital plan stood at £1.25bn prior to the refresh and addition of rollover.

Table 2 – Multi-Year Capital Plan Outturn Position

		Capital Plan at Outturn					
	2024/25 £'m	2025/26 £'m	2026/27 £'m	2027/28 £'m	2028/29 £'m	2029/30 - 31/32 £'m	Total £'m
Quarter 3 Budget Plan	169.2	400.1	278.2	168.4	153.3	252.4	**1,252.4**
Conservative Amendment	0.0	0.2	1.5	(1.8)	(4.2)	(16.3)	**(20.6)**
Revised Q3 Capital Plan	169.2	400.3	279.7	166.6	149.1	236.1	**1,231.8**
Change - Re-profile from 2024/25	(17.8)	11.4	4.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	**17.8**
Change - net additions/removal	1.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**1.4**
Revised Capital Plan (Outturn)	**153.2**	**413.1**	**284.4**	**168.3**	**149.1**	**236.1**	**1,251.0**

3.2.36 The multi-year Capital plan has been updated to take into account capital slippage, rephasing and changes in the estimated levels of resources available. The revised Capital Plan totals £1.273bn; £928m General Fund, £345m HRA. This is detailed in Appendix 4(a) and 4(b) and summarised in Table 3 and 4 below:

Table 3 – Revised Capital Plan (Expenditure Summary)

EXPENDITURE CAPITAL PLAN	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 - 31/32 £m	Total £m
Children & Families	25.7	29.6	21.6	3.8	2.8	**83.5**
Adults & Health	4.2	8.5	3.0	0.0	0.0	**15.7**
Place	204.2	215.3	121.9	77.9	144.2	**763.5**
Public Health & Corporate Resources	18.9	11.8	11.6	11.5	11.1	**64.9**
GENERAL FUND	253.0	265.2	158.1	93.2	158.1	**927.6**
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT	47.4	63.2	70.6	54.5	109.5	**345.2**
COUNCIL TOTAL	**300.4**	**328.4**	**228.7**	**147.7**	**267.6**	**1,272.8**

Table 4 – Revised Capital Plan (Funding Summary)

CAPITAL PLAN FUNDING SUMMARY	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	2029/30 - 31/32 £m	Total £m
Direct / Earmarked Contributions to Schemes						
Capital Grants / Contributions	124.1	116.9	77.0	47.9	54.2	**420.1**
Earmarked Capital Receipts	13.3	9.5	1.5	8.9	7.2	**40.4**
Service Funded Prudential Borrowing	24.4	30.6	17.2	10.0	12.0	**94.2**
HRA Revenue Contributions/ Reserves	17.9	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	**18.9**
HRA MRR	24.0	24.2	24.5	24.7	75.7	**173.1**
Pooled Resources						
Non-Earmarked Capital Receipts	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	**20.0**
Corporate Prudential Borrowing	92.7	143.2	103.5	52.2	114.5	**506.1**
COUNCIL TOTAL	**300.4**	**328.4**	**228.7**	**147.7**	**267.6**	**1,272.8**

3.2.37 In addition to slippage, the General Fund Capital Plan includes further grant funding. The Department for Education announced capital funding for the 2025-26 financial year to support the creation of school places for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or who require Alternative Provision (AP). Kirklees was allocated funding (+£6.1m) to adapt schools to be more accessible for children with SEND, to create specialist facilities within mainstream schools that can deliver more intensive support adapted to suit the pupils' needs, and to create special school places for pupils with the most complex needs. This is profiled in 2027/28 until further spend decisions are made. The District Sufficiency programme has been updated to reflect revised cost estimates for the rebuild of the two Special Schools, as presented to Cabinet in July 2024. The budget is contained within the existing budget envelope, utilising the High Needs grant of £7.056m previously allocated to Kirklees in 2024. The Children and Families Capital Plan also reflects some increases in confirmed grant allocations for Schools Conditions (+£476k), Basic Need (+£131k) and Devolved Formula Capital since the budget was approved in March.

3.2.38 The Place Capital Plan includes additional Disabled Facilities Grant (+£0.9m) built into the Private Sector Housing Plan for the provision of home adaptations to help eligible older and disabled people to help them live as independently and safely as possible in their homes. The Play Strategy plan also reflects an increase (+£0.2m) in both general capital contributions from the Lawn Tennis Association to fund a program of works at three of the four sites and Section 106 towards playable spaces.

3.2.39 Based on 2024/25 qualified transformation costs capitalised under the flexible use of capital receipts policy (para 3.2.32), the Transformation Capitalisation budget for 2025/26 has been increased by £2m to £6m in 2025/26. This will be funded from increased capital receipts anticipated within the financial year.

3.2.40 The Housing Revenue Account Capital Plan including rollover totals £345.2m from 2025-26 to 2031-32 and provides for investment in existing stock of £300.1m, which includes a planned replacement programme of £173.1m, a building safety programme of £80.1m and works to high rise projects of £46.9m. It provides for additional council housing costing £42.8m and £2.3m for IT system replacements and upgrades.

3.2.41 The high-rise project at Buxton House was approved at Cabinet in 2021 to bring about the wholesale remodelling and improvement of this high-rise building including the purchasing of any leasehold interest to support the wider regeneration of this area of the town centre. This Council property, at the time of approval, required all existing tenants and leaseholders to be re-located which was successfully achieved by June 2025 to allow for the works to commence. During 2024/25 a robust procurement exercise was undertaken to appoint an experienced contractor to undertake the extensive works required for its regeneration given its current condition. This has involved Kirklees Council working closely with a number of experienced contractors as part of that process but unfortunately the Council has ended up with no compliant tenders for Buxton House and, therefore has now ended the procurement process. This, however, now provides the opportunity to review all available options for Buxton House including any new external funding opportunities that can support the Council to bring about its improvement and, also explore some options that were not previously considered. Once this option appraisal work is completed this will inform the future plan for Buxton House and a new procurement process, subject to Council approval

3.2.42 A full review of the capital plan is underway and an update will be included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan report in September 2025. All schemes will be reviewed in respect of deliverability priorities, financial risk and other risks and this will also consider new capital bids.

3.2.43 Future capital plan updates will be presented periodically to Council as part of the annual budget strategy update and annual budget approval reports to Cabinet and Council as a matter of course as part of the annual planning cycle.

3.2.44 Provision has been made in the Revenue Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan to cover the expected costs of borrowing. As revenue resources are themselves under considerable pressure, close scrutiny will need to continue to ensure borrowing fulfils the criteria of being affordable, prudent and sustainable.

3.3 Legal Implications

Section 28 Local Government Act 2003 imposes a statutory duty, from time to time to carry out budget monitoring of expenditure and income against budget calculations during the financial year. If there is a deterioration in its financial position the council must take such action as it considers necessary to remedy the situation.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

N/A

3.5 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

There is an ongoing risk around the volatility of demand budgets.

4 Consultation

This report has been prepared by the Service Director - Finance, in consultation with the Executive Leadership Team.

5 Engagement

N/A

6 Options

6.1 Options considered

N/A

6.2 Reasons for recommended option

N/A

7 Next steps and timelines

Subject to member approval, capital slippage proposals and the update of the multi-year capital plan will be incorporated into in year financial monitoring in 2025/26 and reported quarterly to Cabinet from Quarter 1 onwards.
Cabinet are asked to agree that the recommendations as set out in the report be submitted to the meeting of Council on 16 July 2025, with a recommendation of approval.

8 Contact officer

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9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Annual budget report 2025-27 to Budget Council, 5 March 2025
Annual budget report 2024-27 to Budget Council, 6 March 2024
Budget Strategy Update Report to Council, 18 September 2024
Corporate Financial Monitoring Quarter 1, 2024/25 to Cabinet 13 August 2024
Corporate Financial Monitoring Quarter 2, 2024/25 to Cabinet 10 December 2024
Corporate Financial Monitoring Quarter 3, 2024/25 to Cabinet 11 March 2025

10 Appendices

Appendix 1: Financial Monitoring slides
Appendix 2: Savings Plan slides
Appendix 3: Budget Changes at Outturn since Q3 Monitoring
Appendix 4: Capital Plan
Appendix 5: Annual Report on Treasury Management 2024/25

11 Service Director responsible

Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director – Finance.

Corporate Financial Monitoring Outturn 2024/25

Revenue Headlines

- Outturn Monitoring – Overspend of **£5.6m**
- Base budgets underspent by £3.2m and there was slippage of savings totalling £8.8m
- Savings delivered were £33.7m, 79% of the target of £42.6m

- Total Useable Reserves of £**61m** at 31st March 2025 of which:
- Unallocated reserves of **£25m** (unchanged from 31st Mar 24)
- Earmarked Reserves of **£36m**

Outturn Position 2024/25

	Revised Budget £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000	Variance Q3 £000	Change from Q3 £000
Children and Families	105,910	111,649	5,739	5,823	(84)
Adults and Health	112,624	113,927	1,303	2,785	(1,482)
Place	56,672	62,996	6,324	8,486	(2,162)
Public Health and Corporate Resources	56,576	56,725	149	1,602	(1,453)
Central Budgets	30,793	22,834	(7,959)	(5,705)	(2,254)
General Fund	**362,575**	**368,131**	**5,556**	**12,991**	**(7,435)**
Use of unallocated reserves				(3,043)	3,043
Use of earmarked reserves		(8,691)	(8,691)	-	(8,691)
Contribution to Budget Contingency Reserve		3,135	3,135	-	3,135
Adjusted General Fund Total	**362,575**	**362,575**	**-**	**9,948**	**(9,948)**

Outturn – Directorate Variance Analysis

Directorate	Savings Slippage £000	Net Pressures £000	TOTAL Variance £000
Children and Families	856	4,883	5,739
Adults and Health	4,142	(2,839)	1,303
Place	3,833	2,491	6,324
Public Health and Corporate Resources	-	149	149
Central	-	(7,959)	(7,959)
General Fund	**8,831**	**(3,275)**	**5,556**

Directorate Budget Variances
Children and Families

Children and Families Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£105.91m	£11.65m	+£5.739m	-£0.084m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Section 17 budget pressures against A&I and CWD	**£3,031k**	**+£2,035k**	**+£300k**	The CWD service provide direct payments and Agency home care provision which prevents family breakdown and children coming into Kirklees care with significant cost benefit. Outturn overspending this year of £1,445m linked to complexity of cases, small cohort of high value care packages, reduced YPAT offer and cost of living inflation. There are currently 187 agency home care packages and 145 direct payments. Outturn overspending of £590k on No recourse to public funds budget. Demand for financial support has increased significantly due to limited internal service capacity combined with capacity issues at the law centre resulting in families unable to receive timely legal advice. This in turn has prolonged the LA duty to continue to provide accommodation and financial support. As of 31st March 2025 Total Families: **22- decrease of 5 since December.** Total Adults: **24- decrease of 9 since December.** Total Children: **37-decrease of 24 since December.** How many families in a hotel: 19- **decrease of 6 since December.** Hotel Accommodation Costs: **£56,432- decrease of £18,591 since December.** Monthly Voucher Costs: **£8,082- decrease of £3,265 since December.** Monthly Cash Cost: **£4,151- decrease of £1,630 since December** Extra Costs: **£467**	• Robust analysis is being undertaken in relation to the CWD packages of care - SD JG chairing resource allocation panel scrutinising packages of care. • Presumption of direct payments to families , rather than packages of care from agencies which will provide savings. • Redesign of YPAT and Short Breaks offer aims to redirect lower cost packages of care to existing support available in community and also the redesigned provision such as outdoor learning etc • Assistive technology project is reducing packages of care and has saved circa 260k this year. • Discussion with DCS and CEX will take place after Q1 re discussion about external focused piece of work in relation to cohort of CYP

Directorate Budget Variances
Children and Families

Children and Families Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£103.91m	**£111.65m**	**+£5.739m**	**-£0.084m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Corporate Parenting	**£11,828k**	**+£863k**	**-£108k**	Overspending on Home to school transport 279k Guardianship orders £295k, Leaving care financial support packages £170k, SGO/CAO £200k, 18+ Leaving care supported accommodation £560k due to acute shortage on suitable and available housing tenancy stock, less savings on Adoption allowances £216k.	Financial policy under review regarding the financial support for care leavers. For 25/26 an additional £1.9m will be invested into the Corporate Parenting services. The SGO offer and budgets are aligned There is a proposal to support UASC when they turn 18 with council provided accommodation through the use of Market Street which will help to support this budget pressure. However, we are still obliged to financially support then until they have leave to remain. This will see a saving of 140K.
SENDACT	**£1,540k**	**+£161k**	**-£30k**	Overspending of £161k mainly due to £89K cost of Early Support secondments, £50k unbudgeted compensation costs and £23K mediation costs also part of pressure. Position improved by £12K this month due to delayed RTF recruitments and 2 BSM posts on pause.	Securing a full staffing complement and improving initial EHCP timeliness. There will continue to be challenges regarding parental preference vs assessed need, hence the increase in tribunals. Full implementation of Liquid Logic Portals will increase efficiency.

Directorate Budget Variances
Children and Families

Children & Families Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£105.91m	£111.65m	+£5.739m	-£0.084m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Education Psychology	£1,159k	+£281k	-£205k	Continuing pressure re staffing costs to support demands of the service, high locum costs. Reduction since Q3 due to transfer from EYSEND and reduction in locums.	Positive recruitment of Trainee roles and an increased opportunity to enable a traded offer is explored. Limited use of Locums is anticipated for the forthcoming year. Additional budget of £175K invested in 25/26 to clear backlog and then removed thereafter.
Kirklees Business Solutions	£80k	+£142k	-£4k	Continuing year on year pressure re staffing	A revised approach to secure the operating costs for Kirklees Business Solutions is proposed which includes funding from the CSSB of the DSG
Strategic Learning	£457k	+£107k	-£31k	Budget pressure is a legacy from the loss of the SIMB and unfunded HoS posts, inroads to reduce overspend are ongoing and budgets in process of realignment to support overspend reduction work	Income generation, De-delegation and strategic partnerships will underpin a service redesign in Autumn 2025.

Directorate Budget Variances
Children and Families

Children & Families Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£105.91m	**£111.65m**	**+£5.739m**	**-£0.084m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Commissioned Services	**£2,323k**	**+£427k**	**-£140k**	Increase to new 3-year priority led Home start contract (+£180k), Inter agency adoption fees outside of OAWY contract (+ £129K), withdrawal of funding for Contract Manager post (+£52k), and increase in Young Carers contract (+£31k). Reduction of £94k this month mainly due to reduction in OAWY overspending (-£71k).	Priority led waiting list programme planned for one year only, funding now withdrawn.
Headteacher Support	**-£10k**	**+£66k**	**-£2k**	Uptake for traded Wellbeing offer has been limited – schools reporting budget pressures.	Review the service to schools as part of the Strategic Learning service redesign in Autum 2025.

Directorate Budget Variances
Children and Families

Children & Families Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£105.91m	£111.65m	+£5.739m	-£0.084m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Sustainability, Resources and Capacity	**£31,240k**	**+£2,794k**	**+£858k**	Demand led Sufficiency net pressures relating to External Residential Placements £2,440k, (Note - £2.3m demand reserves added to budget in year), Family Assessments £559k, 16/17 LCSA £556k, YPAT £129k, partially reduced by underspending on Int/Ext Foster care (£646k), Connected Persons (£74k) and Internal Residential (£168k). Increase in forecast pressure from M11 mainly due to reduction in underspend on Internal Residential £112k linked to overspending on casual bank, overtime, agency cover, supplies and services less increase in overspend on External Foster Placements £51k Total Budgeted Placements 1,006 Active placements at 31/03/25 1,057 Budgeted LAC in regulated and non-regulated placements – 594. Actual at 31/03/25 – 579 Placement mix must be noted, External Residential Placements budgeted for 24 but there were 32 placements with average weekly cost of £6K+ with 8 placements costing £8K+	• DCS chairing external panel, all home's are signed off by SD who interrogates all other options including reunification , connected family members, internal foster carer and IFA's prior to any external residential request. • Kirklees have a lower weekly average home costs of circa 6k a week lower than the regional average of around 8k a week. Solo homes are costing between 10-11k a week. • Internal residential Homes are all now full one home is being refurbished which will offer a further 4 beds for our children and young people , and we are currently purchasing a smaller home to ensure we have provision for our children and young people who require a solo home. • We currently have 35 Children and Young People in residential external placements which is relatively low compared to statistical neighbours, we have around 70% of our children and young people living in family-based settings and high number of SGO's where children and young people remain with their wider extended family. • We have focused recruitment activity to increase our number of foster carers which is proving affect 13 new carer have been recruited since Feb24 and currently have 15 more in the assessment processes. We are also expanding the types of carers we want to recruit including emergency carers , weekend carers and foster carers who have enhanced qualifications, experience and support to be able to offer homes to some of our young people with complex needs who would otherwise be in residential care.

Directorate Budget Variances
Adults and Health

Adults and Health Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£112.624m	**£113.927m**	**+ £1.303m**	**- £1.482m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Customer Service Centres	**£249k**	**+£198k**	+£41k	Unplanned overspend due to service change timing (employees, incl security guards £184k and internal income £29k, offset by supplies and services, and transport).	Service change now complete – at right level for 2025-26
Kirklees Direct/KD24 hrs	**£2,309k**	**-£99k**	-£28k	Underspend on staffing	
Registrars	**£362k**	**-£153k**	-£32k	Increased income through fees/charges, plus part year vacancies.	Ongoing actions being implemented in advance of 25-26 savings.
Library & Information Centres	**£4,163k**	**-£578k**	-£157k	Underspend mainly on staffing, and additional income.	
Community Languages	**-£155k**	**+£134k**	+£80k	Income shortfall - further work undertaken to appraise the shape and model of the service.	Ongoing work around model of service and charging mechanism.
Community Plus	**£297k**	**-£599k**	-£138k	Underspend mainly on staffing	
Integrated Wellness	**£294k**	**-£349k**	-£349k	Underspend mainly on staffing and operational costs.	
Improvement & Relationships	**£503k**	**-£216k**	-£58k	Underspend mainly on staffing	

Directorate Budget Variances
Adults and Health

Adults and Health Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£112.624m	**£113.927m**	**+ £1.303m**	**- £1.482m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Care Phones and Assistive Technology	**£223k**	**-£681k**	+£111k	Ongoing management of operational provision (includes employee variance of -£148k, plus underspend on equipment of -£361k, and increased income of -£177k)	
Reablement	**£634k**	**-£311k**	+£263k	Increased operational cost (services, transport) offset by employee underspend of -£665k)	
Shared Lives	**£2,397k**	**-£681k**	-£149k	Lower than budgeted activity levels. Includes employee variance of £-66k	
Increase in bad debt provision	**£196k**	**+£798k**	-£2k	Increase in level and age of debt being seen – additional provision required.	
ASC – Employees (not including other specific lines quoted)	**£38,851k**	**-£1,046k**	+£259k	Ongoing management of staffing and budget levels. Note – excludes specific employee variances quoted above (total including them is variance of £-1,925k). Also includes some overspend lines that were covered by income/funding/grants.	
Self Directed Support	**£26,518k**	**+£1,677k**	-£2,430k	Overspend on Commissioned Services +£1,323k (LD +£3,380 (heavily over on unit cost) offset by OP (-£285k, under on unit cost and activity, and PD -£888k, under on unit cost). Direct Payments over by +£1,738k, (+£2,930 on LD (activity and cost), offset by OP (unit cost), PD (unit cost) and MH unit cost and volumes. All offset by increased income -£2,383k (PD, LD and MH).	Volumes/trends factored into budget for 25-26.

Directorate Budget Variances
Adults and Health

Adults and Health Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£112.624m	**£113.927m**	**+ £1.303m**	**- £1.482m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Supported Living (Extra Care Housing)	**£1,437k**	**+£316k**	+£115k	Overspend at Sandy Mount site (increased level of private sector provision on supported living and home care), offset by underspends at Woodland Court and Meadow Green on similar.	
Independent Sector Home Care	**£22,320k**	**+£3,385k**	+£174k	Mainly on OP +£2,154k, with PD at +£746k, and LD at +£538k. All client groups showing higher weekly unit costs (OP +£42, PD +£49, LD +£131, MH +£33) but OP, LD and MH are running slightly under on volume.	Volumes/trends factored into budget for 25-26, along with transformation/savings workstreams.
Independent Sector Residential & Nursing Placements	**£73,873k**	**-£980k**	+£386k	Client activity levels are under (placement volumes) mainly on OP (OP -114, PD +9, LD -14, MH -8). Unit (weekly) costs are heavily under on PD and over on others (PD -£50, OP +£27, LD +£110, MH +£3 per week).	Volumes/trends factored into budget for 25-26, along with transformation/savings workstreams.
Other demand led activity (In-House residential / In House Day Care, Carers, Persons From Abroad) – excluding employees (see line above)	**-£5,820k**	**+£407k**	-£226k	Increased Supplies and premises costs and shortfall on income in In-House Residential + overspend on Carers (increased volumes +17), offset by In house Day care (increased income) and PFA (reduced weekly unit costs -£262)	Volumes/trends factored into budget for 25-26, along with review of employee budgets/structures.

Directorate Budget Variances
Adults and Health

Adults and Health Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£112.624m	**£113.927m**	**+ £1.303m**	**- £1.482m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Commissioning / Contracted Services	**£6,367k**	**-£437k**	-£144k	Underspend on contracted services (LD and MH), and on employees (commissioning).	
Supporting People	**£2,511k**	**-£116k**	£0k	Underspend on vol sector provider costs (on Kirklees Intervention & Support Service)	
Release from demand reserve/funding	**£0k**	**-£1,500k**	£0k	Allocation of demand reserve/funding.	
Saving - ASC - Increasing the collection of social care income	**-£2,627k**	**+£2,127k**	-£180k	Ongoing work on the saving programme - review of practice and processes. Increased volume of income seen through ongoing change workstreams but full saving not viable.	Ongoing transformation work. Workstreams in 25-26 relating to debt recovery, bad debt provision, uplifts, and processes around income generation. Continued review into 25-26.

Directorate Budget Variances

Place

Place Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£56.672m	**£62.996m**	**+£6.324m**	**- £2.162m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Highways	**£752k**	**+£915k**	-£553k	• Overspend on horticultural maintenance of £213k • Under-recovery of income on vacant capital posts • £160k adverse on staff budget v actual cost in PROW • £300k Street Lighting energy	• Reduce service/intervention levels on works budgets • Undertaking safety critical work only • Some vacancies not being filled • Recruitment freeze in Highways Operations • Capitalise revenue budgets • Draw down all available internal reserves • Stop any revenue spend on service transformation
Parking	**-£5,468k**	**+£2,314k**	+£123k	Delays in implementation of new & increased tariffs - £1.8m, New permit scheme £0.4m and lower fines income - £0.3m Offset by savings on staffing and misc income	New machines – Less downtime and additional enforcement staff.. New charges now in place for 16 car parks, resident permit scheme live Feb, deep dive review of income streams ongoing to identify action plan for 25/26. Some additional budget gone in for 25/26 including £0.2m for FPN
Adverse Weather	**£1,036k**	**+£1,477k**	-£27k	Savings have been made on costs, but cost from significant weather events are substantially higher than 24/25 budget	• Introduced a lower rate of spread option of 10gm/sqm = £20k saving • Brought night patrols in house – previously delivered by contractors = £217k saving • Reduced salt storage contingency capacity = £41k saving • Reviewed requirements for Autumn gully blitz = £25k saving

Directorate Budget Variances

Place

Place Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£56.672m	£62.996m	+£6.324m	- £2.162m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Transport	**£2,400k**	**+£573k**	+£30k	Ageing fleet and increased part costs	Sourcing alternative and cheaper parts. Transport/Waste Oversight board. Investigation of ALL accident damage over £300 to reduce costs by 20% over previous years outturn. Pool fleet has been reduced by over 40 vehicles. Budget provision being made in 25/26 to reflect impact of ageing fleet until new fleet arrives
Waste Services	**£28,846k**	**+£1,232k**	-£345k	Waste disposal contract +£0.6m which includes inflationary increase within the market sector for IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control). pressure in 25/26 & Environment Agency directive in 2023 resulted in a significant change to the disposal of soft furnishing containing Persistent Organic Pollutants. Waste fleet – £1.3m Growth within the service demands increased resources above based budget(historical) The service has completed round reviews, but additional vehicles are required. Staffing, including use of agency employees over spent by £0.4m across waste. These are offset by additional income and external charging across waste of (£0.8m) and underspends on supplies and services of (£0.3m).	Contractual and environmental compliance requirement Inflation and government driven (monitored closer for earlier warning) Simpler Recycling and legislation horizon scanning continues to identify any potential additional funding for the waste sector. Invest to save business cases have been developed and agreed at Cabinet in October. Capital strategy includes £26m of investment but lead in time on larger vehicles. The service has been working nationally to benchmark and mitigate the increased costs including increasing bulk collection charges which has reduced demand. The extension of the reuse shop has also been completed to remove soft furnishing before disposal

Directorate Budget Variances

Place

Place Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£56.672m	£62.996m	+£6.324m	- £2.162m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Property	**£8,608k**	**+£933k**	-£863k	Cleaning £0.5m, Security £0.2m, Holding Costs for Piazza £0.3m and former KSDL Wet Side £0.3m, unachieved income of £0.7m, Delivery of Saving £1.1m. These were offset by Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (£0.7m), underspend on Utilities(£1.2m) and £0.3m underspend on Staffing across Property	Use of flexible capital receipts transformational activities, essential only repairs, holding of vacancies. Charging for Agency Staff Implemented Close monitoring of cost for Piazza, handover to developers reduces some liability (residual NNDR) consideration to selective demolition if capital allows as vacancies Monthly auctions of surplus properties and land to reduce ongoing revenue commitments
School Transport	**£10,937k**	**+£1,397k**	+£248k	Schools Transport - Overspend due to volumes and complexity requirements of routes and increasing prices.	Transformation Programme is ongoing, 2025 activities are designed to disrupt the market, increase market participation and increase efficiency in routing – all designed to reduce the cost base. The forward look is increasing demand and complexity. £250k added to next year

Directorate Budget Variances

Place

Place Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£56.672m	£62.996m	+£6.324m	- £2.162m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Housing Services	**£2,366k**	**-£838k**	-£756k	Holding of vacancies (including not back-filling acting up opportunities), increased recharging to capital and maximising use of external grant	
Housing Growth	**£994k**	**-£216k**	-£76k	Holding of Vacancies	
Directorate Programme Office	**£700k**	**-£397k**	-£120k	Holding of Vacancies	Vacancies are being held pending wider council review of support services/business support
Major Projects	**-£610k**	**-£272k**	-£115k	Major Projects - Charging to capital projects.	
Planning & Building Control	**£2,291k**	**-£360k**	-£263k	Planning & Building Control –income shortfall (£569k) offset by Holding of vacancies (£880k) other savings.	
Employment & Skills	**-£82k**	**-£263k**	-£62k	Recognition of external funding	
Business & Economy	**£179k**	**-£106k**	-£31k	Underspend on Utilities in enterprise centres	
Parks & Greenspaces	**£2,894k**	**-£51k**	-£298k	Overspends on Grounds Maintenance, offset by savings across the rest of Parks and Woodlands	Staff have been issued with the 118 notices. Deployment and alternative roles are being used to mitigation redundancy costs – FTE service reduction of 34 to give a FY effect of £1.3m savings

Directorate Budget Variances

Public Health and Corporate Resources

Public Health and Corporate Resources Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
£56.576m	£56.725m	+£0.149m	-£1.453m

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Culture & Visitor Economy	-£3k	+£75k	+£8k	**Cliffe House/Dram Ctr** - Reflects a recurring budget pressure relating to income levels not covering cost of running the service. Lettings income substantially reduced.	Remodelling of the operating model underway. Due to salary frameworks, full realisation 26/27.
	£1,481k	-£1,034k	-£535k	**Caretaking & Cleaning** – Increased income helped by price increase applied for 24-25 to aid cost recovery -£537k, and vacancies -£529k.	
	£1,210	-£1,064k	-£711k	**Catering** – Meal Price increase from Sept 24 + new Academy Trust contracts increased income -£269k, and vacancies -£668k.	
	£594k	-£329k	-£133k	**Town & Public Halls** - Ongoing review of service, underspend mainly on staffing, and increased bar sales and events income.	
	£606k	-£546k	+£19k	**Markets** – Dewsbury Market Rates revaluation -£465k, and increased income.	
	£0k	+£43k	+£13k	**Arts, Museums and Bereavement Services** – Vacancies -£205k and reduced income +£90k. Increased grounds maintenance, and cost of vaults in cemeteries +£145k.	

Directorate Budget Variances

Public Health and Corporate Resources

Public Health and Corporate Resources Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£56.576m	**£56.725m**	**+£0.149m**	**-£1.453m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Strategy and Innovation	**£18,400k**	**-£1,355k**	-£523k	Vacancies held across all services -£990k, and IT savings implemented in 23/24 have continued into 24/25 for a FYE. Data and Insight school income target (£100k) has been offset by vacancies.	Only critical roles have been filled
Public Health & People services	**£7,849k**	**-£1,030k**	-£518k	Vacancies -£246k have been held where possible across Peoples service, and some additional income -£263k. An underspend on KAL utility costs -£271k.	Only critical roles have been filled Savings target of £1.3m Public Health funding applied to relevant KC services.
Governance and Commissioning	**£14,516k**	**+£91k**	+£284k	Vacancies held where possible to achieve savings targets -£258k, and reduction in cost of councillor allowances. Demand pressure on legal services +£721k incurring external solicitor costs and additional locums. One off Insurance saving -£331k.	Only critical roles have been filled

Directorate Budget Variances

Public Health and Corporate Resources

Public Health and Corporate Resources Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£56.576m	**£56.725m**	**+£0.149m**	**-£1.453m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Financial Management & Welfare & Exchequer	**£9,304k**	**+£315k**	+£57k	Court cost income +£452k and increased cost of debt tracing services offset by vacancies.	Vacancies have been held where possible to mitigate other overspends
Housing Benefits	**£2,619k**	**+£4,982k**	+£582k	Continued pressure of homelessness, including temporary accommodation pressures and use of bed and breakfast as cannot claim full subsidy.	A homelessness board is working through various projects to try and reduce the cost. Additional budget provision of £3.6m made in 2025/26

Directorate Budget Variances

Central

Central			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
£34.010m	**£22.834m**	**-£7.959m**	**-£2.254m**

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Treasury Management	**£27,961k**	**-£772k**	+£732k	Reduction in capital plan spend, and interest rates on borrowing to date lower than the 5.35% budgeted. KSDL provision of £1.3m charged to treasury as MRP. £0.2m interest on balances to HRA higher than expected.	
Inflation	**£5,307k**	**-£5,252k**	-£1,984k	Release of inflation budget no longer required following pay agreement and final energy costs; £3.8m, plus other contingency not needed; £1.5m.	
Contingencies	**-£17,747k**	**-£1,703k**	-£700k	Redistributed business rates levy surplus income from government announced in the provisional finance settlement; £0.7m, plus other contingencies not needed; £1.0m.	
Joint Committees	**£13,564k**	**-£315k**	-£241k	Underspend on Coroners.	
Corporate Management	**£1,171k**	**+£128k**	-£6k	Increase costs for valuations. Overspend on bank charges.	

Analysis of Council Reserves (excl Statutory Reserves)

	Unallocated * £000	Earmarked £000	Total £000
At 1st April 2024	**(25,046)**	**(36,192)**	**(61,238)**
Planned Drawdowns from Earmarked Reserves			
WYCA Returned Levy – 2024/25 MTFP support	-	9,400	9,400
Budgeted drawdown for Collection Fund deficit	-	2,000	2,000
- Budgeted drawdown from Insurance Reserve		1,500	1,500
Planned Contributions to Earmarked Reserves			
Transfer into Voluntary Revenue Provision reserve	-	(15,195)	(15,195)
	(25,046)	**(38,487)**	**(63,533)**
In Year Adjustments – Outturn			
- Contribution to Earmarked Reserves (net)	-	(3,075)	(3,075)
- Use of Voluntary Revenue Provision reserve	-	8,691	8,691
- Transfer into Strategic Budget Contingency Reserve	-	(3,135)	(3,135)
Balance of Reserves at 31st March 2025	**(25,046)**	**(36,006)**	**(61,052)**

*** £16m Minimum Working Balance (£29m desirable).**

Reserves Summary Outturn (£k)	Reserves 31st March 2024	Budget report Movements	Revised reserves 1st April 2024	Net Drawdowns at Outturn	Reserves 31st March 2025
Ward Based Activity	(693)	-	(693)	115	(578)
Place Standard	(556)	-	(556)	154	(402)
Transformation	(3,067)	-	(3,067)	1,587	(1,480)
Demand Reserve	(3,000)	-	(3,000)	3,000	-
Development Funding	(621)	-	(621)	(293)	(914)
Revenue Grants	(9,020)	-	(9,020)	(8,978)	(17,998)
Stronger Families Grant	(784)	-	(784)	96	(688)
Other	(5,527)	-	(5,527)	1,585	(3,942)
Specific Risk Reserves	(3,500)	3,500	-	-	-
WYCA Returned Levy	(9,424)	9,400	(24)	24	-
Voluntary Revenue Provision	-	(15,195)	(15,195)	8,691	(6,504)
Strategic Budget Contingency Reserve	-	-	-	(3,500)	(3,500)
Total Earmarked Reserves	***(36,192)***	***(2,295)***	***(38,487)***	***2,481***	***(36,006)***
Unallocated Balances	***(25,046)***	***-***	***(25,046)***	***-***	***(25,046)***
Total Useable Reserves	***(61,238)***	***(2,295)***	***(63,533)***	***2,481***	***(61,052)***
Statutory Reserves – Schools Balances	(11,596)	-	(11,596)	477	(11,119)
Statutory Reserves – Public Health	(1,119)	-	(1,119)	223	(896)
Grand Total All Reserves	***(73,953)***	***(2,295)***	***(76,248)***	***3,181***	***(73,067)***

Glossary of Reserves

Reserve	Description
Ward Based Activity	Set aside reflecting timing issues on ward-based activity spend commitments
Place Standard	Set aside to support the resourcing of emerging Place Standard action plans.
Apprenticeship Levy	Set aside to fund future payments into the Apprenticeship levy
Transformation	Set aside for strategic transformation developments over the next 12 to 24 months.
Demand Reserve	Set aside to mitigate the impact/volatility of a range of potential demand risks on statutorily provided service activity
Development Funding	To address the scale of development costs required to support targeted development and the upscaling of capital investment activity and major project activity over the MTFP.
Revenue Grants	Represents grants and contributions recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement before expenditure has been incurred.
Stronger Families	Set aside reflecting timing issues on expenditure commitments supporting a range of Stronger Families activity, funded from external grant.
Other	A range of smaller reserves earmarked for specific purposes.
Specific Risk Reserves	Set aside to manage specific risks, including the potential risk of future loan defaults and managing the volatility surrounding treasury management budgets with respect to both potential changes in interest rates and the level of delivery of the capital plan.
WYCA Returned Levy	Returned levy income from WYCA that will be drawn down in 2024/25
Voluntary Revenue Provision	Voluntary overpayments of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP).
Strategic Budget Contingency	To fund budget pressures that may arise due to delays in implementing savings plans and/or issues that have arisen post the agreement of the budget
Unallocated Reserves	General reserve to support Council working capital and cashflow requirements, and unbudgeted/financial resilience risks highlighted in the Council's corporate risk register.
Schools Balances	Statutory reserves relating to individual schools' balances/deficits carried forwards
Public Health	Timing issues on (statutorily ringfenced) Public Health grant spend commitments

HRA Outturn

	Revised Budget £000	Outturn £000	Variance Outturn £000	Variance Q3 £000	Change from Q3 £000
Repairs & Maintenance	30,909	29,820	**(1,089)**	**(400)**	**(689)**
Housing Management	46,337	43,339	**(2,998)**	**(2,507)**	**(491)**
Property Services	0	(478)	**(478)**	**0**	**(478)**
Other Expenditure	31,015	34,283	**3,268**	**4,065**	**(797)**
Total Expenditure	**108,261**	**106,964**	**(1,297)**	**1,158**	**(2,455)**
Rent & Other Income	(108,261)	(108,306)	**(45)**	**725**	**(770)**
Total	**0**	**(1,342)**	**(1,342)**	**1,883**	**(3,225)**
Revenue contribution to Capital Funding	0	4,637	**4,637**	**0**	**4,637**
Planned transfer from HRA Reserves	0	(3,295)	**(3,295)**	**(1,883)**	**(1,412)**
Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

HRA Reserves

	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000	Approved Movement in reserves £000	Balance at 31 March 2025 £000
Set aside for business risks	(15,000)	4,135	**(10,865)**
Repairs reserve	0	(1,000)	**(1,000)**
Set aside to meet investment needs (as per HRA business plan)	(18,942)	160	**(18,782)**
Total	**(33,942)**	**3,295**	**(30,647)**

HRA Budget Variances

HRA Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
-	-	-	-

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Repairs and Maintenance	**£30,909k**	**-£1,089k**	**-£689k**	**Responsive planned works underspend of --£983k,** which includes Cyclical of -£161k and building safety -£722k (Stock condition £1m pushed back to 25/26 but water quality checks done) -£163k movement from M11. **Unplanned responsive -£167k**, Repairs underspend of -£263k,(-£57k movement) fire suites and radiators. Damp Mould and Condensation forecast overspend of +£239k, movement of +£108k reallocation of works. Safety, security, disrepair and garages -£143k, movement of -£25k. **Empty Homes +£1,083k** movement of +£267k addressing backlog**. Unplanned other -£1.02m,** dec vouchers -£708k, other environmental and recharges -£313k, movement +£7k	Capitalisation of staff costs for the Development and Asset team. Savings identified from revised lettings policy for decoration £708k. Staff dealing with damp and mould have been co-located, which should improve processes and achieve efficiencies.
Management costs – Homes and Neighbourhoods	**£19,883k**	**-£3,859k**	**-£878k**	The underspend is made up of -£1.8m staff underspends, -£1.8m staff capitalisation netted off by agency costs of £927k. Savings/underspend of -£678k from recharges, training and tenant engagement. Surplus of -£478k from Property Services.	

HRA Budget Variances

HRA Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**	**Change from Q3 +/-**
-	-	-	-

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Legal Services	**£1,000k**	**+£980k**	**+£163k**	Legal variance of £980k, legal costs for disrepair £1.7m	For 2025-26 a provision of £2.2m has been set up for estimated costs for outstanding disrepair claims to date.
Other Council Services	**£6,958k**	**-£79K**	**-£50k**	Internal recharges for corporate services	
Policy and Management	**£14,297k**	**+£162k**	**-£24k**	Temp Accom repairs overspend of +£246k, Shops/land +£82k, netted off by reduction in HSG PFI costs £126k, with other minor variances.	Review of charging repairs for temporary accommodation to be carried out

HRA Budget Variances

HRA Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
-	-	-	-

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Community facilities	**£4,200k**	**-£680**	**-£180k**	Budgets set at a level to cover expected costs. Sheltered Heating, District heating, Income will be charged to cover these costs. Current forecast shortfall for all community facilities is £3.4m	A review of service charges has been carried out there is a planned approach to move to a full cost recovery position. Work carried out will inform future budget setting.
Council tax on empty properties	**£529k**	**+£644k**	**-£45k**	Increased Council tax relating to empty properties, some where the decision has been made to demolish properties.	A review of the policy and operating model for the future management of voids is being implemented within Property Services (end to end management) and, to ensure unnecessary costs are not charged. This also includes alignment of homes subject to approved demolition projects.
Interest Payable, other finance costs and depreciation charges.	**£30,485**	**+£7,261k**	**+£3,885k**	Depreciation charge due to revised Asset Strategy. £3.4m. RCCO of £4.6m towards capital plan (Budgeted year end adjustment)	Increased depreciation cost has been covered by underspends and a transfer from reserves has been made to cover the contribution to capital. Future RCCO's will be shown with match transfer from reserves.
Transfer from Reserves	-	**-£3,295k**	**-£1,412k**	This is to fund the £4.6m contribution to capital (£4.6m less the underspend of £1.3m)	

HRA Budget Variances

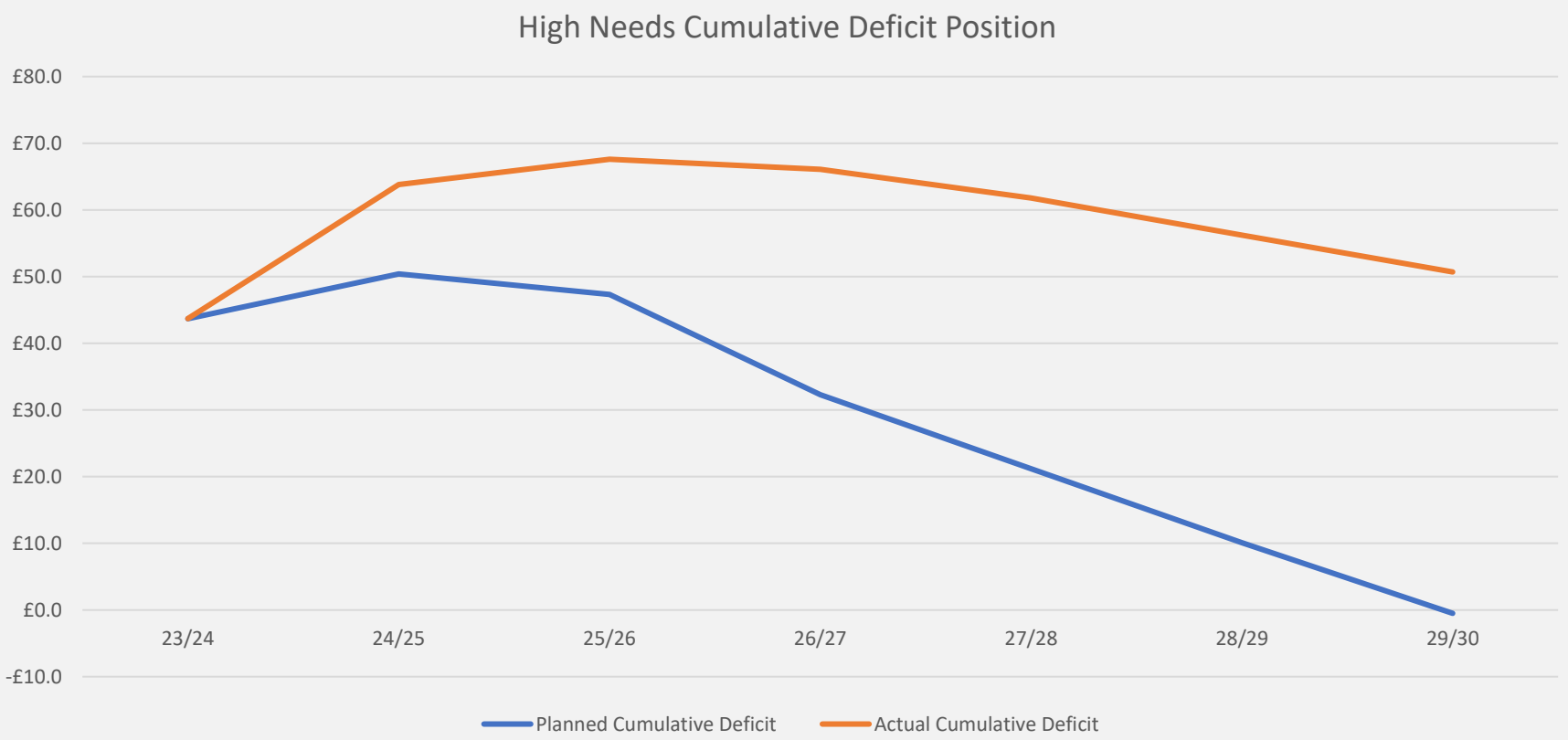
HRA Totals			
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-	Change from Q3 +/-
-	-	-	-

Service area	Net Budget	Variance at Outturn	+/- change from Q3	Reason for variance	Mitigating actions
Grants and other income	**£8,957k**	**-£1,099k**	**-£758k**	£1.4m received for interest on balances, originally budgeted at £300k	
Rental Income	**£96,084k**	**+£1,119k**	**+£75k**	Void rent loss through empty properties.	Updated process in place to better manage turnaround times and tracking of standard, non-standard and voids requiring major works. A review of the performance measured by each category will be included going forward, priority is to ensure standard voids are fast-tracked to reduce rent loss with planned programmes for addressing voids that require substantial works.
Heating and Service Charge Income	**£3,220k**	**-£65k**	**-£87k**	Amounts currently charged do not cover the costs. The shortfall for district heating is £497k, District heating meters have been amended from 1st January 2025. Planned service charge increases are planned from 1st April 2025.	Review of service charges has been carried out, planned approach to move to a full cost recovery position reviewing all service charges over three years. District heat charges will be increased in 2025-26. Current estimated shortfall for service charges is £3.4m, planned recovery of £1.9m in 2025-26 including recovery of grounds maintenance charges..

DSG Headlines

- Outturn Monitoring Position
- HN Budget - £64.7m (includes SV Funding & Block Transfer) 23/24 (£60.4m)
- HN Expenditure £84.7m (23/24 - £75.4m)
- In year overspend - £20.1m (23/24 – £15m)
- Cumulative deficit - £63.8m
- Safety Valve Impact
    - Slippage against planned in year overspend position - £13.4m

DSG Cumulative Deficit Position



DSG Dashboard

	Active Placements	M12 (£'000)	M11 (£'000)
Mainstream Top-Ups	1918	£20,374	£20,410
Special School Top-Ups	872	£19,277	£19,086
Special School Place Funding		£6,947	£6,947
Additional Resource Provisions (including Central Staff)	181	£7,383	£7,754
Alternative Provision		£6,159	£6,424
Independent Placements	200	£12,064	£12,150
OLA Placements	42	£485	£697
Post 16	628	£5,100	£5,300
SENDIF		£1,000	£1,000
Personal Budgets		£3,148	£2,800
Contributions to Services		£2,747	£3,154
	3841	**£84,684**	**£85,722**
HN Block		-£59,194	-£59,194
Block Transfers		-£3,100	-£3,100
Safety Valve Income		-£2,300	-£2,300
Projected Overspend		**£20,090**	**£21,128**

Collection Fund

- **Council Tax**
  - In year financial performance – net £2.1m deficit
  - Kirklees Share 85% - net £1.8m deficit (0.8% of budgeted income)
  - Largely due to:
    - £0.6m additional income – including CTR Reduction Scheme £0.5m less than budget
    - £2.8m increased bad debt provision requirement due to growth in arrears

- **Business Rates**
  - In year financial performance – net 6.8m deficit
  - Kirklees Share 49% - net £3.3m deficit (6.7% of budgeted income)
  - Largely due to:
    - £8.4m income shortfall – mainly £6.6m prior year reductions (in excess of appeals provision set aside), £1.2m reliefs over and above budgeted amounts
    - £1.8m bad debt provision requirement lower than budgeted

Collection Fund (Council Share)

- Charges from Collection Fund to the General Fund each year are based on estimates.
- Actual income collected will vary, and these timing differences result in actual surpluses or deficits which are rolled forwards year on year through the Collection Fund and ‘settled’ over following years through relevant payment adjustments to the General Fund.
- The approved 2025-28 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) included a repayment of £5.8m from the General Fund to the Collection Fund, based on the estimated Collection Fund performance in 2024/25.
- The net effect of the above still leaves a residual Collection Fund deficit of £4.4m (illustrated in the following summary table) which will need addressing in the upcoming MTFP.

Collection Fund (Council Share)

Outturn Position	Council Tax £k	Business Rates £k	Total £k
(Surplus)/Deficit at 1 April 2024	**5,361**	**2,635**	**7,996**
Re-payments to/(from) General Fund 2024/25	(2,340)	(660)	(3,000)
In-year Financial Performance	1,827	3,332	5,159
(Surplus)/Deficit at 31 March 2025	**4,848**	**5,307**	**10,155**
Planned repayments from General Fund 2025-28	(3,021)	(2,765)	(5,786)
Adjusted (Surplus)/Deficit	**1,827**	**2,542**	**4,369**

Capital Headlines

- Capital Outturn **£140.6m** against Revised Budget of **£153.2m**, variance of **(£12.6m)**
- 2023/24 Outturn spend was **£148.3m**
- £140.6m actual spend; £69.2m relates to strategic priorities schemes, £64.9m baseline capital spend, £6.5m projects of a one-off nature.
- Revised Budget decrease of -£16m since Quarter 3 Corporate Financial Monitoring Report on 11 March 2025 (£169.2m) due to application of the FPR flexibility in-year ; re-profiling into latter years of the plan (-£17.8m) offset by increased grants and contributions (+£2.2m), and removal of KAL self-financing budget (-£0.4m). (Appendix 3)

2024/25 Capital Outturn

EXPENDITURE CAPITAL PLAN	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Variance %
Children and Families	26,431	12,846	8,832	(4,014)	(31%)
Adults & Health	8,260	5,466	3,180	(2,286)	(42%)
Place	230,427	91,661	85,971	(5,690)	(6%)
Public Health & Corporate Resources	12,154	6,113	7,658	1,545	25%
General Fund	**277,272**	**116,086**	**105,641**	**(10,445)**	**(9%)**
Housing Revenue Account	**63,491**	**37,124**	**34,962**	**(2,162)**	**(6%)**
COUNCIL TOTAL	**340,763**	**153,210**	**140,603**	**(12,607)**	**(8%)**

Kirklees COUNCIL

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Children and Families - Learning & Early Support

Children and Families Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£12.8m	**£8.8m**	**- £4.0m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
New Pupil Places in Primary/Secondary Schools	**-£485k**	Majority of the underspend is due to the outstanding final account for King James's and minor programme slippage on NHTS and Thornhill Academy. Underspends in funding on Strategic Priorities schemes will be required to rollover into the next financial year to enable the rolling programme on schools to be delivered as part of the Schools Investment Needs Strategy.
District Sufficiency – SEND	**-£2,339k**	Delays caused by external parties with the PPP Exit payment on the former Almondbury High School site attributed to this years underspend.
Baseline		
Capital Maintenance	**-£677k**	Disputes in final accounts, holding retention payments on contracts and delays in tendering some schemes caused an underspend on budget this financial year. Staff resourcing issues within Capital Delivery has caused delays in auditing final accounts and tendering of some schemes resulting in an underspend on budget this financial year.

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Children and Families - Resources, Improvement and Partnerships

Children and Families Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£12.8m	**£8.8m**	**- £4.0m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
Homes for Children	**-£313k**	Underspend on budget due to the Children's Home purchase not completing before the end of the financial year as expected.

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Adults, Housing & Health

Adults, Housing & Health Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£5.5m	**£3.2m**	**- £2.3m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
Complex Needs (North), and Challenging B	**-£426k**	Awaiting Adults SCLT decision re progression of scheme - will seek Corp Capital Board approval to a sum being allocated to support Mill Dale / Crescent Dale (damage to site)
Knowl Park House	**-£592k**	Delays to completion. Final cost of project still to be determined and current position with Legal.
Milldale/Crescent Dale	**-£358k**	Delays to project
One Off Project		
Carefirst System Replacement	**-£235k**	System costs not invoiced yet and implementation - training still ingoing
Carephones Digital Switchover	**-£351k**	Project now complete.

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Place – Skills & Regeneration

Place Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£91.7m	**£86.0m**	**- £5.7m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
Integrated Transport & Active Travel	**-£633k**	Capital grant funded so all remaining funds rollover. Integrated Transport -£434k, scheme slippage around Bus Hotspots and Air Quality schemes funded by LTP legacy Integrated Transport schemes still to be identified. Mobility, Walking And Cycling -£198k, Meltham Greenway Phase 3 delayed due to land purchases and feasibility design works continuing.
Transforming Cities Fund (TCF)	**-£363k**	Overall programme scheme slipped into 2025/26 for Final Business Case (FBC) approval by West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and procurement and delivery construction start dates.
West Yorkshire plus Transport Schemes	**-£137k**	Underspend of -£600k on Corridor Improvement Programme Kirklees Huddersfield South whereby Network Rail served legal notices to take possession of the Longroyd site and prevent Kirklees using it, resulting in the underspend on site works. Offset by overspend on +£442k Huddersfield South Gateways A616 Lockwood Further to the delays on Corridor Improvement Programme Kirklees Huddersfield South, the Contractor was redeployed to the Lockwood Bar site, albeit with some delay
Strategic Drainage	**-£177k**	Ongoing matched borrowing against Environment Agency grant / S106 contributions. -£74k Flood Management in holding code of which £56k is S106 funded. -£52k underspend on Local Levy Studies which is all EA funded

Directorate Capital Budget Variances

Place - Development

Place Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£91.7m	**£86.0m**	**- £5.7m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
Huddersfield Town Centre Action Plan	**-£153k**	-£168k George Hotel, ongoing for PCSA and asbestos removal works
Regeneration of Our Local Centres	**-£337k**	-£289k Marsden New Mills Redevelopment, funded by LUF grant for development and delivery. Invoices of c.£205k currently being processed, needs to be rolled over.
Cultural Heart	**-£1,094k**	Shortfall due to BAM costs behind projected cash flow of Turner and Townsend for year-end spend in 2024/25 on Phase 1
Baseline		
Property	**-£330k**	Corporate Landlord Asset Investment (-£236k) Staff resource issues within Capital Delivery has caused delays in auditing final accounts and there has been some programme slippage on a Upperhead Row Multi-Storey Car Park works resulting in an underspend on budget this financial year.

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Place – Highways and Streetscene

Place Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£91.7m	**£86.0m**	**- £5.7m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Baseline		
Highways	**-£1,196k**	Asset Management +£632k relating to Structures, Street Lighting and Local Community Roads for accelerated year 3 spend on CRSTS Asset Management. Integrated Transport -£1,828k relating to Network Management (slippage Green Light Fund grant), Safer Roads (accelerated years 3 spend on CRSTS Safer Roads), S106 / S278 developer schemes (not re-profiled) and delayed spend on Digital CCTV updates.
Play Strategy	**-£139k**	All funding is committed for outstanding retention, ongoing works, or works that have slipped due to capacity constraints, environmental factors and external challenges. All underspent projects have completed/ authorised Capital Outlay Reports (COR's) . The majority of projects have progressed as profiled with 24 sites completed, 17 sites in design & 15 on-going live sites/ projects.
Waste Management Plant/Infrastructure	**-£193k**	-£100k EfW Heaters Upgrade, Timing linked to EfW Capital investment in the Deed of Variation 1 and the new Deed of Variation 2, which was delayed and requires timing to the EfW shutdown windows. Contractual commitment still required. -£93k Waste Strategy Depot, Delay caused by change of direction from Government on Simpler Recycling and taking into account the impact of this on Kirklees and direction of travel. Depot work is still critical and will be required in 25/26.

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Place - Environmental Strategy & Climate Change

Place Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	Outturn	Total variance at Outturn +/-
£91.7m	£86.0m	- £5.7m

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
Huddersfield Heat Network	**-£285k**	Project delays therefore spend will now be in 2025/6
One Off Projects		
Electric Vehicle Rapid Charging Points	**-£273k**	Challenges with supplier - project still ongoing

Directorate Capital Budget Variances

Corporate Strategy, Commissioning & Public Health

Corporate Strategy, Commissioning & Public Health Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£6.1m	**£7.6m**	**+£1.5m**

Capital Scheme	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
One Off Projects		
Transformation Capitalisation - Flexible Capital Receipts Strategy	**+£1,516k**	Transformation Costs funded via capital receipts as part of the approved £4m Flexible Capital Receipts Strategy. Increase in costs funded by increased in-year capital receipts received by year end. Overspend will not be carried forward into the next financial year. Following financial year target to be increased to reflect higher anticipated spend based on 2024/25 outcome to be funded higher anticipated capital receipts

Directorate Capital Budget Variances
Housing Revenue Account

Housing Revenue Account Totals		
Agreed 24/25 budget	**Outturn**	**Total variance at Outturn +/-**
£37.1m	**£34.2m**	**- £2.2m**

Service Area	Outturn Variance	Reason for Variance
Strategic Priorities		
LAHF - Refugee Housing	**-£349k**	Underspend due to delays in completions of purchase of properties
Harold Wilson	**-£188k**	Slippage
Berry Brow Remodelling	**+£140k**	Due to increased activity of appointed consultant ahead of decommissioning and demolition
Baseline		
Housing Capital Plan	**-£750k**	Variances due to a combination of procurement and resourcing issues
Compliance	**-£169k**	Variance due to delays with procurement
Fuel Poverty	**-£363k**	Underspend due to works put on hold due to weather constraints and staff resource issues
Adaptations	**+£267k**	Overspend due to clearing backlog of works - to be taken from next years budget
Retirement Living Schemes	**-£300k**	Delays due to procurement taking longer than expected. Total programme budget agreed at Cabinet

Flexible Capital Receipts

Service area	Amount funded by FCR 24/25	Project outline
Place Corporate Landlord – review of Council owned assets	£844k	This programme is to enable the council to review its asset holdings yo ensure assets that no longer meet business operational needs can be repurposed, so the council is able to benefit from lower cost or higher rental income. Where this is not feasible the asset will be disposed of to generate a useable capital receipt for financing future investment and/or reducing debt.
Place Resources and Waste Strategy - staff costs	£119k	Development of the Council's Waste Strategy transformation agenda over the medium term.
Place Temporary Accommodation Need	£148k	This programme aims to reduce the costs of providing temporary accommodation to those with immediate housing needs by creating new temporary accommodation and making use of existing properties, including council housing.
Place Capital Projects	£128k	Planning Service support in delivery of major capital projects
Corporate Transformation Team	£1,137k	Funding for Transformation team, providing council wide support in the delivery of service transformation and financial savings aligned to existing improvement programmes and the delivery of service reviews.
Corporate Support to all improvement programmes	£203k	A range of corporate services including Finance, Legal, Procurement, Technology and People Services are required to assist in the delivery of the Council's improvement programmes. This funding enables dedicated support to be accessed for all programmes.
Central, NDC Capitalisation - pension costs	£973k	Cost of statutory redundancy and pension strain payments incurred in restructuring Council services to deliver savings required by the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.
Total	**£5,515k**	

Capital Plan Position at Outturn (prior to rollover and refresh)

		Capital Plan at Outturn					
	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 - 31/32 £'000	Total £'000
Quarter 3 Budget Plan	169,230	400,050	278,153	168,388	153,351	252,460	**1,252,402**
Conservative Amendment	0	250	1,500	(1,753)	(4,253)	(16,353)	**(20,609)**
Revised Q3 Capital Plan	169,230	400,300	279,653	166,635	149,098	236,107	**1,231,793**
Change - Re-profile from 2024/25	(17,815)	11,382	4,740	1,678	15	0	**17,815**
Change – net additions/removal	1,795	1,426	20	0	0	0	**1,446**
Revised Capital Plan (Outturn)	**153,210**	**413,108**	**284,413**	**168,313**	**149,113**	**236,107**	**1,251,054**

Refreshed Capital Plan 2025/26-2031/32

The capital plan is updated to take account capital slippage totalling £13.7m from 2024/25, rephasing, new planned investment and changes in the estimated levels of resources available (See Appendix 3a) and 3b) for further detail)

EXPENDITURE CAPITAL PLAN	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 - 31/32 £'000	Total £'000
Children & Families	25,726	29,573	21,610	3,827	2,750	**83,486**
Adults & Health	4,223	8,424	3,031	0	0	**15,678**
Place	204,202	215,355	121,831	77,907	144,196	**763,491**
Public Health & Corporate Resources	18,848	11,806	11,636	11,516	11,100	**64,906**
GENERAL FUND	252,999	265,158	158,108	93,250	158,046	**927,561**
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT	47,363	63,208	70,589	54,502	109,552	**345,214**
COUNCIL TOTAL	**300,362**	**328,366**	**228,697**	**147,752**	**267,598**	**1,272,775**

Updated Capital Plan – Net Change in Funding (outturn vs revised)

	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 - 2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
Outturn Budget Plan	**413,108**	**284,413**	**168,313**	**149,113**	**236,107**	**1,251,054**
General Fund Changes:						
Re-profiling (Borrowing)	(17,343)	(15,239)	30,457	(1,410)	3,535	**0**
Re-profiling (Grant/S106/Contrib)	(101,338)	63,766	18,975	(2,399)	20,996	**0**
Addition (Grant/S106/Contrib)	(2,133)	80	6,170	0	3,721	**7,838**
Addition (Capital Receipts)	2,000	0	0	0	0	**2,000**
Rollover	11,555	0	0	0	0	**11,555**
General Fund Changes	**(107,259)**	**48,607**	**55,602**	**(3,809)**	**28,252**	**21,393**
HRA Changes:						
Borrowing	(9,651)	(1,209)	2,679	2,089	4,060	**(2,032)**
Grant/Contrib	1,030	(3,008)	1,602	1,315	0	**939**
Receipts	(2,224)	508	(499)	(956)	(821)	**(3,992)**
Reserves/MRR	3,196	(945)	1,000	0	0	**3,251**
Rollover	2,162	0	0	0	0	**2,162**
HRA Changes:	**(5,487)**	**(4,654)**	**4,782**	**2,448**	**3,239**	**328**
Total Change	**(112,746)**	**43,953**	**60,384**	**-1,361**	**31,491**	**21,721**
Revised Capital Plan	**300,362**	**328,366**	**228,697**	**147,752**	**267,598**	**1,272,775**

Updated Capital Plan - Housing Revenue Account

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) multi-year capital plan stands at £345.2m, split £92m strategic priorities and £253.2m baseline allocations. The main elements of the multi-year HRA capital plan are:

	£'m	
High Rise	46.9	Berry Brow Remodelling, Harold Wilson Court and Buxton House
Additional Council Houses	40.6	Council Housing and Housing Growth - To help address growing demand for Affordable Housing
Housing Capital Plan	173.1	Includes Estate Improvements (£7.7m), Fuel Poverty (£11.3m) and Adaptations (£9.5m) to give disabled people better freedom of movement into and around their homes and to give access to essential facilities within the home.
Building Safety	80.1	Includes Six Storey blocks (£36.9m), Low rise (£7.8m) and Retirement Living Schemes (£24.9m).
Refugee Housing	2.2	Local Authority Housing Fund for the provision of Refugee Housing accommodation for families with housing needs
I.T	2.3	Continued investment in IT System replacements for Housing Management, assets, and maintenance

Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators Q4 2024-25

Prudential Indicators

- The Council measures and manages its **capital expenditure, borrowing and commercial and service investments** with reference to the following indicators.

- It is now a requirement of the **CIPFA Prudential Code** that these are reported on a quarterly basis.

- **Information contained includes**:
    - Capital Expenditure
    - Capital Financing Requirement
    - Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement
    - Debt and the Authorised Liming and Operational Boundary
    - Net Income from Commercial and Service Investments to Net Revenue Stream
    - Proportion of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

Prudential Indicators

Capital Expenditure

- The Council has undertaken and is planning capital expenditure as summarised in the table below.
- The main General Fund capital projects for 24/25 include spend on the Cultural Heart, Town Centre Action Plans (Huddersfield/Dewsbury/Local Centres), Highways baseline schemes, and major projects for both the West Yorkshire plus Transport Schemes and Transforming Cities Fund. HRA capital expenditure is recorded separately and to date includes supporting a Council House Building programme, Building Safety and Housing Growth
- The 24/25 forecast includes spend rolled over from 23/24, while 25/26 and 26/7 budget figures are those approved as part of the 24/25 Budget Report

	2023/24 £m actual	2024/25 £m actual	2025/26 £m budget	2026/27 £m budget
General Fund	111.1	103.6	188.0	122.7
Housing Revenue Account	31.6	35.0	64.6	64.0
Capital investments	5.6	2.0	0.0	0.0
Total Capital expenditure	**148.3**	**140.6**	**252.6**	**186.7**

Prudential Indicators

Capital Financing Requirement

- The Council's cumulative outstanding amount of debt finance is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This increases with new debt-financed capital expenditure and reduces with MRP, loan repayments and capital receipts used to replace debt. The actual CFR is calculated on an annual basis.
- The effect from the change in the accounting for leases has not yet been reflected in the CFR.

	2023/24 £m actual	2024/25 £m actual	2025/26 £m budget	2026/27 £m Budget
General Fund	691.2	731.2	798.5	831.5
Housing Revenue Account	204.3	207.0	212.0	213.8
Capital investments	5.6	2.0	0.0	0.0
Total Capital Financing Requirement	**901.1**	**940.2**	**1,010.5**	**1,045.3**

Prudential Indicators

Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

- Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the capital financing requirement, except in the short term. The Council has complied and expects to continue to comply with this requirement in the medium term as is shown below.

	2023/24 actual £m	2024/25 actual £m	2025/26 budget £m	2026/27 budget £m	Debt at 31.03.2025 £m
Debt (incl. PFI & leases)	784.9	864.5	866.5	901.2	864.5
Capital Financing Requirement	901.1	940.2	1,010.5	1,045.3	

Prudential Indicators

Debt and the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary

- The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the Authorised Limit for external debt) each year. In line with statutory guidance, a lower Operational Boundary is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.
- Since the operational boundary is a management tool for in-year monitoring it is not significant if the boundary is breached on occasions due to variations in cash flow, and this is not counted as a compliance failure. Total debt did not go above the operational boundary.

	Maximum debt Q4 2024/25	Debt at 31.03.25	2024/25 Authorised Limit	2024/25 Operational Boundary	Complied
Borrowing	781.9	774.0	892.6	872.6	Yes
PFI and Finance Leases *	90.5	90.5*	82.8	77.8	No
Total debt	**847.2**	**864.5**	**975.4**	**950.4**	

* The impact of the IFRS16 standard on leases has resulted in an increase in the lease liabilities at 1st April 24 of £19.0m

Prudential Indicators

Net Income from Commercial and Service Investments to Net Revenue Stream

- The Council's income from commercial and service investments as a proportion of its net revenue stream has been and is expected to be as indicated below.

	2023/24 actual £m	2024/25 actual £m	2025/26 budget £m *	2026/27 budget £m *
Total net income from service and commercial investments	-1.4	-1.2	-2.0	-2.0
Proportion of net revenue stream	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%

* updated with 25/26 capital strategy

Prudential Indicators

Proportion of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

- Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue budget, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue.
- The net annual charge is known as financing costs; this is compared to the net revenue stream, ie the amount funded from Council tax, Business rates and general government grants.

	2023/24 actual	2024/25 actual	2025/26 budget *	2026/27 budget *
General Fund - Financing costs (£m)	21.4	36.9	44.3	52.9
General Fund – Proportion of net revenue stream (with reduced MRP)	5.9%	9.8%	10.2%	11.8%
General Fund – Proportion of net revenue stream (full MRP)	11.6%	13.8%	11.1%	12.7%
HRA – Financing costs (£m) – (including depreciation)	35.3	34.8	34.3	35.3
HRA - Proportion of net revenue stream	35.9%	32.6%	31.2%	31.5%

* updated with 25/26 capital strategy

Treasury Management Indicators

- **Indicators include**:
    - Liability Benchmark
    - Maturity Structure of Borrowing
    - Long Term Treasury Management Investment
    - Interest Rate Exposures

Treasury Management Indicators

Liability Benchmark

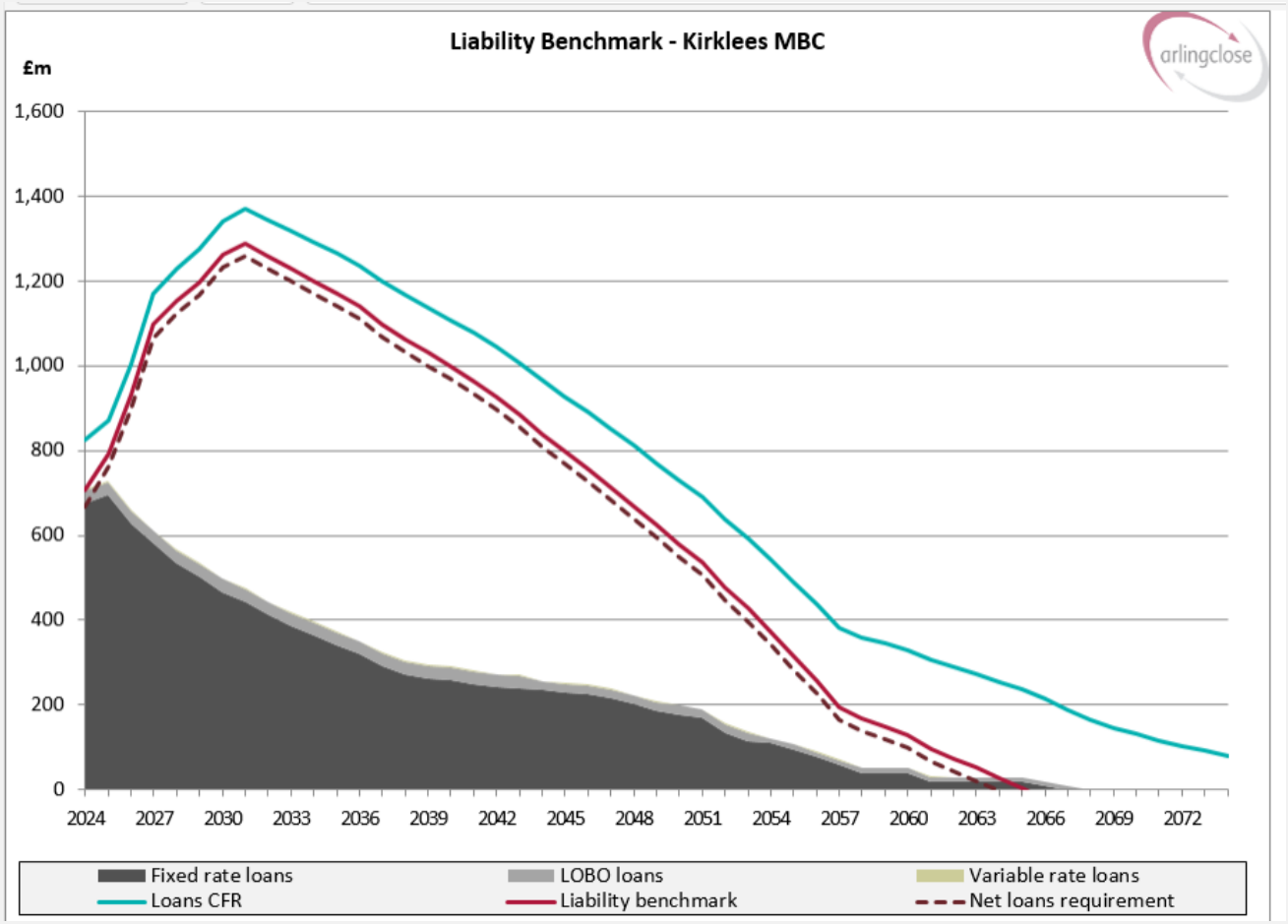
- This indicator compares the Council's actual existing borrowing against a liability benchmark that has been calculated to show the lowest risk level of borrowing. The liability benchmark is an important tool to help establish whether the Council is likely to be a long-term borrower or long-term investor in the future, and so shape its strategic focus and decision making. It represents an estimate of the cumulative amount of external borrowing the Council must hold to fund its current capital and revenue plans while keeping treasury investments at the minimum level of £30.0 million required to manage day-to-day cash flow.
- Following on from the medium-term forecast below, the long-term liability benchmark includes capital expenditure funded by borrowing of £31.5 million in 2024-25, minimum revenue provision based on assets lives and reduction in balance sheet resources of £21.0 million.

	31.03.24 actual £m	31.03.25 actual £m	31.03.26 forecast £m	31.03.27 forecast £m
Loans CFR	**823.5**	**849.7**	**1002.8**	**1171.5**
Less: Balance sheet resources	155.3	134.3	104.9	105.9
Net loans requirement	**668.2**	**715.4**	**897.9**	**1065.6**
Plus: Estimated Liquidity allowance	38.9	58.6	30.0	30.0
Liability benchmark	**707.1**	**774.0**	**927.9**	**1095.6**
Existing borrowing - committed	**707.3**	**774.0**	**738.2**	**661.8**

Treasury Management Indicators

Liability Benchmark

The total liability benchmark is shown in the chart, together with the maturity profile of the Council's existing borrowing. The red line is the liability benchmark reaching a peak in 2031 highlighting the gap between current borrowing identified in grey, which is reducing over time with repayments, and the additional borrowing required to fund the capital plan.



Kirklees COUNCIL

Treasury Management Indicators

Maturity Structure of Borrowing

- This indicator is set to control the Authority's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of all borrowing were:

	Upper limit	Lower limit	31.03.25 actual	Complied
Under 12 months	20%	0%	14%	Yes
12 months and within 24 months	20%	0%	7%	Yes
24 months and within 5 years	60%	0%	18%	Yes
5 years and within 10 years	80%	0%	18%	Yes
10 years and above	100%	20%	44%	Yes

- Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment. LOBO options of £30.9 million have a potential repayment date during 2025-26 and have been included in the under 12 months line.

Treasury Management Indicators

Long term Treasury Management Investments

- The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The prudential limits on the long-term treasury management limits are:

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	No fixed date
Limit on principal invested beyond year end	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Actual principal invested beyond year end	£10.0m	£10.0m	£10.0m	£10.0m
Complied	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- Long-term investments with no fixed maturity date include strategic pooled funds, real estate investment trusts and directly held equity but exclude money market funds and bank accounts with no fixed maturity date as these are considered short-term.

Treasury Management Indicators

Interest Rate Exposures

For context, the changes in interest rates during the quarter were:

	31/03/24	31/03/25
Bank Rate	5.25%	4.50%
1-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.36%	4.82%
5-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	4.68%	4.97%
10-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	4.74%	5.42%
20-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.18%	5.91%
50-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.01%	5.67%

Monthly 24/25 Budget Savings Delivery Update - Outturn

Savings delivery summary (all directorates & HRA)

	24/25				
Directorate	**Total budgeted savings £000**	**24/25 Outturn £000**	**24/25 Variance £000**	**Change in Variance from previous £000**	**% Savings Delivered**
Children and Families	-6,104	-5,248	856	-93	**86%**
Adults and Health	-15,524	-11,112	4,142	197	**73%**
Place	-13,780	-9,947	3,833	-1,299	**72%**
Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health	-7,416	-7,416	-	-	**100%**
All Directorates	**-42,554**	**-33,723**	**8,831**	**-1,195**	**79%**
Housing Revenue Account	-3,121	-2,950	171	**-82**	**95%**
Total Directorates + HRA	**-45,675**	**-36,673**	**9,002**	**-1,277**	**80%**

Savings Delivery Monitoring RAG Summary (all directorates & HRA)

	24/25				
Proposals (RAG rating)	**Number of proposals**	**Change from previous**	**Budgeted Savings £000**	**Outturn £000**	**Variance £000**
Complete – proposal has been fully delivered and full savings will be realised	**89**	**46**	**-28,124**	**-29,184**	**-1,060**
On track – high level of confidence that full savings will be delivered	**-**	**-44**	**-**	**-**	**-**
May slip – a risk that full savings will not be realised, but mitigating actions are in place. High level of confidence that mitigating actions will bring this back on track.	**-**	**-10**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Slipped – a risk that full savings will not be realised, but mitigating actions are in place. Lower level of confidence that mitigating actions will bring this back on track.	**21**	**6**	**-16,461**	**-6,399**	**10,062**
Significant issue – proposal cannot be delivered. Alternative proposal to deliver the quantum needs to be found from elsewhere.	**2**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**
TOTAL	**112**	**0**	**-45,675**	**-36,673**	**9,002**

Changes since previous reporting period - Summary	**Number of proposals**
Proposals moved in positive direction (e.g. from Red to Amber)	**59**
Proposals moved in a negative direction (e.g. from Amber to Red)	**11**

Monthly Savings Monitoring Children and Families [Outturn]

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Children and Families (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous
24CF1	Cross Directorate	Integration for support to keep families together	-1,443	-1,326	117	Slipped	£117k slippage pressure on Early Support budget	0	
24CF2	Child protection and Family Support	Section 17 Funding and Household Support Fund	-220	213	433	Slipped	HSF will be used to substitute budget but still pressure of £433K.	0	
24CF3	Child protection and Family Support	Redesign MST (Multisystemic Therapy) provision	-290	-290	0	Complete		0	
24CF4	Learning and Early Support	Further review Calderdale and Kirklees Careers Contract	-750	-750	0	Complete		0	
24CF5	Learning and Early Support	SEND Efficiencies	-64	-64	0	Complete		0	
24CF6	Learning and Early Support	Mainstream our approach to mental health in Families	-314	-314	0	Complete		0	
24CF7	Learning and Early Support	School Support Efficiencies	-111	-111	0	Complete		0	
24CF8	Learning and Early Support	Redesign and integration of targeted detached Youth Work offer	-398	-353	45	Slipped	Slippage against target due to timescales slipping	0	
24CF9	Learning and Early Support	Redesign Early Support Play Offer	-152	-152	0	Complete		0	
24CF	Resources, Improvements and Partnerships	Redesign of short break, respite and support provision	-400	-246	154	Slipped	Slippage in timescale of redesign	0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Children and Families (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24CF12	Resources, Improvements and Partnerships	CAMHS redesign and associated efficiencies	-180	-180	0	Complete		0	⟷
24CF13	Resources, Improvements and Partnerships	Renegotiation of One Adoption West Yorkshire funding formula	-425	-425	0	Complete		0	⟷
24CF14	Resources, Improvements and Partnerships	Funding contributions to placements (NHS)	-400	-400	0	Complete		0	↑
24CF16	Learning and Early Support	Cease the operation of Kirklees Supply Service (KSS)	-60	-60	0	Complete		0	⟷
24CF17	Learning and Early Support	Stop direct delivery for the Duke of Edinburgh Award	-105	-105	0	Complete		-62	↑
24CF19	Learning and Early Support	School Improvement	-200	-93	107	Slipped	Work ongoing to reduce overspending into 2025/26	-31	↓
24CF20	Learning and Early Support	Reduce success Centres Offer	-100	-100	0	Complete		0	↑
24CF22	Children and Families Directorate	Expected vacancy efficiency management	-264	-264	0	Complete		0	↑
24CF23	Learning and Early Support	Virtual School for Children looked after – embedding of additional duties	-125	-125	0	Complete		0	⟷

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Children and Families (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
NEWCH1	Child protection and Family Support	Remodel early help and children's social care in line with National review	-17	-17	0	Complete		0	⟷
NEWCH7	Child protection and Family Support	Review & redesign C&K commission	-86	-86	0	Complete		0	⟷
TOTAL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES			**-6,104**	**-5,248**	**856**			**-93**	

Monthly Savings Monitoring
Adults and Health
[Outturn]

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Adults and Health (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24AH2	Adult social care in-house provision	Explore the future of learning disabilities supported living schemes provided by the Council	-200	-546	-346	Complete		246	↑
24AH3	Adult Social Care	Alignment of Occupational Therapy services to improve outcomes for the citizens of Kirklees	-100	-100	0	Complete		0	↑
24AH4	Mental Health and Learning Disabilities	Contract Savings	-277	-277	0	Complete		0	↔
24AH6	Adults and Health	Household Support Fund Grant	-400	-400	0	Complete		0	↔
24AH7	Adult Social Care	Kirklees Integrated Community Equipment Service (KICES)	-200	-200	0	Complete		0	↑
24AH9	Adult Social Care	Staffing savings across Adults and Health	-340	-340	0	Complete		0	↔
24AH11	Mental Health and Learning Disabilities	Supported Living Project	-1,680	-937	743	Slipped	Work ongoing around Adults Transformation programme - some slippage into next year. See also 24AH02	--527	↔
24AH12	Adult Social Care	Reduction of Agency Use against all Hubs	-80	-80	0	Complete		0	↑

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Adults and Health (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24AH13	Adult Social Care	Review of Direct Payment Policy application to ensure delivering to intended outcomes for individuals	-1,750	-139	1,611	Slipped	Work ongoing around Adults Transformation programme - slippage (some to be realised in 25-26) - see also transformation programme phase 2.	255	⟷
24AH14 a	Learning Disability	Reviewing Shared Lives Provision to mitigate costs elsewhere in Adult Social Care	-350	-66	284	Slipped	Work ongoing around Adults Transformation programme	284	↓
24AH17	Communities and Access Services	Community Based Integrated Library and customer service functions and assets	-950	-752	198	Slipped	Service change. Timing delay - will be okay in 25-26	41	⟷
24AH18	Communities and Access Services	Bring all customer contact centre activity together across the Council	-175	-175	0	Complete		0	↑
24AH19	Communities and Access Services	Review of Registration Service Delivery Model and fees and charges	-40	-193	-153	Complete		11	⟷
24AH20	Communities and Access Services	Community Grant Schemes	-604	-604	0	Complete		0	⟷
24AH21	Communities and Access Services	Review of 24 hours service	-120	-120	0	Complete		0	↑
24AH22	Communities and Access Services	Community Safety	-250	-250	0	Complete		0	⟷

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Adults and Health (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24AH23	Adult Social Care	Ings Grove – exploring partnership delivery options	-643	-643	0	Complete	Achieved through improved service wide approach to income, cross service vacancy management and realignment of HomeFirst funding. For 2025-26 work is ongoing to further review partnership income potential, and other options.	-161	
24AH24	Communities and Access Services	Review of Personalised Care funding and delivery model	-170	-170	0	Complete		0	
24AH25	Learning Disability and Mental Health	To review the current Southwest Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and Kirklees Council's Community Mental Health Integration arrangements	-270	-255	15	Slipped	Various elements on track, slight variance.	15	
24AH28	Adult Social Care	Increasing the collection of social care income	-2,627	-500	2,127	Slipped	Ongoing review of income streams, processes, and levels of debt - underachievement, but some benefit to land in 25-26	-180	
NEWAD 1	Communities and Access Services	Integrated Community and Access model	-147	-147	0	Complete		0	
NEWAD 2	Older people and Physical Disabilities	Work with an External Change Partner	-3,240	-3,577	-337	Complete		236	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Adults and Health (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
NEWAD3	Learning Disability and Mental Health	Work with wider health and care system to properly reflect the cost and design of services	-378	-378	0	Complete		-23	↑
NEWAD4	Learning Disability and Mental Health	Reviewing the respite offer for people with a learning disability	-189	-189	0	Complete		0	↔
NEWAD5	Adults Sufficiency	Mental Health Peer Support service pilot review	-26	-26	0	Complete		0	↔
NEWAD11	Adults Sufficiency	Review of Stroke Support services	-48	-48	0	Complete		0	↔
TOTAL ADULTS AND HEALTH			**-15,254**	**-11,112**	**4,142**			**197**	

Monthly Savings Monitoring
Place
[Outturn]

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Place (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24GR1	Business and Economy	Reduction in support to business	-250	-250	0	Complete		0	
24GR2	Employment and Skills	Reduction in employment and Skills support to individuals and businesses	-248	-248	0	Complete		0	
24GR3	Corporate Landlord and Capital	Business rate savings from successful rating appeals in respect of museums and galleries	-100	-100	0	Complete		0	
24GR5	Corporate Landlord and Capital	Asset Rationalisation	-840	-840	0	Complete		0	
24GR6	Major Projects	Increased additional external recharges for delivery of transport and infrastructure programmes	-250	-250	0	Complete		0	
24GR7	Major Projects	Reduction of the Digital Infrastructure Team	-200	-200	0	Complete		0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Place (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24GR8	Housing Solutions (Benefit Subsidy)	Potential rent increase for temporary accommodation	-200	0	200	Slipped	It was determined that this saving was undeliverable due to the requirement to comply with the Rent Standard for social landlords.	0	
24GR9	Housing Solutions	Extending the trial of additional temporary accommodation	-320	-320	0	Complete		0	
24GR10	Housing Growth	Reduction in Posts	-94	-94	0	Complete		0	
24GR11	Development, Housing	Increase of fees on Disabled Facilities Grants	-370	-370	0	Complete		0	
24GR12	Town Centre Programmes	Readjustment of budget for capitalisation of staff and utilisation of external funding	-55	-55	0	Complete		0	
24GR13	Development	One-off savings 24/25	-298	-298	0	Complete		0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Place (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24GR14	Growth and Regeneration Directorate	Efficiencies / Directorate Wide	-670	-335	335	Slipped	Mitigations are a freeze on all Highway & SS revenue funded posts and a £50k future efficient saving from Highway revenue	200	
24EC1a	Highways	Recharge Rate Increase	-405	-405	0	Complete		0	
24EC1b	Highways	Reduction of Winter Service	-550	-276	274	Slipped	Saving predicated on reducing gritting routes to achieve the £550k saving. This proposal was withdrawn mid year 2024/25. However other savings have been implemented by the service which have generated a £0.3m in year saving on winter maintenance	0	
24EC1c	Highways and Operational Services	Removal of services relating to highways and operational services	-66	-66	0	Complete		0	
24EC2	Highways	Additional Income Generation	-770	-770	0	Complete		0	
24EC3	Highways	Changes to Grading/Removal of Existing Revenue Funded Established Posts	-130	-130	0	Complete		0	
24EC4	Operational Services	Homes and Neighbourhoods Service Level Agreement Review	-645	-275	370	Slipped	Delivered Differently through Parks & Greenspace service review. Full effect from April 25 onwards.	0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Place (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24EC6	Operational Services	Street Cleansing Review	-250	-250	0	Complete		0	
24EC7	Operational Services	Waste Collection from unadopted roads	-85	-85	0	Complete		0	
24EC9	Operational Services	Household Waste Recycling Centre Opening hours review	-56	-56	0	Complete		0	
24EC10	Operational Services	Missed waste collection policy change	-150	-150	0	Complete		0	
24EC13	Operational Services	Bulky Waste Charges Review	-126	-126	0	Complete		0	
24EC14	Climate Change and Environmental Strategy	School Transport Service Transformation	-728	-728	0	Complete	Post 16 changes to be implemented in September 2024. Policy implemented. Policy has 'worked' however, circa. 100 additional students on (33% increase) has limited the savings potential	-728	
24EC15	Environmental Health	To increase income and decrease the headcount of the environmental health service by service review.	-54	-54	0	Complete		0	
24EC17	Public Protection	Directorate Programme Office Structure Review	-150	-150	0	Complete		0	
24EC19	Climate Change and Environmental Strategy	Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Delivery – external funding used for salaries.	-50	-50	0	Complete		0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Place (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24EC29	Operational Services	Parking Services – Residents Parking Charges and New District Parking Charges	-1,004	-137	867	Slipped	All parking service changes delivered with full year effect expected from April 25 onwards. Ongoing monitoring to review actual vs. modelled position.	178	⟷
24EC30	Highways and Streetscene	Fleet Reductions	-496	-216	280	Slipped	Challenge in recovering Grey Fleet mileage saving element from multiple budgets outside of service control.	0	↓
24EC31	Highways and Streetscene	A review of capital recharge (staffing) rates whilst employed of both internal and external (grant) projects.	-695	-695	0	Complete		0	↑
NEWGR5	Development	Asset Rationalisation	-1,350	-443	907	Slipped	Use of flexible capital receipts for transformational activities, essential only repairs, holding of vacancies	-549	⟷
NEWEN2	Climate Change and Environmental Strategy	Change to policy and operational delivery to reduce costs	-325	-325	0	Complete		0	↑
NEWEN5	Highways	Parking – Existing Charges Uplift	-1,600	-1,000	600	Slipped	All parking service changes delivered with full year effect expected from April 25 onwards. Ongoing monitoring to review actual vs. modelled position.	-400	⟷
NEWEN7	Highways and Streetscene	Waste Strategy efficiencies	-200	-200	0	Complete		0	↑
TOTAL PLACE			**-13,780**	**-9,947**	**3,833**			**-1,299**	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Housing Revenue Account (ALL Proposals)

	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
HRA1	Housing Management and Partnerships	Management Cost Savings HMP	-428	-428	0	Complete		0	
HRA2	Asset Development and Building Safety	Management cost savings AD&BS	-93	-93	0	Complete		0	
HRA3	Property Services	Management Cost Savings – Property	-379	-379	0	Complete		-82	
HRA4	Housing Management and Partnerships	Recovery of service charges	-250	-110	140	Slipped	Initial assumption included GM but tenants not agreed. Savings achieved through Communal cleaning	0	
HRA5	Housing Management and Partnerships	Reduction in standard void rent loss	-255	0	255	Slipped	Savings have not been achieved to date. A revised process is in place and work is ongoing to improve this position.	0	
HRA6	Asset Development and Building Safety	Removal of waking watch Harold Wilson Court	-416	-640	-224	Complete		0	
HRA11	Housing Management and Partnerships	Maximising rental income when re-letting properties	-300	-300	0	Complete		0	
HRA12	Housing Management and Partnerships	No longer funding Kirklees Better Outcomes Partnership	-1,000	-1,000	0	Complete		0	
TOTAL HRA			**-3,121**	**-2,950**	**171**			**-82**	

Monthly Savings Monitoring Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health [Outturn]

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Corporate Strategy (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24CS1	Legal and Procurement	Capitalising time allocated to work on capital related work	-400	-400	0	Complete		0	
24CS2	Legal, Governance and Commissioning	Vacancy Management and Reviewing Fees and Charges	-120	-120	0	Complete		0	
24CS4	Welfare and Exchequer and Advice	Advice Contract and Advice Provision	-250	-250	0	Complete		0	
24CS5	Accountancy	Changes in Supplier Payment Terms	-460	-460	0	Complete		0	
24CS6	Welfare and Exchequer	Vacancy Management in Welfare and Exchequer Service	-305	-305	0	Complete		0	
24CS7A	Welfare and Exchequer	Council Tax Support	-3,300 (not in totals)	-3,300 (not in totals)	0	Complete		0	
24CS7B	Welfare and Exchequer	Single Person Review(SPD) (Only non-CTR recipients)	-937 (not in totals)	-937 (not in totals)	0	Complete		0	
24CS8	People Services	Review of People Services Operating Model	-298	-298	0	Complete		0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Corporate Strategy (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24CS9	People Services	Improvements and Changes to Agency Spend	-750	-750	0	Significant Issue	Alternative budget found	0	
24CS11	Policy, Partnerships and Corporate Planning	Service Re-design	-110	-110	0	Complete		0	
24CS13	IT	Efficiencies relating to Information Technology	-549	-549	0	Complete		0	
24CS16	Public Health	PH Ring-Fenced Budget	-1,314	-1,314	0	Complete		0	
24CS17	Democracy and Place Based Working	Service Re-design	-88	-88	0	Complete		0	
24CS18D	People Services	Improvement to Overtime Costs across the Council	-340	-340	0	Significant Issue	Alternative budget found	0	
24CS20	Democracy and Place Based Working	Members Devolved Ward Budget	-230	-230	0	Complete		0	
24CS21	Cross Directorate	Efficiencies – Governance £270k,	-270	-270	0	On track		0	

Savings Delivery Monitoring – Corporate Strategy (ALL Proposals)

Ref	Service Area	Proposal Title	24/25 budgeted savings £000	24/25 Outturn £000	24/25 Variance £000	RAG Rating	Update/ Mitigating actions	Change in Variance from previous £000	RAG change from previous report
24EC18	Culture and Visitor Economy	Increase to Bereavement Fees and Charges	-180	-180	0	Complete		0	
24EC20	Culture and Visitor Economy	Caretaking and Cleaning – Increased charges to schools	-200	-200	0	Complete		0	
24EC21	Culture and Visitor Economy	Markets Vacancy Savings and Income Generation	-248	-248	0	Complete		0	
24EC22	Culture and Visitor Economy	Changes to the creative Development offer	-90	-90	0	Complete		0	
24EC24	Culture and Visitor Economy	Operational Review relating to Commercial Catering, Venues and Museums and Galleries	-104	-104	0	Complete		0	
24EC27	Culture and Visitor Economy	Increase Commercial Income	-140	-140	0	Complete		0	
24EC34	Culture and Visitor Economy	Increase School Meal Charges	-503	-503	0	Complete		0	
NEWCS3/ 4	Finance	Administration Funding from HSF	-367	-367	0	Complete		0	
NEWCS3/ 4	Strategy & Innovation	Performance Income from Schools	-100	-100	0	Complete		0	
TOTAL CORPORATE STRATEGY			**-7,416**	**-7,416**	**0**			**0**	

Breakdown of Outturn Capital Budget Changes since Q3 Monitoring
Appendix 3

	£'000	£'000	£'000
Q3 FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT			**169,230**
Increase in Grants/Contributions/Other			
Place			
WY Investment Zone (Grant)	668		
UKSPF E19 HWI (Health & Wellbeing Incubator) Thrive (Grant)	14		
Integrated Transport & Active Travel (S106)	249		
Flood Management & Drainage	(5)		
Private Sector Housing (Grant)	(5)		
Corporate Landlord (Grant/Contribution)	68		
Huddersfield Town Centre Action Plan, St Peters Gardens (UKSPF)	166		
Our Local Centres (UKSPF/Dale Lane Community Garden) (Grant)	292		
Highways (S278/S106)	694		
Highways (RCCO)	13		
Play Strategy (S106)	86		
Corporate			
Kirklees Active Leisure (Self-funded)	(445)		
Change in Grants/Contributions/RCCO/Other		1,795	
Re-profiling / Virements between Years			
General Fund:			
Children & Families			
Thornhill Community Academy	(200)		
North Huddersfield Trust School	(800)		
SEND District Sufficiency	(779)		
Capital Maintenance	(532)		
Devolved Formula Capital	(200)		
Homes for Children - Satellite Provision	(50)		
Children with Disabilities	(31)		
Adults			
Libraries Open Access	(68)		
Place			
West Yorkshire Investment Zone	(570)		
West Yorkshire plus Transport Schemes	(92)		
Transforming Cities Fund	(1,773)		
Active Travel	7		
Integrated Transport & Active Travel	402		
Flood Management & Land Drainage	120		
Dalton/Deighton Cycle Track (CRSTS)	(10)		
A62 - A644 Bus Priority Scheme (CRSTS)	4		

Breakdown of Capital Budget Changes since Q3 Monitoring (continued)
Appendix 3

	£'000	£'000	£'000
Re-profiling / Virements between Years (cont'd)			
Trees for Climate	(5,006)		
Dewsbury Riverside	(46)		
Bradley Park	(152)		
Brownfield Land Release Fund - Highmoor Lane	(24)		
Corporate Landlord	(2,343)		
Huddersfield Town Centre Action Plan	(487)		
Dewsbury Town Centre Action Plan	(2,596)		
Regeneration of Our Local Centres	(497)		
Cultural Heart	(1,312)		
Highways	(764)		
Play Strategy	(58)		
Bulk & Wheeled Containers	42		
Environment & Infrastructure PH	(19)		
Air Quality	(50)		
Public Health & Corporate Resources			
Sustainability of Town Halls Budget	(15)		
School Catering	84		
Total Re-profiling		**(17,815)**	
Total Change in Budget			**(16,020)**
OUTTURN CAPITAL BUDGET			**153,210**

	£'000	£'000
Change in Budget - Funding Breakdown:		
General Fund		
Borrowing	(5,786)	
Self-financed	(360)	
Revenue Contribution to Capital (RCCO)	13	
Grants	(10,700)	
Contributions/S106/S278	965	
Receipts/Capital Allowances	(152)	
Change in Budget		**(16,020)**

Capital Plan Expenditure Summary

	Outturn	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover					
Capital Plan Expenditure Summary	**2024/25 £'000**	**2025/26 £'000**	**2026/27 £'000**	**2027/28 £'000**	**2028/29 £'000**	**2029/30-2031/32 £'000**	**Total £'000**
General Fund:							
Children & Families	8,832	25,727	29,573	21,610	3,827	2,750	**83,487**
Adults & Health	3,180	4,223	8,424	3,031	0	0	**15,678**
Place	85,971	204,201	215,355	121,831	77,907	144,196	**763,490**
Public Health & Corporate Resources	7,658	18,848	11,806	11,636	11,516	11,100	**64,906**
General Fund Capital Plan	**105,641**	**252,999**	**265,158**	**158,108**	**93,250**	**158,046**	**927,561**
Housing Revenue Account Capital Plan	**34,962**	**47,363**	**63,208**	**70,589**	**54,502**	**109,552**	**345,214**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**140,603**	**300,362**	**328,366**	**228,697**	**147,752**	**267,598**	**1,272,775**

Capital Plan Funding Summary

Appendix 4a

General Fund Funding Summary	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
Direct / Earmarked Contributions to Schemes							
Capital Grants/Contributions	64,000	122,103	111,690	66,697	45,182	53,432	**399,104**
Earmarked Capital Receipts	6,050	11,256	8,612	390	3,390	3,390	**27,038**
Service Funded Prudential Borrowing	979	24,383	30,626	17,187	10,000	12,050	**94,246**
Revenue Contributions	93	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Pooled Resources							
Non-Earmarked Capital Receipts	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	**20,000**
Corporate Prudential Borrowing	30,519	91,257	110,230	69,834	30,678	85,174	**387,173**
GENERAL FUND FUNDING	**105,641**	**252,999**	**265,158**	**158,108**	**93,250**	**158,046**	**927,561**

Housing Revenue Account Funding Summary	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
Capital Grants/Contributions	2,025	1,998	5,169	10,326	2,721	741	**20,955**
Earmarked Capital Receipts	4,324	2,074	875	1,100	5,500	3,790	**13,339**
Reserves / Revenue Contributions	4,637	17,840	0	1,000	0	0	**18,840**
Reserves - MRR	23,976	23,989	24,239	24,489	24,739	75,717	**173,173**
Corporate Prudential Borrowing	0	1,462	32,925	33,674	21,542	29,304	**118,907**
HRA FUNDING	**34,962**	**47,363**	**63,208**	**70,589**	**54,502**	**109,552**	**345,214**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
CHILDREN & FAMILIES								
LEARNING & EARLY SUPPORT								
Strategic Priorities								
New Special School for Woodley @ Almondbury	B/G	1,782	6,000	11,896	10,574	827	0	**29,297**
New Special School for Joseph Norton @ Deighton	B/G	839	9,000	12,035	696	0	0	**21,731**
	T	**2,621**	**15,000**	**23,931**	**11,270**	**827**	**0**	**51,028**
High Needs	G	0	0	0	6,119	**0**	**0**	**6,119**
Additionally Resourced Provisions / Satellite Provisions	G	719	666	300	0	0	0	**966**
District Sufficiency	T	**3,340**	**15,666**	**24,231**	**17,389**	**827**	**0**	**58,113**
Brambles Primary Academy	G	16	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
King James High School	G	(12)	229	0	0	0	0	**229**
Scissett Middle School	S106	16	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Birkby Junior Expansion	G	12	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
North Huddersfield Trust School	G/B	867	1,941	150	0	0	0	**2,091**
Manor Croft Academy	G	44	61	0	0	0	0	**61**
Thornhill Community Academy	G	128	384	50	0	0	0	**434**
Secondary Places Basic Need	G	0	73	80	51	0	0	**204**
New Pupil Places in Primary/Secondary Schools	T	**1,071**	**2,688**	**280**	**51**	**0**	**0**	**3,019**
Childcare Expansion	G	**0**	200	400	299	**0**	**0**	**899**
Strategic Priorities Total		**4,411**	**18,554**	**24,911**	**17,739**	**827**	**0**	**62,031**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
CHILDREN & FAMILIES								
LEARNING & EARLY SUPPORT								
Baseline								
Capital Maintenance	G	3,534	5,299	2,900	2,700	2,500	2,300	**15,699**
Devolved Formula Capital	G	807	1,324	1,100	550	500	450	**3,924**
Baseline Total		**4,341**	**6,623**	**4,000**	**3,250**	**3,000**	**2,750**	**19,623**
LEARNING & EARLY SUPPORT TOTAL		**8,752**	**25,177**	**28,911**	**20,989**	**3,827**	**2,750**	**81,654**
RESOURCES, IMPROVEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS								
Strategic Priorities								
Homes for Children:								
Magdale House	B	41	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Healds Road	B	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Satellite Provision - Liversedge	B	40	550	0	0	0	0	**550**
Satellite Provision	B	0	0	162	0	0	0	**162**
Children with Disabilities	B	0	0	500	621	0	0	**1,121**
RESOURCES, IMPROVEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS TOTAL		**80**	**550**	**662**	**621**	**0**	**0**	**1,833**
CHILDREN & FAMILIES TOTAL		**8,832**	**25,727**	**29,573**	**21,610**	**3,827**	**2,750**	**83,487**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
ADULTS & HEALTH								
COMMUNITIES AND ACCESS SERVICES								
Libraries	B	1	290	3,033	283	0	0	**3,606**
Library Open Access	G	0	123	14	0	0	0	**137**
UKSPF - Grant for Safety of Women & Girls	G	74	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
COMMUNITIES AND ACCESS SERVICES TOTAL		**75**	**413**	**3,047**	**283**	**0**	**0**	**3,743**
LEARNING DISABILITIES & MENTAL HEALTH								
Commissioning Option Appraisals to facilitate outcomes of Specialist Accommodation Strategy	B	2	29	0	0	0	0	**29**
Knowl Park House	B	2,235	592	0	0	0	0	**592**
Milldale and Crescentdale	B/G	371	2,935	877	0	0	0	**3,812**
Red Laithes Court	B	55	19	0	0	0	0	**19**
Day Services Support for Vulnerable Adults	B	(2)	0	4,500	2,748	0	0	**7,248**
LEARNING DISABILITIES & MENTAL HEALTH TOTAL		**2,661**	**3,575**	**5,377**	**2,748**	**0**	**0**	**11,700**
ADULT SOCIAL CARE OPERATION								
Adults Social Care Operation - AT IT	G/B	91	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Carephones - Digital Switchover	B	33	235	0	0	0	0	**235**
Carefirst System Replacement	B	320	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
ADULT SOCIAL CARE OPERATION TOTAL		**444**	**235**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**235**
ADULTS & HEALTH TOTAL		**3,180**	**4,223**	**8,424**	**3,031**	**0**	**0**	**15,678**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
SKILLS & REGENERATION								
Business Economy								
Start Up & Retention Policy Grants	B	50	200	200	148	0	0	548
UKSPF E19 HWI (Health & Wellbeing Incubator) Thrive	G	32	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leeds City Region Revolving Fund	B	0	0	0	526	0	0	526
West Yorkshire Investment Zones	G	97	889	0	0	0	0	889
Business Economy Total		**179**	**1,089**	**200**	**674**	**0**	**0**	**1,963**
Major Projects								
West Yorkshire plus Transport Schemes:								
A62 to Cooper Bridge Corridor Improvements	G	745	985	4,043	5,648	10,826	20,067	41,569
A653 Leeds to Dewsbury Corridor (M2D2L)	G	17	5	0	0	0	0	5
A641 Bradford Rd - Bradford/Brighouse/Huddersfield	C	13	146	0	0	0	0	146
A629 Halifax Road Phase 5	G/C	582	2,363	3,611	327	196	3,130	9,627
UTMC Urban Traffic Management	G	9	29	0	0	0	0	29
Huddersfield Southern Corridors	G	1,115	2,398	3,654	302	22	95	6,471
Corridor Improvement Programme:								
Holmfirth Town Centre Access Plan	G	2,028	3,571	407	2,180	0	88	6,246
A62 Smart Corridor	G	797	272	1,049	0	0	0	1,321
Fenay Lane	G	80	74	0	0	0	0	74
CityConnect Cooper Bridge	G	1	2	0	0	0	0	2
Hudds Station Gateway Phase 1	G	146	120	12	0	0	0	132
West Yorkshire plus Transport Schemes	T	**5,533**	**9,965**	**12,776**	**8,457**	**11,044**	**23,380**	**65,622**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
Major Projects								
Transforming Cities Fund:								
Huddersfield/Dewsbury Rail Station Access		0	440	0	0	0	0	**440**
TCF Main scheme:								
Heckmondwike Bus Station	G	1,841	6,614	26	13	0	42	**6,695**
Dewsbury/Cleckheaton Sust Travel Corridor	G	910	6,797	1,701	0	50	0	**8,548**
Dews TC Walking & Cycling Imps	G/B	705	2,306	7,851	0	0	100	**10,257**
Huddersfield Rail Station Connections	G/B	605	5,254	11,372	0	0	0	**16,626**
A629 Wakefield Rd Sust Travel Corridor	G	17	6	0	0	0	0	**6**
Huddersfield Bus Station	G/B	315	2,505	4,451	0	0	0	**6,956**
Dewsbury/Batley/Tingley Sus Travel Corridor	G	419	973	7,009	11	0	30	**8,023**
Transforming Cities Fund	T	**4,812**	**24,895**	**32,410**	**24**	**50**	**172**	**57,551**
Emergency Active Travel	G	1,003	1,795	376	7	0	0	**2,178**
Integrated Transport & Active Travel	G/S106	104	633	0	0	0	0	**633**
Flood Management and Land Drainage	B/G /S278	283	446	200	200	200	0	**1,046**
Transpennine Route Upgrade (Network Rail)	G	598	20	0	0	0	0	**20**
Penistone Line Rail Upgrade	G	0	1,446	10,000	19,054	9,500	7,917	**47,917**
Dalton/Deighton Cycle Track (CRSTS)	G	68	1,532	1,174	0	0	0	**2,706**
A62 - A644 Bus Priority Scheme (CRSTS)	G	89	1,126	3,641	0	0	0	**4,767**
Mass Transit	G	8	0	0	0	0	0	**0**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
Trees for Climate:								
White Rose Forest Tree Planting	G	5	14	0	0	0	0	**14**
Trees for Climate	G	7,332	7,000	2,500	3,000	7,000	4,729	**24,229**
Urban Tree Challenge Fund	G	57	160	34	0	0	0	**194**
Northern Forest GA2	G	836	1,050	200	200	89	0	**1,539**
Trees for Climate	T	8,230	8,224	2,734	3,200	7,089	4,729	**25,976**
Major Projects Total		**20,728**	**50,082**	**63,311**	**30,942**	**27,883**	**36,198**	**208,416**
EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS								
UKSPF Digital Hub / New to English	G	52	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Employment & Skills Total		**52**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
SKILLS & REGENERATION TOTAL		**20,959**	**51,171**	**63,511**	**31,616**	**27,883**	**36,198**	**210,379**
DEVELOPMENT								
HOUSING GROWTH								
Dewsbury Riverside	B	66	934	1,000	2,000	500	1,500	**5,934**
Site Development:								
Homes England - Soothill Development	G/Cont	26	27	117	0	0	0	**144**
Bradley Park	R	23	1,475	0	0	0	0	**1,475**
Highmoor Lane, Heartshead	G	25	1,438	0	0	0	0	**1,438**
Site Development	T	74	2,940	117	0	0	0	**3,057**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
Property Investment Fund:								
Kingsgate Phase 2	B**	2,006	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Property Investment Fund	T	2,006	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Housing Growth Total		2,146	**3,874**	**1,117**	**2,000**	**500**	**1,500**	**8,991**
HOUSING SERVICES								
PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING								
Disabled Facilities Grant over £1k	G	5,304	4,497	3,760	3,760	3,760	3,761	**19,538**
Discretionary Assistance	R	16	230	202	60	60	60	**612**
Minor Adaptations	R	393	252	330	330	330	330	**1,572**
Housing Services Total		5,713	4,979	4,292	4,150	4,150	4,151	**21,722**
PROPERTY								
Corporate Landlord Asset Investment	B	4,027	9,358	7,810	5,270	4,300	4,300	**31,038**
Corporate Landlord Compliance	B	637	1,478	1,125	1,650	1,000	1,000	**6,253**
Corporate Landlord Welfare Programme	B	89	516	1,068	1,654	1,000	1,000	**5,238**
Investment in Cleckheaton Town Hall	B	0	0	1,500	1,500	2,000	2,500	**7,500**
Asset Management Property Database	B	16	194	50	50	0	0	**294**
Changing Places	G	187	16	0	0	0	0	**16**
Property Total		**4,956**	**11,562**	**11,553**	**10,124**	**8,300**	**8,800**	**50,339**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
TOWN CENTRES								
Aspirational Regeneration of Major Town Centres - Feasibility	B	0	5	0	0	0	0	**5**
Regeneration of Strategic Town Centres - Huddersfield :								
Holding pot	B	0	80	0	0	0	0	**80**
Huddersfield Town Centre Schemes								
Huddersfield TC - Shop Front Grants	B	27	688	0	0	0	0	**688**
The Northumberland Street Regeneration Project	B	0	558	0	0	0	0	**558**
Huddersfield Open Market Regeneration Market	G	612	2,200	10,000	3,838	0	0	**16,038**
Huddersfield Town Centre Maintenance Schemes	B	6	20	0	0	0	0	**20**
Cultural Interventions - Growing Seeds	B	0	9	0	0	0	0	**9**
Huddersfield Town Centre Schemes	T	645	3,475	10,000	3,838	0	0	**17,313**
Heritage Action Zone								
The George Hotel HAZ Scheme	G	134	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
The George Hotel	B*	831	8,950	13,000	7,048	0	0	**28,998**
Estate Buildings HAZ Scheme	G	224	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Heritage Action Zone	T	1,189	8,950	13,000	7,048	0	0	**28,998**
Huddersfield Public Realm Works								
New Street Public Realm Development	B	369	134	0	0	0	0	**134**
Huddersfield Town Centre Cameras	B	27	41	0	0	0	0	**41**
Refurb of 2 New Street, Huddersfield	B	0	16	0	0	0	0	**16**
Huddersfield Public Realm Works	T	396	191	0	0	0	0	**191**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
Public Realm - Golden Route								
St Peters Gardens	B/G	358	142	0	0	0	0	**142**
Church St Design Development	B	2	5	0	0	0	0	**5**
Church Street Main Scheme	B	11	19	0	0	0	0	**19**
Market Place Investigative Works	B	9	34	0	0	0	0	**34**
Cross Church Street	B	5	29	0	0	0	0	**29**
St Georges Hotel Improvements	B	12	73	0	0	0	0	**73**
Public Realm - Golden Route	T	397	302	0	0	0	0	**302**
Huddersfield Town Centre Action Plan	T	**2,627**	**12,998**	**23,000**	**10,886**	**0**	**0**	**46,884**
Regeneration of Strategic Town Centres – Dewsbury:								
Better Spaces Strategy								
BS Phase 2 - Town Park	B/R/G	966	2,160	3,119	0	0	0	**5,279**
Spring Upgrade	G	4	88	0	0	0	0	**88**
Better Spaces Strategy	T	**970**	**2,248**	**3,119**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5,367**
Heritage Action Zone	B/G	1,435	1,628	0	0	0	0	**1,628**
Daisy Hill Neighbourhood	B/R/G	37	544	980	1,800	0	0	**3,324**
Dewsbury Market Upgrade	B/R/G	1,309	8,315	9,758	0	0	0	**18,073**
The Arcade	B/R/G	2,530	4,063	0	0	0	0	**4,063**
Construction Skills Village	G/R	291	1,934	0	0	0	0	**1,934**
Creative Culture	G		1,560	0	0	0	0	**1,560**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN		Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE									
	Sustainable Transport	G	607	607	0	0	0	0	**607**
	Building Revival	G/B	26	2,372	738	0	0	0	**3,110**
	Dewsbury Town Centre Action Plan	T	**7,205**	**23,271**	**14,595**	**1,800**	**0**	**0**	**39,666**
	Town Centre Action Plans	T	**9,832**	**36,274**	**37,595**	**12,686**	**0**	**0**	**86,555**
	Regeneration and Greening of Smaller Towns and Villages / Local Centres:								
	Smaller Towns & Villages	B	0	365	1,000	1,000	1,480	0	**3,845**
	Batley Smaller Towns & Villages	B/G	782	1,810	7,068	4,298	0	0	**13,176**
	Cleckheaton Smaller Towns & Villages	B	33	1,427	0	0	0	0	**1,427**
	Holmfirth Smaller Towns & Villages	B	254	203	1,054	0	0	0	**1,257**
	Heckmondwike Smaller Towns & Villages	B/G	212	448	0	0	0	0	**448**
	Marsden New Mills Redevelopment Scheme	G	61	1,100	4,294	0	0	0	**5,394**
	Other - Our Local Centres	B/G	0	149	0	0	0	0	**149**
	Regeneration and Greening of Smaller Towns and Villages	T	**1,342**	**5,502**	**13,416**	**5,298**	**1,480**	**0**	**25,696**
	Cultural Heart	B	10,546	50,400	38,095	31,774	16,063	55,574	**191,906**
	Strategic Acquisition Fund	B	793	404	400	0	0	0	**804**
	Town Centres Total	T	**22,513**	**92,580**	**89,506**	**49,758**	**17,543**	**55,574**	**304,961**
	DEVELOPMENT TOTAL	T	**35,328**	**112,995**	**106,468**	**66,032**	**30,493**	**70,025**	**386,013**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
HIGHWAYS & STREETSCENE								
Highways								
Maintenance:								
Principal Roads	B/G	3,155	5,383	6,678	3,678	3,678	3,678	**23,095**
Roads Connecting Communities	G	2,032	1,618	1,096	1,097	1,096	1,096	**6,003**
Local Community Roads	B/G	7,656	8,062	4,260	6,203	8,185	9,753	**36,463**
Structures	G	1,271	1,129	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	**5,929**
Active Travel / PROW	B/G	226	171	105	156	156	157	**745**
Streetlighting	G	1,284	716	1,000	0	0	0	**1,716**
Locality Based U Roads Improvements	B	3,546	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Highways Maintenance	T	**19,170**	**17,079**	**14,339**	**12,334**	**14,315**	**15,884**	**73,951**
Integrated Transport:								
Network Management	G/s278	1,275	1,116	715	715	715	715	**3,976**
Safer Roads	B/G/S106	1,434	1,887	1,235	1,185	1,190	1,175	**6,672**
Flood Management and Drainage Improvements	B	261	239	250	250	250	250	**1,239**
Developer Funded Schemes	s278	1,579	1,337	0	0	0	0	**1,337**
UKSPF CCTV	G	30	489	0	0	0	0	**489**
Highways Integrated Transport	T	**4,579**	**5,068**	**2,200**	**2,150**	**2,155**	**2,140**	**13,713**
Highways Total	T	**23,749**	**22,147**	**16,539**	**14,484**	**16,470**	**18,024**	**87,664**
Car Park Meters	B	268	235	241	0	0	0	**476**
Public Realm Improvements	B	0	19	0	0	0	0	**19**
OSAMS	B	195	638	766	110	0	0	**1,514**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE								
WASTE								
Waste Strategy:								
Improved Litter Bin Facilities	B	456	212	356	0	0	0	**568**
Technology To Reduce Crime	B	4	23	58	0	0	0	**81**
Emerald St Depot Ph2 Prog	B	49	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
	T	509	235	414	0	0	0	**649**
Waste Management Plant/ Infrastructure								
Energy From Waste	B	1,794	1,883	2,014	2,018	0	0	**5,915**
Contract Extension	B	0	2,396	75	75	0	0	**2,546**
Legislation requirements	B	0	570	0	0	0	0	**570**
Materials Recycling Facility	B	0	500	377	0	0	0	**877**
Proposed Depot (feasibility)	B	0	220	3,000	0	0	0	**3,220**
Waste Procurement & Depot Strategy	T	1,794	5,569	5,466	2,093	0	0	**13,128**
Environment & Strategic Waste	B	115	89	83	100	100	100	**472**
Waste Total	T	**2,418**	**5,893**	**5,963**	**2,193**	**100**	**100**	**14,249**
Vehicle Replacement Programme	B	362	1,579	8,184	1,801	1,932	17,799	**31,295**
Recycling Fleet	B*	0	3,264	0	0	0	0	**3,264**
Bulk Gritters	B*	0	1,800	0	0	0	0	**1,800**
Project Fleet	B	0	750	0	0	0	0	**750**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN		Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PLACE									
	Play Strategy:								
	Playable Spaces	B/ S106/ C	830	1,316	1,478	1,743	1,029	0	**5,566**
	Parks & Greenspaces	G/B	119	152	26	0	0	0	**178**
	Section 106 Funded Schemes	B/ S106	1,010	1,008	602	23	0	0	**1,633**
	Play Strategy	T	1,959	2,476	2,106	1,766	1,029	0	**7,377**
	HIGHWAYS & STREETSCENE TOTAL		**28,951**	**38,801**	**33,799**	**20,354**	**19,531**	**35,923**	**148,408**
	ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY & CLIMATE CHANGE								
	Climate Emergency - Green Travel	B/G	137	299	282	229	0	0	**810**
	Air Quality	B/G	77	177	169	0	0	0	**346**
	Huddersfield Heat Network	G/B *	515	485	11,126	3,600	0	2,050	**17,261**
	Electric Vehicle Rapid Charge Points	G	3	273	0	0	0	0	**273**
	ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY & CLIMATE CHANGE TOTAL		**732**	**1,234**	**11,577**	**3,829**	**0**	**2,050**	**18,690**
	PLACE TOTAL		**85,971**	**204,201**	**215,355**	**121,831**	**77,907**	**144,196**	**763,490**

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
PUBLIC HEALTH & CORPORATE RESOURCES								
STRATEGY & INNOVATION								
Information Technology	B	1,486	1,736	1,306	1,246	1,116	900	**6,304**
Transformation Capitalisation	R	5,516	6,000	0	0	0	0	**6,000**
Investment and Modernisation Fund	B*	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	**50,000**
STRATEGY & INNOVATION TOTAL		**7,002**	**17,736**	**11,306**	**11,246**	**11,116**	**10,900**	**62,304**
SERVICE DIRECT REPORTS – PUBLIC HEALTH								
Leisure Facilities	B	67	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
SERVICE DIRECT REPORTS – PUBLIC HEALTH TOTAL		67	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
CULTURE & VISITOR ECONOMY								
Sustainability of Major Town Halls - Service Development	B*	54	157	0	0	0	0	**157**
Cliffe House Playground	B	0	250	0	0	0	0	**250**
School Catering	B/B*	397	448	300	340	400	200	**1,688**
Bereavement	B	138	257	200	50	0	0	**507**
CULTURE & VISITOR ECONOMY TOTAL		**589**	**1,112**	**500**	**390**	**400**	**200**	**2,602**
PUBLIC HEALTH & CORPORATE RESOURCES TOTAL		**7,658**	**18,848**	**11,806**	**11,636**	**11,516**	**11,100**	**64,906**
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN TOTAL		**105,641**	**252,999**	**265,158**	**158,108**	**93,250**	**158,046**	**927,561**

Multi-Year Capital Plan

Appendix 4b

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL PLAN	Funding	Outturn 2024/25 £'000	Capital Plan inclusive of Rollover 2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30-2031/32 £'000	Total £'000
Strategic Priorities								
Housing Growth	H / R	777	1,600	1,750	0	0	0	**3,350**
LAHF - Refugee Housing	H / G	1,269	330	0	0	0	0	**330**
LAHF 3 - Refugee Housing	H / G		1,582	323	0	0	0	**1,905**
New Build Phase 1 - Ashbrow Extra Care	R	3,649	304	0	0	0	0	**304**
Berry Brow Remodelling	H/G/B	1,363	1,000	7,500	20,000	5,278	0	**33,778**
Harold Wilson Court	H	2,201	187	0	0	0	0	**187**
Buxton House	H	2,102	640	7,340	4,900	14	0	**12,894**
IT System (Universal Housing Replacement)	H	466	873	0	0	0	0	**873**
IT System Property/Assets	H	104	700	696	0	0	0	**1,396**
Council House Building	R/G/H	1,238	693	5,671	8,500	13,100	9,001	**36,965**
Strategic Priorities Total		**13,169**	**7,909**	**23,280**	**33,400**	**18,392**	**9,001**	**91,982**
Baseline								
Housing Capital Plan	H/B/G	15,230	21,975	19,285	19,785	19,785	63,295	**144,125**
Estate Improvements (Neighbourhood Investment)	H/B	536	1,574	1,100	1,100	1,100	3,329	**8,203**
Building Safety	H/B	498	1,770	1,667	1,530	1,430	4,118	**10,515**
Six Storey Blocks	H/B/G	604	4,100	6,000	5,420	6,295	15,096	**36,911**
Low Rise Blocks	H/B	0	3,250	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	**7,750**
Retirement Living Schemes	H/B	84	700	5,616	4,500	4,500	9,600	**24,916**
Fuel poverty	H/G/B	861	1,685	1,500	1,500	1,500	5,113	**11,298**
Adaptations	H	3,980	4,400	3,260	1,854	0	0	**9,514**
Baseline Total		**21,793**	**39,454**	**39,928**	**37,189**	**36,110**	**100,551**	**253,232**
HRA CAPITAL PLAN TOTAL		**34,962**	**47,363**	**63,208**	**70,589**	**54,502**	**109,552**	**345,214**

FUNDING KEY:

B	= Borrowing
B*	= Service funded Borrowing
B**	= Borrowing for provision of loans for development projects, covered by repayments
G	= Grant
Cont	= External contributions
R	= Capital receipts
S106	= Section 106 developer contributions
S278	= Section 278 developer contributions
H	= HRA revenue contribution/major repairs reserve
*	= Addition

Report title: Annual Report on Treasury Management 2024/25

Meeting:	**Corporate Governance and Audit Committee**
Date:	**20 June 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Councillor Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**
Purpose of Report The report to this committee reviews borrowing and investment 2024/25 performance before it is considered by Cabinet and Council.	
Recommendations Corporate Governance and Audit Committee are asked to note the treasury management performance in 2024/25 as set out in this report, prior to its submission to Cabinet and Council. **Reasons for Recommendations** Financial Procedure Rules (Section 9.5) require that the Council receives an annual report on Treasury Management activities for the previous financial year.	
Resource Implications: There are no additional resource implications required as part of this report as it relates to Treasury Management activities undertaken in 24/25.	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?**	**N/A** **Kevin Mulvaney – 05/06/2025** **Sam Lawton –05/06/2025**

Electoral wards affected: N/A

Ward Councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private: Public

Have you considered GDPR: Yes – there is no personal data within the budget details and calculations set out in this report and accompanying Appendices

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Council's treasury management operation for the year has followed the strategy approved by Council on 6 March 2024 (see paragraph 2.1.4 below).

1.2 The treasury management budget underspent by £0.8m against a budget of £27.9m. The variations in the budget are summarised below:-

	Budget (£m)	Actual (£m)	Variation (£m)
Interest payable	25.7	26.5	0.8
Investment income	(2.1)	(4.7)	(2.6)
MRP	4.3	5.3	1.0
Total	**27.9**	**27.1**	**(0.8)**

During the year interest costs increased due to rising interest rates on the back on increased gilt yields, and the amount and timing of borrowing compared to budget assumptions. The increased interest costs have been offset by gains on investment income along with slippage in the capital plan.

1.3 The Council complied with its treasury management prudential indicators in the year (see Appendix 5).

1.4 Investments averaged £64.5 million and were largely deposited in instant access accounts earning an average interest rate of 4.86%.

1.5 Total external borrowing at 31 March 2025 increased by £66.7 million to £774.0 million (£707.3 million as at 31 March 2024). This was in line with expectations and planned borrowing as per forecasted update. The Council took £98.0 million new Government long term loans from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) (see paragraph 2.6.4 for more detail) and an additional £25.0 million Local Authority medium term 2 to 3 year loans (see paragraph 2.6.5 for more detail).

1.6 The large increase in long term loans was a result of borrowing for the capital plan, re-financing existing borrowing maturing during the year and a reduction in internal borrowing.

1.7 The Council fixed rate loans account for 95.71% of total long-term debt (see paragraph 2.6.6) which gives the Council stability in its interest costs and minimising exposure to fluctuating short term rates.

2 Information required to take a decision

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The Council has adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve, as a minimum, treasury management semi-annual and annual outturn reports. The

Council operates its treasury management service in compliance with this Code and various statutory requirements.

2.1.2 This report includes the requirement in the 2021 Code, mandatory from 1st April 2023, of reporting of the treasury management prudential indicators. The non-treasury prudential indicators are incorporated in the Council's normal revenue and capital monitoring report.

2.1.3 Financial Procedure Rules require that the Council receives an annual report on Treasury Management activities for the year. Cabinet is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the treasury management policies. Corporate Governance and Audit Committee undertake an oversight role with regard to treasury management.

2.1.4 The Council's treasury management strategy for 2024/25 was approved at a meeting on 6 March 2024. The Council has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk remains central to the Council's treasury management strategy and that borrowing is undertaken on a prudent, affordable and balanced basis.

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2.2 The Economy and Interest Rates

2.2.1 The UK economy Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew year on year GDP growth across 2024 by 1.1%. Meanwhile quarter on quarter GDP grew by 0.7% between January and March 2025, exceeding expectations and an improvement on the 0.1% growth in the previous quarter. Based on plans outlined by the Government, the Office for Budget Responsibility downgraded its predictions for UK growth in 2025 to 1% from 2%. However, it upgraded its predictions for the four subsequent years.

2.2.2 UK annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation continued to stay above the 2% Bank of England (BoE) target in the later part of the period. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported headline consumer prices at 2.6% in March 2025, down from 2.8% in the previous month and below expectations. Core CPI also remained elevated, falling slightly in March to 3.4% from 3.5% in February. The outlook for CPI inflation showed it remaining above the MPC's 2% target throughout 2025. Recent data shows inflation at 3.4% in May, It is expected to hit 3.5% by June before peaking at 3.7% in Q3 and then easing towards the end of the year, but staying above the 2% target.

2.2.3 The labour market continued to cool, but the ONS data still require treating with caution. Recent data showed the unemployment rate rose to 4.5% (3mth/year) in the three months to March 2025 while the economic inactivity rate fell again to 21.4%. The ONS reported pay growth over the same three-month period at 5.6% for regular earnings (excluding bonuses) and 5.5% for total earnings.

2.2.4 The BoE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) cut the bank Bank Rate to 4.25% at its May 2025 meeting, having held it in March. This follows earlier 0.25% cuts in November and August 2024 and February from the 5.25% peak. At the May MPC meeting, members voted 5-4 to maintain Bank Rate at 4.5%, with the one members preferring another a 50 basis points cut and two preferring no cut.

2.2.5 Arlingclose, the authority's treasury adviser, maintains its central view that Bank Rate will continue to fall throughout 2025. From the cuts in August and November 2024 and February and May 2025, which took Bank Rate to 4.25%, with other cuts following in line with MPR months to take Bank Rate down to around 3.75% by the end of 2025.

2.2.6 Financial market sentiment was reasonably positive over most of the period, but economic, financial and geopolitical issues meant the trend of market volatility remained. In the latter part of the period, volatility increased and bond yields started to fall following a January peak, as the economic uncertainty around likely US trade policy impacted financial markets. Yields in the UK and US started to diverge in the last month of the period, with the former rising around concerns over the fiscal implications on the UK government from weaker growth, business sentiment and higher rates, while the latter started falling on potential recession fears due to the unpredictable nature of policy announcements by the US President and their potential impact.

2.3 Local Context

2.3.1 On 31 March 2025, the Council had net borrowing of £715.4 million arising from its revenue and capital income and expenditure. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while balance sheet resources are the underlying resources available for investment. These factors are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Balance sheet summary

	2023/24 £m actual	2024/25 £m actual
General Fund CFR - Non PFI	663.2	694.9
PFI	33.6	38.3
HRA CFR - Non PFI	163.7	159.1
PFI	40.6	47.9
Total CFR	**901.1**	**940.2**
Less: PFI debt liabilities	74.2	86.2
: Other deferred liabilities	3.4	4.3
Borrowing CFR	**823.5**	**849.7**
Less external borrowing *	707.3	774.0
Internal (over) borrowing	116.2	75.7
Total borrowing (investments)	**823.5**	**849.7**
Less: Balance sheet resources	155.3	134.3
Net borrowing (investments)	**668.2**	**715.4**
Investments	39.1	58.6

* shows only loans to which the Council is committed

2.3.2 The treasury management position at 31 March 2025 and the change during the year is shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Treasury Management Summary

* different to table 1 due to trust funds in balance sheet resources in 2024/25

	31.03.24 Balance £m	Movement £m	31.03.25 Balance £m	31.03.25 Weighted Average Rate %	31.03.25 Weighted Maturity Years
Long-term borrowing					
PWLB	550.4	72.9	623.3	4.27	14.96
LOBOs**	30.9	0.0	30.9	4.39	0.32
Loan stock (fixed rate)	7.0	0.0	7.0	11.60	7.67
Other LT loans (fixed rate)	40.0	0.0	40.0	3.89	39.17
Other MT loans (fixed rate)	37.6	-6.2	31.4	4.62	1.46
Short-term borrowing	41.4	0.0	41.4	3.03	0.42
Total borrowing	**707.3**	**66.7**	**774.0**	**4.26**	**14.05**
Long-term investments	10.0	0.0	10.0	4.03	N/A
Short-term investments	0.0	18.0	18.0	4.50	N/A
Cash and cash equivalents	29.1	1.5	30.6	4.52	N/A
Total investments	**39.1**	**19.5**	**58.6**	**4.43**	**N/A**
Net borrowing	**668.2**	**47.2**	**715.4**		

** included in long term due to official maturity dates however option dates used for maturity analysis

2.4 Investment Activity

2.4.1 The CIPFA Treasury Management Code now defines treasury management investments as those investments which arise from the Council's cash flows or treasury risk management activity that ultimately represent balances that need to be invested until the cash is required for use in the course of business.

2.4.2 Both the CIPFA Code and government guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its treasury investments before seeking the optimum rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.

2.4.3 The Council's overall Treasury Management Strategy prioritises security and liquidity of its investments before seeking a higher rate of return. which was adhered to in 2024/25.

2.4.4 As demonstrated by the liability benchmark in this report, the Council expects to be a long-term borrower and new treasury investments are therefore primarily made to manage day-to-day cash flows using short-term low risk instruments. The existing portfolio of strategic pooled funds will be maintained to diversify risk into different asset classes and boost investment income.

2.4.5 The Council's treasury management investments totalled £58.6 million as at 31 March 2025 (£39.1 million 31 March 2024). The Council invested an average balance of £64.5 million externally during the year (£59.9 million 2023/24). Interest income of £2.7 million

was generated through these investments (£2.6 million 2023/24) and £0.4 million dividend income from the CCLA Property Fund (£0.4 million 2023/24). Appendix 1 shows where investments were held at the beginning of April 2024, the end of September 2024 and the end of March 2025, by counterparty, by sector and by country. The Council's average lending rate for the year was 4.97% (5.26% 2023/24). Investments were higher that our strategy levels due to the timing of borrowing taken evenly throughout the year.

2.4.6 The majority of investments were placed in liquid instruments such as instant access bank deposit accounts, DMO (Debt Management Office) and Money Market Funds (MMFs). MMFs offer greater diversification of counterparties, thus lowering risk as well as instant access.

2.4.7 Bank Rate reduced from 5.25% to 5.00% in August 2024, again to 4.75% in November 2024 and again to 4.5% in February 2025 with short term interest rates largely being around these levels. The rates on DMADF (Debt Management Account Deposit Facility) deposits fell from a peak of 5.19% at the start of the year to 4.45% at year end. Money Market Rates also fell and were between 5.27% at the start and 4.42% at the end of year.

2.4.8 The Council continues to hold £10 million investment in the Local Authorities Pooled Investment Fund (LAPF). The Local Authorities Property Fund was established in 1972 and is managed by CCLA Fund Managers. As at March 2025 there are property assets under management of £1,054 million. The Fund aims to provide investors with regular revenue income and long-term price stability and it is an actively managed, diversified portfolio of UK commercial property. It principally invests in UK assets but may invest in other assets.

2.4.9 The fund returned a gross dividend yield of 4.28% in 2024/25 (4.40% 2023/24) and net income of £0.4 million was received by the Council in 2024/25 (£0.4 million in 2023/24).

2.4.10 Having had a challenging time since 2022, UK commercial property generally experienced a recovery during the period, with improved investment activity, capital values stabilising or improving, particularly towards the end of the period, and income remaining relatively robust.

2.4.11 Strategic fund investments are made in the knowledge that capital values will move both up and down over time. Unrealised cumulative capital losses of £1.3 million will not have an impact on the General Fund as the Council is utilising a government statutory override for pooled investment funds. Under the Regulations, gains and losses resulting from unrealised fair value movements, that otherwise must be recognised in the income and expenditure account under IFRS9, are not currently charged to the revenue account, and must be taken into an unusable reserve account.

2.4.12 Further to consultations in April 2023 and December 2024 MHCLG wrote to finance directors in England in February 2025 regarding the statutory override on accounting for gains and losses in pooled investment funds. On the assumption that when published regulations follow this policy announcement, the statutory override will be extended up until the 1st April 2029 for investments already in place before 1st April 2024. The override will not apply to any new investments taken out on or after 1st April 2024. The

Council's LAPF investment will therefore be covered by the extension of the override and no further investments in pooled funds are planned.

2.5 Borrowing Update

2.5.1 CIPFA's 2021 Prudential Code is clear that Local Authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return and that it is not prudent for Local Authorities to make any investment or spending decision that will increase the Capital Finance Requirement (CFR) and so may lead to new borrowing, unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the Council. PWLB loans are no longer available to buy investment assets primarily for yield unless these loans are for refinancing purposes.

2.5.2 The Council has not invested in assets primarily for financial return or that are not primarily related to the functions of the Council. It has no plans to do so in the future.

2.5.3 Borrowing is permitted for cashflow management, interest rate risk management, to refinance current borrowing and to adjust levels of internal borrowing. Borrowing is also allowed for financing capital expenditure primarily related to the delivery of a Local Authority's function.

2.5.4 After substantial rises in interest rates since 2021 many central banks have now begun to reduce their policy rates, albeit slowly. Gilt yields were volatile but have increased overall during the period. Much of the increase has been in response to market concerns that policies introduced by the Labour government will be inflationary and lead to higher levels of government borrowing. Changes to US related trade policies are also expected to lead to inflationary pressures.

2.5.4 The 10-year UK benchmark gilt yield started the period at 3.94% and ended at 4.69%, having reached a low of 3.76% in September and a high of 4.90% in January. While the 20-year gilt started at 4.40% and ended at 5.22%, hitting a low of 4.27% in September and a high of 5.40% in January.

2.5.5 On 31st March 2025 the PWLB certainty rates for maturity loans were 5.42% for 10-year loans, 5.91% for 20-year loans and 5.67% for 50-year loans. Their equivalents on 31st March 2024 were 4.74%, 5.18% and 5.01% respectively. The increase in long term rates, despite a drop in the base rate, reflects the premium borrowers are facing to lock in costs against such an uncertain backdrop and therefore means the Council is currently focusing on short to medium term borrowing to fund the capital plan.

2.5.6 For the majority of the year the cost of short-term borrowing from other local authorities closely tracked Base Rate at around 5.00% - 5.25%. However from late 2024 rates began to rise, peaking at around 6% in February and March 2025.

2.5.7 The PWLB HRA rate, which is 0.4% below the certainty rate, is available up to March 2026. This discounted rate is to support local authorities borrowing for the Housing Revenue Account and for refinancing existing HRA loans.

2.6 Borrowing Activity

2.6.1 As outlined in the Treasury Strategy, the Council's chief objective when borrowing has been to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing lower interest costs

and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required, with flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change being a secondary objective. The borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio. The Council pursued its strategy of keeping borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, known as internal borrowing.

2.6.2 In terms of borrowing, long-term loans maturing greater than one year totalled £698.9 million and short-term loans maturing within 12 months (excluding interest accrued) totalled £75.2 million (£641.0 million and £66.2 million 31 March 2024), an overall increase of £66.7 million. Appendix 2 details repayments of long-term loans during the year and short-term loans outstanding as at 31 March 2025.

2.6.3 The Council has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme and an estimated borrowing requirement as determined by the Liability Benchmark (see Appendix 5), which also considers usable reserves and working capital. Having considered the appropriate duration and structure of the borrowing need based on realistic projections, it was decided to take a combination of short-term borrowing and longer-term repayment loans.

2.6.4 The Council borrowed £98.0 million of new long-term Equal Installment of Principal (EIP) and 2 maturity loans from the PWLB in 2024/25. The borrowing was taken throughout the year, in small regular amounts, as agreed with our treasury advisors.

	Amount £m	**Rate %**	**Duration**	**Start date**	**Maturity date**
EIP Loans					
PWLB (739810)	20.00	4.67%	12 Years	28/06/2024	28/06/2036
PWLB (751915)	10.00	4.37%	11 Years	12/08/2024	12/08/2035
PWLB (759388)	5.00	4.52%	12 Years	12/09/2024	12/09/2036
PWLB (778241)	5.00	5.00%	9 years 6 months	26/11/2024	26/05/2034
PWLB (779247)	5.00	4.95%	8 Years	29/11/2024	29/11/2032
PWLB (785403)	5.00	4.91%	8 Years	23/12/2024	16/12/2032
PWLB (794097)	6.00	5.05%	6 Years	24/01/2025	24/01/2031
PWLB (795087)	5.00	5.01%	6 Years	29/01/2025	29/01/2031
PWLB (797366)	5.00	4.95%	5 years 6 months	06/02/2025	06/08/2030
PWLB (799800)	6.00	4.79%	5 years 6 months	13/02/2025	13/08/2030
PWLB (808715)	5.00	4.85%	5 years 6 months	17/03/2025	17/03/2030
Maturity Loans					
PWLB (790915)	10.00	5.13%	2 Years 3 Months	15/01/2025	15/04/2027
PWLB (804153)	11.00	5.07%	5 years 2 months	28/02/2025	06/05/2030
Total	**98.0**				

An EIP loan pays back principal over the life of the loan, and the interest associated with the loan goes down as the principal outstanding reduces, the maturity date above refers to the final principal repayment.

2.6.5 Over the period the Council took advantage of a limited amount of medium-term loans over a 2 to 3 year time frame from other authorities. The table below shows £25.0 million of new loans taken during 2024/25, there are further medium term loans totalling £45.0 million taken previous years still outstanding at 31 March 2025.

	Amount £m	Rate %	Start date	Maturity date
Oxfordshire County Council	5.0	5.00	17/04/2024	17/03/2027
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority	5.0	4.70	06/08/2024	06/08/2026
Elmbridge Borough Council	5.0	4.50	13/09/2024	14/09/2026
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	10.0	4.50	15/10/2024	15/10/2027
Total	**25.0**			

2.6.6 Fixed rate loans account for 95.71% of total long-term debt (see also Appendix 5) giving the Council stability in its interest costs. The maturity profile for all long-term loans is shown in Appendix 3 and shows that no more than 13.59% of all debt is due to be repaid in any one year (9.71% excluding LOBO's). This is good practice as it reduces the Council's exposure to a substantial borrowing requirement in any one particular future year, when interest rates might be at a relatively high level.

2.6.7 The primary source of the Council's borrowing is from the Governments PWLB representing 80.64% of total external borrowing.

2.6.8 The Council continues to hold £30.8 million of LOBO loans which represents 3.88% of total external borrowing. LOBO loans are where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate at set dates, following which the Council has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost.

2.6.9 In terms of debt rescheduling, the premium charge for early repayment of PWLB debt remained relatively expensive for the loans in the Council's portfolio and therefore unattractive for debt rescheduling activity in 2024/25.

2.6.10 The average borrowing rate for 2024/25 for the Council's outstanding debt was 4.26% (4.07% 2023/24).

2.7 Trends in Treasury Management Activity

2.7.1 Appendix 4 shows the Council's borrowing and investment trends over the last 7 years. This highlights the current trend of borrowing shorter and longer term to fund cashflow.

2.8 Risk and Compliance Issues

2.8.1 The Council reports that all treasury management activities undertaken during the year complied fully with the CIPFA Code of Practice and the Council's approved Treasury Management Strategy, including the prudential indicators. Details can be found in Appendix 5. Indicators relating to affordability and prudence are highlighted in this appendix.

2.8.2 When the Council has received unexpected monies late in the day, officers have no alternative but to put the monies into an overnight Reserve Account. The largest daily amount deposited in this account overnight as a result of unexpected late receipts was £1.3 million. Whilst this is not an ideal situation, the Council is still within investment limits as per the Treasury Management Strategy which is set at £10.0 million per counterparty.

2.8.3 The Council is aware of the risks of passive management of the treasury portfolio and, with the support of the Council's consultants (Arlingclose), has proactively managed the debt and investments over the year.

2.8.4 The CIPFA Code of Practice requires that treasury management performance be subject to regular member scrutiny. The Corporate Governance and Audit Committee performs this role and members have received reports on strategy, half yearly monitoring and now the outturn for the year 2024/25. Training was provided to Members in January 2025.

Looking Ahead – Treasury Management Developments in 2025/26

2.9 Re-financing/re-payment of current Long-Term Borrowing

2.9.1 As outlined within the Council approved Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26, the Council will continue to look to repay existing long-term debt when the opportunity arises where it becomes beneficial for the Council to do so.

2.9.2 Council officers will liaise with the Council's external Treasury Management advisors, Arlingclose, to review lender options, and proceed if they are considered to be in the longer-term best interests of the Council.

2.10 Loan Funding Sources

2.10.1 The Council may be presented with additional sources of long-term funding at certain points in time, beyond those currently listed in the Council's current Treasury Management Strategy. These may be at preferential rates of interest and therefore the Service Director Finance (Section 151 Officer) will look to maximise the use of source funds when it is preferential to do so.

2.11 Investment Opportunities

2.11.1 The Service Director Finance, supports the approach that the borrowing and investment strategy for 2025/26 continues to place emphasis on the security and liquidity of the Council's balances.

2.11.2 The investment in the CCLA property fund (see paragraphs 2.4.5 to 2.4.9) is part of a longer-term investment strategy to mitigate against any short-term market volatility or risk. As this fund has no defined maturity date its performance and continued suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives is regularly reviewed. Strategic fund investments are made in the knowledge that capital values will move both up and down on months, quarters and even years; but with the confidence that over a longer period total returns will exceed cash interest rates.

2.12 New Borrowing

2.12.1 As mentioned previously, the Council has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme. The Council's current approach to fund the capital plan is to use a combination of short and longer-term borrowing. Unfortunately borrowing rates remain high and are likely to stay high in the near term. As short and medium-term rates remain slightly lower over a shorter time frame compared to longer-term, the Council will continue

to borrow this way to minimise borrowing costs, although resulting in a higher proportion of debt that is not fixed over longer periods.

2.12.2 As noted, Arlingclose expect the base rate to fall to 3.75% during 25/26. Long-term PWLB loans will be taken if gilt yields drop and the opportunity to take those fixed rate loans are presented.

2.12.3 The Council's borrowing decisions are not predicated on any one outcome for interest rates and a balanced portfolio of short and long-term borrowing will be maintained considering the appropriate duration and structure of the borrowing need based on realistic projections, and with ongoing consultation with Arlingclose.

2.12.4 As noted in the 2025/26 Treasury Management Strategy report, the Council will also consider the opportunity to arrange forward starting loans (with alternative lenders as these are not available through the PWLB), where the interest rate is fixed in advance but the cash is received in later years. This would enable certainty of cost to be achieved without suffering a cost of carry in the intervening period. Again, this would only be undertaken after having considered the appropriate duration and structure of the borrowing need based on realistic projections, and with ongoing consultation with Arlingclose.

3 Implications for the Council

3.1 **Council Plan**
N/A

3.2 **Financial Implications**
Any changes in assumed borrowing and investment requirements, balances and interest rates will be reflected in revenue budget monitoring reports during the year.

3.3 **Legal Implications**
N/A

3.4 **Climate Change and Air Quality**
N/A

3.5 **Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**
N/A

4 Consultation
N/A

5. Engagement
N/A

6. Options

6.1 **Options considered**
N/A

6.2 **Reasons for recommended option**
N/A

7. Next steps and timelines

Comments and feedback from CGAC will be incorporated into this report which will be subsequently considered at Cabinet and Council in July 2025 as part of the overall financial outturn and rollover report 2024/25.

8. Contact officer

James Anderson	Head of Accountancy
Rachel Firth	Finance Manager

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes 2021 edition
CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2021 edition
Public Works Loan Board Website.
Treasury Management 2024/25 Strategy Report approved by Council on 6 March 2024.

10. Appendices

N/A

11. Service Directors responsible

Kevin Mulvaney	01484 221000
Sam Lawton	01484 221000

APPENDIX 1

Kirklees Council Investments 2024/25												
		Credit	01-Apr-24			30-Sep-24			31-Mar-25			
Counterparty		**Rating Mar 2025***	**£m**	**Interest Rate**	**Type of Investment**	**£m**	**Interest Rate**	**Type of Investment**	**£m**	**Interest Rate**	**Type of Investment**	
Specified Investments												
Barclays	Bank	F1/A+	0	4.65%	Instant Access	0	4.40%	Instant Access	0.8	3.90%	Instant Access	
Aberdeen Standard	MMF**	AAAmmf	9.8	5.27%	Instant Access	8.2	5.01%	Instant Access	9.9	4.53%	Instant Access	
Aviva	MMF**	Aaa-mf	9.9	5.25%	Instant Access	10	5.01%	Instant Access	10	4.57%	Instant Access	
Deutsche	MMF**	AAAmmf	9.4	5.25%	Instant Access	6.6	5.00%	Instant Access	9.9	4.53%	Instant Access	
Goldman Sachs	MMF**	AAAmmf	0	5.14%	Instant Access	0	4.92%	Instant Access	0	4.43%	Instant Access	
Crawley Borough Council	Local Authority		0	N/A	Local Authority	5	5.00%	Local Authority	0	N/A	Local Authority	
London Borough of Waltham Forest	Local Authority		0	N/A	Local Authority	5	5.00%	Local Authority	0	N/A	Local Authority	
Leeds City Council	Local Authority		0	N/A	Local Authority	5	5.00%	Local Authority	0	N/A	Local Authority	
West Northamptonshire Council	Local Authority		0	N/A	Local Authority	5	5.00%	Local Authority	0	N/A	Local Authority	
Debt Management Office	Cent Govt		0	N/A	Cent Govt	0	N/A	Cent Govt	18	4.50%	Cent Govt	
CCLA	Property Fund		10	N/A	Property Fund	10	N/A	Property Fund	10	N/A	Property Fund	
			39.1			**54.8**			**58.6**			
Sector Analysis			**£m**	**%age**		**£m**	**%age**		**£m**	**%age**		
Bank			0	0%		0	0%		0.8	1%		
MMF**			29.1	74%		24.8	45%		29.8	51%		
Local Authorities/Cent Govt			0	0%		20	36%		18	31%		
Property Fund			10	26%		10	18%		10	17%		
			39.1	100%		**54.8**	100%		**58.6**	100%		
Country analysis			**£m**	**%age**		**£m**	**%age**		**£m**	**%age**		
UK			10	26%		30	55%		28.8	49%		
MMF**			29.1	74%		24.8	45%		29.8	51%		
			39.1	100%		**54.8**	100%		**58.6**	100%		

*Fitch short/long term ratings, except Aviva MMF (highest Moody rating). See next page for key. ** MMF – Money Market Fund. These funds are domiciled in Ireland for tax reasons, but the funds are made up of numerous diverse investments with highly rated banks and other institutions. The credit risk is therefore spread over numerous countries, including the UK. The exception to this is the Aviva Government Liquidity Fund which invests directly in UK government securities and in short-term deposits secured on those securities.

Key – Fitch's credit ratings:

		Long	Short
Investment Grade	Extremely Strong	AAA	F1+
	Very Strong	AA+	
		AA	
		AA-	
	Strong	A+	F1
		A	
		A-	
	Adequate	BBB+	F2
		BBB	
		BBB-	F3
Speculative Grade	Speculative	BB+	B
		BB	
		BB-	
	Very Speculative	B+	
		B	
		B-	
	Vulnerable	CCC+	C
		CCC	
		CCC-	
		CC	
		C	
	Defaulting	D	D

Appendix 2

Long-term loans repaid and short-term loans outstanding 31 March 2025

Long-term loans repaid during 2024/25

	Amount £000s	Rate %	Date repaid
Repayments on maturity loans			
Crawley Borough Council	5,000	0.50	02/04/2024
Leicester City Council	5,000	0.75	12/04/2024
Vale of White Horse District Council	5,000	0.80	18/03/2025
Repayments on annuity loans			
PWLB (496956)	432	4.58	02/04/2024
PWLB (496956)	442	4.58	29/09/2024
PWLB (496956)	452	4.58	29/03/2025
Repayments on EIP loans			
PWLB (674705)	333	5.02	15/04/2024
PWLB (711011)	2,000	5.42	15/04/2024
PWLB (340221)	250	1.63	27/04/2024
PWLB (439173)	250	1.66	17/05/2024
PWLB (677193)	333	4.85	22/05/2024
PWLB (680811)	833	4.83	06/06/2024
PWLB (685435)	769	4.59	20/06/2024
PWLB (685834)	769	4.37	21/06/2024
PWLB (373440)	250	1.46	12/07/2024
PWLB (643579)	278	5.01	29/07/2024
PWLB (594601)	500	4.10	31/07/2024
PWLB (594848)	536	3.99	01/08/2024
PWLB (538379)	500	2.60	09/08/2024
PWLB (487385)	250	2.28	21/08/2024
PWLB (313112)	250	1.64	04/09/2024
PWLB (493145)	250	1.98	09/09/2024
PWLB (711013)	385	4.75	13/09/2024
PWLB (712740)	357	4.59	19/09/2024
PWLB (713074)	357	4.64	20/09/2024
PWLB (608189)	667	4.15	21/09/2024
PWLB (659904)	333	5.06	23/09/2024
PWLB (660447)	333	5.08	23/09/2024
PWLB (661522)	357	5.00	27/09/2024
PWLB (674705)	333	5.02	14/10/2024
PWLB (711011)	2,000	5.42	14/10/2024

PWLB (340221)	250	1.63	27/10/2024
PWLB (439173)	250	1.66	17/11/2024
PWLB (677193)	333	4.85	22/11/2024
PWLB (680811)	833	4.83	06/12/2024
PWLB (685435)	769	4.59	20/12/2024
PWLB (685834)	769	4.37	23/12/2024
PWLB (739810)	833	4.67	30/12/2024
PWLB (373440)	250	1.46	13/01/2025
PWLB (643579)	278	5.01	27/01/2025
PWLB (594601)	500	4.10	31/01/2025
PWLB (594848)	536	3.99	01/02/2025
PWLB (538379)	500	2.60	09/02/2025
PWLB (751915)	455	4.37	12/02/2025
PWLB (487385)	250	2.28	21/02/2025
PWLB (313112)	250	1.64	04/03/2025
PWLB (493145)	250	1.98	09/03/2025
PWLB (759388)	208	4.52	12/03/2025
PWLB (711013)	385	4.75	13/03/2025
PWLB (712740)	357	4.59	19/03/2025
PWLB (713074)	357	4.64	20/03/2025
PWLB (608189)	667	4.15	21/03/2025
PWLB (659904)	333	5.06	21/03/2025
PWLB (660447)	333	5.08	24/03/2025
PWLB (661522)	357	5.00	27/03/2025
Total	**40,106**		

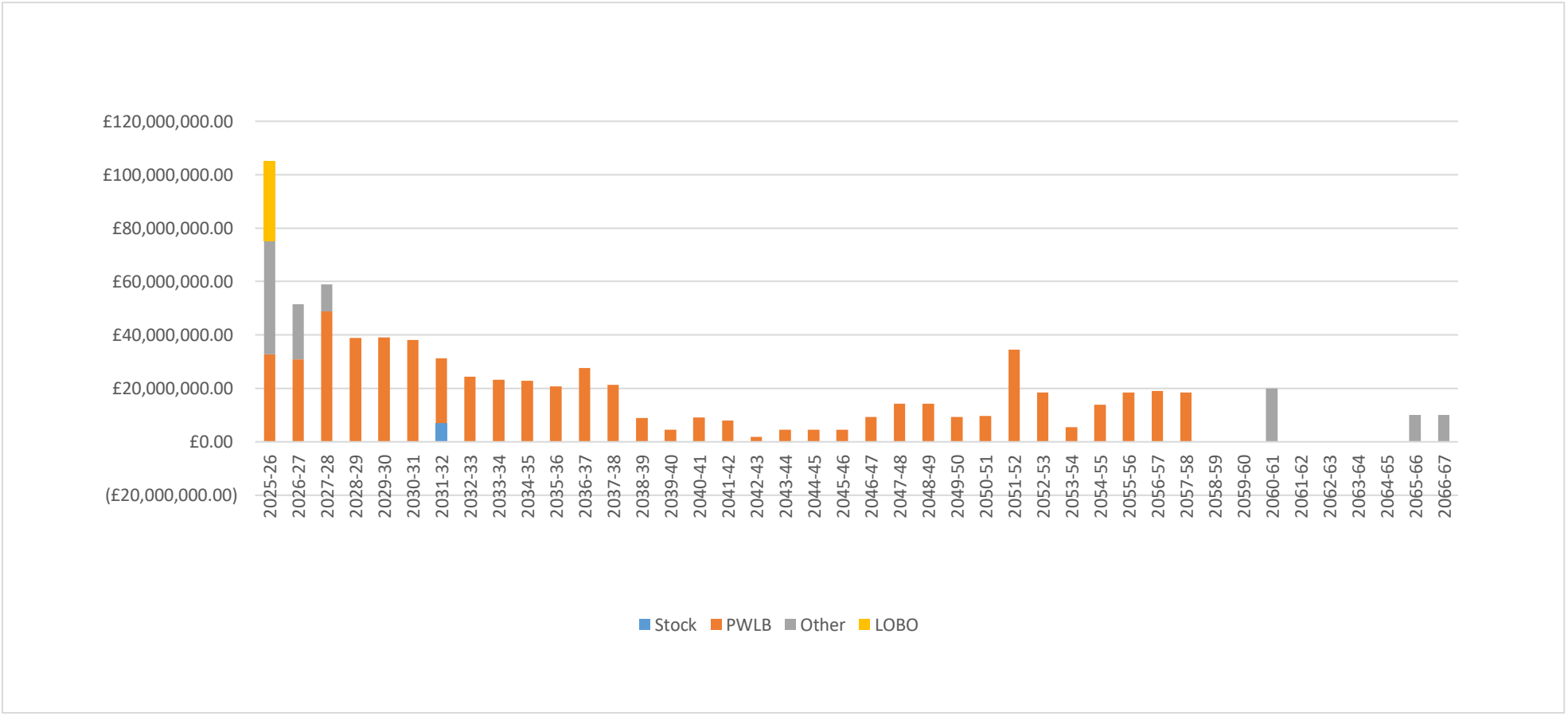
Short-term loans outstanding 31 March 2025

	Amount £000s	Rate %	Length of loan (days)
Short-term borrowing from other Local Authorities			
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	5,000	5.15	341
Wealden District Council	5,000	4.8	181
Medium-term loans due to mature in the next twelve months			
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	10,000	1.50	1,096
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	5,000	5.40	731
Leicester City Council	10,000	2.00	1096
Oxfordshire County Council	5,000	2.00	1096
Local Lenders/Trust Funds	1,475	4.35	
Total temporary borrowing	**41,475**		

Long-term loans due to mature in the next twelve months	33,715		
Total	**75,190**		

Kirklees Council Loan Maturity Profile (All Debt)

Appendix 3



The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment. LOBO options of £30.8 million have a potential repayment date during 2025/26.

Appendix 4

Kirklees Council - Borrowing and Investment Trends

At 31 March	2025 £m	2024 £m	2023 £m	2022 £m	2021 £m	2020 £m	2019 £m
Investments	58.6	39.1	44	78.9	37.1	52	39.1
ST Borrowing (excl interest accrued)	75.2	66.2	101	26.6	50	53.2	11.8
LT Borrowing	698.9	641.1	512.8	442.3	375.8	373.7	384.1
Total Borrowing	774.0	707.3	613.8	468.9	425.8	426.9	395.9
Net debt position	**715.4**	**668.2**	**569.8**	**390**	**388.7**	**374.9**	**356.8**
Capital Financing Requirement (excl PFI)							
General Fund	694.9	663.2	617	556.1	500.1	461.6	436.6
HRA	159.1	163.7	168	166	170.3	175.3	175.3
Total CFR	854.0	**826.9**	**785**	722.1	**670.4**	**636.9**	**611.9**
Less deferred liabilities (non PFI)	4.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.9
Borrowing CFR	849.7	**823.5**	**781.5**	**718.5**	**666.8**	**633.2**	**608**
Balances “internally invested”	75.7	116.2	167.7	249.6	241	206.3	212.1
Ave Kirklees’ investment rate for financial year	4.9%	5.3%	1.9%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%	0.7%
Ave Base rate (Bank of England)	4.9%	5.0%	2.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.7%	0.7%
Ave LT Borrowing rate (1)	5.6%	5.3%	4.0%	2.1%	2.5%	2.6%	2.7%

(1) Based on average PWLB rate throughout the year on a 25 to 30 year loan (less 0.2% PWLB certainty rate) repayable on maturity.

Appendix 5

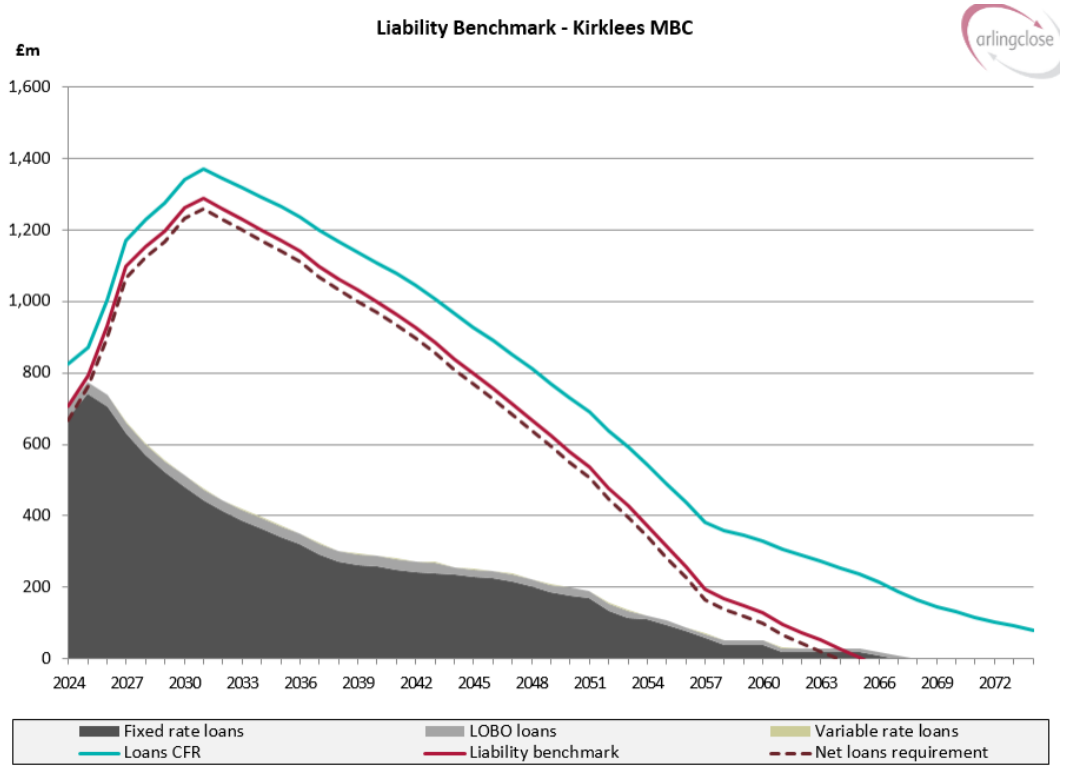
Treasury Management Prudential Indicators

Liability Benchmark

This new indicator compares the Council's actual existing borrowing against a liability benchmark that has been calculated to show the lowest risk level of borrowing. The liability benchmark is an important tool to help establish whether the Council is likely to be a long-term borrower or long-term investor in the future, and so shape its strategic focus and decision making. It represents an estimate of the cumulative amount of external borrowing the Council must hold to fund its current capital and revenue plans while keeping treasury investments at the minimum level of £30.0 million required to manage day-to-day cash flow.

	31.03.24 actual £m	31.03.25 actual £m	31.03.26 forecast £m	31.03.27 forecast £m
Loans CFR	**823.5**	**849.7**	**1,002.8**	**1,171.5**
Less: Balance sheet resources	155.3	134.3	104.9	105.9
Net loans requirement	**668.2**	**715.4**	**897.9**	**1,065.6**
Plus: Liquidity allowance	38.9	58.6	30.0	30.0
Liability benchmark	**707.1**	**774.0**	**927.9**	**1,095.6**
Existing borrowing	**707.3**	**774.0**	**738.2**	**661.8**

Following on from the medium-term forecast above, the long-term liability benchmark for 2024/25 includes capital expenditure funded by borrowing of £31.5 million, minimum revenue provision on new building capital expenditure based on a 50-year asset life and reduction in Balance sheet resources of £21.0 million.



The total liability benchmark is shown in the chart above together with the maturity profile of the Council's existing borrowing. The red line is the liability benchmark reaching a peak in 2032 highlighting the gap between current borrowing identified in grey, which is reducing over time with repayments, and the additional borrowing required to fund the capital plan.

Maturity Structure of Borrowing

This indicator is set to control the Authority's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of all borrowing were:

	Upper limit	Lower limit	31.03.25 actual	31.03.25 actual £m	Complied
Under 12 months	20%	0%	14%	105.1	Yes
12 months and within 24 months	20%	0%	7%	51.4	Yes
24 months and within 5 years	60%	0%	18%	136.8	Yes
5 years and within 10 years	80%	0%	18%	139.7	Yes
10 years and above	100%	20%	44%	341.0	Yes

Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment. LOBO options of £30.9 million have a potential repayment date during 2025/26 and have been included in the under 12 months line.

Long term Treasury Management Investments

The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The prudential limits on the long-term treasury management limits are:

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	No fixed date
Limit on principal invested beyond year end	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Actual principal invested beyond year end	£10.0m	£10.0m	£10.0m	£10.0m
Complied	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Long-term investments with no fixed maturity date include strategic pooled funds, real estate investment trusts and directly held equity but exclude money market funds and bank accounts with no fixed maturity date as these are considered short-term.

Interest Rate Exposures

Bank Base Rate fell by 0.75% during the year from 5.25% on 1st April 2024 to 4.50% on 31 March 2025.
For context, the changes in interest rates during the quarter were:

	31.03.24	**31.03.25**
Bank Rate	5.25%	4.50%
1-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.36%	4.82%
5-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	4.68%	4.97%
10-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	4.74%	5.42%
20-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.18%	5.91%
50-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.01%	5.67%

While fixed rate borrowing can contribute significantly to reducing the uncertainty surrounding future interest rate scenarios, the pursuit of optimum performance justifies retaining a degree of flexibility through the use of variable interest rates on at least part of the treasury management portfolio. The Prudential Code requires the setting of upper limits for both variable rate and fixed interest rate exposure:

	Limit Set 2024/25	**Actual 2024/25**
Interest at fixed rates as a percentage of net interest payments	60% - 100%	95%
Interest at variable rates as a percentage of net interest payments	0% - 40%	5%

The interest payments were within the limits set.

Appendix 6

Glossary of Treasury Terms

Authorised Limit	The affordable borrowing limit determined in compliance with the Local Government Act 2003 (English and Welsh authorities) and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. This Prudential Indicator is a statutory limit for total external debt. It is set by the Authority and needs to be consistent with the Authority's plans for capital expenditure financing and funding. The Authorised Limit provides headroom over and above the *Operational Boundary* to accommodate expected cash movements. Affordability and prudence are matters which must be taken into account when setting this limit.
Annuity	Method of repaying a loan where the payment amount remains uniform throughout the life of the loan, therefore the split varies such that the proportion of the payment relating to the principal increases as the amount of interest decreases.
Balances and Reserves	Accumulated sums that are maintained either earmarked for specific future costs or commitments or generally held to meet unforeseen or emergency expenditure.
Bank Rate	The official interest rate set by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee and what is generally termed at the "base rate". This rate is also referred to as the 'repo rate'.
Basis Point	1/100th of 1%, i.e. 0.01%
Bill	A certificate of short-term debt issued by a company, government or other institution, tradable on the financial market
Bond	A certificate of debt issued by a company, government, or other institution. The bond holder receives interest at a rate stated at the time of issue of the bond. The price of a bond may vary during its life.
Capital Expenditure	Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of capital assets.
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes representing the cumulative capital expenditure of the local authority that has not been financed.
Capital gain or loss	An increase or decrease in the capital value of an investment, for example through movements in its market price.
Capital growth	Increase in the value of the asset (in the context of a collective investment scheme, it will be the increase in the unit price of the fund).
Capital receipts	Money obtained on the sale of a capital asset.
Certainty Rate	The government has reduced by 20 basis points (0.20%) the interest rates on loans via the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to principal local authorities who provide information as specified on their plans for long-term borrowing and associated capital spending.
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.
Collective Investment Schemes	Funds in which several investors collectively hold units or shares. The assets in the fund are not held directly by each investor, but as part of a pool (hence these funds are also referred to as 'Pooled Funds'). Unit Trusts and Open-Ended Investment Companies are types of collective investment schemes/pooled funds.
Corporate Bonds	Corporate bonds are bonds issued by companies. The term is often used to cover all bonds other than those issued by governments in their own currencies and includes issues by companies, supranational organisations and government agencies.
Corporate Bond Funds	Collective Investment Schemes investing predominantly in bonds issued by companies and supranational organisations.
CPI ***Also see RPI***	Consumer Price Index. (This measure is used as the Bank of England's inflation target.)
Cost of carry	When a loan is borrowed in advance of requirement, this is the difference between the interest rate and (other associated costs) on the loan and the income earned from investing the cash in the interim.
Counterparty List	List of approved financial institutions with which the Council can place investments.

Credit Default Swap (CDS)	A Credit Default Swap is similar to an insurance policy against a credit default. Both the buyer and seller of a CDS are exposed to credit risk. Naked CDS, i.e. one which is not linked to an underlying security, can lead to speculative trading.
Credit Rating	Formal opinion by a registered rating agency of a counterparty's future ability to meet its financial liabilities; these are opinions only and not guarantees.
Debt Management Office (DMO)	The DMO is an Executive Agency of Her Majesty's Treasury and provides direct access for local authorities into a government deposit facility known as the Debt Management Account Deposit Fund (DMADF). All deposits are guaranteed by HM Government and therefore have the equivalent of a sovereign triple-A credit rating.
Diversification / diversified exposure	The spreading of investments among different types of assets or between markets in order to reduce risk.
Derivatives	Financial instruments whose value, and price, are dependent on one or more underlying assets. Derivatives can be used to gain exposure to, or to help protect against, expected changes in the value of the underlying investments. Derivatives may be traded on a regulated exchange or traded 'over the counter'.
Debt Management Account Deposit Faciliy (DMADF)	HM Treasury deposit account to provide users with a flexible and secure facility to supplement existing range of investment options while saving interst costs for central governement.
ECB	European Central Bank
Fair Value	Fair value is defined as a sale price agreed to by a willing buyer and seller, assuming both parties enter the transaction freely. Many investments have a fair value determined by a market where the security is traded.
Federal Reserve	The US central bank. (Often referred to as "the Fed")
Floating Rate Notes	A bond issued by a company where the interest rate paid on the bond changes at set intervals (generally every 3 months). The rate of interest is linked to LIBOR and may therefore increase or decrease at each rate setting.
GDP	Gross domestic product – also termed as "growth" in the economy. The value of the national aggregate production of goods and services in the economy.
General Fund	This includes most of the day-to-day spending and income. (All spending and income related to the management and maintenance of the housing stock is kept separately in the Housing Revenue Account).
Gilts (UK Govt)	Gilts are bonds issued by the UK Government. They take their name from 'gilt-edged': being issued by the UK government, they are deemed to be very secure as the investor expects to receive the full face value of the bond to be repaid on maturity.
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	A ring-fenced account of all housing income and expenditure, required by statute.
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards.
Income Distribution	The payment made to investors from the income generated by a fund; such a payment can also be referred to as a 'dividend'.
Local Authority Property Fund (LAPF)	A pooled property collective investment scheme for Churches, Charities and Local Authorities. (see Collective Investment Scheme).
Liability Benchmark	Term in CIPFA's Risk Management Toolkit which refers to the minimum amount of borrowing required to keep investments at a minimum liquidity level (which may be zero).
LOBOs	LOBO stands for 'Lender's Option Borrower's Option'. The underlying loan facility is typically long term and the interest rate is fixed. However, in the LOBO facility the lender has the option to call on the facilities at pre-determined future dates. On these call dates, the lender can propose or impose a new fixed rate for the remaining term of the facility and the borrower has the 'option' to either accept the new imposed fixed rate or repay the loan facility.
Maturity	The date when an investment or borrowing is repaid.

Maturity profile	A table or graph showing the amount (or percentage) of debt or investments maturing over a time period. The amount or percent maturing could be shown on a year-by-year or quarter-by-quarter or month-by-month basis.
MiFID II	MiFID II replaced the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID I) from 3 January 2018. It is a legislative framework instituted by the European Union to regulate financial markets in the bloc and improve protections for investors.
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	An annual provision that the Authority is statutorily required to set aside and charge to the Revenue Account for the repayment of debt associated with expenditure incurred on capital assets.
Money Market Funds (MMF)	Pooled funds which invest in a range of short term assets providing high credit quality and high liquidity.
Net Asset Value (NAV)	A fund's net asset value is calculated by taking the current value of the fund's assets and subtracting its liabilities.
Operational Boundary	This is the limit set by the Authority as its most likely, i.e. prudent, estimate level of external debt, but not the worst case scenario. This limit links directly to the Authority's plans for capital expenditure, the estimates of the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) and the estimate of cashflow requirements for the year.
Pooled funds	See Collective Investment Schemes (above).
Premiums and Discounts	In the context of local authority borrowing, (a) the premium is the penalty arising when a loan is redeemed prior to its maturity date and (b) the discount is the gain arising when a loan is redeemed prior to its maturity date. If on a £1 million loan, it is calculated* that a £100,000 premium is payable on premature redemption, then the amount paid by the borrower to redeem the loan is £1,100,000 plus accrued interest. If on a £1 million loan, it is calculated that a £100,000 discount receivable on premature redemption, then the amount paid by the borrower to redeem the loan is £900,000 plus accrued interest. PWLB premium/discount rates are calculated according to the length of time to maturity, current market rates (plus a margin), and the existing loan rate which then produces a premium/discount dependent on whether the discount rate is lower/higher than the coupon rate. *The calculation of the total amount payable to redeem a loan borrowed from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) is the present value of the remaining payments of principal and interest due in respect of the loan being repaid prematurely, calculated on normal actuarial principles. More details are contained in the PWLB's lending arrangements circular.
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)	Private Finance Initiative (PFI) provides a way of funding major capital investments, without immediate recourse to the public purse. Private consortia, usually involving large construction firms, are contracted to design, build, and in some cases manage new projects. Contracts can typically last for 30 years, during which time the asset is leased by a public authority.
Investment Property	Property (land or a building or part of a building or both) held (by the owner or by the lessee under a finance lease) to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both.
Prudential Code	Developed by CIPFA and introduced on 01/4/2004 as a professional code of practice to support local authority capital investment planning within a clear, affordable, prudent and sustainable framework and in accordance with good professional practice.
Prudential Indicators	Indicators determined by the local authority to define its capital expenditure and asset management framework. They are designed to support and record local decision making in a manner that is publicly accountable; they are not intended to be comparative performance indicators between authorities.
PWLB	Public Works Loans Board. It is a statutory body operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office, an Executive Agency of HM Treasury. The PWLB's function is to lend money from the National Loans Fund to local authorities and other prescribed bodies, and to collect the repayments.
Revenue Expenditure	Expenditure to meet the continuing cost of delivery of services including salaries and wages, the purchase of materials and capital financing charges.
Risk	**Credit and counterparty risk**

	The risk of failure by a counterparty to meet its contractual obligations to the organisation under an investment, borrowing, capital, project or partnership financing, particularly as a result of the counterparty's diminished creditworthiness, and the resulting detrimental effect on the organisation's capital or current (revenue) resources. **Liquidity risk** The risk that cash will not be available when it is needed, that ineffective management of liquidity creates additional unbudgeted costs, and that the organisation's business/service objectives will be thereby compromised. **Refinancing risk** The risk that maturing borrowings, capital, project or partnership financings cannot be refinanced on terms that reflect the provisions made by the organisation for those refinancings, both capital and current (revenue), and/or that the terms are inconsistent with prevailing market conditions at the time. **Interest Rate risk** The risk that fluctuations in the levels of interest rates create an unexpected or unbudgeted burden on the organisation's finances, against which the organisation has failed to protect itself adequately. **Legal risk** The risk that the organisation itself, or an organisation with which it is dealing in its treasury management activities, fails to act in accordance with its legal powers or regulatory requirements, and that the organisation suffers losses accordingly. **Operational risk** The risk that an organisation fails to identify the circumstances in which it may be exposed to the risk of loss through fraud, error, corruption or other eventualities in its treasury management dealings, and fails to employ suitable systems and procedures and maintain effective contingency management arrangements to these ends. It includes the area of risk commonly referred to as operational risk. **Market Risk** The risk that, through adverse market fluctuations in the value of the principal sums an organisation borrows and invests, its stated treasury management policies and objectives are compromised, against which effects it has failed to protect itself adequately.
RPI	Retail Prices Index. A monthly index demonstrating the movement in the cost of living as it tracks the prices of goods and services including mortgage interest and rent. Pensions and index-linked gilts are uprated using the CPI index.
SORP	Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting (Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom).
Specified Investments	Term used in the CLG Guidance and Welsh Assembly Guidance for Local Authority Investments. Investments that offer high security and high liquidity, in sterling and for no more than 1 year. UK government, local authorities and bodies that have a high credit rating.
Supported Borrowing	Borrowing for which the costs are supported by the government or third party.
Temporary Borrowing	Borrowing to cover peaks and troughs of cash flow, not to fund spending.
Term Deposits	Deposits of cash with terms attached relating to maturity and rate of return (interest).
Treasury (T) -Bills	Treasury Bills are short term Government debt instruments and, just like temporary loans used by local authorities, are a means to manage cash flow. Treasury Bills (T-Bills) are issued by the Debt Management Office and are an eligible sovereign instrument, meaning that they have a AAA-rating.
Treasury Management Code	CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services. The current Code is the edition released in 2021.
Treasury Management Practices (TMP)	Treasury Management Practices set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve its policies and objectives and prescribe how it will manage and control these activities.
Unsupported Borrowing	Borrowing which is self-financed by the local authority. This is also sometimes referred to as Prudential Borrowing.

Usable Reserves	Resources available to finance future revenue and capital expenditure.
Variable Net Asset Value (VNAV)	A term used in relation to the valuation of 1 share in a fund. This means that the net asset value (NAV) of these funds is calculated daily based on market prices.
Working Capital	Timing differences between income/expenditure and receipts/payments
Yield	The measure of the return on an investment instrument.

Report title: Q4 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report

Meeting	Cabinet
Date	8th July 2025
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	Councillor Carole Pattison
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	No No
Purpose of Report The Q4 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report provides information on progress against the 2024/25 Council Plan priorities and the performance against the 2024/25 Council Key Measures.	
Recommendations • It is recommended that the report is noted.	
Resource Implication: None	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?**	Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director of Public Health and Corporate Resources – 24/06/2025 Andy Simcox, Service Director – 27/06/2025 Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director – 27/06/2025 Sam Lawton, Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer) – 24/06/2025

Electoral wards affected: Not applicable

Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? No personal data within report

1. Executive Summary

The Q4 2024/25 Council Plan and Performance Update Report is the fourth iteration of a new report providing Executive Leadership Team, Executive Board, Cabinet and Scrutiny Panels/Committees with:

- A narrative update against each of the four Council Plan priorities. This includes an update on progress and activities delivered in the quarter and planned activities for the next quarter.
- An update and narrative against the 2024/25 Council Key Measures. This includes an update on progress and activities delivered in the quarter and planned activities for the next quarter.
- An appendix containing updates against the Council Measures.
- An appendix containing updates against the Shared Outcomes Population Outcome Indicators.

The Council Key Measures are a fundamental part of the new quarterly reporting arrangements. The Council Key Measures reflect and represent the most critical and important areas of the Council with consideration of the Council's strategic priorities for 2024/25; the Council's transformation programmes; the Council's statutory functions and responsibilities; the Council's regulatory requirements; risks to the Council; and the Council's resources (finance and people).

Throughout 2024/25, the Council Key Measures have been continuously reviewed to ensure they reflect and represent the most critical and important areas of the Council. Therefore, the measures included within the report each quarter are subject to change.

Where available, data has been reported for the current quarter/year, the previous quarter/year and the current quarter for the previous year. This provides a short (3-month/1-year) and longer (12-month/2-year) term trend. Benchmarking data is reported where available. The most appropriate comparator group for each measure has been selected. This will include comparisons against one or more of regional, statistical neighbour and national rates.

2. Information required to take a decision

Cabinet is invited to consider this report in relation to the Council Plan deliverables contributing to the Kirklees Shared Outcomes and the Council's aspiration to be effective and efficient in the delivery of its services.

3. Implications for the Council

This report provides an update on performance against the 2024/25 Council Key Measures. This will enable the Council to effectively monitor performance and drive further improvements.

3.1 Council Plan

The report provides an update on progress against the priorities within the Council Plan

3.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

3.3 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications.

3.4 Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

There are no other implications

3.5 Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

No Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) is needed

4 Consultation

No consultation is required, this report is for information only.

5 Engagement

No engagement is required, this report is for information only.

6 Options

6.1 Options Considered

It is recommended that the report is noted.

6.2 Reasons for recommended Option

This report is for information only.

7 Next steps and timelines

Updates will be shared on a quarterly basis with Cabinet Members and members of the public. The provision of these quarterly updates will enable Executive Directors, the Chief Executive and Cabinet Members to monitor progress against key priorities and enact change where needed, to maximise improvements and outcomes for people and places.

8 Contact officer

Head of Data and Insight, Mike Henry
Telephone – 01484 221000
Email – Mike.Henry@kirklees.gov.uk

9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Not applicable.

10 Appendices

Not applicable.

11 Service Director responsible

Rachel Spencer-Henshall, Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director of Public Health and Corporate Resources

Kirklees Council

Council Plan and Performance Update Report

Quarter 4 2024/25

Council Plan Priorities Update – Quarter 4 2024/25 ..... *3*
Introduction **3**
Priority 1 – Address our financial position in a fair and balanced way **4**
Priority 2 – Strive to transform council services to become more modern, efficient and effective **5**
Priority 3 – Continue to deliver a greener, healthier Kirklees and address the challenges of climate change **6**
Priority 4 – Continue to invest and regenerate our towns and villages to support our diverse places and communities to flourish **7**
Council Performance Update – Quarter 4 2024/25 ..... *8*
Summary **9**
Adults and Health **10**
Children and Families **16**
Public Health and Corporate Resources **19**
Place **24**
Appendix A – Council Measures **35**
Adults and Health 35
Children and Families 40
Public Health and Corporate Resources 46
Place 51
Appendix B – Population Outcome Indicators **62**
Shared by People 63
Best Start 64
Well 67
Independent 68
Aspire and Achieve 70
Sustainable Economy 70
Safe and Cohesive 72
Clean and Green 73
Efficient and Effective 74

Council Plan Priorities Update – Quarter 4 2024/25

Introduction

This report provides an update on the 12-month deliverables outlined within the 2024/25 Council Plan. Progress updates in this report cover up until the end of March 2025 and further updates will be included in future quarterly reports.

The deliverables reported upon in this report relate to the four, three-year priorities outlined in the Council Plan. These are:

1. Address our financial position in a fair and balanced way.
2. Strive to transform council services to become more efficient, effective, and modern.
3. Continue to deliver a greener, healthier Kirklees and address the challenges of climate change.
4. Continue to invest and regenerate our towns and villages to support our diverse places and communities to flourish.

These priorities don't aim to cover all the many services and programmes undertaken throughout the council, they aim to summarise the overarching strategic direction for our activity in the current context and with the resources that we have available.

You can find the 2024/25 version of the Council Plan at www.kirklees.gov.uk/councilplan.

Priority 1 – Address our financial position in a fair and balanced way

Overall position

Overall, the general fund financial position of the council is stabilising after several years of significant financial challenges through budget savings and service changes. The Finance Outturn report (also on this Cabinet agenda) shows a general fund overspend of £5.6m, compared to a projected £13m at Q3.

Budget

At the Council meeting held on the 5-6th March 2025, the Council's budget was agreed with a £387m net revenue budget for 2025/26 and £1.4billion investment programme for the next five years. This includes over £51million dedicated to funding additional demand and inflationary pressures. The approved budget contained a number of amendments including a one-off revenue budget of £250k for Kirklees Clean Up, capital investment in the playground at Cliffe House of £250k, Highways Maintenance of £9m and £7.5m set aside for Cleckheaton Town Hall

The budget also included £11m of new savings for on top of the £15.8m of savings already agreed. The budget report, appendices and the Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs) are available online.

External funding

A new guide and checklist has been launched to help council officers secure external funding. Work continues to improve record keeping with a funding tracker and dashboard now fully developed and updated regularly. Last quarter, we successfully bid for £1.2m of external funding with a further six applications pending. Work has begun to identify further improvements in the way we pursue external funding, to ensure we don't miss opportunities to support local priorities.

Third sector

Over Q4, the third sector team have supported over 100 groups with advice on committee roles and governance structures, asset transfers, volunteering, and accessing grants and funding. The team supported £162k of successful bids to external funding schemes in Q4.

25 council employees took part in the employee supported volunteering scheme in Q4, benefiting Uniform Exchange, Yorkshire Air Ambulance, Homestart, Growing Works, and a junior netball team as well as litter picking and tree planting to improve the local community environment.

Priority 2 – Strive to transform council services to become more modern, efficient and effective

Children's services

We have coproduced and published 'SEND: The Big Plan Part 2', setting out our priorities for young people and those who live or work with children and young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). All Safety Valve payments for the 2024-25 financial year are now complete. Work on the SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2025-2028 has continued.

A new facility for children with additional needs has now opened at Woodley Moor school, allowing it to take in 25 extra children of primary age with autism. This comes in advance of the school's relocation and expansion at a new site in Almondbury.

In March, we introduced the Families Together Gateway, which is a new way for families to get support. On corporate parenting, we have introduced free prescriptions for care leavers.

Adult social care

In January we launched the new operating model for reablement, increasing capacity and access to high quality interventions. As at end of February, £4.93m of savings have been achieved through the programme and £6.34m are projected to be achieved by the end of the financial year. The effectiveness of our adult social care and financial assessment pathway has improved by reducing average customer journey times and maximising opportunities for independence.

We have continued to prepare for a Care Quality Commission inspection, now due in May 2025.

Customer expectations and access to services

We want residents to understand what we can and can't do, and we want to communicate openly about this whilst listening and responding to customer feedback and designing services with customer experience in mind. In short, we want to be a council that focuses on customers. These messages are built into Our Council, a culture refresh programme which went on to launch in April. Work has begun to identify priorities areas of focus through existing data and staff engagement. This work will build on the existing strengths that we see across many of our teams. This quarter, we have also concluded the consultation on integrating our contact centres.

Assets

Further auctions and some freehold reversions helped us reach £5.83m of capital receipts for 2024/25 – 97% of the £6m target. There is more to do to ensure our assets and how they are managed support our priorities, and we have commissioned an independent review to identify next steps. Council assets are also being used to increase the provision of temporary accommodation.

Homes and Neighbourhoods

We have begun implementation of a new housing repairs system, complementing the new housing management system also being implemented this year. These systems will enhance the quality of services to tenants. We have improved performance in addressing damp, mould, and condensation, as well as made progress redesigning processes related to asbestos, fire safety, and repairs. The implementation of the new tenant engagement strategy will now be a priority.

Priority 3 – Continue to deliver a greener, healthier Kirklees and address the challenges of climate change

Parks and green spaces

As part of the ongoing Playable Spaces project, work got underway in this period on a playground upgrade in Crow Nest Park in Dewsbury, paid for by £150,000 from the Council and £100,000 from the FCC Communities Foundation. The upgrade plans for the public play area include a new climbing frame for teens, sensory and accessible equipment including new musical chimes and drums, and a toddler multi climber and roundabout. The plans also include refurbished benches and new picnic benches. Looking forward, there will be a similar £250,000 investment in the Cliffe House play area in Shepley as well as planned works in Crow Nest Park, Dewsbury.

Waste and recycling

The Great British Spring Clean took place, with our recycling team joining players and staff from Huddersfield Town Football Club to collect rubbish from routes and communities around the John Smith Stadium. In one day they collected 76 bags of waste, the equivalent to 19 domestic wheelie bins. As well as cleaning up the area, the event aimed to encourage people to use litter bins.

Social care

Following completion of building works, the refurbished Knowl Park House is now open. Knowl Park House is a service for care-eligible people living with dementia in Kirklees, operating on a referral basis. The renewed facility is a safe, informal, friendly environment for people to meet others and take part in activities that help maintain their life skills, stimulate their minds and bodies, and have fun. The service gives carers or families a much-needed break and some time to themselves, with the service designed to help people with dementia to continue to live in their own homes and remain as independent as possible. The facilities are now state-of-the-art, including a wellbeing zone, an activity zone, a home therapy zone, and sensory gardens.

On 11 February, Cabinet approved for continuing talks about transferring the council's two dementia care homes to the independent sector. Councillors were presented with additional financial analysis regarding the running of Claremont House and Castle Grange. After talks with interested providers, a suitable provider will be selected to take on the running of the homes.

In March, we appointed a contractor to revamp existing learning disability day care facilities. Work will begin in Spring 2025 to modernise day care facilities at Mill Dale and Crescent Dale in Heckmondwike. The buildings will support up to 40 adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities and autism. All proposed changes will incorporate design and technology features that support neurodiversity and people with complex physical disabilities. This work will further improve facilities in North Kirklees for adults with complex and multiple learning and physical disabilities.

Public health

In February, we launched the 'Healthier Drinking Habits' campaign, promoting healthier alcohol consumption and support services in public spaces across Kirklees. It forms part of wider work with Change Grow Live, the commissioned provider of alcohol treatment services. Since April 2023, we have seen a 30% increase in people accessing support for their alcohol use, with levels of people in alcohol treatment now the highest they have been in the last five years.

Priority 4 – Continue to invest and regenerate our towns and villages to support our diverse places and communities to flourish

West Yorkshire Investment Zone

The West Yorkshire Investment Zone area in Huddersfield forms part of the wider Station-to-Stadium Enterprise Corridor and is underpinned by the National Health Innovation Campus. Work on the second building on campus continues, with completion scheduled for early 2026. Development funding has been secured from WYCA to accelerate development of the adjoining Gasworks Street site. The Combined Authority has also approved funding for a Health Incubator Partnership, a four-year programme to support innovative start-up and scale-up businesses.

Public transport networks

In the 2024 Autumn Budget, £47.9m was awarded for improvements to the Penistone Line. We have now proposed to deliver an Outline Business Case to government by March 2026.

Economic strategy

A draft Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy will go to Cabinet in July and Full Council in August.

Strategic housing

We continue to make progress with the strategic housing sites across the district to deliver high quality housing. At Dewsbury Riverside, progress is being made to secure collaboration with key landowners alongside Homes England. The process of securing a master development is to start in 2025 and be finalised in 2026. At Bradley Park, strategic land acquisition is ongoing to allow procurement of a delivery partner. Work is planned to begin on the site later in 2025.

Culture and heritage

The Heritage Strategy has been published, and the Culture and Tourism strategies are close to public consultation with publication and adoption planned for 2025. As part of the development of the Culture Strategy, we are engaging with partners and community-facing teams to explore local action plans. We have also now confirmed that the WOVEN festival will return to Kirklees in 2025. The biennial festival celebrating textile heritage and innovation will take place from 1 to 30 June.

Regeneration of towns and villages

We continue to invest into the regeneration of our towns and villages. Work on Phase 1 of the Cultural Heart is underway on the site of the former Queensgate Market. Design development also continues on Huddersfield Market and the George Hotel with planning applications due in Q1 2025/26. In Dewsbury, work continues on the Arcade and enhancements around the town hall. Footway improvements between the train station and town centre are nearly complete, and design development is progressing on the market and town park scheme.

Progress continues to be made in our smaller centres. The proposed improvements in Batley have been subject to further community engagement. In Heckmondwike the temporary public realm improvement scheme is complete. In Holmfirth, the riverside path is now complete and design work on potential improvements to Towngate are under development. In Marsden, consultation on a new masterplan is planned for the first quarter of 2025/26.

Council Performance Update – Quarter 4 2024/25

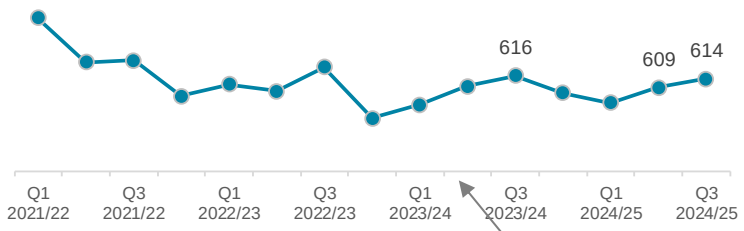
This section provides an update on progress against the Council's Key Measures. The Council's Key Measures provide insight into the performance of the council and demand on key council services. Below provides an example of how the information is presented and an explanation of what it means.

Example table, key and explanations

Benchmark key codes:

Demonstrates the performance/rate in Kirklees compared to the benchmark group. The colour of the shape demonstrates how the performance/rate in Kirklees compares to the benchmark group.

- = performance/rate in Kirklees is better than the benchmark group.
- = performance/rate in Kirklees is worse than the benchmark group.
- = performance/rate in Kirklees is the same as the benchmark group.

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Looked After Children	Demand	614 (Q3 2024/25)		**Increase** by 5 children compared with Q2 2024/25 **Decrease** by 2 children compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 61 Statistical Neighbours - 91 Children looked after rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 (2023/24)

Key Measure:

This is a description of what we are measuring.

Measure type:

What the measure is measuring - either performance or demand.

Latest value:

This shows the latest value that is available and indicates the period it covers. If the value is a percent the numerator and denominator will be provided in brackets.

Trend:

A line graph showing the data trend for the measure.

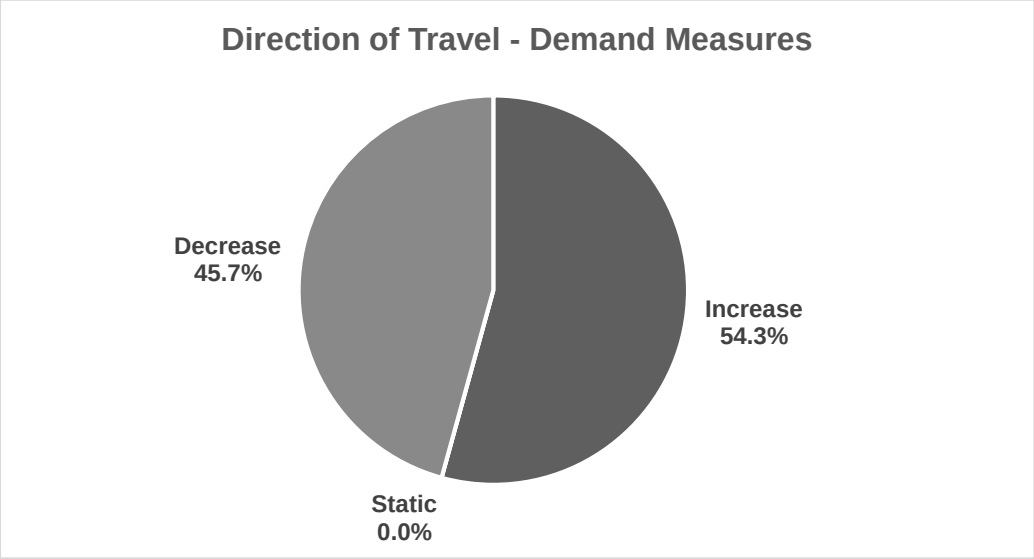
Latest value comparison:

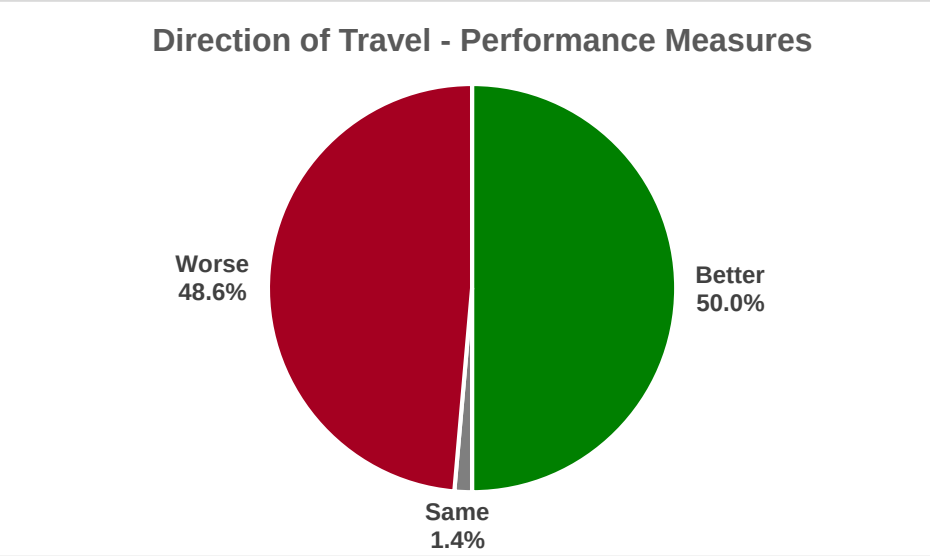
The latest value will be compared to 3-months ago (12-months for annual measures) and 12-months ago (24-months ago for annual measures), how the measures is performing and the difference.

- Performance measures will be Better, Same or Worse
- Demand measures will be Increase, Static or Decrease

Summary

The below charts summarise the direction of travel for measures reported in this section that have longer-term trend data available.





Adults and Health

Adults Social Care (ASC) Operation Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

In Quarter 4 2024/25, there has been an increase in adults under 65 receiving long-term care compared to Quarter 3 2023/24, particularly in community-based care, allowing residents to remain in their homes rather than entering permanent nursing or residential placements. The increase in Quarter 4 2024/25 of 20 service users are mostly those with mental health needs receiving home care.

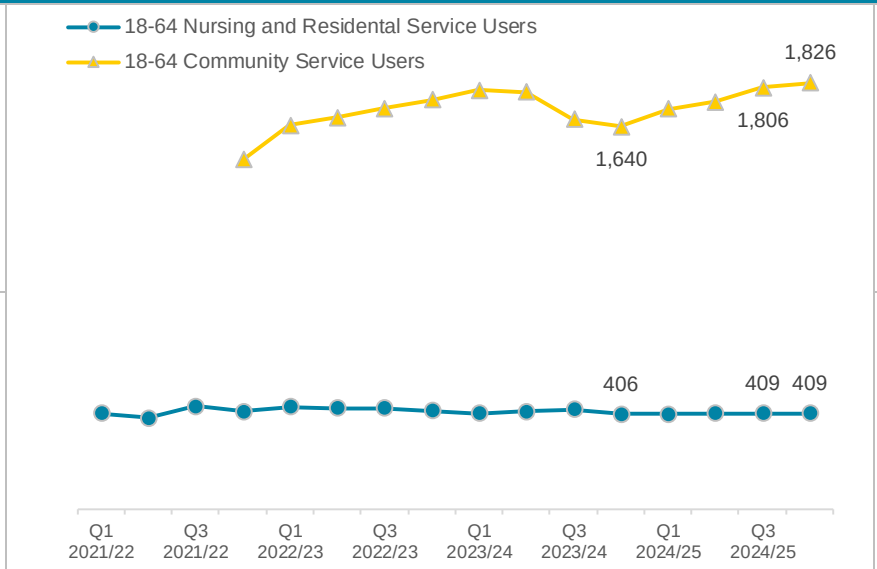
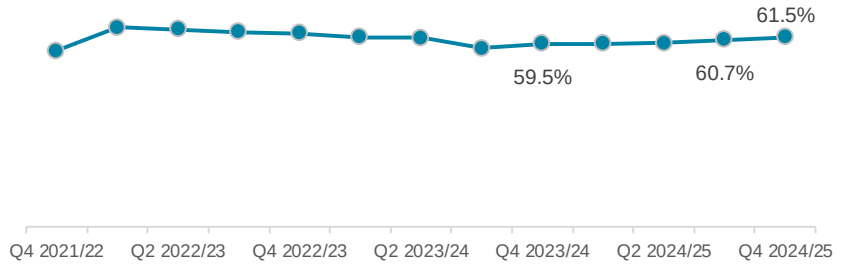
The number of younger adults admitted to permanent nursing and residential care continues to decrease. Consequently, despite being higher than the national rate, the number of younger people in such care has remained stable this year, reducing those younger adults in permanent care continues to be a priority for the Learning Disabilities / Mental Health change board.

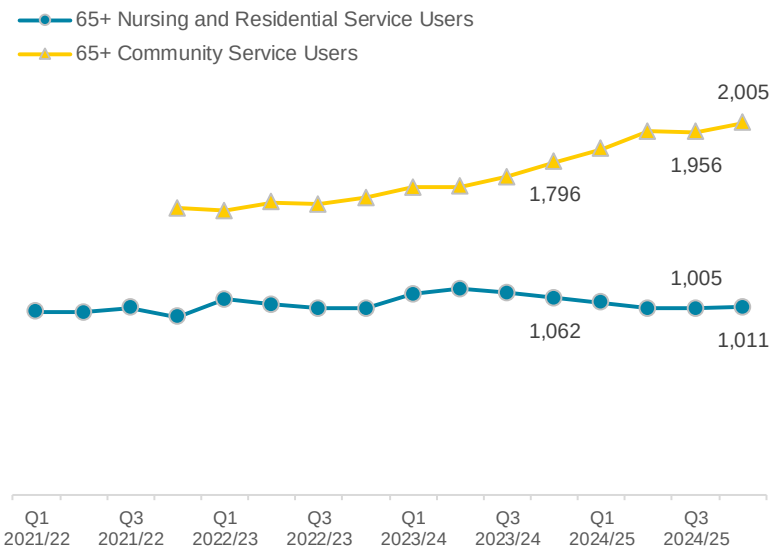
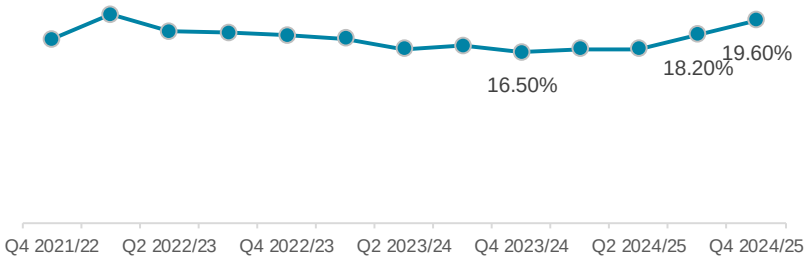
Direct Payments, preferred by younger people, increased by 0.7 percentage points to 61.5% (+25 adults) in Quarter 4, demonstrating the effectiveness of our adult social care teams in promoting choice and control. Benchmarking data from Quarter 4 2023/24 shows 65.2% of service users under 65 in Kirklees receive Direct Payments, compared to 38% nationally. The number of older adults supported by Direct Payments also rose by 1.4 percentage points to 19.6% (+37 adults) in Quarter 4 2024/25. This increase in direct payments for older adults, alongside an increase in home care packages accounted for the increase of 49 service users since Quarter 3 2024/25.

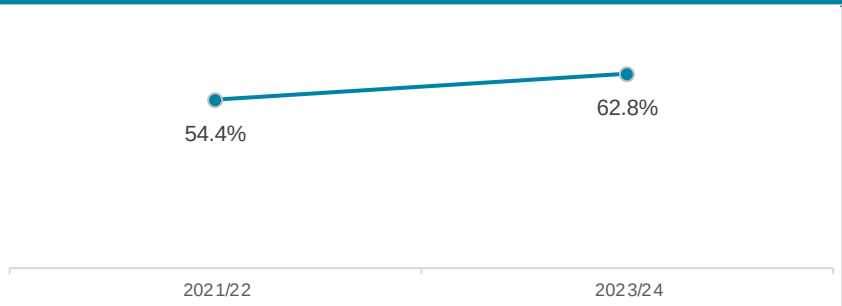
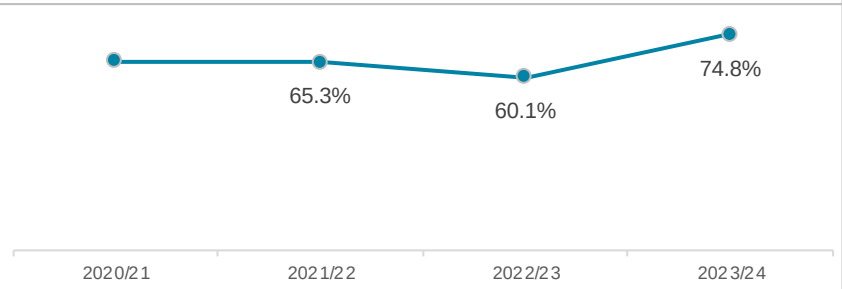
Throughout 2024/25, there has been a sustained reduction in adults aged 65+ in nursing and residential care, a priority of the Adults Change Programme, resulting in a lower rate in Kirklees compared to the national average. This reduction has led to an increase in adults aged 65+ receiving community services, promoting independence and home-based care.

The proportion of adult social care users and carers who found it easy to access information about available support has increased, reaching the highest rate in six years. This improvement provides an opportunity to continue to enhance our Information, Advice, and Guidance offer, supporting self-management and delaying the need for long-term social care.

Key Measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Community Service Users aged 18-64 (at period end)	Demand	1,826 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 20 users compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 186 users compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 638 National - 689.7 Number of Community Service users aged 18-64 per 18-64 100,000 population (Q3 2024/25)
Number of Nursing and Residential Service Users aged 18-64 (as at period end)	Demand	409 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Static** by 0 users compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 3 users compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 158 National - 109.2 Number of Nursing and Residential Service users aged 18-64 per 100,000 18-64 population (Q3 2024/25)
% of service users receiving a Direct Payment aged 18-64 (at period end)	Performance	61.5% (1,122 / 1,826) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.7 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 1.9 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 59.5 National - 38 % of Direct Payment service users aged 18-64 (Q4 2022/23)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Community Service Users aged 65+ (at period end)	Demand	2,005 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 49 users compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 209 users compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 2,137 National - 2,260 Number of Community Service users aged 65+ per 100,000 65+ population (Q3 2024/25)
Number of Nursing and Residential Service Users aged 65+ (as at period end)	Demand	1,011 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 6 users compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 51 users compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 1,266 National - 1,396 Number of Nursing and Residential Service users aged 65+ per 100,000 65+ population (Q3 2024/25)
% of service users receiving a Direct Payment aged 65+ (at period end)	Performance	19.6% (393 / 2,005) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 1.4 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 3.1 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 16.5 National - 14.8 % of Direct Payment service users aged 65+ (Q4 2022/23)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% of carers who found it easy to find information about ASC services*	Performance	62.8% (2023/24)		**Better** by 8.4 percentage points compared with 2021/22 No comparison data available for 2019/20	Kirklees - 62.8% Yorkshire and the Humber - 59.5% (2023/24)
% of adult social care users who found it easy to find information about ASC services**	Performance	74.8% (2023/24)		**Better** by 14.7 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Better** by 9.5 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 74.8% Yorkshire and the Humber - 67.9% (2023/24)

*Biennial collected measure, 2023/24 is the most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

**Annually collected measure, 2023/24 is the most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

Communities and Access Services Key Measures

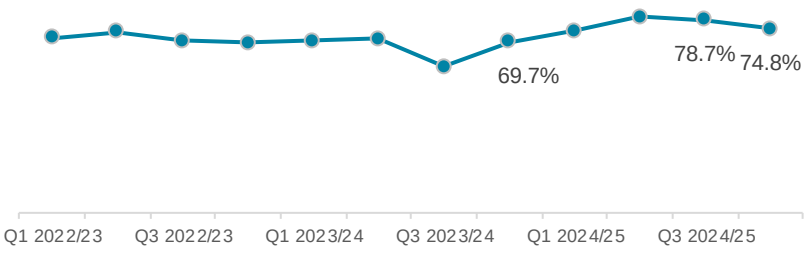
Quarter 4 2024/25

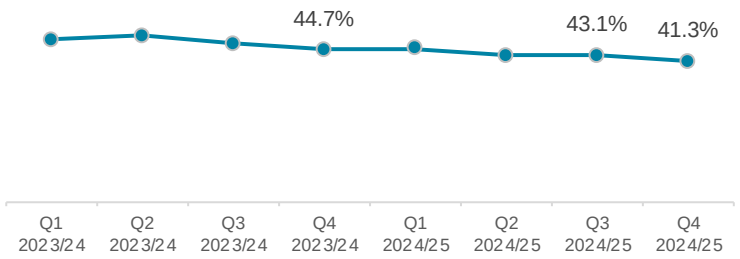
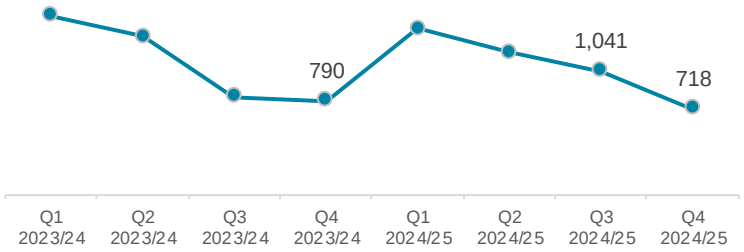
The number of people being supported by our wellness service has increased over the year from 809 in Quarter 1 2024/25 to 848 in Quarter 4, although there has been a slight drop in wellness interventions completed in Quarter 4 2024/25 compared to Quarter 3 2024/25. There has been a 5 percentage point increase in completed wellness service interventions since Quarter 4 2023/24 from 583 to 634 completed interventions. Referrals for Smoking Cessation continue to increase from a third of all referrals to the wellness service in Quarter 4 2023/24 to 45% in Quarter 4 2024/25.

The percentage of reported repeat domestic abuse incidents within 12 months is reducing, similarly so are the total incidents, a 6% reduction in the previous 12 months. There has been a 3.4 percentage point reduction in the percentage of repeat domestic abuse incidents in Quarter 4 2024/25 when compared to Quarter 4 2023/24. This is a key focus area for continued oversight and scrutiny for the Communities Partnership.

The number of nuisance anti-social behaviour incidents dealt with by the Police has also reduced on the previous quarter and the same period last year. These incidents follow a season trend with higher incidents in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 2024/25 and lower numbers in Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 2024/25. Over the year there has been a 2.4% reduction (-105 incidents) in Nuisance ASB. This is reflective of the Council's ambition to work in partnership to keep people safe and helping communities flourish.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of completed Wellness Service interventions (percent of referrals that lead to completed intervention)	Performance	74.8% (634 / 848) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 3.9 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 5.1 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% of repeat domestic abuse incidents within 12 months	Performance	41.3% (995 / 2,411) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 1.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 3.4 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 41.8 Yorkshire and the Humber - 34.5 Domestic abuse rate per 1,000 population aged over 16 (Q3 2024/25)
Number of Anti-Social Behaviour incidents	Demand	718 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 323 incidents compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 72 incidents compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 0.44 Yorkshire and the Humber - 0.8 Number of ASB incidents per 1,000 population aged over 16 (February 2025)

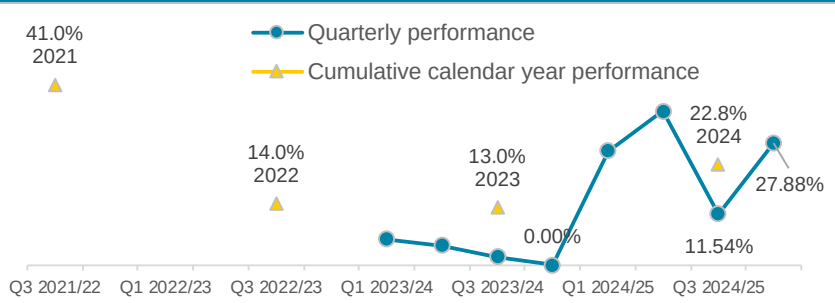
Children and Families

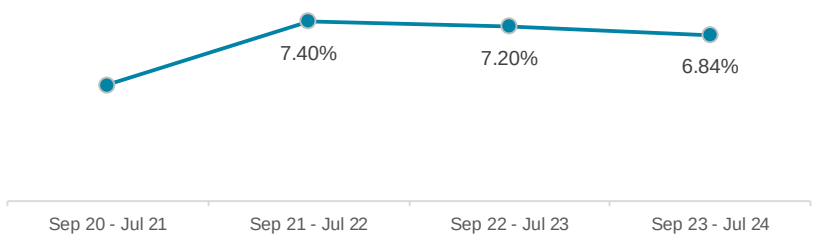
Learning & Early Support Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

Our performance this quarter in respect of finalising Education, Health and Care Plans within the 20-week timescale shows an increase with March been the most successful month at 47.8%, with the cumulative showing a significant increase to 27.88%. During the last quarter, significant efforts have continued to be made to finalise plans that have been outside the 20-week timeline alongside working with new assessments. There were previously a number of EHC plans that had taken more than 52 weeks, these have now all been issued. As of March, this year an average of 93% of the requests for new assessments have a decision made by week 6, which is a significant improvement from March 2024 in supporting to meeting statutory compliance. The transition to a new case management system has taken place in Quarter 3 2024/25 and is already supporting the service to operate more effectively. More work is ongoing to embed the new system and take advantage of all its functions which we anticipate will take a further 3-6 months to realise.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of Education, Health, and Care Plans finalised within 20 weeks during the quarter	Performance	27.88% (29 / 104) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 16.34 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 27.88 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 13% National - 50.3% Statistical neighbours - 62.47% % of EHCP issued within 20 weeks (excluding exceptions) (2023)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
School attendance - Total school absence - (authorised and unauthorised)*	Performance	6.84% (3,998 / 58,419) (Sep 2023 - Jul 2024)		**Better** by 0.4 percentage points compared with Sep 2022 - Jul 2023 **Better** by 0.6 percentage points compared with Sep 2021 - Jul 2022	Kirklees - 7.1% National - 7.15% Total absence % (Q1 2024/25)

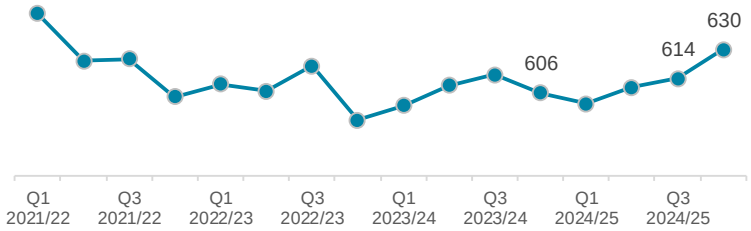
*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

Child Protection & Family Support Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

The Quarter 4 trend data highlights that the numbers of Children Looked After has increased slightly, however these numbers remain low when compared to our statistical neighbours. We continue to have a high number of our children living in family settings such as within a fostering household. Our focus continues to ensure that children are supported to remain living with their carers evidenced through the high numbers of special guardianship arrangements. We will continue to ensure we prioritise supporting these arrangements and related support.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Looked After Children	Demand	630 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 16 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 24 children compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 61 Statistical Neighbours - 91 Children looked after rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 (2023/24)

Public Health and Corporate Resources

Governance & Commissioning Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

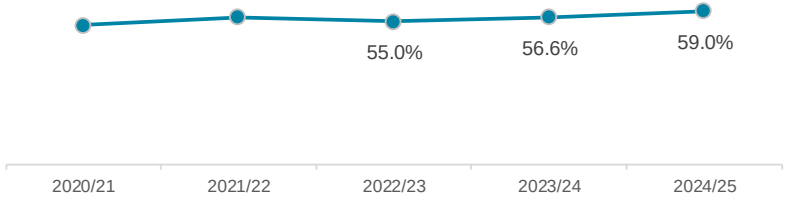
The level of expenditure with local suppliers has grown steadily year on year. This growth can be attributed to improved data analysis, increased demand for adult and children's services provided by district-based suppliers, and inflation-related adjustments to contracts.

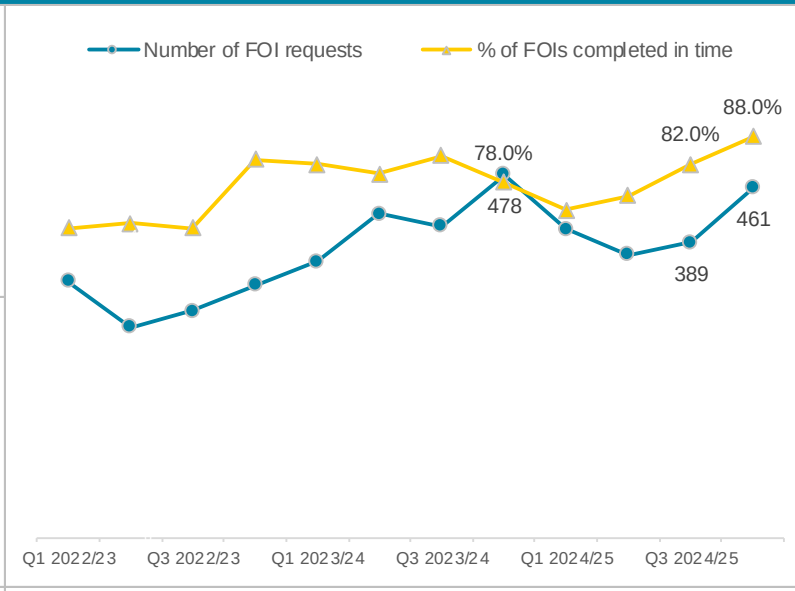
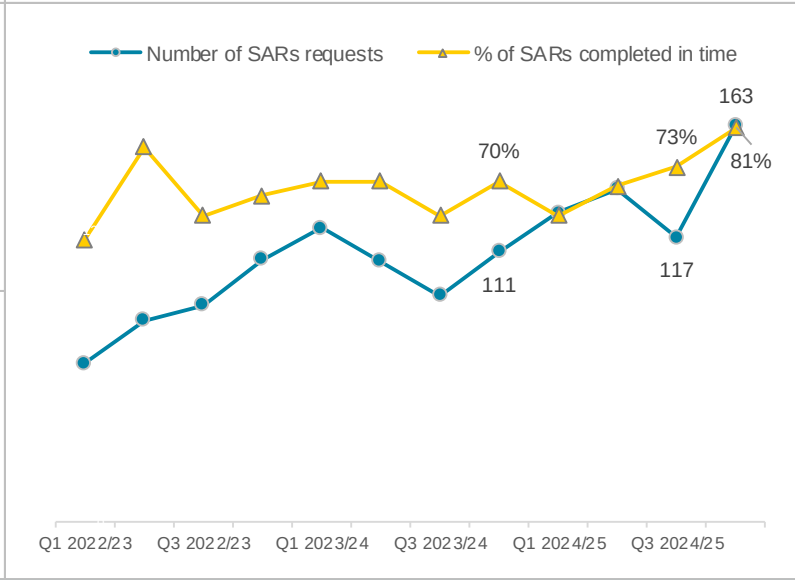
Demand in FOI requests has increased in Quarter 4 2024/25 compared to Quarter 3 2024/25 but is a slight reduction on Quarter 4 for 2023/24. There has also been an increase in SARs in comparison with both Quarter 3 2024/25 and Quarter 4 in 2023/24.

Compliance rates for both FOIs and SARs has improved in Quarter 4 however, this statistic will change as the deadlines for responding to requests received at the end of Quarter 4 have not yet been reached. It is expected that there will be several overdue requests. Timeliness of responses to FOIs and SARs is being affected by various operational factors, including delays in obtaining service responses and signoffs, as well as bottlenecks in request handling and the volume of submissions, which has continued to be the issue during 2024/25.

There continues to be a backlog of SARs, number of requests on the backlog have increased slightly due to pressures in some services and annual leave commitments. The backlog remains under review to ensure that requests are completed as soon as possible. The Information Governance Team will continue to support and collaborate with service areas to address their needs and improve FOI and SAR compliance.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% spend with local suppliers	Performance	59% (£277.9M / £471.4M) (2024/25)		**Better** by 2.4 percentage points compared with 2023/24 **Better** by 4 percentage points compared with 2022/23	No benchmarking data is available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percent of Freedom of Information requests completed in time*	Performance	88% (301 / 341) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 6 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 10 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 80% Bradford - 95% Calderdale - 94% Leeds - 88% Wakefield - 99% (2023/24)
Number of Freedom of Information requests received	Demand	461 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 72 requests compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 17 requests compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 3.8 Bradford - 3.1 Calderdale - 6.45 Leeds - 2.69 Wakefield - 3.75 Number of FOI requests per 1,000 population (2023/24)
Percent of Subject Access Requests completed in time*	Performance	81% (82 / 101) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 8 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 11 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 63% Bradford - 97% Calderdale - 92% Leeds - 59% Wakefield - 76% (2023/24)
Number of Subject Access Requests received	Demand	163 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 46 requests compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 52 requests compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 0.98 Bradford - 0.44 Calderdale - 1.35 Leeds - 1.31 Wakefield - 1.1 Number of SAR requests per 1,000 population (2023/24)

*Based on the number of completed FOI's/SARs excluding any outstanding FOI's/SARs

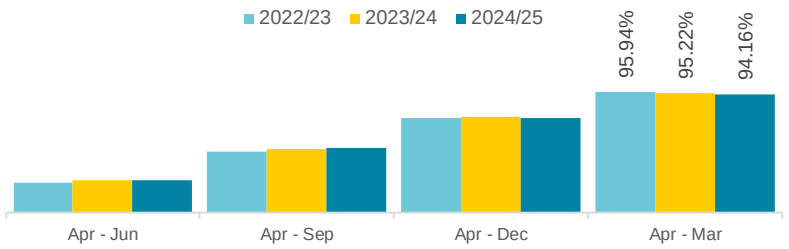
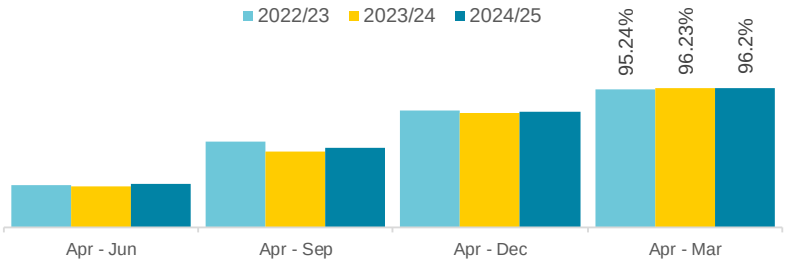
Finance Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

Council Tax income provides for around two thirds of funding the Council's net revenue budget at c£236m. Collection performance slightly reduced in Quarter 4 2024/25 with 94.2% compared to Quarter 4 2023/24 with 95.2%. There were increases to Council Tax of 4.99% and changes to the Council Tax Reduction scheme which impacted on recovery rates. The team have continued to provide support and appropriate guidance to customers to ensure Council tax income is collected.

Business rates collection is at 96.17% in Quarter 4 2024/25 which is comparable with Quarter 4 2023/24 with 96.23%, due to the small difference it is hard to identify what has impacted on this change.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Council Tax collection rate*	Performance	94.16% (£268.4M / £285.M) (Apr 2024 - Mar 2025)		**Worse** by 1.06 percentage points compared with Apr 2023 - Mar 2024 **Worse** by 1.78 percentage points compared with Apr 2022 - Mar 2023	Kirklees - 95.22% Statistical Neighbours - 95.29% (April 2023 to March 2024)
Business Rates collection rate*	Performance	96.17% (£99.6M / £103.5M) (Apr 2024 - Mar 2025)		**Worse** by 0.06 percentage points compared with Apr 2023 - Mar 2024 **Better** by 0.93 percentage points compared with Apr 2022 - Mar 2023	Kirklees - 96.23% Statistical Neighbours - 96.74% (April 2023 to March 2024)

*Cumulative measures, comparisons are with previous 12 months and previous 24 months.

People Services Key Measures

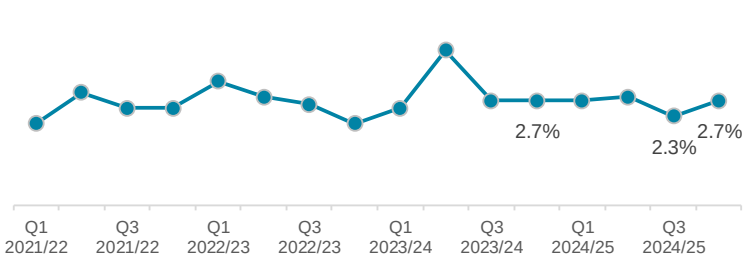
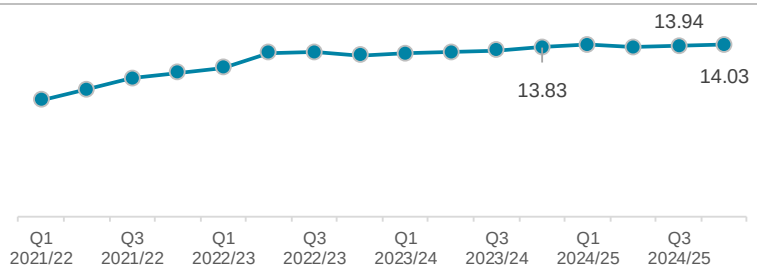
Quarter 4 2024/25

Staff turnover remains stable and in line with seasonal trends. We continue to mitigate against the risks associated with service changes via vacancy management, the use of deployment as well as having a clear process for expressions of interest for Voluntary Redundancy as appropriate.

Workforce planning activity continues, and we are actively working on plans with services where they have high agency usage / hard to fill roles. This includes engaging with national initiatives to address recruitment and retention challenges in local government as well utilising things like the apprentice levy.

For sickness absence, a slight increase in Quarter 4 2024/25 from Quarter 3 2024/25 the previous quarter, in line with national figures and seasonality. A series of recommendations in relation to sickness absence has recently been approved. In addition, work is being undertaken to support those services with higher-than-average absences levels. Staff are encouraged to seek support at the earliest opportunity to ensure they receive appropriate advice.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Staff turnover (percentage of staff leaving the Council)	Performance	2.7% (217 / 7,935) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 0.4 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 2.7% Bradford - 2.9% Leeds - 1.6% Wakefield - 2.4% Turnover rate (Q3 2023/24)
Average sickness days per full time equivalent (FTE) over the last 12 months	Performance	14.03 (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 0.09 days per FTE compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 0.2 days per FTE compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 13.9 Bradford - 13.22 Leeds - 12.93 2023/24

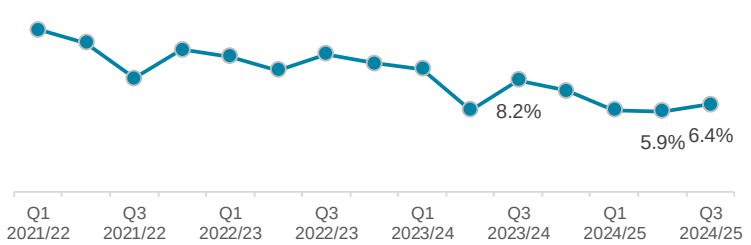
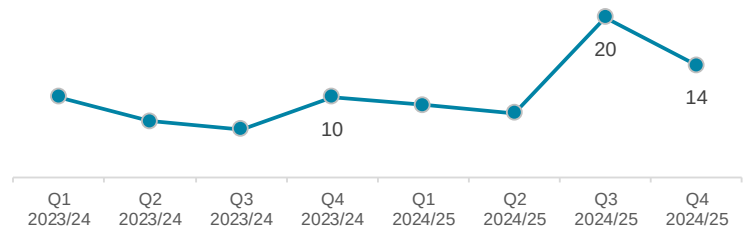
Public Health & Health Protection Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

Smoking during pregnancy remains a key focus for Kirklees. The prevalence of smoking among pregnant women is not uniformly distributed, with higher rates observed in wards experiencing the greatest levels of deprivation and broader inequalities. The NHS Long Term Plan Maternity Services program, which integrates tobacco dependence treatment into routine maternity care, is being implemented to address this issue. The rates of smoking during pregnancy in this reporting period have remained similar to the previous two quarters.

The increase in the number of accidents reportable to the HSE under RIDDOR during Quarter 3 2024/25 most likely resultant of the communications drive, during Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 2024/25, appears to be plateauing. The initial increase was anticipated as managers start reporting accidents that fall within the scope of RIDDOR to the Corporate Health and Safety Team earlier to enable statutory reporting to be undertaken within prescribed timescales.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Smoking during pregnancy (mother's smoking status at time of delivery)*	Performance	6.4% (62 / 973) (Q3 2024/25)		**Worse** by 0.5 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 **Better** by 1.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 5.3% National - 5.5% Smoking during pregnancy (Q3 2024/25)
Number of RIDDOR reportable incidents	Performance	14 (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 6 incidents compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 4 incidents compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 187 National - 214 Rate of total reported non-fatal injury per 100,000 employees (2023/24)

*Quarter 4 data not available yet, most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

**Benchmarking data is being sourced from published NHS data, which includes Kirklees residents from other trusts

Place

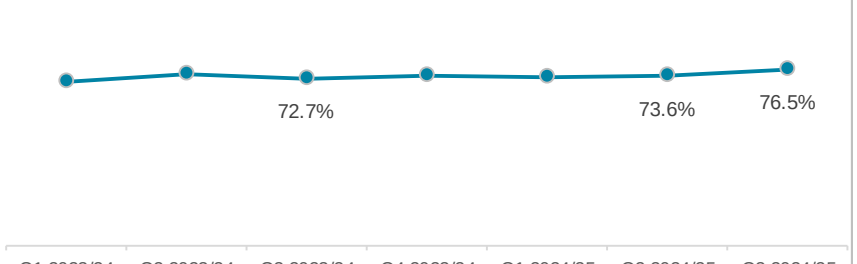
Skills & Regeneration Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

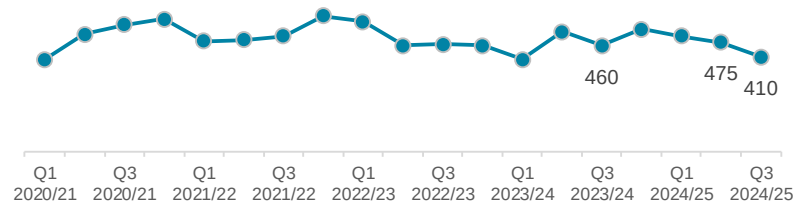
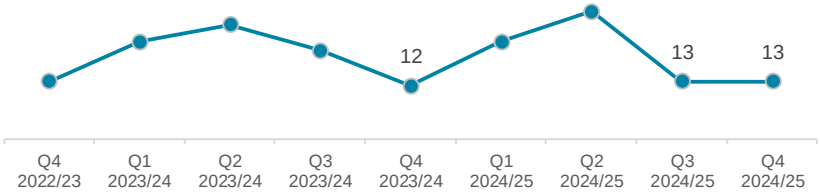
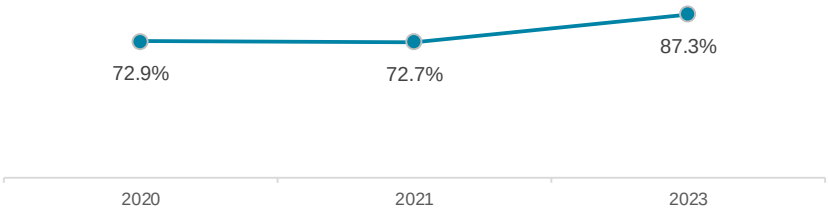
Quarter 4 2024/25 data does not show any significant changes across economic measures, reflecting the relatively static national picture of low economic growth and uncertainty. The macro economic picture for Kirklees remains largely unchanged; relatively high levels of employment masking low paid and insecure work, with entrenched pockets of economic inactivity considerably impacted by poor health, particularly mental health. A stable business base does not indicate a significant uptick in business deaths which is positive, however off set with no considerable increase in business starts either.

An upturn in new planning applications would be an indicator of increasing business confidence and investment intentions, but this is not being seen. Work on the new Kirklees Local Plan will ensure that land supply is able to meet economic ambitions. The success story of the Kirklees economy remains the relatively high and growing number of local residents with good basic and intermediate skills. For future periods it will be important to monitor whether increasing global uncertainty starts to translate into local negative impacts, although it will be some time before this appears is likely to become discernible in local data sets.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Employment Rate*	Performance	76.5% (Q3 2024/25)		**Better** by 2.9 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 **Better** by 3.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 76.5% Yorkshire and the Humber - 73.3% (Sept '24)

*Data has been updated to the most recent data. Data is obtained from external sources

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Business births*	Performance	410 (Q3 2024/25)		**Worse** by 65 businesses compared with Q2 2024/25 **Worse** by 50 businesses compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 15.21 West Yorkshire - 14.6 Business births per 10,000 people aged 16+ (Oct-Dec '24)
Number of planning applications received - major	Demand	13 (Q4 2024/25)		**Static** by 0 applications compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 1 application compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 0.3 Yorkshire and the Humber - 0.4 Number of major planning application decisions per 1,000 properties (Jul 23 - Jun 24)
Percent of population with at least level 2 qualification*	Performance	87.3% (236,000 / 269,500) (2023)		**Better** by 14.6 percentage points compared with 2021 **Better** by 14.4 percentage points compared with 2020	Kirklees - 87.3% Yorkshire and the Humber - 85.1% (2023)

*Data has been updated to the most recent data. Data is obtained from external sources

Highways, Streetscene and Waste Key Measures

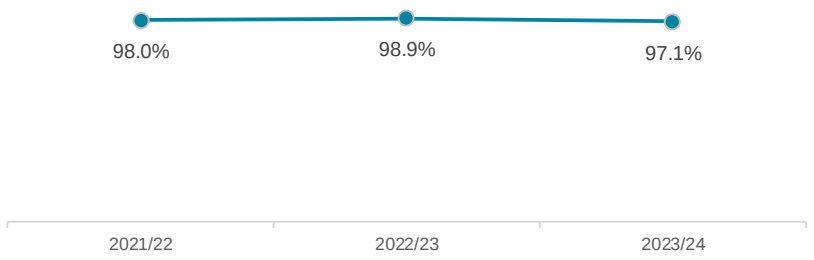
Quarter 4 2024/25

Performance figures for 'Category 1 emergency defects made safe within the intervention period' are calculated annually and are not yet available for the 2024/25 operating year. It is however known that the adverse and prolonged winter weather conditions experienced in January 2025 resulted in a significant increase in the number of defects identified during Quarter 4. The additional government funding of £2,947,986 allocated through the 'Local Highway Maintenance Fund' will go some way to addressing the increased level of defects identified.

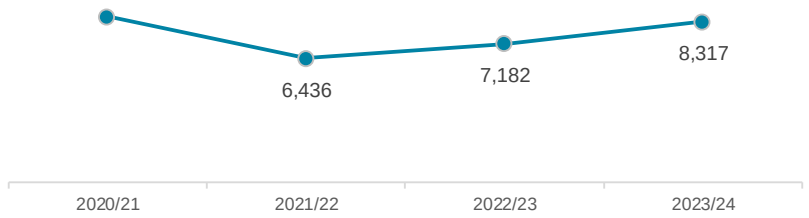
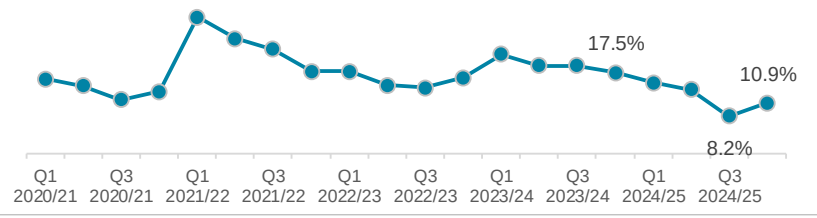
Fly Tipping continues to increase in line with the national trend. Vacancies for the Greenspace Action team have been released and are out to recruitment which will return capacity to the service. The pilot with Keep Britain Tidy on a new approach to managing these issues as launched and we will work in partnership to monitor the outcomes and understand if any success can be replicated across the district. Nationally DEFRA have now confirmed the launch of digital tracking of waste for 2026. We are working with them to understand how this will be implemented within the district.

We have seen an increase in contamination levels and a decrease in performance for collection without complaints, these are both directly linked to the severe weather event at the beginning of the period. Business Continuity Plans were enacted and the services recovered quickly, and we have been monitoring a return to normal performance levels which will present itself in the next monitoring period. A programme of improvement is currently underway to create a more comprehensive data set regarding collection performance, which will aid the service in identifying issues earlier on without the need for resident reports and inform both operational and strategic decisions. Improvements are also planned for resident and elected member reporting and monitoring of waste collection reporting and performance, and elected members will be consulted once development begins.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% of emergency defects made safe within intervention timescales*	Performance	97.14% (2023/24)		**Worse** by 1.7 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Worse** by 0.8 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 97.1% Statistical Neighbours - 89.3% Percentage of emergency defects (Cat 1, Priority 1) made safe within target time (2023/24)

*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at time of report production. This relates to all defects, whilst predominantly potholes this will also include damaged guardrail, knocked over street furniture, etc

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of fly tipping incidents**	Demand	8,317 (2023/24)		**Increase** by 1,135 incidents compared with 2022/23 **Increase** by 1,881 incidents compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 18.8 Yorkshire and the Humber - 15.3 Fly-tipping incidents reported per 1,000 people (2023/24)
Recycling rejected due to contamination***	Performance	10.9% (518.92 / 4746.5) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 2.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 6.6 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - N/A National - 16.6% % of contaminants in recycling+ (2024)

*Measure wording amended to align with APSE benchmarking

**Measure amended to report on ‘incidents’ instead of ‘reports’

***Measure amended from ‘Recycling contamination rate’ to ‘Recycling rejected due to contamination’

+% of contaminants in recycling benchmarking data sourced from WRAP – tackling contamination in dry recycling practical guide

Homes & Neighbourhoods Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

During 2024/25, Homes & Neighbourhoods has seen improved performance across most areas. However, this has not been at the pace required to meet the targets included in service improvement plans. Delays in recruitment, alongside increasing demand for services, are impacting on the pace of delivery of improvement outcomes. Plans are currently being robustly reviewed, system improvements are being introduced, and additional contractor capacity is now in place to help improve delivery.

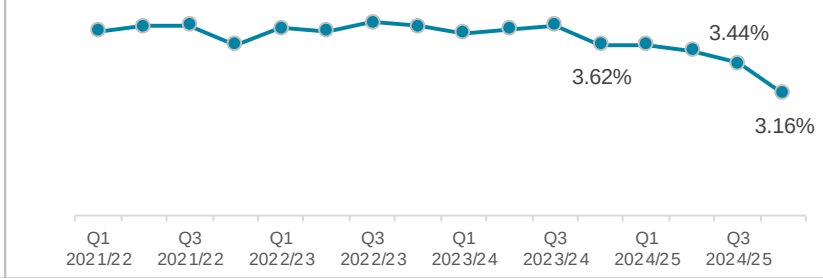
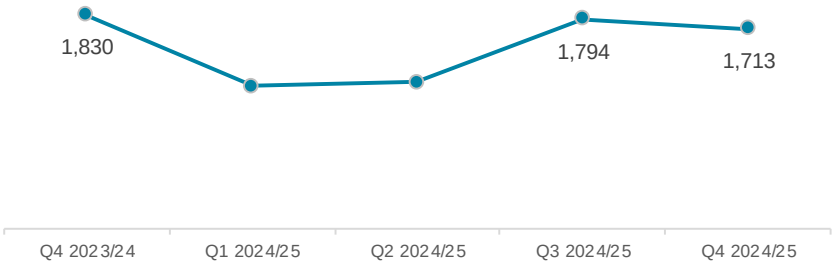
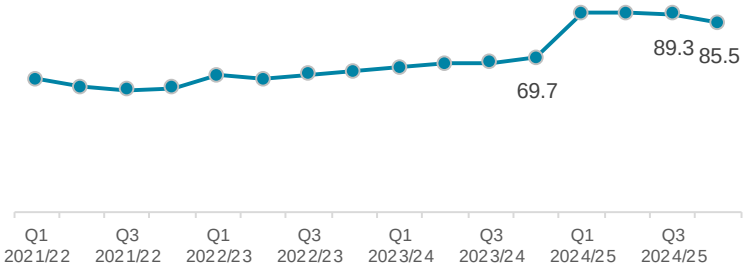
Homes & Neighbourhoods' Income Management Team's current arrears performance has improved throughout 2024/25. The final arrears percentage figure of 3.16% is a significant (0.46%) reduction from Quarter 4 2023/24, and the lowest recorded figure in over 3 years. Average arrears associated with Universal Credit (UC) arrears cases have reduced over the year and are currently lower than at any point since the introduction of UC in 2016, despite a rapid increase in the total numbers of UC claims since DWP Managed Migration commenced in September 2024. The total numbers of high-risk arrears cases have also reduced steadily. Home & Neighbourhoods income management performance benchmarks favourably against that of similar sized social housing providers.

The number of open damp mould and condensation (DMC) cases has fallen slightly over the course of the year, from 1,830 in Quarter 4 2023/24 to 1,713 in Quarter 4 2024/25. Despite the ongoing high level of incoming cases, significant progress has been made on damp, mould, and condensation with treatments, surveys, and repairs all exceeding the council's projections. A multidisciplinary team has been assembled within Property Services to enable a tenant-centred approach. Where tenants are awaiting DMC treatment and repairs, housing management officers are supporting mitigations by contacting those tenants to offer further support and signposting to wider council and partner services.

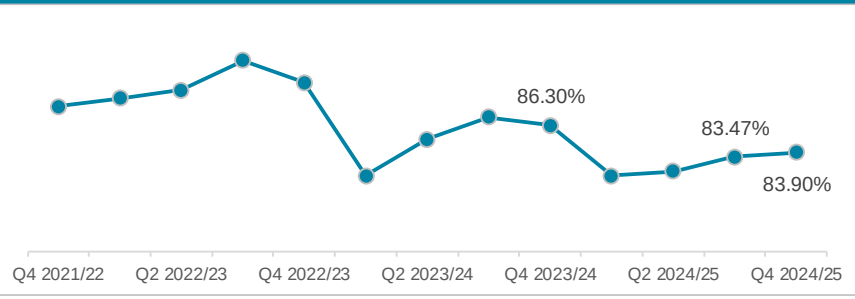
Re-let times remain higher than acceptable and total end-to-end performance has increased from an average of 69.7 days in Quarter 4 2023/24 to 85.5 days in Quarter 4 2024/25; the national benchmark for this process was 36.3 days in 2023/24. Delays in recruitment have hindered delivery of the voids improvement plan, which remains a focus for the service. Teams have been working flexibly to increase surveying and repairs capacity, and third-party contractors are being brought on board to facilitate further improvements. This will ensure that the pace of delivery improves and the number of properties available to let increases.

There has been an increase in the overall volume of responsive repairs, including DMC-related repairs, and the proportion of these completed within timescale has decreased slightly over the course of the year from 86.3% in Quarter 4 2023/24 to 83.9% in Quarter 3 2024/25. The comparable national benchmark for this was 81.5% in 2023/24. Service improvements are ongoing in this area, including working with operatives to understand obstacles to completing repairs and addressing these to increase productivity. Improved working processes are now in place for better communication with residents. Tenant satisfaction responses are being monitored by the depot team and residents that are reporting dissatisfaction are being contacted by the responsive team to resolve matters; this has led to a drop in complaints.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of rents in arrears.	Performance	3.16% (£3.M / £95.1M) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.28 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 0.46 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	◆ Kirklees - 3.6% National - 3.6% Current tenant arrears % (2023/24)
Number of open damp, mould and condensation cases	Demand	1,713 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 81 cases compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 117 cases compared with Q4 2023/24	⬢ Kirklees - 6.48%* National - 3.7% Damp and mould live cases as a % of stock (2023/24)
Average days to re-let time.	Performance	85.5 (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 3.8 days compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 15.8 days compared with Q4 2023/24	⬢ Kirklees - 69.73 National - 36.31 (2023/24)

*benchmark figure based on Q4 2024/25, historic data is not available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Proportion of non-emergency responsive repairs completed within timescale.	Performance	83.9% (47,902 / 57,091) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.43 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 2.4 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 86.3% National - 81.5% % of non-emergency repairs completed within target timescale (2023/24)

Development Key Measures

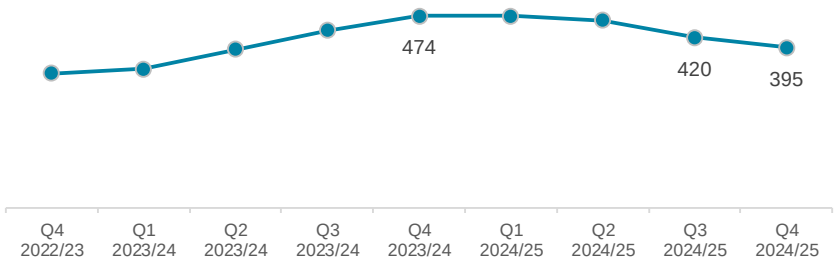
Quarter 4 2024/25

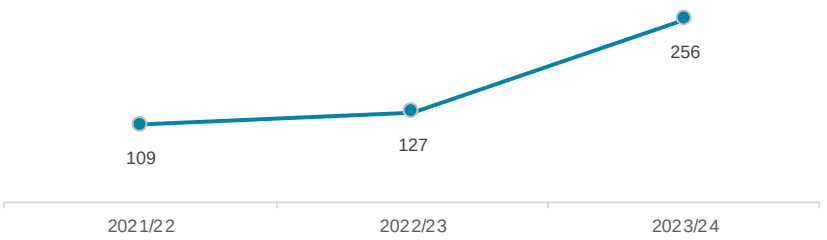
Demand for temporary accommodation remains high in Kirklees, as it does across the rest of the UK. We are continuing a slow downward trend with reduction from 420 at the end of Quarter 3 2024/25 to 395 at the end of Quarter 4 2024/25 across all temporary accommodation which is approximately 6% across the quarter and an annual reduction of 474 at the end of Quarter 4 2023/24 to 395 at the end of Quarter 4 2024/25 approximately 17%.

Front door changes are now well embedded and showing continued results, larger family's becoming homeless and family's needing adaptations to property's remains a challenge. Work to understand the impact of more direct letting across social and private stock will take place this next quarter. To support this, we are recruiting more resources into prevention and private sector teams. New temporary accommodation stock is coming on stream to support the aspiration to move away from B&B between April and June 2025.

Scheme at Westgate, Cleckheaton to deliver 180 affordable homes has just gained planning approval. However, build out rates remain low with 1 affordable and 18 Market completed in the last quarter. This is expected to pick up over the next year as planning permissions start to work their way through. The team are focussing on going to market for temporary accommodation over the next quarter and bringing forward council buildings/sites for further work. Our main scheme Riverside is moving forward to the master developer stage which is expected in late summer.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of households in temporary accommodation.	Demand	395 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 25 households compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 79 households compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 2.21 Bradford - 2.14 Calderdale - 0.92 Leeds - 1.62 Wakefield - 1.65 Number of households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households (Q3 2024/25)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Gross Affordable Housing Completions*	Performance	256 (2023/24)		**Better** by 129 home delivered compared with 2022/23 **Better** by 147 homes delivered compared with 2021/22	No benchmarking data is available

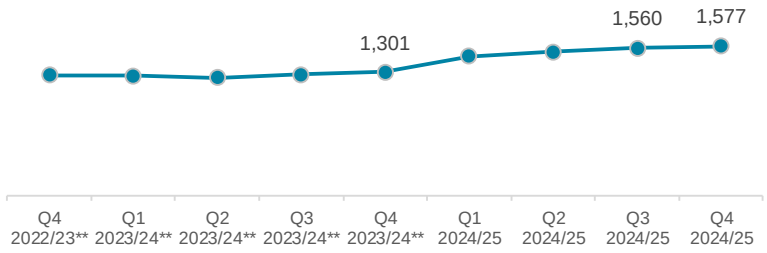
*2023/24 figure provided in December 2024, most likely 2024/25 figure will be provided later in 2025.

Environment Strategy & Climate Change Key Measures

Quarter 4 2024/25

Quarter 4 covers the mid period of the academic year when the number of children accessing Home to School Transport remains generally static. As expected there has been a small increase in the numbers accessing transport following the national trend. Transformation work continues to try and make the costs of providing home to school transport more affordable and efficient.

Key measures:

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of children accessing home to school transport	Demand	1,577 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 17 children compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 276 children compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	DfT are looking at collecting data nationally next year

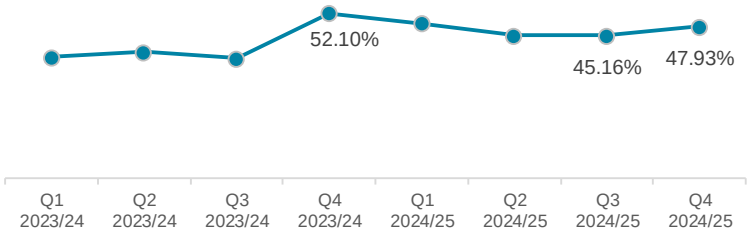
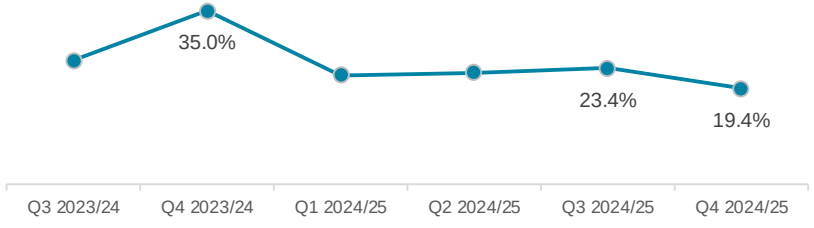
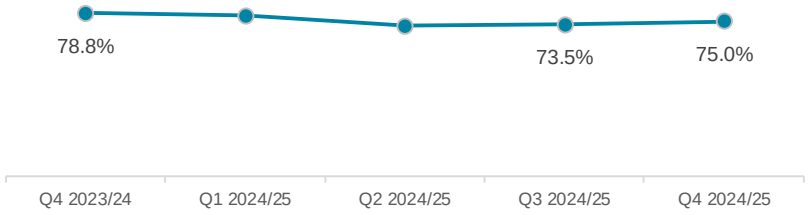
** Prior to 2024/25 personal travel budgets (PTBs) and mileage were always an option to parents but were not the main focus of the service. The main focus was providing physical transport, and the vast majority of children were transported in taxi's / mini-buses, and therefore data on PTBs and mileage was limited and was never put forward as part of reporting, the service merely reported on the number of children on physical transport.

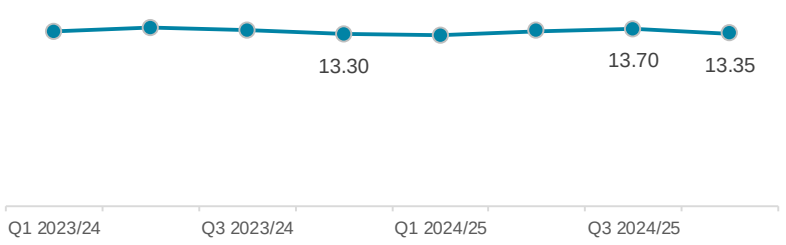
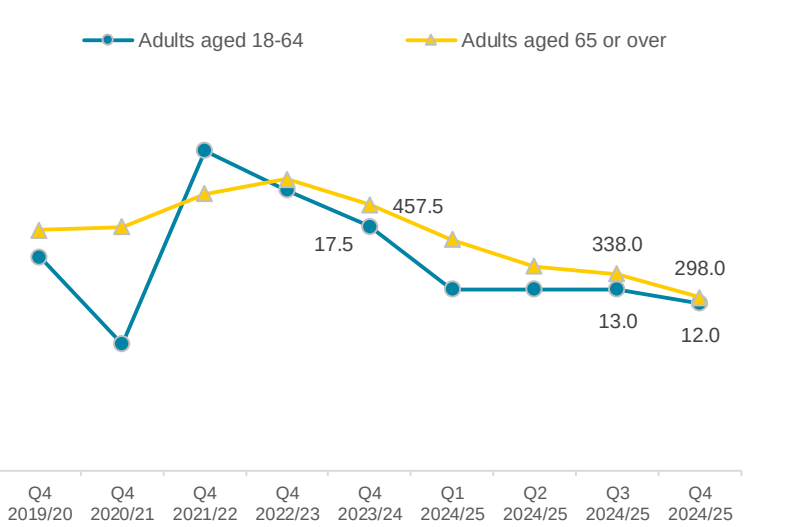
The focus of the service has now changed to offering a personal travel budget instead of physical transport through the introduction of enhanced personal travel budget offer and post-16 transport statement introduction of default offer of personal travel budget as opposed to physical transport. This has resulted in changes to reporting metrics to include more granular detail surround personal travel budgets, mileage and physical transport. Current systems do not allow to report on historic data, something which is being addresses.

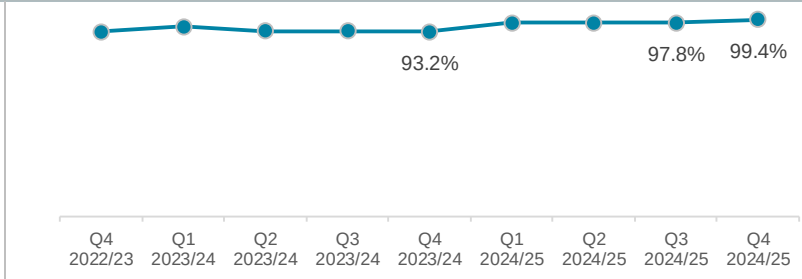
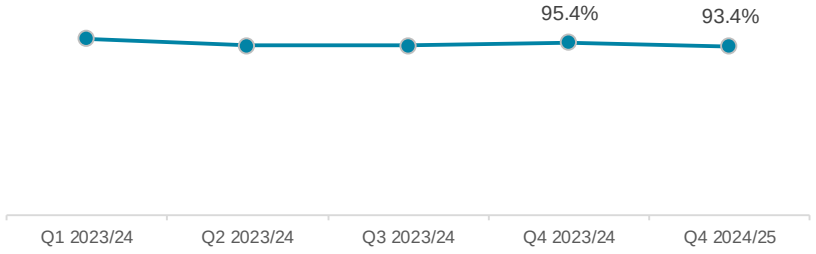
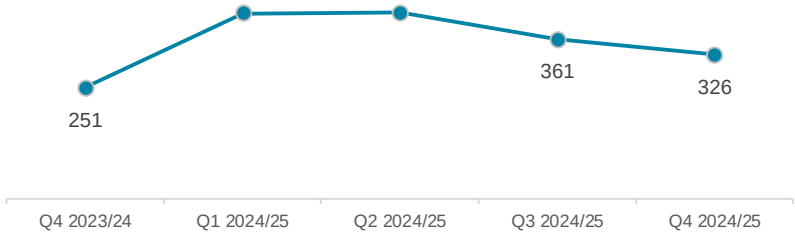
Appendix A – Council Measures

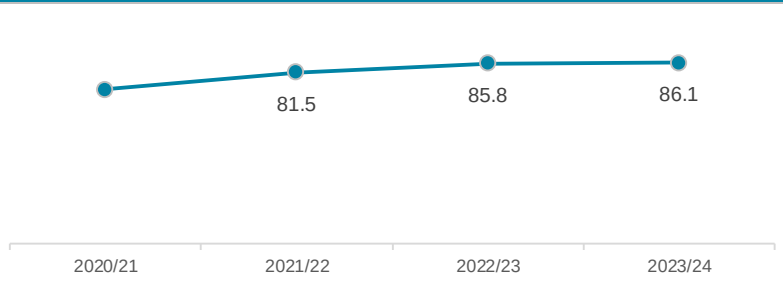
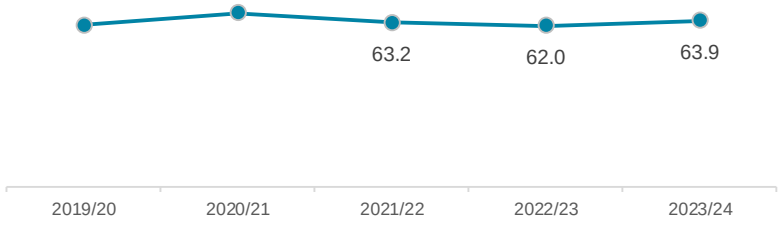
Adults and Health

Adults Social Care (ASC) Operation Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% Contacts to ASC that were signposted, information, advice or guidance was given or had no further action	Performance	47.93% (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 2.77 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 4.17 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
% Contacts to ASC that progress to an Assessment	Performance	19.4% (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 4 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 15.6 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
% Care Act Assessments that progressed to a long term service	Performance	75% (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 1.5 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 3.8 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Average commissioned home care hours per user.	Demand	13.35 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 0.35 hours per user compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 0.05 hours per user compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 13.5 National - 14.4 (2023/24)
Permanent admissions to residential care per 100,000 population for adults aged 18-64	Demand	12.0 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by a rate of 1 user compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 5.5 hours compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 17.5 National - 15.2 (2023/24)
Permanent admissions to residential care per 100,000 population for adults aged 65 or over.	Demand	298.0 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by a rate of 40 users compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 159.5 hours compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 457.5 National - 566 (2023/24)

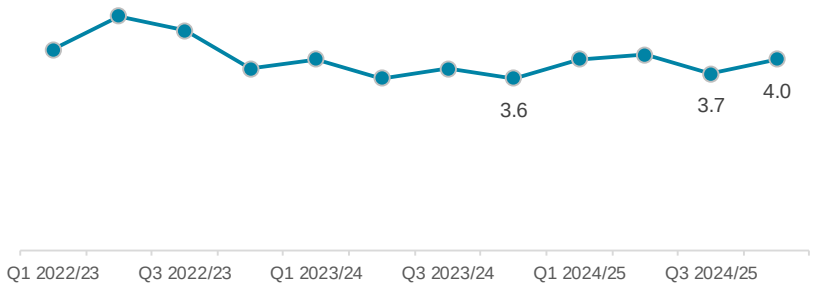
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% s42 safeguarding enquiries where the risk was reduced or removed.	Performance	99.4% (714 / 718) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 1.6 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 6.2 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 93.2% National - 90.9% (2023/24)
% S42 safeguarding enquiries where making safeguarding personal outcomes were met.	Performance	93.4% (Q4 2024/25)		No comparison data avialble for Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 2 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 95.4% National - 94.2% (2023/24)
Number of people waiting for an ASC assessment	Performance	326 (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 35 people compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 75 people compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Benchmarking data not publically available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
The outcome of short-term services: sequel to service – this relates to those people accessing short term support (reablement etc) and the percentage of those people that go on to have no long term support with ASC.*	Performance	86.1 (2023/24)		**Better** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Better** by 4.6 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 86.1 National - 79.4 (2023/24)
Survey measures - Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support*	Performance	63.9 (2023/24)		**Better** by 1.9 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Better** by 0.7 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 63.9 National - 65.4 (2022/23)
Carers of people in ASC quality of life (assess the overall quality of life of carers who support individuals with adult's social care needs) **	Performance	7.2 (2023/24)		**Worse** by 0.3 compared with 2021/22 No comparison data available for 2019/20	Kirklees - 7.2 National - 7.3 (2023/24)

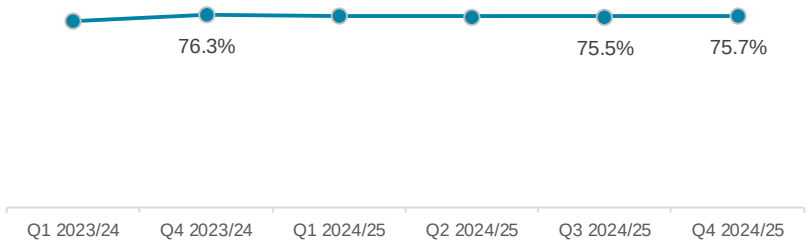
*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

**Biennially collected Measure, most up to date data available at the time of producing the report

Communities and Access Services Measures

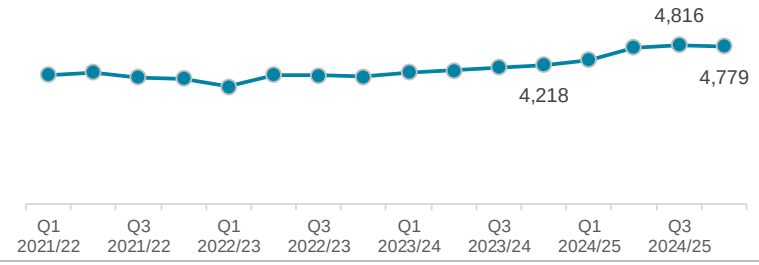
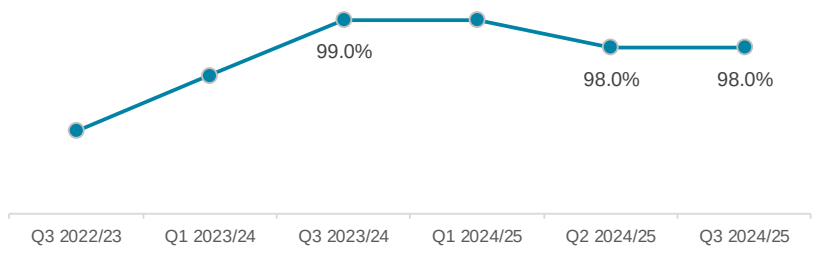
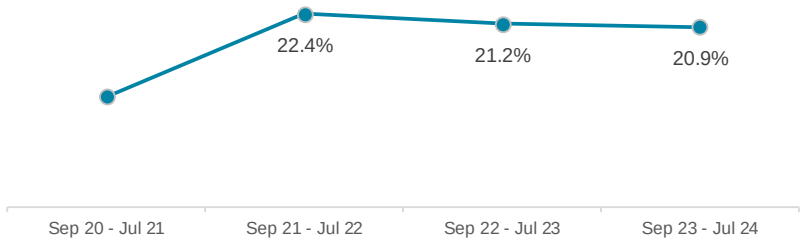
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Change in emotional wellbeing score for Wellness Service clients (using Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale; scores can range from 7 to 35, with higher scores indicating higher positive wellbeing; positive change indicates improved emotional wellbeing)	Performance	4.0 (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.3 compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 0.4 compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

Integrated Commissioning Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% Kirklees ASC providers judged as good or outstanding by CQC	Performance	75.7% (140 / 185) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.2 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 0.6 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 75.7% National - 86.5% (Q4 2024/25)

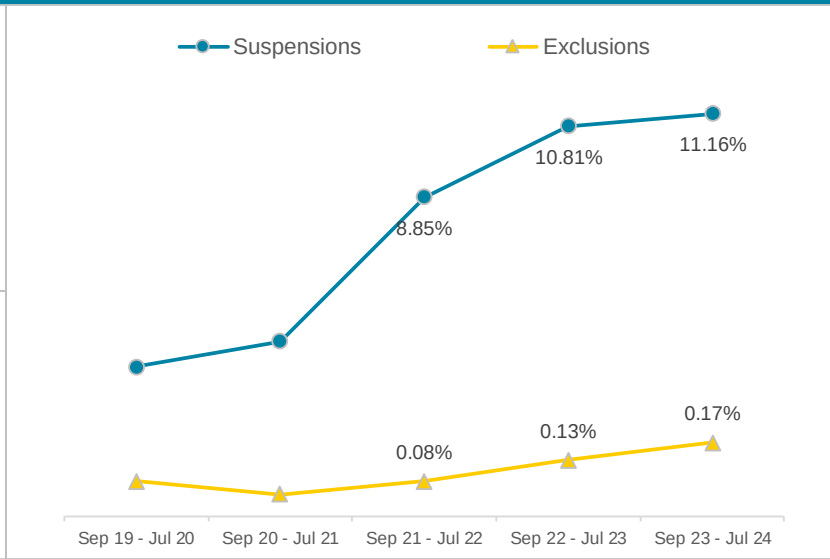
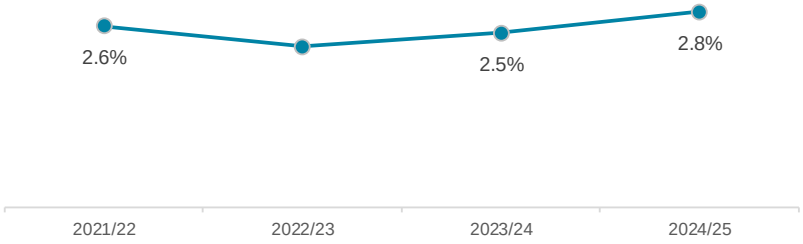
Children and Families

Learning & Early Support Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Education, Health, and Care Plans	Demand	4,779 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 37 EHC plans compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 561 EHC plans compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 4.1% Statistical Neighbours - 4.8% % of pupils with statement of SEN or EHC Plans (2023)
Percentage of inspected Early Years providers rated Good or better by Ofsted*	Performance	98% (276 / 281) (Q3 2024/25)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 **Worse** by 1 percentage point compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 98% National - 98% Percentage of inspected Early Years providers rated Good or better by Ofsted (Q2 2024/25)
Percentage of pupils who are persistently absent (attendance below 90%) from school**	Performance	20.9% (Sep 2023 - Jul 2024)		**Better** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2022/23 academic year **Better** by 1.5 percentage points compared with 2021/22 academic year	Kirklees - 20.21% Statistical Neighbours - 20.85% (2023/24 academic year)

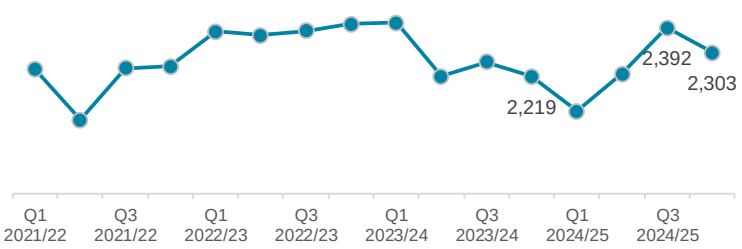
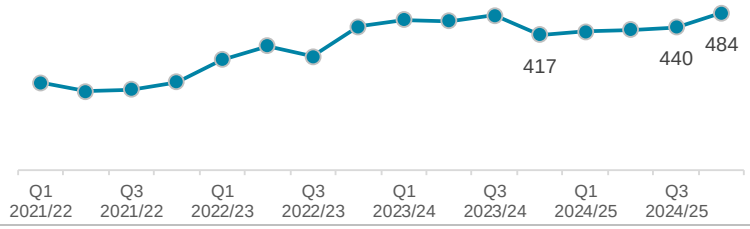
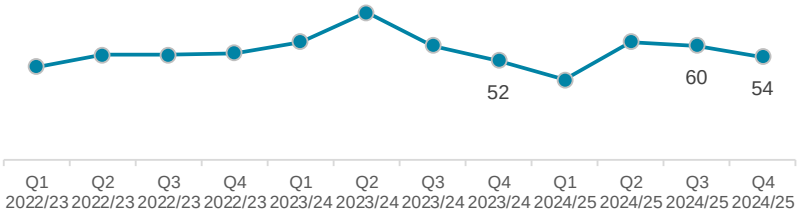
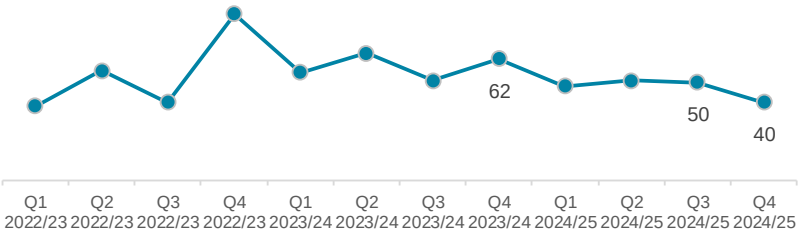
*Data for quarter 4 2024/25 is not available from DfT yet.

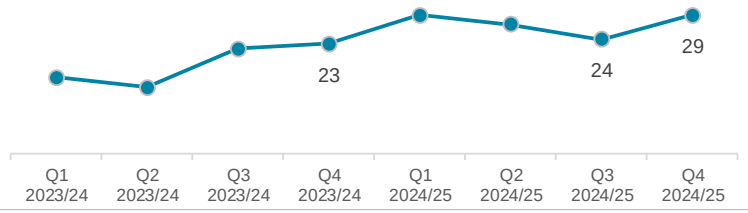
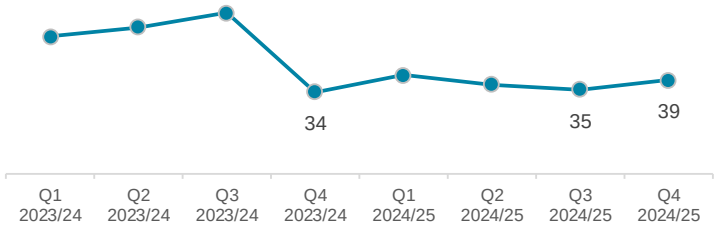
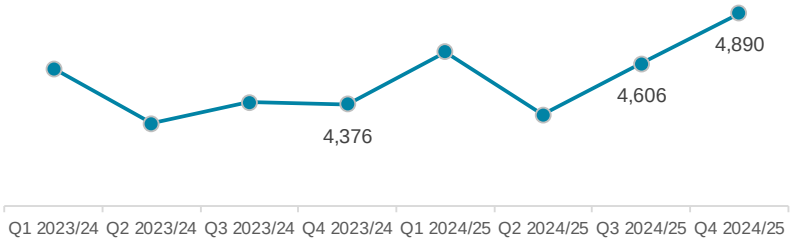
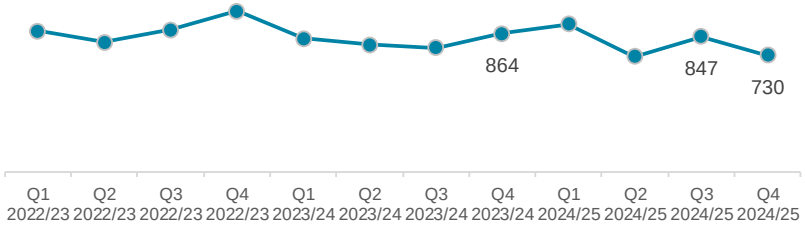
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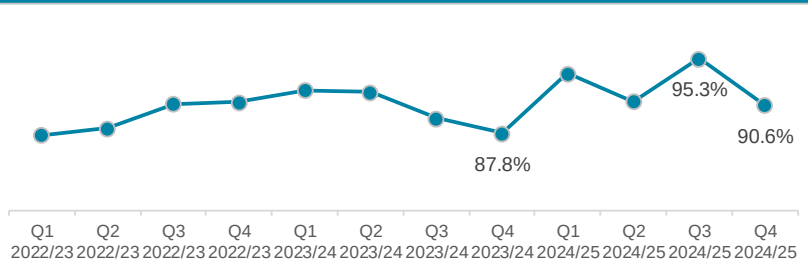
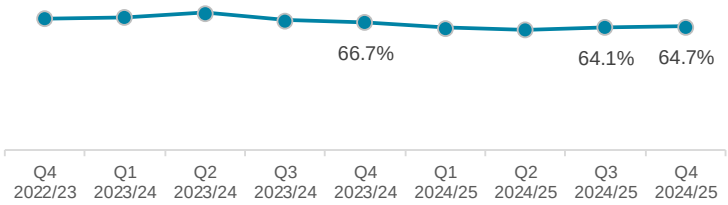
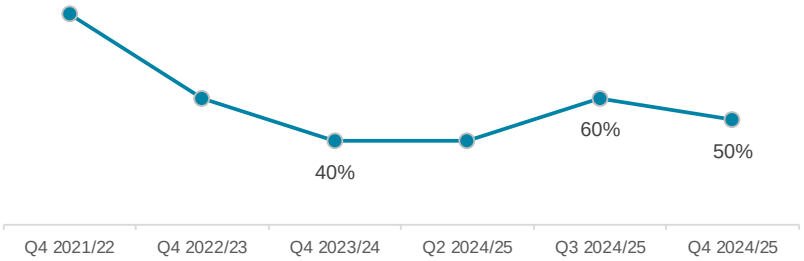
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Suspensions - Number of all school suspensions expressed as a % of school population*	Performance	11.16% (7,634 / 68,426) (Sep 2023 - Jul 2024)		**Worse** by 0.35 percentage points compared with the 2022/23 academic year **Worse** by 2.31 percentage points compared with the 2021/22 academic year	Kirklees - 10.98% National - 9.33% Suspensions - Number of all school suspensions expressed as a % of school population (Q1 2023/24)
Exclusions - Total Permanent Exclusions from Schools as a % of the school population*	Performance	0.17% (114 / 68,426) (Sep 2023 - Jul 2024)		**Worse** by 0.04 percentage points compared with the 2022/23 academic year **Worse** by 0.09 percentage points compared with the 2021/22 academic year	Kirklees - 0.13% National - 0.11% Permanent Exclusions rate (Q1 2023/24)
Not in Education, Employment or Training - % of 16-17 year olds that are not in education, employment or training	Performance	2.8% (2024/25)		**Worse** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2023/24 **Worse** by 0.5 percentage points compared with 2022/23	Kirklees - 2.8% Statistical Neighbours - 4% (2023/24)

*Annual measures, most up to date data available at time of producing the report

Child Protection & Family Support Measures

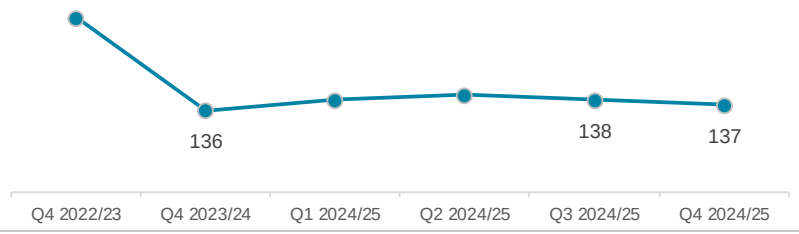
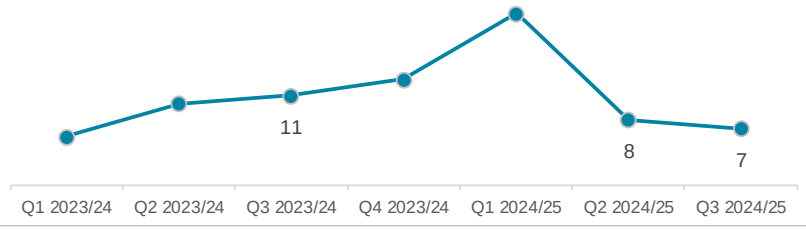
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Children in Need	Demand	2,303 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 89 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 84 children compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 220.9 Statistical Neighbours - 364.28 Children in Need rate per 10,000 (2023/24)
Number of children with a Child Protection Plan	Demand	484 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 44 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 67 children compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 42.8 Statistical Neighbours - 43.08 Children who are the subject of a CPP - rate per 10,000 (2023/24)
Number of children and young people starting to be looked after in the quarter	Demand	54 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 6 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 2 children compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 25 Statistical Neighbours - 28.6 Rate of children starting to be looked after each year (2023/24)
Number of Children Looked After ceasing to be looked after in the quarter	Demand	40 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decease** by 10 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 22 children comapred with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 24 Statistical Neighbours - 29.8 Rate of children ceasing to be looked after each year (2023/24)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of Children Looked After in an external residential provision	Demand	29 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 5 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 6 children compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of Children Looked After aged 16-18 in semi supported accommodation external residential provision	Demand	39 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 4 children compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 5 children compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of contacts to children's services	Demand	4,890 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 284 contacts compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 514 contacts compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of referrals to children's social care	Demand	730 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 117 referrals compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 134 referrals compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 331.1 Statistical Neighbours - 525.79 Rate per 10,000 of referrals to Children's Social Services (2023/24)

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation	Performance	90.6% (307 / 339) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 4.7 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 2.8 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 91% Statistical Neighbours - 0% % in suitable accommodation (Q4 2022/23)
Percentage of Care leavers in Employment, Education or Training (of those available for EET)	Performance	64.7% (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.6 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 2 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data available this is a locally specified measure
Percentage of Children's Homes rated Good or better by Ofsted*	Performance	50% (3 / 6) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 10 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 10 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

*A new care home was added during quarter 4 2024/25 which altered both the denominator and numerator

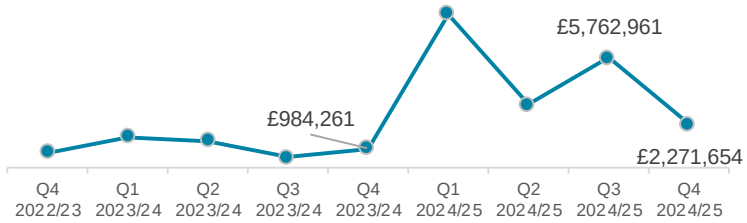
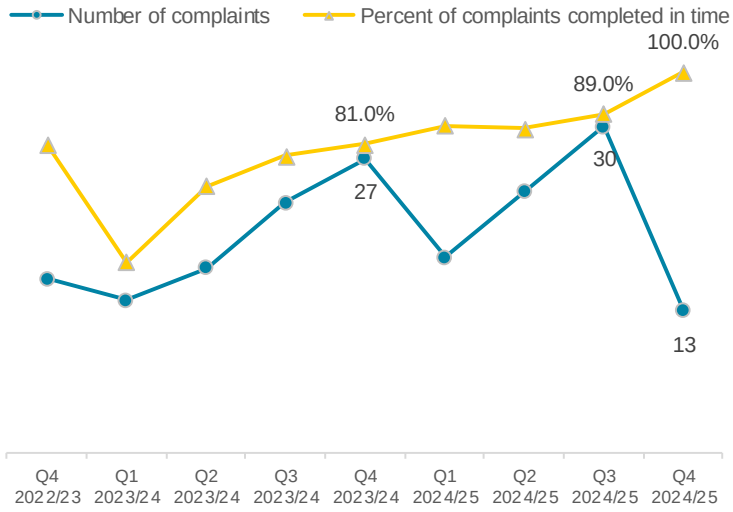
Resources, Improvement & Partnerships Measures

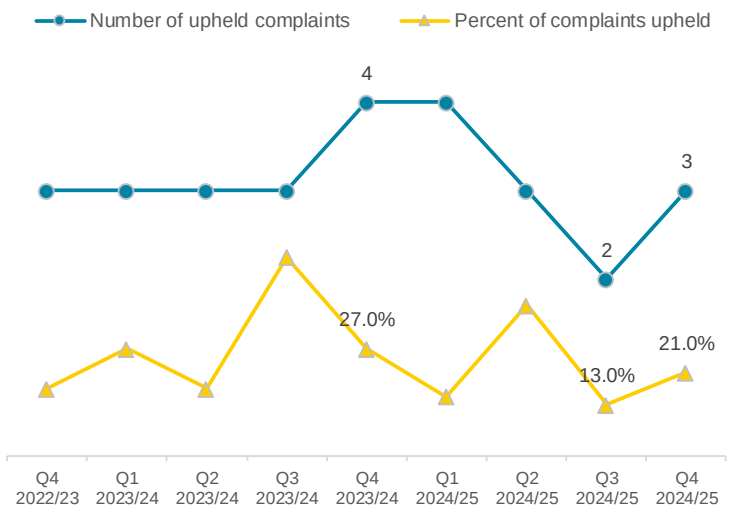
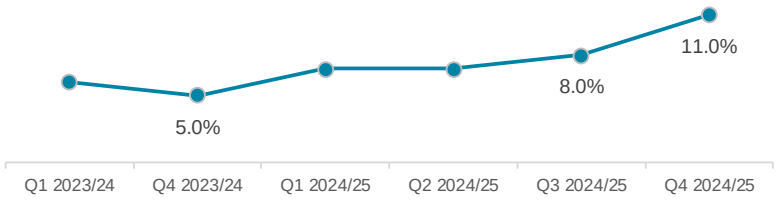
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of mainstream foster carer households in Kirklees	Demand	137 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 1 household compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 1 household compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Waiting times for child mental health services for month at quarter end (time in weeks)*	Performance	7 (Q3 2024/25)		**Better** by 1 week compared with Q2 2024/25 **Better** by 4 weeks compared with Q3 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

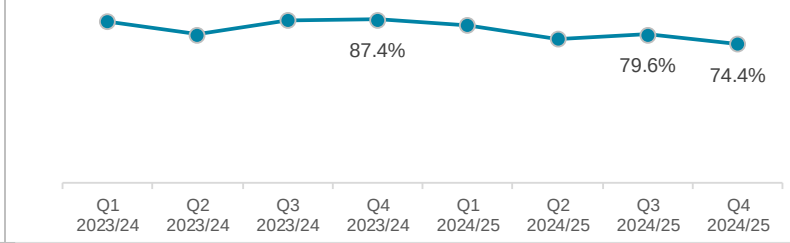
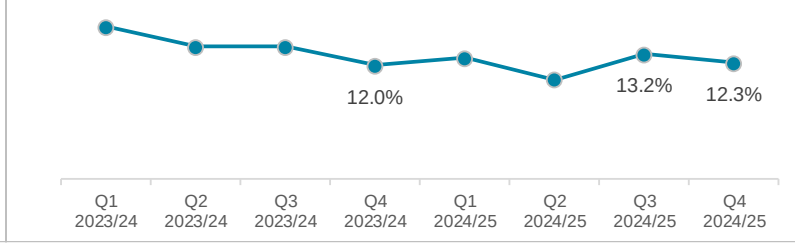
*Quarter 4 2024/25 data not expected until May / June 2025

Public Health and Corporate Resources

Corporate Resources Measures

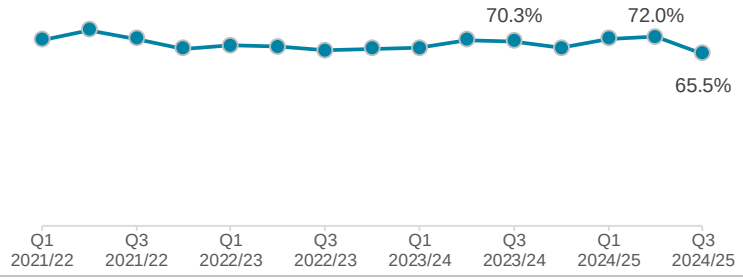
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Total £ Social Value delivered (derived from contracts above £100k per annum with commitments recorded via the Social Value Portal)	Performance	£2,271,654 (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by £3.4M compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by £1.2M compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Percent of stage 3 complaints completed in time	Performance	100% (13 / 13) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 11 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 19 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available due to different complaints processes across Council's
Number of stage 3 complaints received	Demand	13 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 17 complaints compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 14 complaints compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available due to different complaints processes across Council's

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
No. of Ombudsman complaints upheld	Performance	3 (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 1 complaint compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 1 complaint compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 3 Bradford - 3.6 Calderdale - 9.1 Leeds - 5.3 Wakefield - 2.2 Upheld decisions per 100,000 residents (2023/24)
Percent of Ombudsman complaints upheld	Performance	21% (3 / 14) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 8 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 6 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 62% National - 80% (2023/24)
Vacancy rate (percent of vacant positions across the Council)	Performance	11% (904 / 7,899) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 3 percentage point compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 6 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - N/A Leeds - 2.90% Q3 2023/24

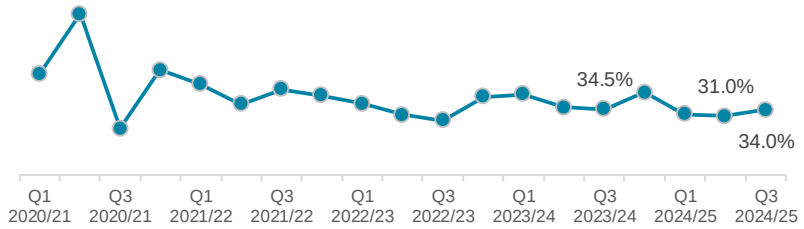
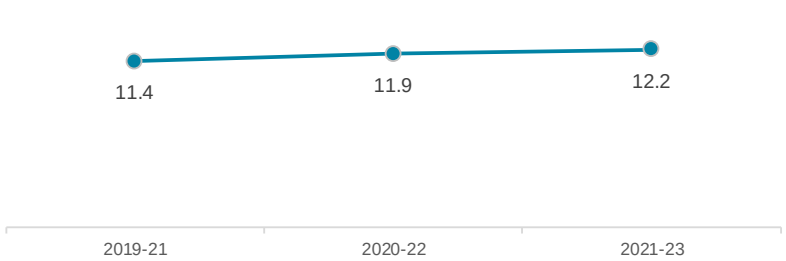
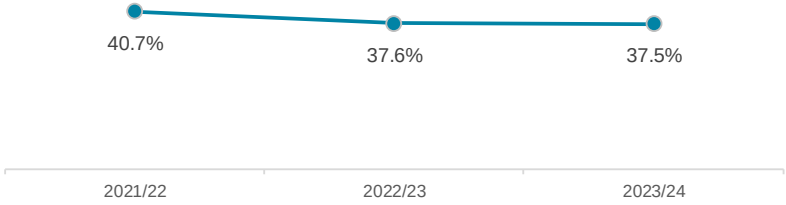
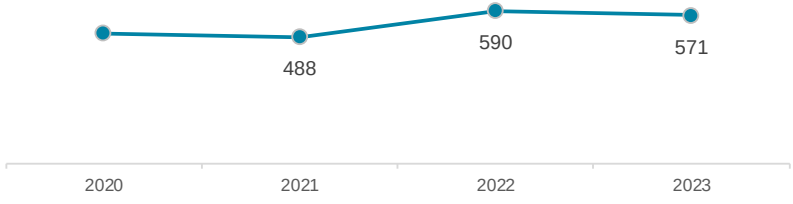
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percent of calls answered Kirklees Direct Call Centre*	Performance	74.4% (66,591 / 89,544) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 5.2 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 13 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Percent of follow-up calls Kirklees Direct Call Centre*	Performance	12.3% (8,177 / 66,591) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.9 percentage point compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 0.3 percentage points compared with the end of Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

*Data is based on Kirklees Direct calls and only covers the top 7 services (Council Tax, Housing repairs, Waste, Benefits, Housing solutions, Children's and Disabled travel). The quality of call data is also always improving.

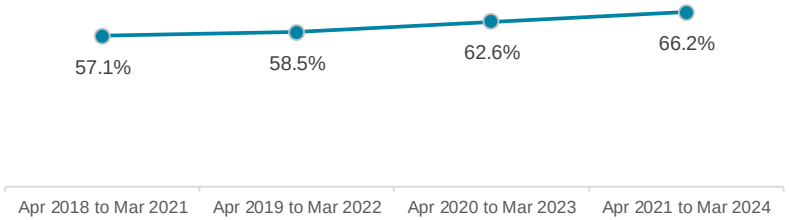
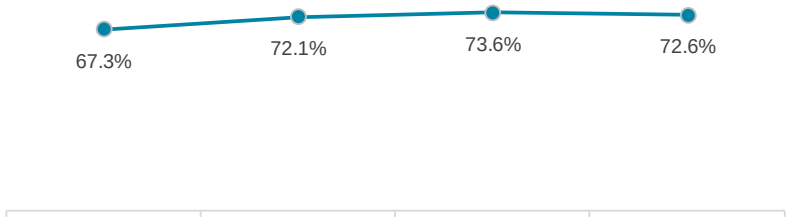
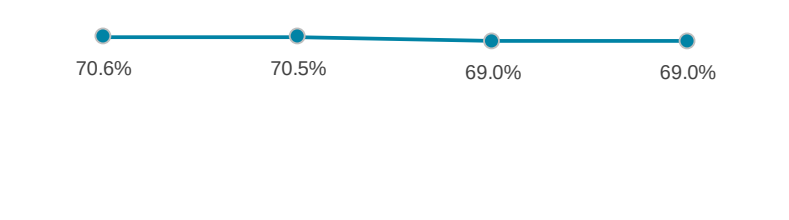
Public Health & Health Protection Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Breastfeeding initiation rates (proportion of babies whose first feed included breastmilk)	Performance	65.5% (620 / 946) (Q3 2024/25)*		**Worse** by 6.5 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 **Worse** by 4.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 67% National - 72.6% Breastfeeding rates (Q3 2024/25)

*Quarter 4 data was not available at the time of producing the report

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of people taking up an NHS Health Check invite	Performance	34% (3,491 / 10,268) (Q3 2024/25)*		**Better** by 3 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 **Worse** by 0.5 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 34% National - 37% Percentage of people taking up an NHS Health Check invite (Q3 2024/25)
Suicide rate per 100,000 population*	Performance	12.2 (2021-23)		**Worse** by 0.3 suicides per 100,000 population compared with 2020-22 **Worse** by 0.8 suicides per 100,000 population compared with 2019-21	Kirklees - 12.2 National - 10.7 Suicide rate (persons) (January 2021 to December 2023)
Percentage of children who are overweight/obese in Year 6*	Performance	37.5% (2,000 / 5,333) (2023/24)		**Better** by 0.1 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Better** by 3.2 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 37.5% National - 35.8% (School year 2023/24)
All new sexually transmitted infection diagnoses (rate per 100,000)*	Performance	571 (2023)		**Better** by 19 diagnoses per 100,000 compared with 2022 **Worse** by 83 diagnoses per 100,000 compared with 2021	Kirklees - 571 National - 704 (Jan-Dec 2023)

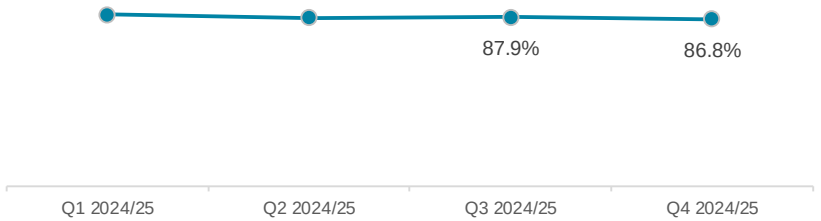
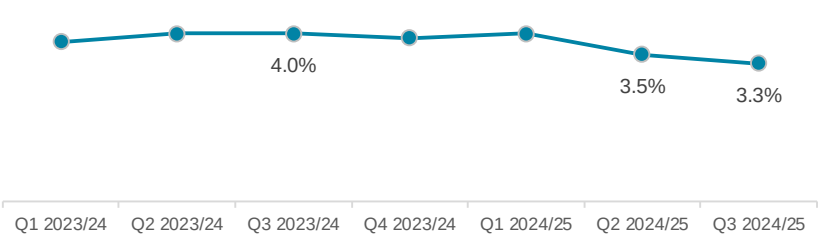
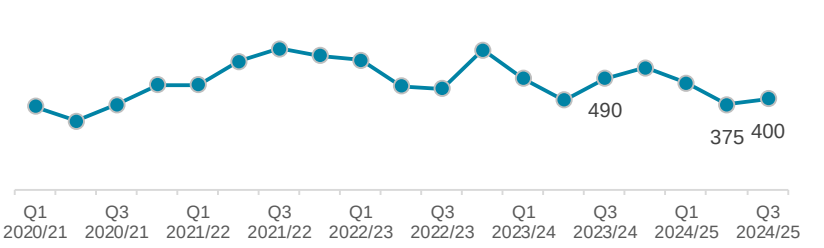
*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at time of producing the report

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Cancer screening coverage: breast cancer*	Performance	66.2% (31,160 / 47,090) (Apr 2021 to Mar 2024)		**Better** by 3.6 percentage points compared with Apr 2020 to Mar 2023 **Better** by 7.7 percentage points compared with Apr 2019 to Mar 2022	Kirklees - 66.2% National - 69.9% (April 2021 to March 2024)
Cancer screening coverage: bowel cancer*	Performance	72.6% (48,865 / 67,280) (Oct 2021 to Mar 2024)		**Worse** by 1 percentage points compared with Oct 2020 to Mar 2023 **Better** by 0.5 percentage points compared with Oct 2019 to Mar 2022	Kirklees - 72.6% National - 71.8% (October 2021 to March 2024)
Cancer screening coverage: cervical cancer (aged 25-49)*	Performance	69% (52,105 / 75,550) (Oct 2020 to Mar 2024)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Oct 2019 to Mar 2023 **Worse** by 1.5 percentage points compared with Oct 2018 to Mar 2022	Kirklees - 69% National - 67.5% (October 2020 to March 2024)

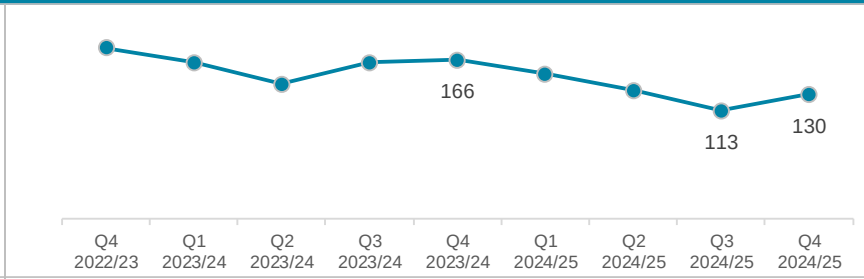
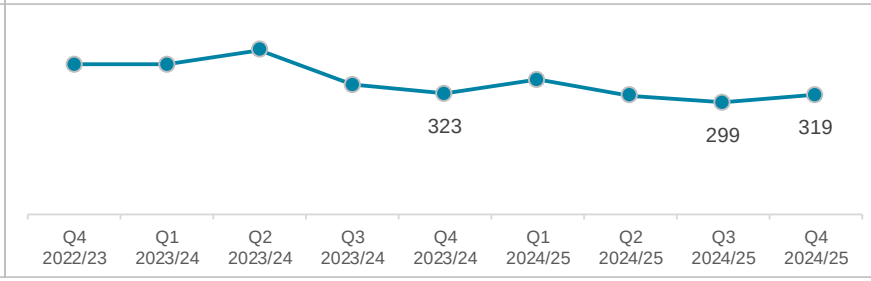
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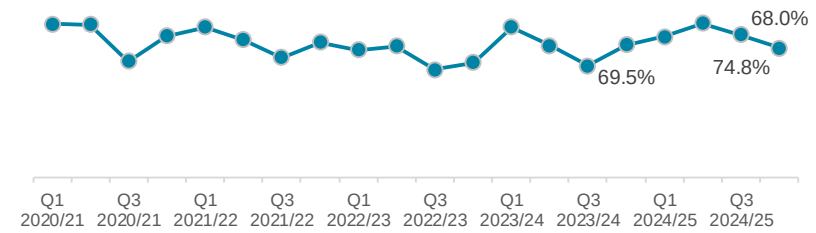
Skills & Regeneration Measures

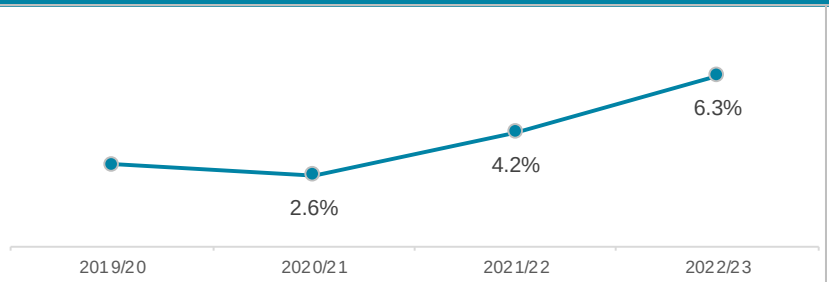
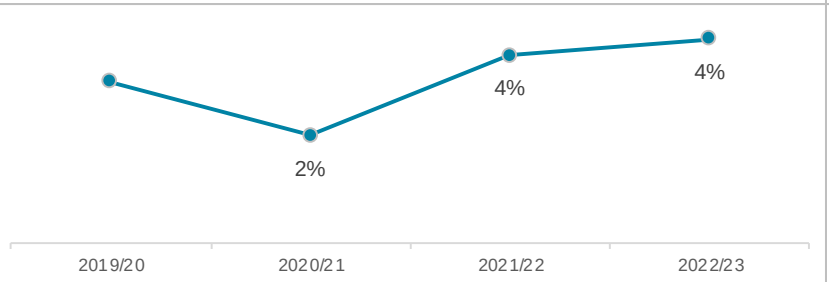
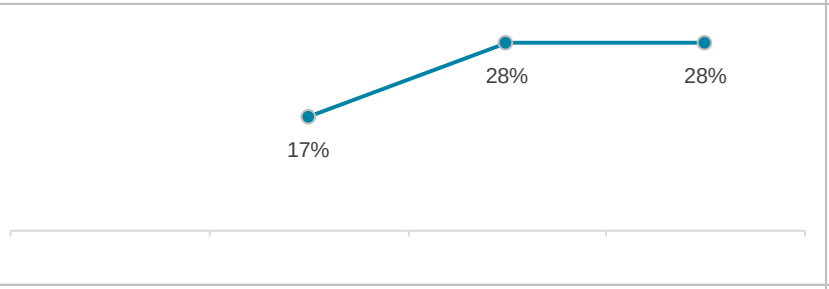
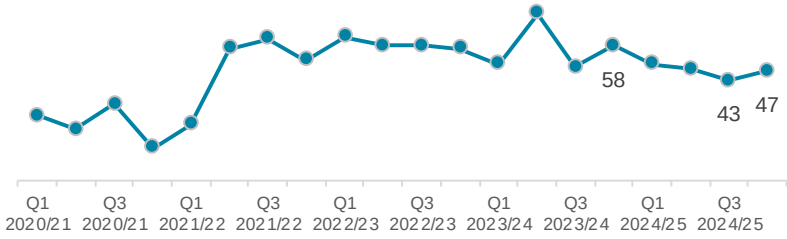
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Occupancy rate of council business centre units rented out (per square foot).	Performance	86.8% (146,974.60 sq ft / 169,368.17 sq ft) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 1.1 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available this is a locally specified measure
Unemployment Rate*	Performance	3.3% (Q3 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.2 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 Better by 0.7 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 3.3% National - 3.8% (Oct'23-Sep'24)
Business deaths*	Performance	400 (Q3 2024/25)		**Worse** by 25 businesses compared with Q2 2024/25 **Better** by 90 businesses compared with Q3 2023/24	Kirklees - 14.84 West Yorkshire - 15.44 Business deaths per 10,000 people aged 16+ (Oct-Dec '24)

*Updated data provided to the most recent available data, obtain from external sources.

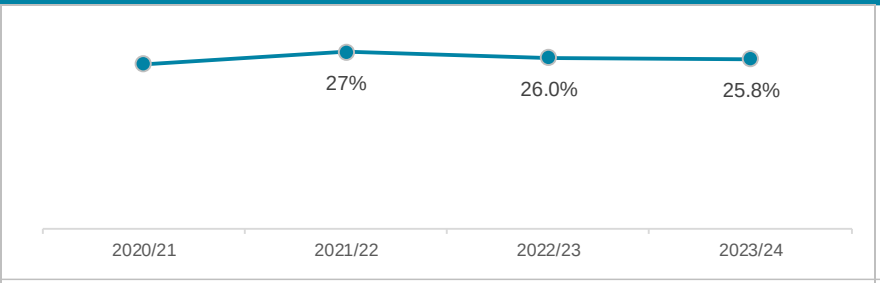
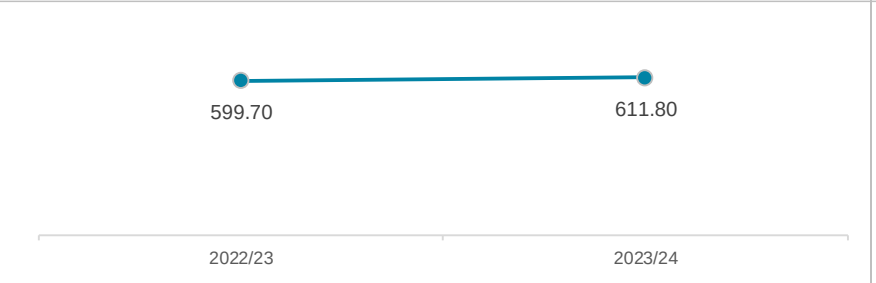
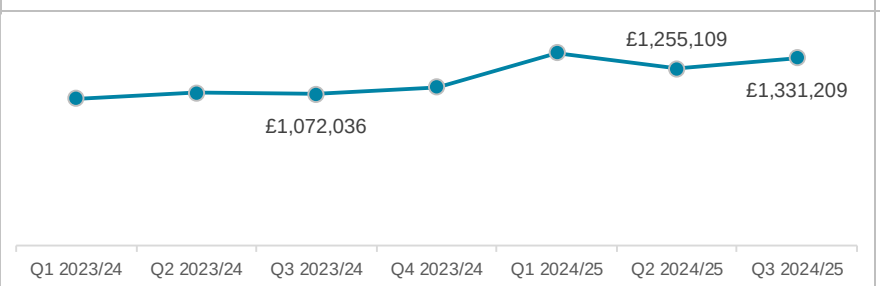
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of planning applications received - minor	Demand	130 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 17 applications compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 36 applications compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 3.1 Yorkshire and the Humber - 3 Number of minor planning application decisions per 1,000 properties (Jul 23 - Jun 24)
Number of planning applications received - other	Demand	319 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 20 applications compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 4 applications compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 7 Yorkshire and the Humber - 6.9 Number of other planning application decisions per 1,000 properties (Jul 23 - Jun 24)

Highways, Streetscene & Waste Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of street lighting faults attended within published timeframes (7 working days).	Performance	68% (666 / 980) (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 6.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 1.5 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

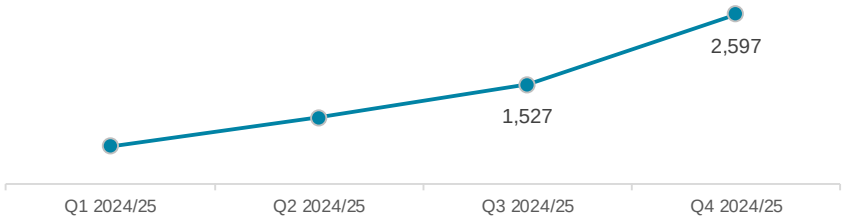
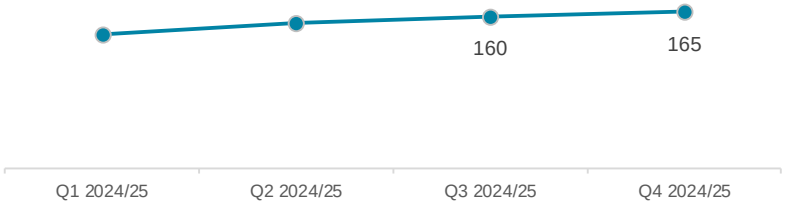
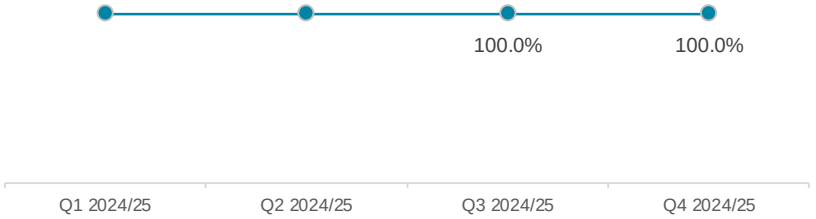
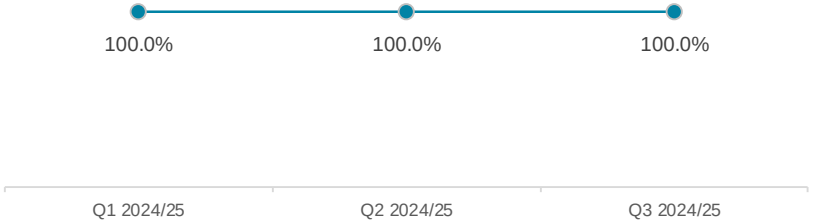
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% of B and C roads that should be considered for maintenance (categorised as red and may need maintenance)*	Performance	6.3% (2022/23)		**Worse** by 2.1 percentage points compared with 2021/22 **Worse** by 3.7 percentage points compared with 2020/21	Kirklees - 4% Yorkshire and the Humber - 3% (2022/23)
% of A roads that should be considered for maintenance (categorised as red and may need maintenance)*	Performance	3.8% (2022/23)		**Worse** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2021/22 **Worse** by 1.8 percentage points compared with 2020/21	Kirklees - 4% Yorkshire and the Humber - 3% (2022/23)
% of U roads that should be considered for maintenance (categorised as red and may need maintenance)*	Performance	28% (2022/23)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with 2021/22 **Worse** by 11 percentage points compared with 2020/21	Kirklees - 28% Yorkshire and the Humber - 15% (2022/23)
People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Performance	47 (Q4 2024/25)		**Worse** by 4 accidents compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 11 accidents compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 52 Yorkshire and the Humber - 60.4 Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents per 100,000 population (2023)

*Annually collected measures, most up to date data available at time of producing the report

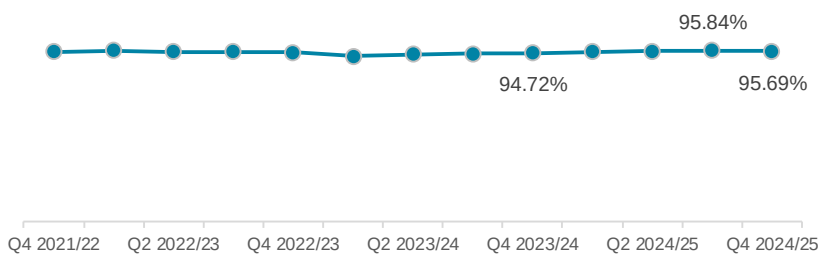
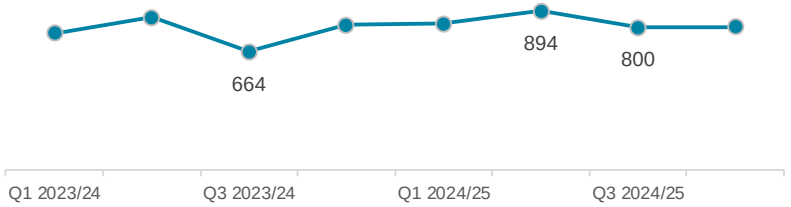
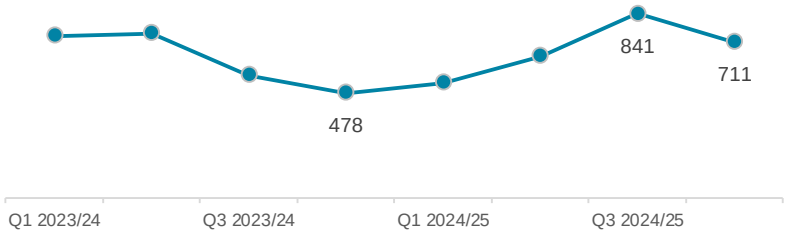
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting (Ex NI192)*	Performance	25.8% (41,042 / 158,826) (2023/24)		**Worse** by 0.2 percentage points compared with 2022/23 **Worse** by 1.1 percentage points compared with 2021/22	Kirklees - 25.8% Yorkshire and the Humber - 41% (2023/24)
Residual household waste per household (kg/household) (Ex NI191) *	Performance	611.8 (2023/24)		**Worse** by 12.1 Kg per household compared with 2022/23 No comparison data available for 2021/22	Kirklees - 611.8 Bradford - 593.2 Calderdale - 489.9 Leeds - 530.5 Wakefield - 482.9 (2023/24)
Parking income.	Performance	£1,331,209 (Q3 2024/25)		**Better** by £76,100 compared with Q2 2024/25 **Better** by £259,173 compared with Q3 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

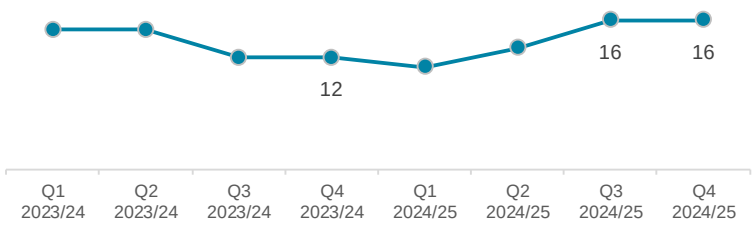
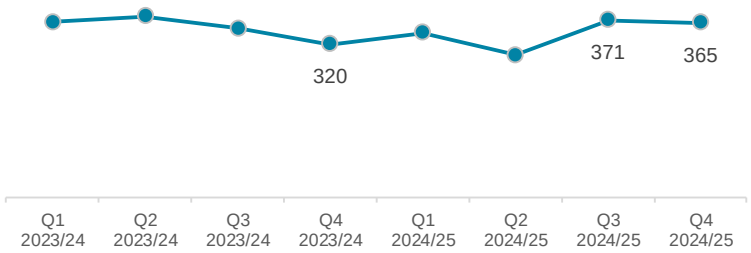
*Annually collected measures, most up to date data available at time of producing the report

Homes & Neighbourhoods Measures

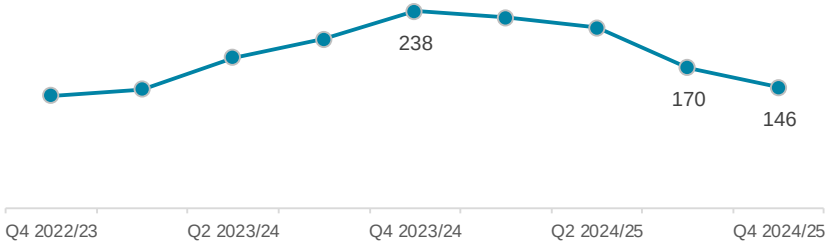
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of closed damp, mould and condensation cases	Demand	2,597 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 1,070 cases compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Average length of open damp, mould and condensation cases (in days)	Demand	165 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 5 cases compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Proportion of homes for which all required fire risk assessments have been carried out.	Performance	100% (Q4 2024/25)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Percent of Fire risk assessments carried that were due to be carried out.*	Performance	100% (47 / 47) (Q3 2024/25)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Q2 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q3 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

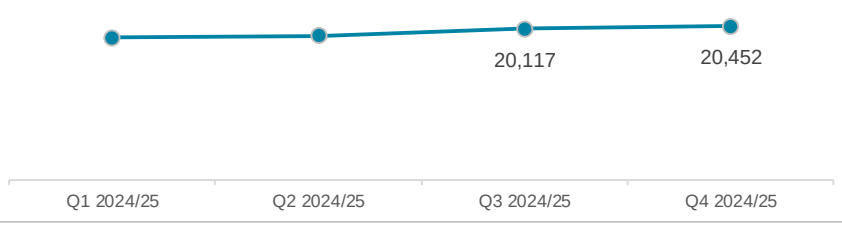
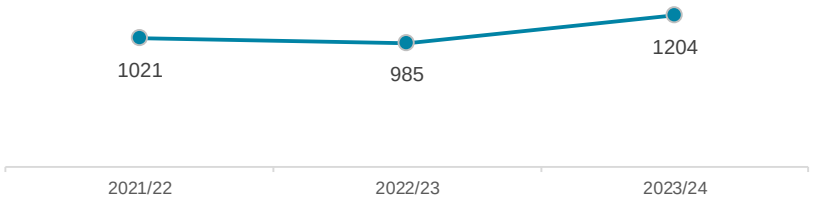
*Most up to date data available at time of producing the report

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Percentage of fire risk assessments reported to the regulator that are outstanding.	Performance	0% (Q4 2024/25)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Proportion of emergency responsive repairs completed within timescale.	Performance	95.69% (30,293 / 31,657) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.2 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 1.3 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of disabled facilities grants (DFG) adaptations referrals**	Demand	805 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 5 referrals compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 10 referrals compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of households on the disabled facilities grants (DFG) adapatations waiting list	Demand	711 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 130 households compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 233 households compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Average wait time for a disabled facilities grants (DFG) assessment of need for all tenures (weeks)*	Performance	16 (Q4 2024/25)		Same by 0 weeks compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 4 weeks compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Average wait time to deliver disabled facilities grants (DFG) adaptations for all tenures (days)**	Performance	365 (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 6 days compared with Q3 2024/25 **Worse** by 45 days compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available

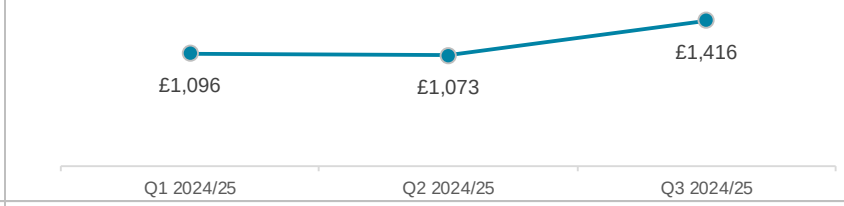
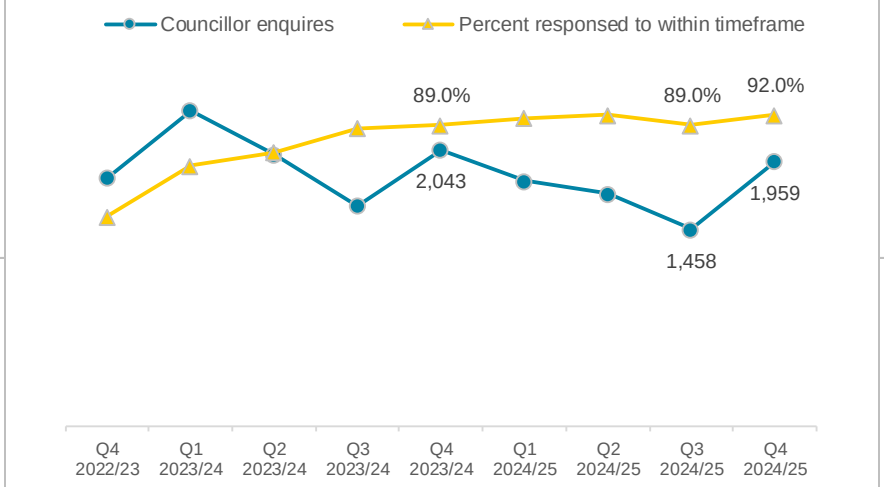
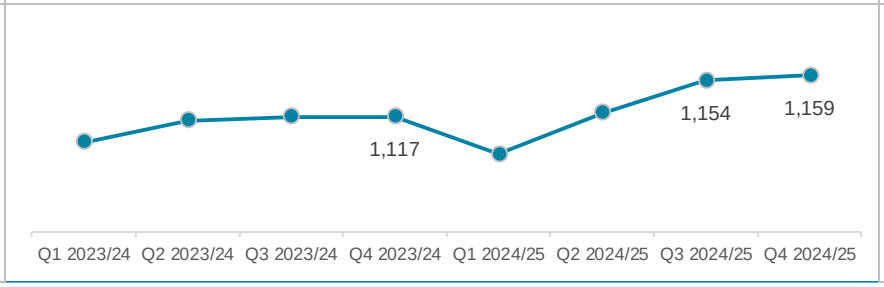
Development Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of households in B&B temporary accommodation.	Demand	146 (Q4 2024/25)		**Decrease** by 24 households compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 92 households compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 47.6% Yorkshire and the Humber - 37.9% % of households in B&B temporary accommodation (Q4 2023/24)

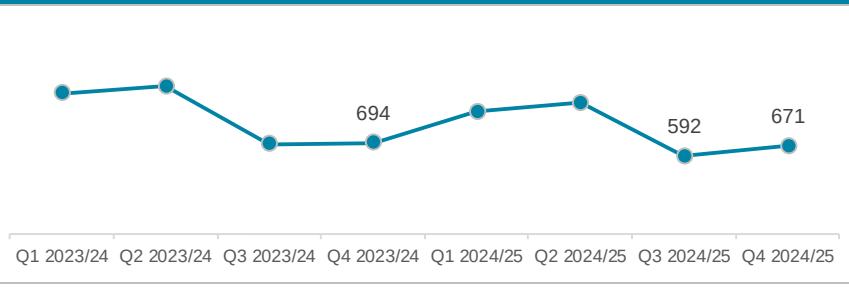
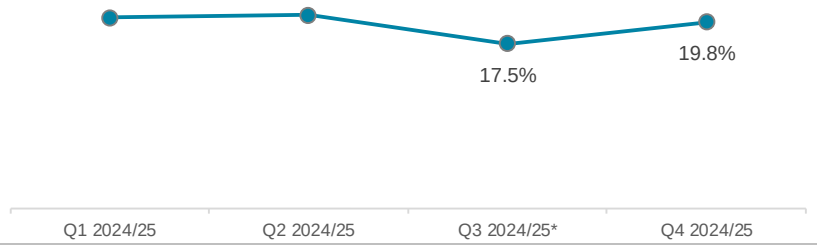
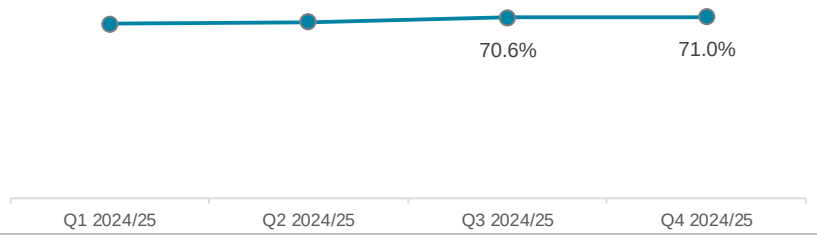
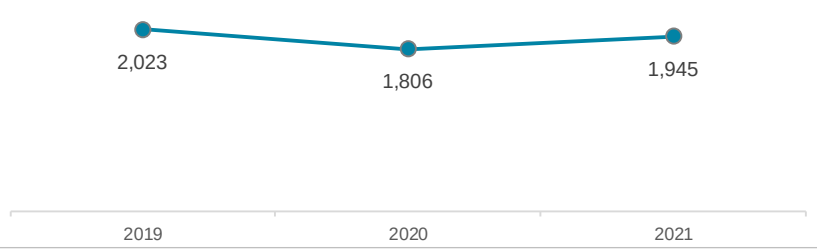
Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of applicants on Housing Register	Demand	20,452 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 335 applicants compared with Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Total Market Homes Delivered*	Performance	1204 (2023/24)		**Better** by 219 homes delivered compared with Q4 2022/23 **Better** by 183 homes delivered compared with Q4 2021/22	No benchmarking data is available

*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at time of report production

Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Measures

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Average cost per child accessing home to school transport for the quarter*	Performance	£1,416 (Q3 2024/25)		**Worse** by £343 per child within the quarter compared with Q2 No comparison data available for Q3 2023/24	DfT are looking at collecting data nationally next year
Percent of Councillor enquires (across the whole Council) responded to within timeframe	Performance	92% (0 / 0) (Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 3 percentage points compared with Q3 2024/25 **Better** by 3 percentage points compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of Councillor enquires received across the whole Council	Demand	1,959 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 501 enquires compared with Q3 **Decrease** by 84 enquires compared with Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Number of Hackney carriage and private hire licenses	Demand	1,159 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 5 licenses compared with Q3 2024/25 **Increase** by 42 licenses compared with Q4 2023/24	◆ Kirklees - 8.1 West Yorkshire - 8.1 Total licensed vehicles (Taxis, Private Hire Vehicles (PHVs)) per 1,000 people aged 16+ (45383)

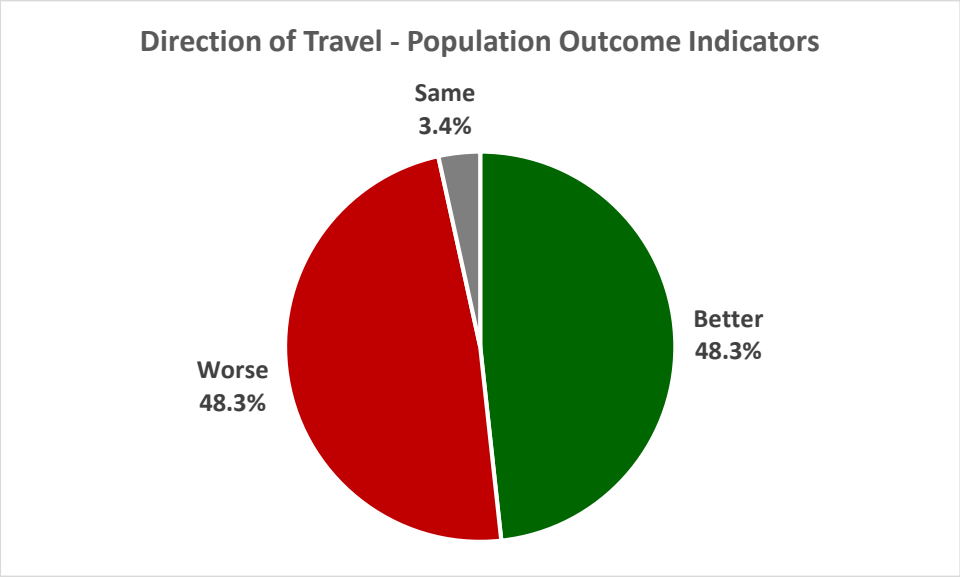
*Most up to date data available at the time of report production

Measure	Measure Type	Latest value	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Number of noise pollution complaints	Demand	671 (Q4 2024/25)		**Increase** by 79 complaints compared with Q3 2024/25 **Decrease** by 23 complaints compared with Q4 2023/24	Kirklees - 8.2 Yorkshire and the Humber - 8.1 Rate of complaints about noise per 1,000 population (2020/21)
Food hygiene percent of premises rated 4 stars	Performance	19.75% (710 / 3,595) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 2.3 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for the end of Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Food hygiene percent of premises rated 5 stars	Performance	71% (2552 / 3,595) (End of Q4 2024/25)		**Better** by 0.4 percentage points compared with the end of Q3 2024/25 No comparison data available for the end of Q4 2023/24	No benchmarking data is available
Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) emissions for the District (measured in kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (KT CO2e))*	Performance	1,945 (2021)		**Better** by 139 KT CO2e compared with 2020 **Worse** by 78 KT CO2e compared with 2019	Kirklees - 1809 Bradford - 2009 Calderdale - 965.8 Wakefield - 1994.8 CO2e emissions for the District (KT CO2e) (2022)

*Annually collected measure, most up to date data available at the time of report production

Appendix B – Population Outcome Indicators

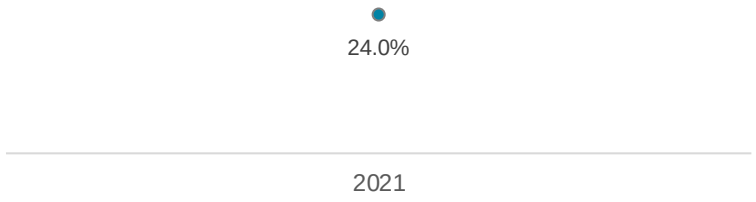
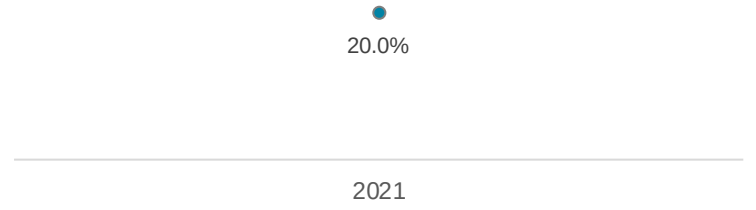
Supported by the Council priorities, we will maintain a focus on the day-today activities that support our shared outcomes. We have a set of indicators to help measure how well things are going against these shared outcomes. The measures are influenced by regional, national, and even international events, but we can use them to help us understand our collective impact across our partnerships.



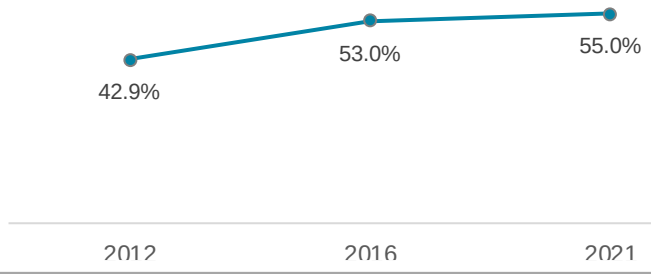
29 of the 31 population outcome indicators have a short-term trend data available (12-months/2-years ago), of these 48.3% are performing better compared to their short-term trend (12-months/2-years ago) and 48.3% are performance worse.

Shared by People

We make our places what they are

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% people who agree that (in the last 12 months) they got involved in their community and something positive came out of it *	24.0% (2021)		No comparison data available for 2016 No comparison data available for 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available
% people who agree that people in their local area pull together to improve the local area *	44.0% (2021)		**Better** by 5 percentage points compared with 2016 No comparison data available for 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available
% people who agree that they personally can influence decisions affecting their local area *	20.0% (2021)		No comparison data available for 2016 No comparison data available for 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available

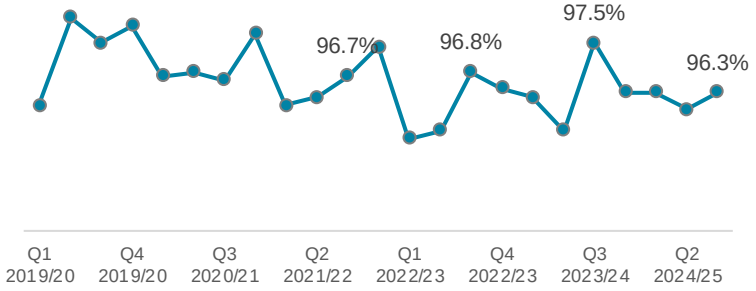
* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% people who agree that their local area is a place where people trust each other *	55.0% (2021)		**Better** by 2 percentage points compared with 2016 **Better** by 12 percentage points compared with 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available

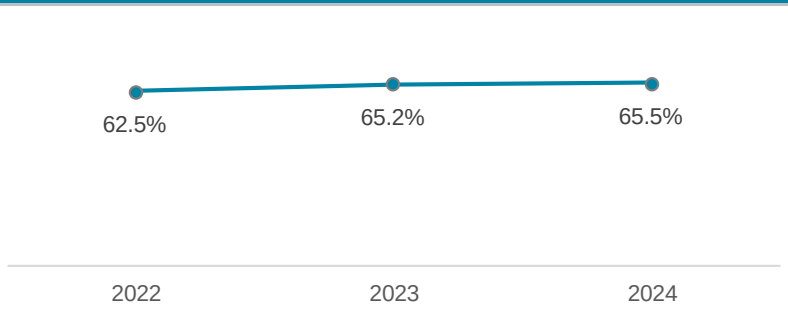
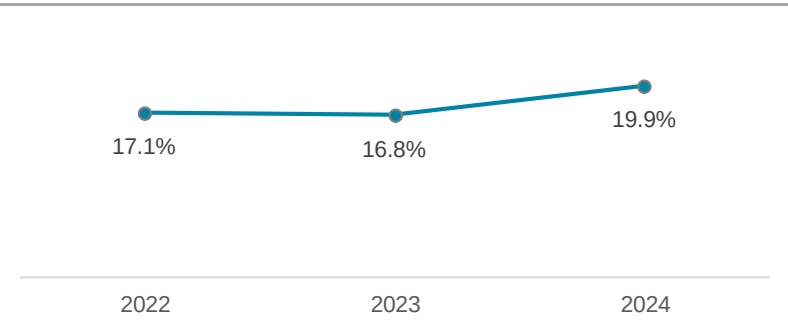
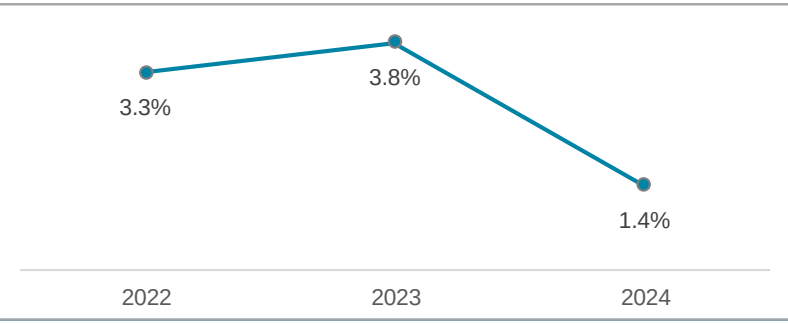
* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Best Start

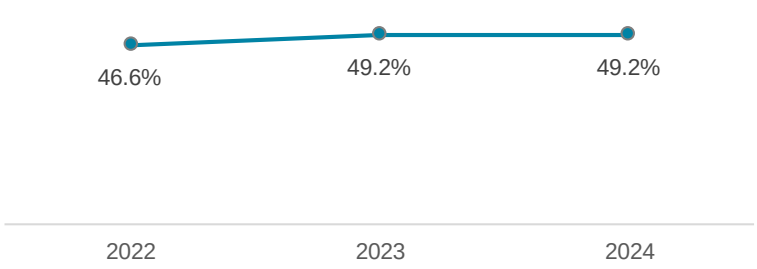
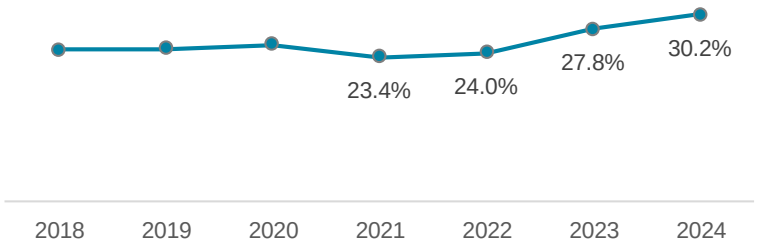
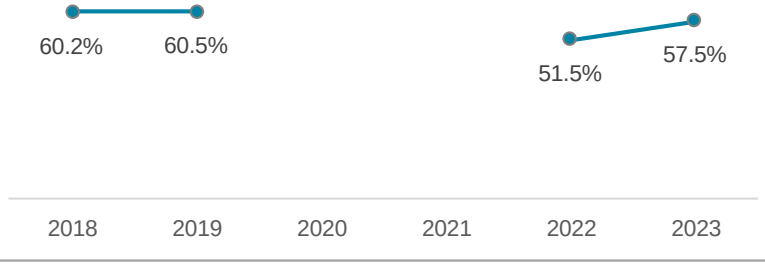
Children have the best start in life

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Healthy birth weight*	96.3% (Q3 2024/25)		**Worse** by 1.2 percentage points compared with Q3 2023/24 **Worse** by 0.5 percentage points compared with Q3 2022/23 **Worse** by 0.8 percentage points compared with Q3 2021/22	Kirklees - 96.5% National - 97.1% (2022)

*Healthy birth weight definition is proportion of live births with a weight of at least 2500g

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
School readiness: good level of development at the end of reception - All children **	65.5% (2024)		**Better** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2023 **Better** by 3 percentage points compared with 2022 No comparison data available for 2021	Kirklees - 65.5% National - 67.7% (2024)
School readiness - SEN support **	19.9% (2024)		**Better** by 3.1 percentage points compared with 2023 **Better** by 2.8 percentage points compared with 2022 No comparison data available for 2021	Kirklees - 19.9% National - 24.9% (2024)
School readiness - EHCP **	1.4% (2024)		**Worse** by 2.4 percentage points compared with 2023 **Worse** by 1.9 percentage points compared with 2022 No comparison data available for 2021	Kirklees - 1.4% National - 3.8% School readiness - EHCP (2024)

**3 year comparison for these Population Outcome Indicators are based on 2019 due to no data being available for 2020

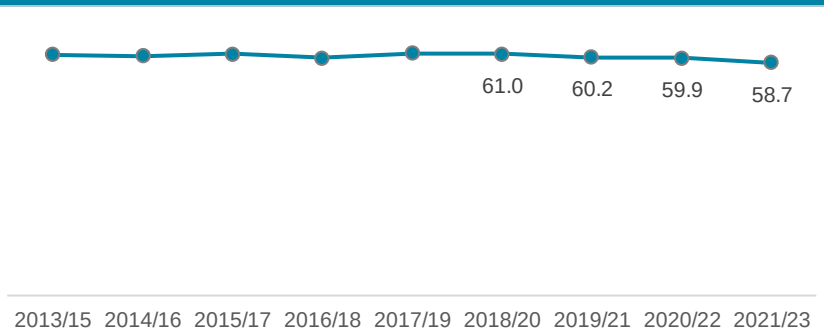
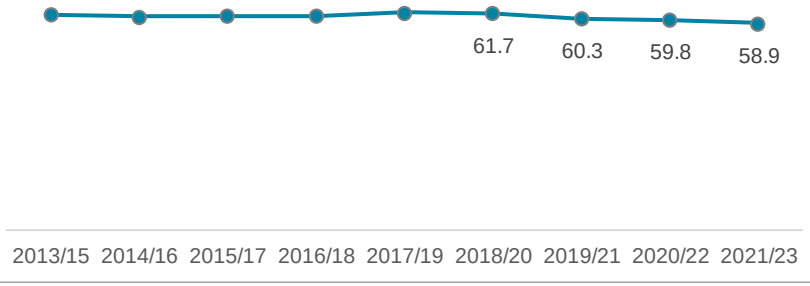
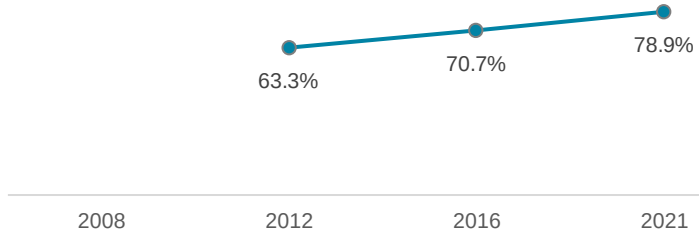
Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
School readiness - Free school meals eligible (FSM) **	49.2% (2024)		**Same** by 0 percentage points compared with 2023 **Better** by 2.6 percentage points compared with 2022 No comparison data available for 2021	Kirklees - 49.2% National - 51.6% School readiness - Free school meals eligible (FSM) (2023)
Children in poverty	30.2% (2024)		**Worse** by 2.4 percentage points compared with 2023 **Worse** by 6.2 percentage points compared with 2022 **Worse** by 6.8 percentage points compared with 2021	Kirklees - 30.2% National - 18.7% Children in poverty (2024)
Emotional wellbeing at age 13-14 years*	57.5% (2023)		**Better** by 6 percentage points compared with 2022 **Worse** by 3 percentage points compared with 2019 **Worse** by 2.7 percentage points compared with 2018	No benchmarking data available

**3 year comparison for these Population Outcome Indicators are based on 2019 due to no data being available for 2020

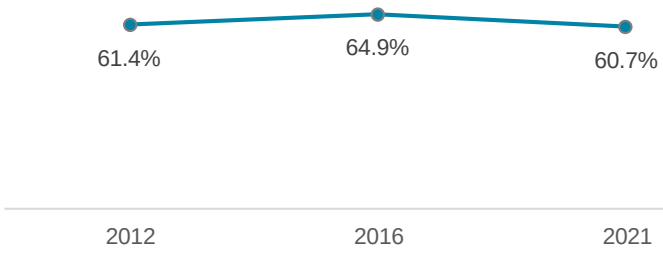
*No data is available for 2021 and 2020 so comparisons are made with 2019 and 2018

Well

People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Healthy life expectancy - Males	58.7 (2021/23)		**Worse** by 1.2 years compared with 2020/22 **Worse** by 1.5 years compared with 2019/21 **Worse** by 2.3 years compared with 2018/20	Kirklees - 58.7 National - 61.5 (2021/23)
Healthy life expectancy - Females	58.9 (2021/23)		**Worse** by 0.9 years compared with 2020/22 **Worse** by 1.4 year compared with 2019/21 **Worse** by 2.8 years compared with 2018/20	Kirklees - 58.9 National - 61.9 (2021/23)
Confidence managing health (with multiple conditions) *	78.9% (2021)		**Better** by 8.2 percentage points compared with 2016 **Better** by 15.6 percentage points compared with 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available

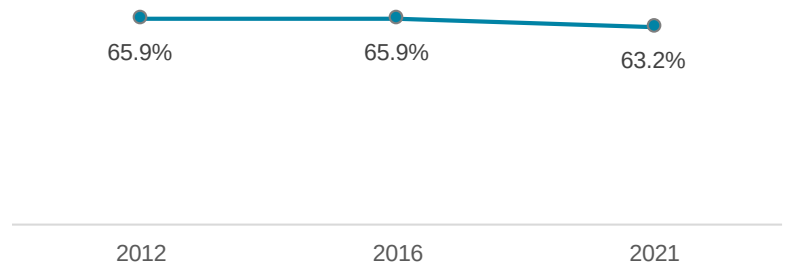
* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Emotional wellbeing (adults) - using the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale (WEMWBS)*	60.7% (2021)		**Worse** by 4.2 percentage points compared with 2016 **Worse** by 0.7 percentage points compared with 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available

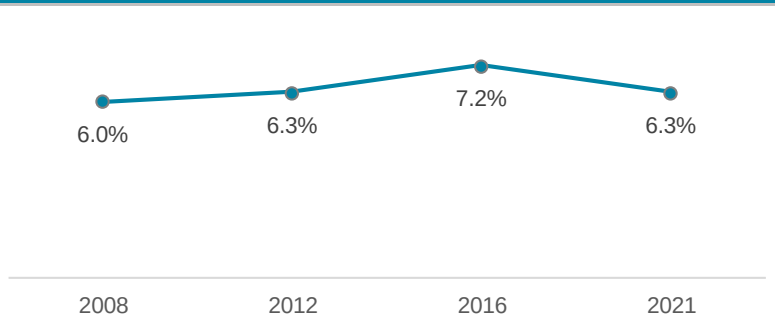
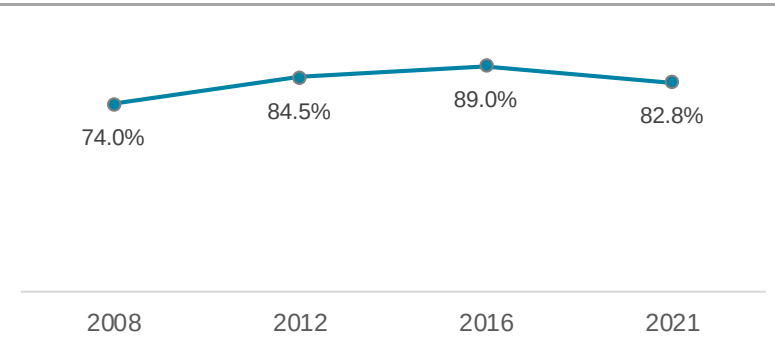
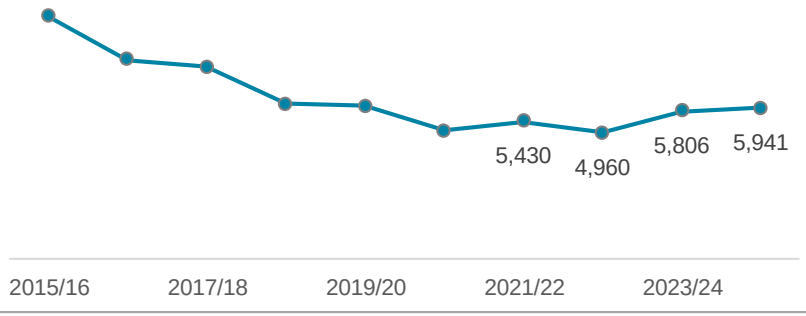
* Data sourced from the CLiK survey, the next CLiK survey will take place in 2025. Emotional wellbeing uses the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing scale which was developed to enable the monitoring of mental wellbeing in the general population and the evaluation of projects, programmes and policies which aim to improve mental wellbeing. The 7-item scale has been used in the CLiK survey to monitor emotional wellbeing

Independent

People om Kirklees live independently and have control over their lives

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Overall life satisfaction *	63.2% (2021)		**Worse** by 2.7 percentage points compared with 2016 **Worse** by 2.7 percentage points compared with 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available

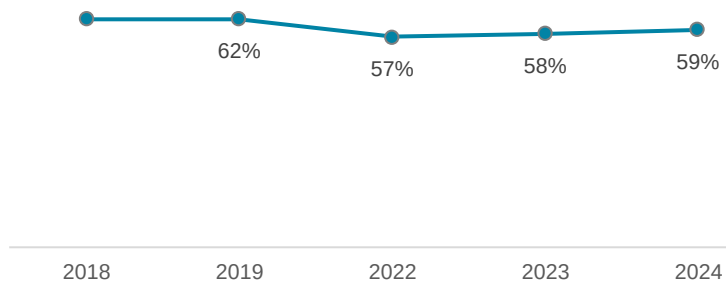
* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Loneliness / isolation - Percent of responses that often/always feel lonely *	6.3% (2021)		**Better** by 0.9 percentage points compared with 2016 **Same** by 0 percentage points compared with 2012 **Worse** by 0.3 percentage points compared with 2008	No benchmarking data available
Suitable housing - Percent of responses that agree their home and housing contract is suitable for needs *	82.8% (2021)		**Worse** by 6.2 percentage points compared with 2016 **Worse** by 1.7 percentage points compared with 2012 **Better** by 8.8 percentage points compared with 2008	No benchmarking data available
Number of clients accessing long term support during the year	5,941 (2024/25)		**Worse** by 135 clients compared with 2023/24 **Worse** by 981 clients compared with 2022/23 **Worse** by 511 clients compared with 2021/22	No benchmarking data available

* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

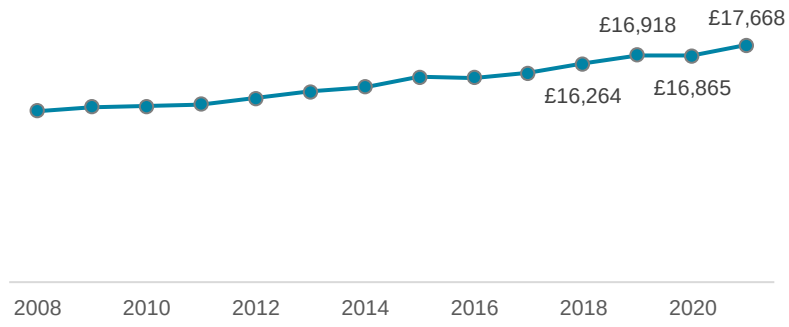
Aspire and Achieve

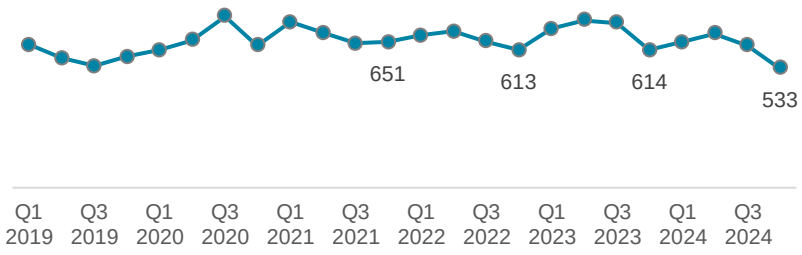
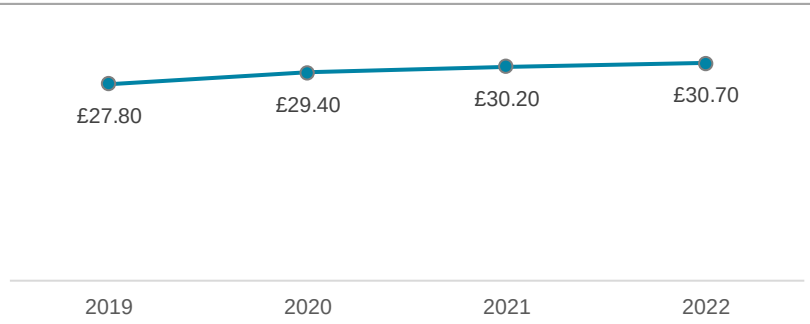
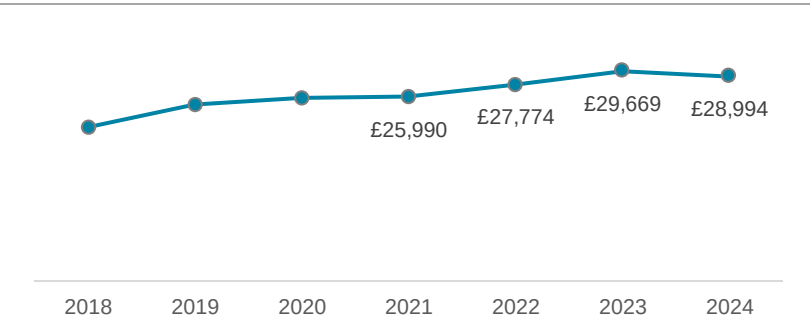
People ion Kirklees aspire to Schieve their ambitions through education, training, employment, and lifelong learning.

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Educational achievement (reading, writing, maths) at age 11 (KS2)	59% (2024)		**Better** by 1 percentage point compared with 2023 **Better** by 2 percentage points compared with 2022 **Worse** by 3 percentage points compared with 2019	Kirklees - 59% National - 61% (2024)

Sustainable Economy

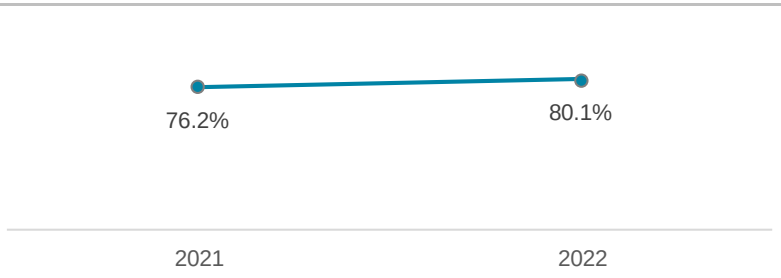
Kirklees has sustainable economic growth and provides good employment for and with communities and businesses

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Disposable income per household (£)	£17,668 (2021)		**Better** by £803 per household compared with 2020 **Better** by £750 per household compared with 2019 **Better** by £1404 per household compared with 2018	Kirklees - £17,668 National - £22,213 (2021)

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Business startups (BankSearch)	533 (Q4 2024)		**Worse** by 81 businesses compared with Q4 2023 **Worse** by 80 businesses compared with Q4 2022 **Worse** by 118 businesses compared with Q4 2021	No benchmarking data available
Productivity per hour worked (£) - Gross Value Added (GVA)	£31 (2022)		**Better** by £0.50 per hour worked compared with 2021 **Better** by £1.30 per hour worked compared with 2020 **Better** by £2.90 per hour worked compared with 2019	Kirklees - £31 National - £40 (2022)
Median earnings	£28,994 (2024)		**Worse** by £675 median earnings compared with 2023 **Better** by £1,220 median earnings compared with 2022 **Better** by £3,004 median earnings compared with 2021	Kirklees - £28,994 National - £31,602 (2024)

Safe and Cohesive

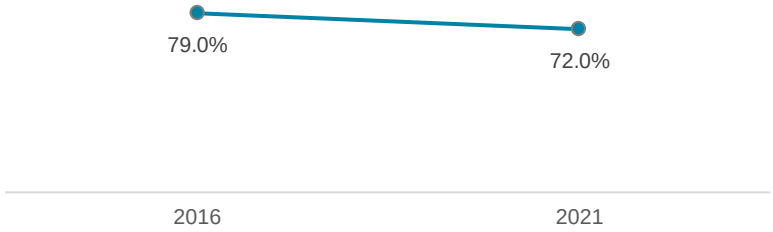
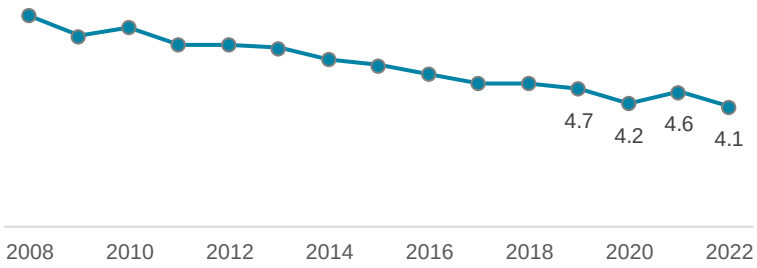
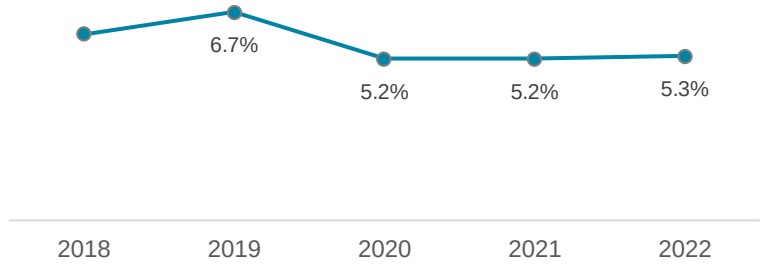
People in Kirklees live in cohesive communities, feel safe and are protected from harm.

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% of adults who agree that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area*	68% (2022)		**Better** by 13.9 percentage points compared with 2021 No comparison data available for 2020 No comparison data available for 2019	No benchmarking data available
% of adults who say they feel safe*	80.1% (2022)		**Better** by 3.9 percentage points compared with 2021 No comparison data available for 2020 No comparison data available for 2019	No benchmarking data available
Recorded crime rate	9,732 Q4 2024/25		**Better** by 367 crimes compared with Q4 2023/24 **Better** by 2,455 crimes compared with Q4 2022/23 **Better** by 1,743 crime compared with Q4 2021/22	No benchmarking data available

* Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Clean and Green

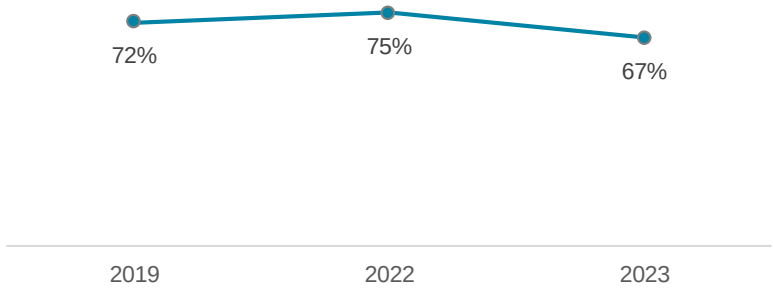
People in Kirklees enjoy a high quality, clean and green environment

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
Overall satisfaction with local area *	72.0% (2021)		**Worse** by 7 percentage points compared with 2016 No comparison data available for 2012 No comparison data available for 2008	No benchmarking data available
Greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e (equivalent))	4.1 (2022)		**Better** by 0.5 CO2e compared with 2021 **Better** by 0.1 CO2e compared with 2020 **Better** by 0.6 CO2e compared with 2019	Kirklees - 4.1 National - 5.1 (2022)
Fraction (%) of mortality attributable to particulate pollution	5.3% (2022)		**Worse** by 0.1 percentage points compared with 2021 **Worse** by 0.1 percentage points compared with 2020 **Better** by 1.4 percentage points compared with 2019	No benchmarking data available

*Data sourced from the CLiK survey. The next CLiK survey will take place in 2025

Efficient and Effective

Kirklees Council works smart and delivers efficiently and effectively

Indicator	Latest data	Trend	Latest value comparison	Benchmark
% employees who agree they are happy in their job*	67% (2023)		**Worse** by 8 percentage points compared with 2022 **Worse** by 5 percentage points compared with 2019 No comparison data available for 2020	No benchmarking data available

*2023 is the latest data, no staff survey took place in 2024, the next survey will be in 2025

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REPORT TITLE: CORPORATE RISK REPORT, QUARTER 4 2024-25

Meeting:	**Cabinet**
Date:	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**No** **No – Information report**
Purpose of Report To provide an update on the Corporate Risk Register for quarter 4 2024-25	
Recommendations • That the report be noted • Cabinet to determine if any additional action not listed as part of the report is required **Reasons for Recommendations** • This provides information about an assessment of risks faced by the organisation at a significant corporate level	
Resource Implications: • None directly from this report	
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name. **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?**	Rachel Spencer-Henshall 6th May 2025 Kevin Mulvaney 6th May 2025 Samantha Lawton 6th May 2025

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Executive Summary

The Council has arrangements to identify major corporate risks, as a means of advising those charged with governance and wider stakeholders about issues and potential issues which may threaten the ability of the organisation to achieve its objectives. The report outlines the major corporate risks, assesses their risk 'score' as well as any movement since the previous quarter, and summarises processes and controls that are in place to monitor and mitigate identified risks.

2. Information required to take a decision

The information required is included in the attached report.

3. Implications for the Council

Having effective risk management arrangements is an important part of a strong assurance and governance framework for the Council. Identifying current and potential future risks, including acknowledging that some risks might have to be accepted is an important part of open governance.

3.1 Council Plan

Not directly applicable. (except as shown in the relevant risk identification)

3.2 Financial Implications

Not directly applicable. (except as shown in the relevant risk identification)

3.3 Legal Implications

Not directly applicable. (except as shown in the relevant risk identification)

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Not directly applicable. (except as shown in the relevant risk identification)

3.5 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

Not directly applicable. (except as shown in the relevant risk identification)

4. Consultation

Not applicable

5. Engagement

Not applicable

6. Options

Not applicable

7. Next steps and timelines

Continual monitoring, reporting and actions as determined through other parts of the council's governance and management processes.

8. Contact officer

Martin Dearnley, Head of Audit & Risk
Alice Carruthers, Senior Risk Officer.

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Previous quarterly risk management reports

10. Appendices
Report attached

11. Service Director responsible
Samantha Lawton, Service Director for Legal, Governances & Commissioning

Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director for Finance

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Corporate Risk Report, Quarter 4 2024/25

Q4 Summary position:

- **There have been no new risks raised, and no risks removed this quarter**

- **Increases in risk score:**
  - There have been no risks that have increased in score this quarter.

- **Reductions in risk score:**
  - Risk FIN01 (Budget monitoring & management) and FIN02 (Medium term financial sustainability) have both reduced in score, although remain as high (red) rated risks. The reduction reflects the significant progress that has been made in stabilising the financial position of the council whilst recognising that continued focus is required to maintain this improvement trajectory
  - Risk AH01 Adults Safeguarding has reduced in score from and '12' to '8', reflecting a reduction in the likelihood of this risk materialising. Effective oversight and governance of safeguarding risks was already in place however recent focus has meant that significant progress has been made in clearing the referrals backlog and service redesign activity has delivered a more integrated and client focussed front door process

- **Other comments:**
  - Risk AH02 (Adult Social Care assurance framework) and Risk AH03 (Data & Insight for operational delivery of Adult Social Care) will both be reconsidered following the CQC visit taking place in Q1 2025-26.

Summary overview (page 1 of 2)

Reference	Risk Description	Transformation Priority	Risk Owner	Risk Score	Direction of travel
FIN02	**Medium term financial sustainability**		Kevin Mulvaney	16	⇩
PS01	**Talent management**		Shauna Coyle	16	⇨
SI03	**Cyber security**		Terence Hudson	16	⇨
LGC04	**Contract management**	✓	Samantha Lawton	16	⇨
CF02	**SEND provision**	✓	Jo-Anne Sanders	16	⇨
DEV02	**Homelessness and housing stock availability**	✓	Joanne Bartholomew	16	⇨
HN01	**Housing safety & quality**	✓	Janet Sharpe	16	⇨
FIN01	**Budget monitoring and management**		Kevin Mulvaney	15	⇩
FIN03	**Capital plan management**		Kevin Mulvaney	15	⇨
SI01	**Data integrity**		Mike Henry	12	⇨
LGC02	**Information governance**		Samantha Lawton	12	⇨
LGC03	**Procurement processes**		Samantha Lawton	12	⇨

Kirklees COUNCIL

Summary overview (page 2 of 2)

Reference	Risk Description	Transformation Priority	Risk Owner	Risk Score	Direction of travel
HP01	**Emergency planning & business continuity**		Jane O'Donnell	12	⇨
CAS01	**Community cohesion, wellbeing & resilience**		Jill Greenfield	12	⇨
AH03	**Data insight for operational delivery of Adult Social Care**		Cath Simms	12	⇨
ECC01	**Climate change**		Kat Armitage	12	⇨
DEV01	**Corporate assets portfolio management**	✓	Joanne Bartholomew	9	⇨
PS02	**Potential for industrial action**		Shauna Coyle	9	⇨
LGC01	**Failure in corporate governance**		Samantha Lawton	9	⇨
AH01	**Adults safeguarding**		Cath Simms	8	⇩
AH02	**Adult Social Care assurance framework**		Cath Simms	9	⇨
HP02	**Health & safety**		Jane O'Donnell	8	⇨
CF01	**Children's safeguarding**		Vicky Metheringham	6	⇨
PSO02	**Relationships with key partners**		Stephen Bonnell	6	⇨

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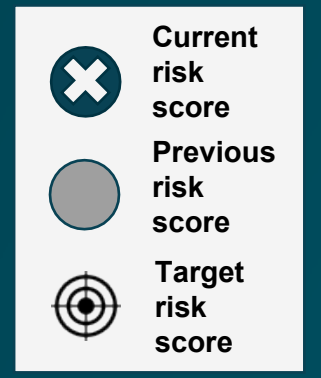
FIN01 Budget Monitoring and Management

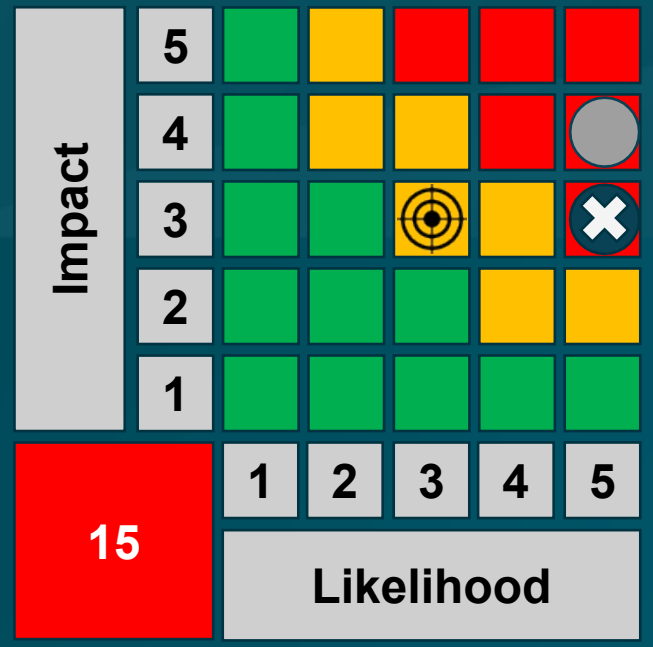
Risk of in year budget overspend caused by failure to maintain sufficient level of priority and focus on achieving agreed savings targets resulting in a negative outturn position impacting on following year budget

Risk Owner: Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director Finance

Quarterly update:

- The risk score has reduced, reflecting a final year outturn position that has a significant lower overspend than forecast. Further detail is included in the Q4 outturn monitoring report
- Continued focus to ensure effective governance is in place to deliver ongoing monitoring of the budget position and ensure required actions are progressed at pace
- Savings targets for 2025-26 have been agreed and these need to be implemented effectively in the new financial year. (£11m of new savings and £15.8m of existing savings)





Controls in operation:

1. 2024-25 budget agreed by Council in March 2024. 2025-26 budget was approved by Council in March 2025
2. Established governance arrangements are in place to achieve planned outcomes, monthly reporting to ELT, quarterly to EB and Cabinet, Scrutiny & Outturn to full council
3. Monthly monitoring of savings trackers
4. Dedicated finance managers for each service areas
5. Regular meetings and ongoing engagement as required between Service Directors and Finance, attendance at performance meetings, review of monitoring KPIs and contract compliance.

Further actions underway:

1. Check & Challenge approach in place
   - Led by Chief Executive & CFO
2. Restrictions in place for non-essential expenditure
   - People Panel review of staffing recruitment
   - This is being monitored monthly by HD-One.
   - Budgets will be reduced on non-essential spend codes.
3. Enhanced control of staffing budgets being put in place, linking expenditure to staff structure on SAP, work remains ongoing
4. Review of reserves undertaken as part of the outturn process.
5. Establishment of specific budget contingency reserve as part of the 2024-25 outturn

Kirklees COUNCIL

FIN02 Medium Term Financial Sustainability

Risk of medium-long term financial instability caused by failure to develop and adhere to robust financial planning processes and procedures, or changes to funding principles, leading to reductions in service provision, possible government intervention and reputational damage

Risk Owner: Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director Finance

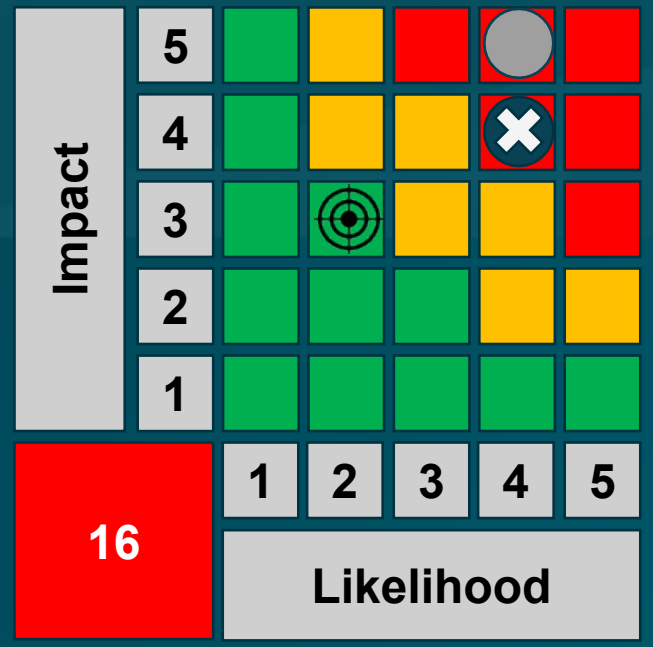
Quarterly update:

- Risk score reduced reflecting the stability that the 2025-26 budget position provides, however score remains high to reflect the indicative financial gap over the next 5 years
- Balanced Budget presented at Cabinet Feb 2025 and approved at Council in March
- General reserves maintained and the HRA is in a balanced budget position, but concerns remains over the overall level of reserves held by the Council
- DSG deficit position remains a high risk in the event of the removal of the Statutory override
- The final Local Government Finance Settlement was in line with provisional settlement. The direction of travel is that the LG Funding Review in 2025 may improve the Council's share of national funds

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. 5-year financial plan (2025/6 to 2029/30) agreed by Council in September 2024. Plan is updated annually
2. Documented governance process for determining the adequacy of reserves position and utilisation of reserves, if required to balance the budget.
3. Balanced 30-year plan for the Housing Revenue Account
4. Ongoing review of the Capital Plan, considering defer / stop decisions are reviewed with quarterly updates to Cabinet
5. Treasury Management: TM strategy and plan recommended to and approved by the Corporate Governance & Audit Committee (CGAC) and Cabinet
6. External Audit: Final accounts and VFM report (2023/24) presented at CGAC in January 2025.
7. Structured approach to identifying and implementing budget changes to achieve savings.

Further actions underway:

1. Detailed review of medium-term plan and revised savings gap in conjunction with Fair Funding Review
2. Monitor new savings programme and tighter focus on volatile demand budgets
3. Safety Valve Agreement has been extended and will now end in 2029-30 (previous date 2026-27)
    - Monthly monitoring of expenditure against high needs block.
    - Q4 position indicates that deficit will not be eradicated by 2030. Meetings with DfE in place to monitor financial position.
    - Council maintains commitment to £2.1m pa contribution for 5 years.

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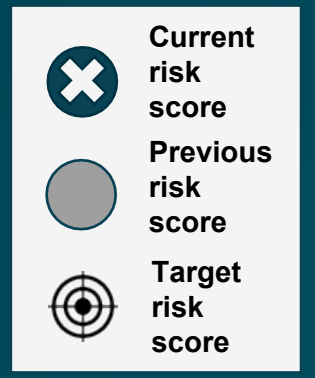
FIN03 Capital Plan Management

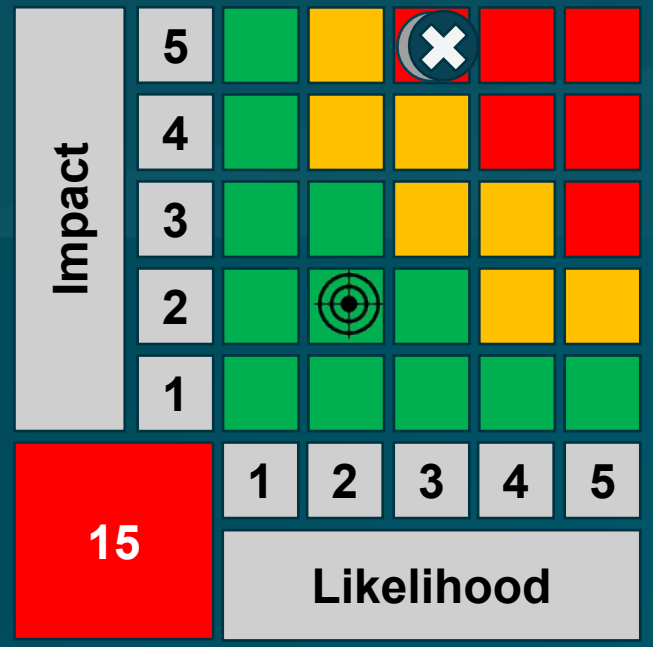
Failure to develop, monitor and achieve the Capital Plan leading to impacts on the revenue account and reserves position.

Risk Owner: Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director Finance

Quarterly update:

- Reprofiling of capital plan takes place quarterly with consideration of impacts on revenue budget position
- The capital plan rollover starting position was £340m for 2024-25, as at Q4 this position stands at £140m
- As a result of slippage, treasury savings in the general fund in excess of £2m





Controls in operation:

1. 5 year Capital Plan developed and agreed, monitored through CAB
2. Capital Assurance Board (CAB) meet monthly to provide strategic oversight of the Council's Capital Plan, chaired by Chief Finance Officer.
3. Detailed monitoring of Treasury Management budgets to assess affordability of the capital plan
4. Agreed capital scoring matrix to inform prioritisation of proposals

Further actions underway:

1. Improved capital monitoring to SLTs, ELT and Cabinet.
2. Review capital plan to take into account baseline capital expenditure (needed for service delivery), council plan priorities and overall affordability (% of revenue budget spent on capital)
3. Maximise opportunities for external funding
4. Asset disposal: Annual capital receipts targets agreed and capital receipts monitoring to be included in quarterly updates.
5. Review of Capital governance across the Council to support delivery

Kirklees COUNCIL

PS01 Talent Management

Failure to attract, recruit & retain staff to meet the demands of the organisation due to broader labour market challenges, expectations relating to pay & reward and national / regional shortages in some specialist areas and negative publicity on local government finances

Risk Owner: Shauna Coyle, Head of People Services

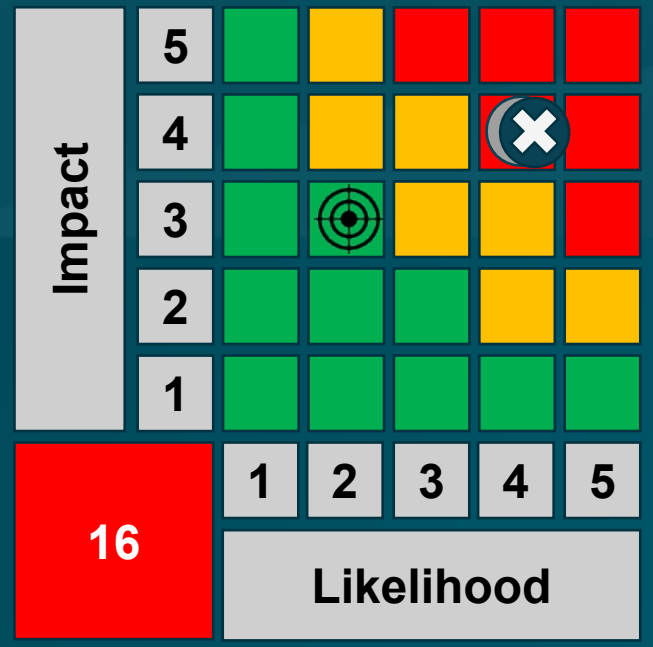
Quarterly update:

- Continued active management of recruitment and service redesign activity, utilising deployment as a key mitigation against redundancy and supporting internal talent progression as a priority.
- Some technical / professional roles remain in high demand and short supply, with perceptions about local gov't financial challenges and private sector salaries adding to the issue
- Continue to see a high reliance on agency staff in some technically specialist areas - targeted work in high spend areas is underway utilising different recruitment options to reduce spend

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. Embedded People Strategy with regular reviews in place to meet needs of the organisation - phase 3 projects provide focus in this area
2. Monitoring of workforce data at Directorate and Service LT meetings, introduction of dashboards including lead & lag indicators
3. Retain focus on supporting groups less able to access jobs eg. younger people through targeted apprenticeships, training and career development opportunities as well as targeted support into employment programmes (Project Search and work experience)
4. People Panel coordinates vacancy management across the organisation
5. Continued focus on wellbeing to support retention: Wellbeing surveys, Wellbeing network and promotion of Employee Healthcare offer now launched

Further actions underway:

1. Further development and embedding of workforce planning - new resource planning tool developed
2. Scoping activity on Employee Value Proposition project
3. Exit and entry survey response analysis underway
4. Continue to evolve support through change learning and resources
5. Continued piloting and refining use of specialist support for hard to fill roles
6. Investment in LinkedIn Recruiter licenses to support direct sourcing
7. Piloting revised approach to work experience and careers outreach in some services
8. Participation in local government recruitment campaign and national LGA talent transformation workshops to develop solutions to common recruitment and retention challenges
9. Enhanced focus on sickness reduction

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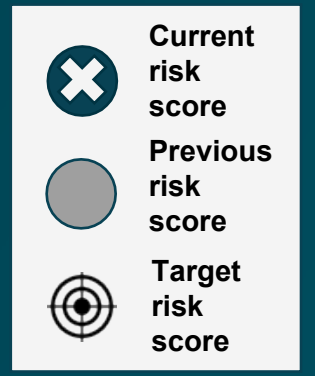
PS02 Industrial and disruptive action

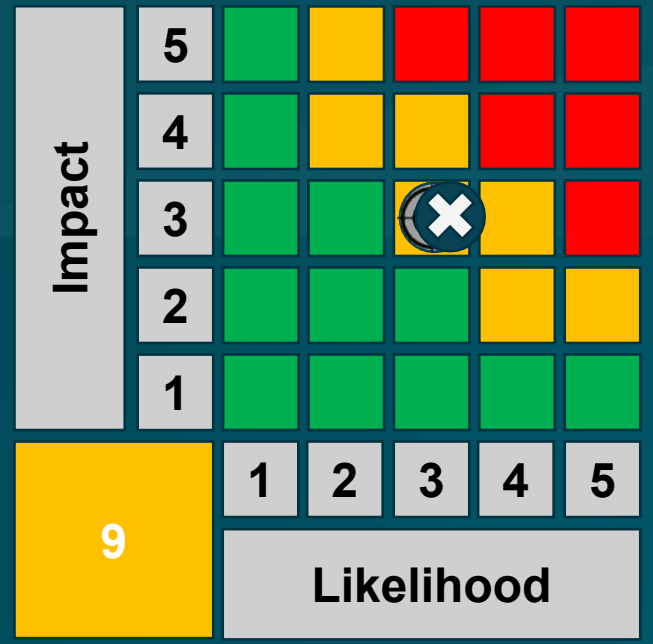
Risk that service delivery is impacted by prolonged industrial and disruptive action, triggered by service changes, budget reductions/pressures, asset rationalisation, changes to ways of working and any compulsory redundancies.

Risk Owner: Shauna Coyle, Head of People Services

Quarterly update:

- There continues to be complexity, and a high volume of employee relations matters - some of this is linked to service change activity however the local position in terms of an overall increase is reflective of the national picture
- Continue to meet formally and informally with Trade Union (TU) colleagues at to encourage positive TU relationships





Controls in operation:

1. Service change consultation meetings taking place with local and regional TU reps.
2. TU and Senior Leaders liaison arrangements – JCG's, TU mtgs eg dedicated service change meetings, workforce matters, ongoing dialogue/informal meetings with TU's via Head of People Services
3. Service Business continuity plans consider impact of industrial and / or disruptive action
4. Transition arrangements considered/consulted on for each service change

Further actions underway:

1. Exploring additional resource requirements for team for ER support
2. Reviewing and updating TU membership and facilities time
3. On going training of staff and legislation changes
4. Actions are underway to address Equal Pay emerging risk and potential consequences.

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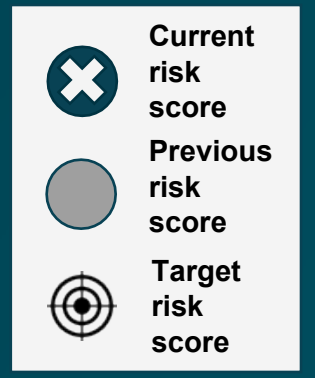
SI01 Data Integrity

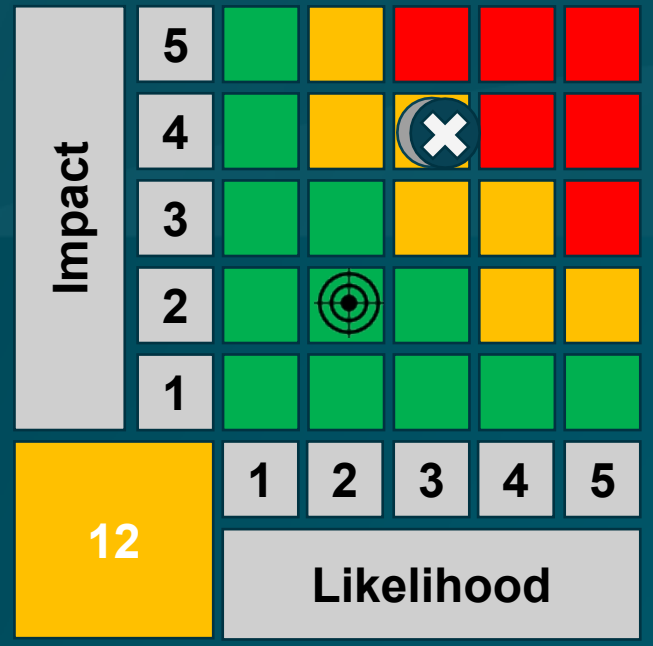
Risk of poor/uninformed decision making, failure to maximise income or inability to comply with statutory requirements caused by data integrity issues leading to reputational damage, ineffective resource allocation and/or a reduction in Council funding

Risk Owner: Mike Henry, Head of Data & Insight (D&I)

Quarterly update:

- Continued focus on enabling delivery within areas subject to regulatory oversight and / or new regulatory requirements as well as support to activity that is a Transformation priority.
- Council-wide data apprenticeship programme due to be launched in Q1 2025/26 aimed at improving data literacy.





Controls in operation:

1. Regular prioritisation of Data & Insight resources and activity to ensure they reflect council priority areas. This includes weekly reviews for critical and high-risk areas (e.g., Children's Social Care, Adults Social Care).

2. Targeted interventions in high risk/profile areas such as Homes and Neighbourhoods, Early Support and Adult Social Care.

3. Robust internal audit processes to validate data for external funding claims (e.g., Supporting Families).

Further actions underway:

1. Development of a Data Management Strategy for the Council to be considered in Q1 2025/26
2. Continued focus on resource capability and capacity both across Data & Insight and within services; 2 x Data Engineering posts filled during Q4 and Data Apprenticeship programme targeted at staff across the Council is being initiated and will be launched with an initial group of 25 staff in Q1 2025/26
3. Working collaboratively with services to raise awareness of data management and governance requirements
4. Increased focus on data migration decisions, plans and approaches when implementing new applications across the Council
5. Additional work to ensure that data processes are integrated properly for delivery of management information

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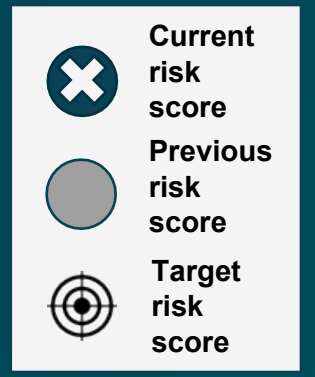
SI02 Relationships with key partners

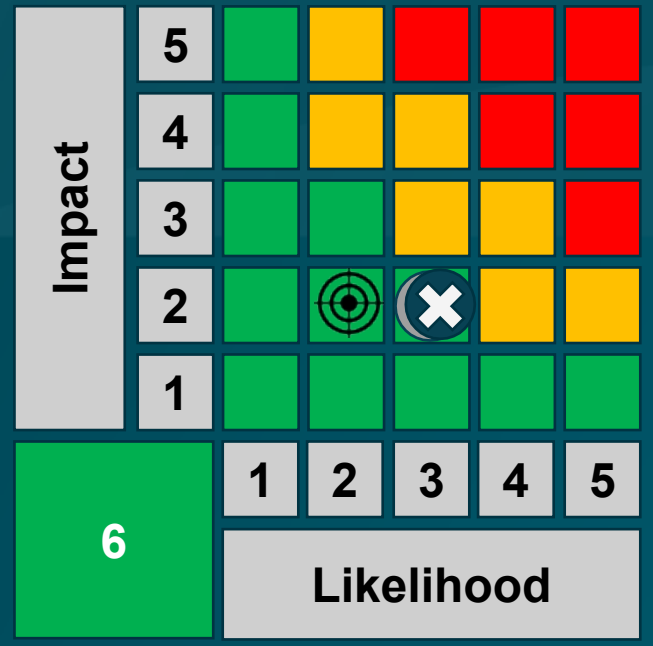
Risk of poor outcomes for Kirklees in terms of priority setting and funding allocations caused by failure to develop and maintain effective relationships with key regional and local partners and organisations, impacting on our ability to meet statutory and local requirements.

Risk Owner: Stephen Bonnell, Head of Policy, Partnerships & Corporate Planning

Quarterly update:

- Council budget decided and partners updated at Partnership Executive in March 2025
- Community anchor programme and community networks funding confirmed through UKSPF
- Regular coordination meetings with TSL(Third Sector leaders) leadership starting in April 2025
- Partnership working with WYCA is evolving ahead of an integrated funding settlement in April 2026. This includes adjustments to decision making processes. New monthly steering group established including the Chief Executive and Leader to coordinate relationship with WYCA
- The corporate peer challenge report praised our partnership working and recommended we go further with business and economic partners (e.g. WYCA)





Controls in operation:

1. Effective senior officer and member representation through WY committees and several key informal engagement groups, including WY Chief Executives, Directors of Development, Team WY, and monthly WY ICB
2. Local partnerships, including Partnership Executive, Kirklees Health & Wellbeing Board, Communities Board, Safeguarding Boards, and other bilateral and multilateral groups
3. Top tier partnership strategies outline how partnership working will contribute to the achieving our vision for Kirklees with agreed shared outcomes.
4. Outside body representation formally noted at Corporate Governance & Audit Committee on annual basis
5. External Funding strategic relationship mapping across all directorates
6. Briefing arrangements to support members and officers attending meetings
7. New internal senior level coordination group established: WY Monthly Planning meeting with the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Exec Director for Place, Leader, Deputy Leader

Further actions underway:

1. Work developing on a Team WY Partnership Action Plan to guide preparations for further devolution
2. Inclusive Economic Strategy drafted building on partner input, for decision in the summer
3. External funding strategic relationship development based on the 2023 relationship analysis and mapping, with a refresh of this mapping planned.
4. Building connections between teams to support broader relationships and connections, minimising the risk associated with individual relationships and points of contact, especially with respect to working with the third sector. Further work with Third Sector Leaders required to develop this further. This will take place through the regular meetings starting in April.
5. A Kirklees Economic Summit is being considered as a new dimension to our partnership working with WYCA and businesses
6. As part of developing the corporate peer challenge action plan we are considering a review existing business and economy engagement mechanisms to identify areas for improvements

Kirklees COUNCIL

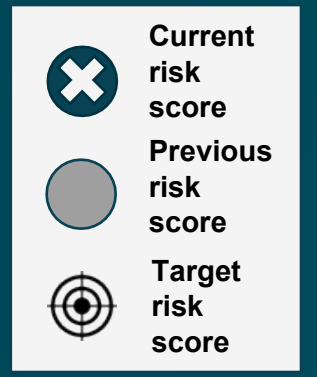
SI03 Cyber Security

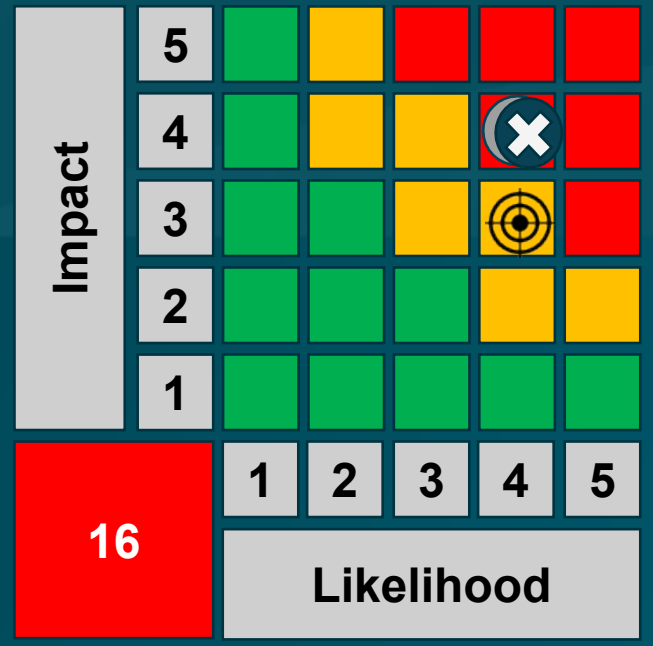
The risk of a data breach and / or impaired system functionality caused by a malicious cyber-attack leading to inability to deliver council services, costs to recover / compensate and associated reputational damage

Risk Owner: Terence Hudson, Head of Technology

Quarterly update:

- Work continues on the Cyber Assessment Framework, first gateway achieved
- Technical controls remain strong however improvements required documenting our processes and events, to take place across Q1 2025-26
- Supply chain incidents are becoming a greater issue with work underway to enhance controls across IT, IG and Procurement.
- The use of untrusted AI bots remains an issue but IG and IT work together to provide guidance on removing them from meetings
- Privileged Access Management software is expected to be retired as a product, in advance we are investigating zero trust access as a security framework, alongside alternative software





Controls in operation:

1. Documented and approved Cyber Strategy: A WY ICS Cyber Strategy is being developed which we will adopt and replace the existing strategy.
2. Adherence to National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) guidance
3. Penetration tests and PSN accreditation is maintained on an annual basis
4. Access to core systems restricted through Privileged Access Management
5. Controls validated on a regular basis through industry benchmarking and review by external auditors
6. Information Governance Board
7. Regular communications and training to ensure that staff are fully aware of their responsibilities and to highlight potential risk areas

Further actions underway:

1. Ongoing monitoring of the threat landscape, which is forecast to continue to increase in terms of sophistication and requirement of response.
2. When incidents occur, use these to highlight the dangers, the actions taken and the opportunities for learning.
3. Understanding the risks and opportunities involved with the usage of Artificial Intelligence; e.g. Internal guidance developed on use of AI / Large language models ensuring the protection of personally identifiable data.
4. Explore the possibilities and cost implications of further perimeter controls, e.g. Enhanced 'Security Operation Centre' services such as 24x7 external on-call support to complement our capacity; Acquire Office 365 E5 licences
5. Awareness of/action to improve data management through third party suppliers
6. Ensuring thorough processes for mitigation where possible

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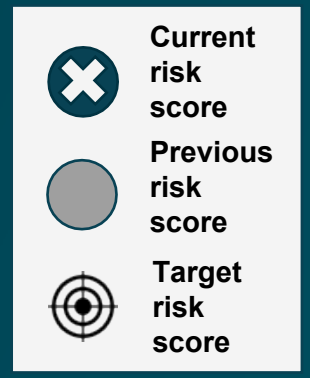
LGC01 Corporate Governance Failure

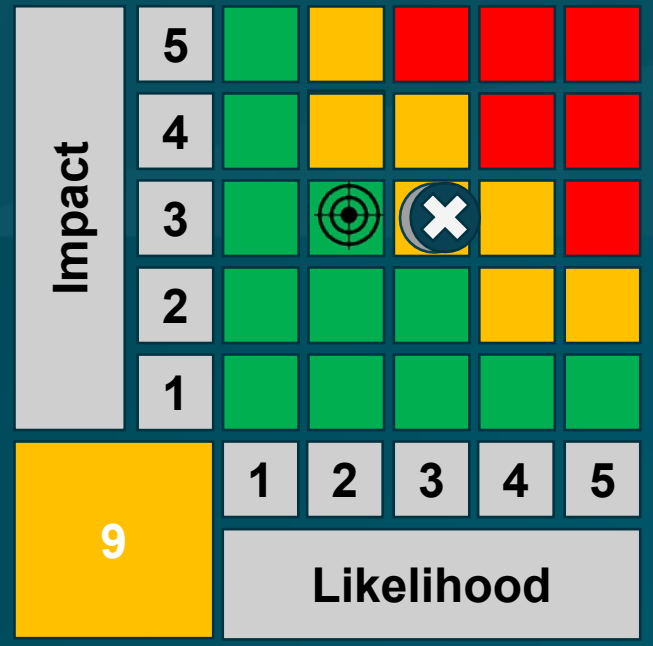
Failure to ensure that effective processes, frameworks and relevant training are in place and adhered to in order to facilitate compliant and legally sound decision making, avoiding subsequent challenge and reputational damage. Applies to Members, Officers, and the relationship between them.

Risk Owner: Samantha Lawton, Service Director Legal & Commissioning

Quarterly update:

Work has been completed to refresh/provide additional guidance on decision making procedures. This is timely and will respond to recommendations from the recent Peer Review Challenge. Additionally online courses are being developed to assist officers and Members navigate decision making routes and committee process, including scrutiny. Launch of the new guidance and support will be accompanied by Governance offer to visit SLTs to reinforce procedures.





Controls in operation:

1. Constitution
2. Leader & Cabinet model with portfolio holders and scrutiny function
3. Code of Conduct for Members and Officers
4. Scheme of delegations approved
5. Report templates
6. Annual Governance Statement
7. Fraud, Bribery & Corruption Policy
8. Conflicts of Interest Policy and Protocols for Gifts & Hospitality
9. Member and Officer induction and training
10. Whistleblowing procedures
11. Internal & External Audit
12. Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedure Rules

Further actions underway:

1. Ensuring the new minority Cabinet is supported to achieve effective and timely decisions through the governance process

2. Further consideration of updates to constitution to facilitate effective decision making
   - Constitution Working Group is up and running (with agreed terms of reference)
   - Reports to CGAC as part of the updating of the Constitution by the Monitoring Officer have been considered and will now be submitted to Annual Council for approval.

Kirklees COUNCIL

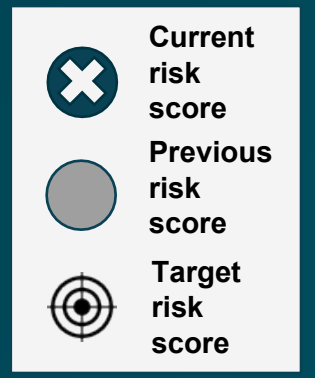
LGC02 Information Governance

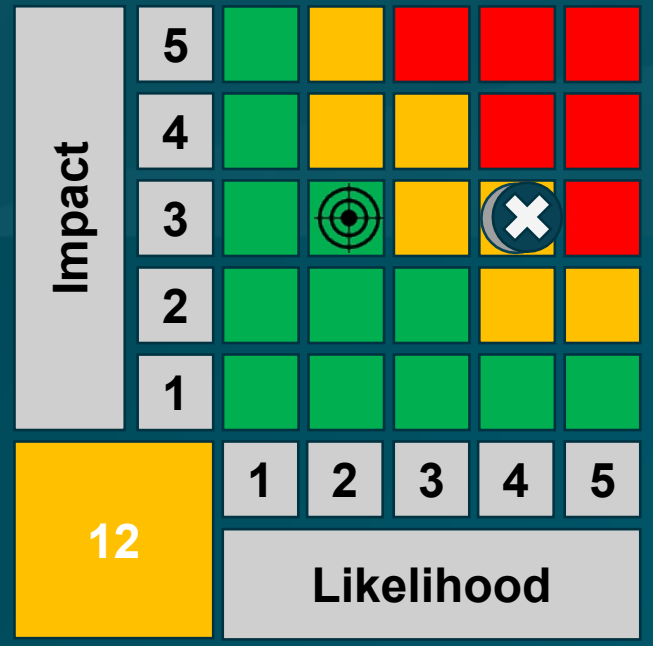
Failure to process (obtain, hold, record, use, share) information in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulations, Data Protection Act, Freedom of Information legislation and other relevant legislation leading to regulatory censure, fines, and associated reputational damage

Risk Owner: Samantha Lawton, Service Director Legal & Commissioning

Quarterly update:

- Continue to receive large volumes of FOI and Data Protection Requests. Q4 sees an increase SARs but a slight decrease in FOI/EIR requests on the same period last year
- Internal audit commenced on Data Sharing Practices – recommendations due in Q1 2025/26
- Work towards compliance with the 2024/25 DSPT requirements continues, deadline for submission is 30 June
- Records Management, Information Sharing and Information Security Policies have been approved at IG Board and will be published in due course





Controls in operation:

1. Approved policies including Data Protection and Information Governance Policies
2. Information Governance Board has delegated responsibility to oversee information governance issues and reports to the Executive Team and Corporate Governance and Audit Committee as appropriate
3. Mandatory training provision for all staff annually, plus additional training is available online or in-person, directly from the IG Team
4. Online reporting functionality for information security incidents
5. Regular communications via corporate channels to staff
6. Guidance documentation available via the intranet to support staff
7. Privacy notices available on the corporate website, enabling transparency with Kirklees residents
8. Annual compliance with the NHS Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT)

Further actions underway:

1. Development of the Record of Processing Activity (RoPA) being overseen by the Information Governance Board

2. Development of improved Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) process providing clearer guidance and delivering efficiency for staff
   - Launch of new process in Q1 (25/26)
   - Training and guidance roll out to commence at same time before becoming BAU

3. Development of new IG mandatory training module is in development. Expected to launch in June 2025

4. Review of IG Team ways of working to address SARs backlog continues

Kirklees COUNCIL

LGC03 Procurement

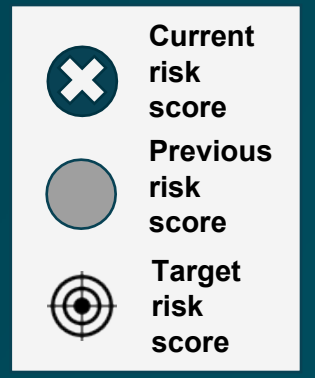
Risk that the council enters contracts with suppliers / commissioned service providers that do not secure the intended outcomes, due to inadequate or non-adherence to processes and procedures resulting in increased costs, reduced benefits and possible statutory breaches and reputational damage.

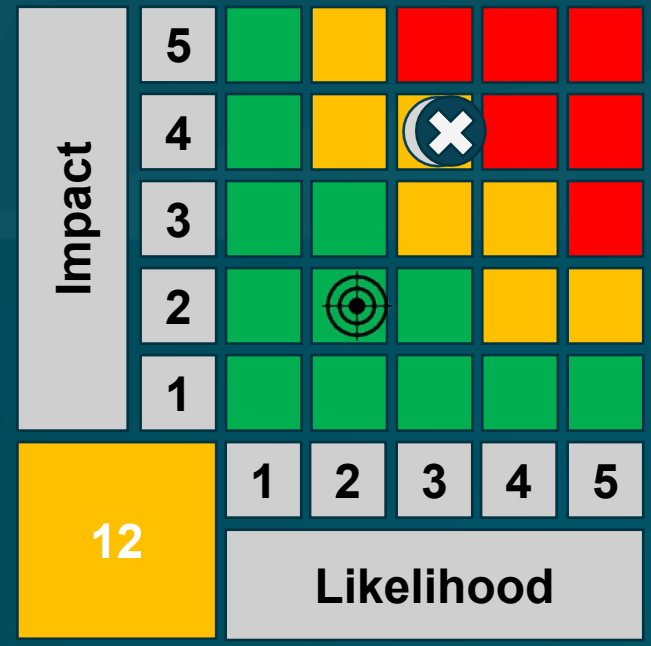
Risk Owner: Samantha Lawton, Service Director Legal & Commissioning

Quarterly update:

The Procurement Act came into effect on 24 February 2025. In response, our procurement processes and practices have been updated to align with the requirements of the Act. All staff within the Procurement Team have completed training on the new regime through the Government Commercial College. Details regarding the new regime have been shared across the Council to raise awareness and understanding.

Category Manager roles have now been filled, ensuring that all procurement categories benefit from strategic oversight.





Controls in operation:

1. Procurement Strategy
2. Agreed roles & responsibilities (corporate team, service lead, legal, technology etc)
3. Contract Procedures Rules, reviewed and approved on an annual basis
4. Effective pipeline management through use of the Procurement tracker, linked to measures outlined in Procurement Strategy
5. Utilise the regional procurement portal - YORtender
6. Category managers aligned to service areas
7. Contract register maintained
8. Contract Assurance Oversight Board

Further actions underway:

1. Contract Procedure Rules will be updated in Q1 2025/26 to align with the requirements of the new regulations. A more comprehensive review may be conducted at a later stage, once the Cabinet Office has published all supporting legislation and guidance related to the Act
2. The Procurement Strategy will be revised during 2025/26 to compliment the new regime
3. Work underway to develop procurement intranet pages to provide accessible guidance for staff involved in procurement activities
4. Work continuing to make incremental improvements across the procurement lifecycle to upskill staff

Kirklees COUNCIL

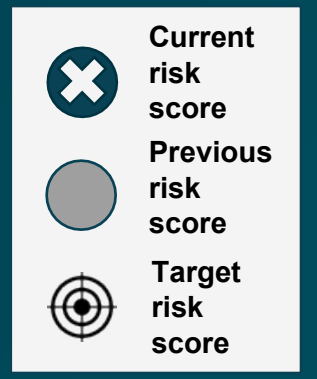
LGC04 Contract Management

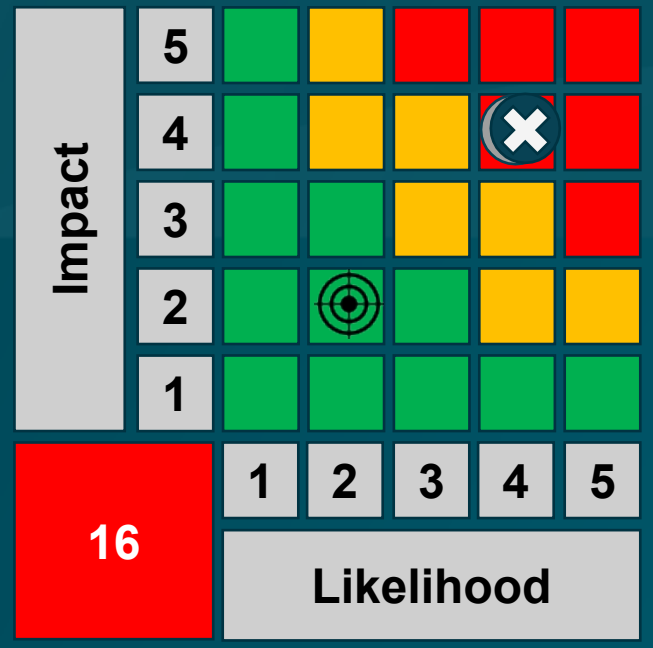
Risk that suppliers do not provide goods / services in line with contractual agreements and / or a failure to identify, control and manage risks arising through supplier / contractor activity due to lack of robust oversight and quality assurance arrangements.

Risk Owner: Samantha Lawton, Service Director Legal & Commissioning

Quarterly update:

The Transformation Team is currently working to define the deliverables and roadmap for the Contract Management Review, which seeks to improve contract management outcomes across the Council. The project's objective is to strengthen organisational knowledge, ensure compliance, and enhance competence in contract management.
The External Auditors' annual report has identified inconsistencies in contract management as a key area requiring improvement. Efforts are now underway to address these concerns, with the project being overseen by the Contract Assurance and Oversight Board.





Controls in operation:

1. Contract Assurance Oversight Board (CAOB) has oversight of significant contracts to ensure that contract award and management has transparency

2. Key Performance Indicators / Outcome Measures / Specifications that will be used to monitor performance are agreed pre contract completion and defined within contractual documentation

3. Contract handover document is produced by Procurement team and provided to contract manager. Document details contract manager responsibilities and specific KPIs that will need monitoring

Further actions underway:

1. Ensure all contracts include clear and detailed specifications to improve the chances of successful delivery that is timely and within allocated resources
2. Create a Learning and Development resource focused on contract management
3. Enhance data management practices related to contract management to maintain a comprehensive understanding of all active contracts
4. Establish a contract management framework to promote a consistent approach across the organisation
5. Strategy in development to ensure best outcomes from PFI contracts as they approach termination, involving all relevant stakeholders
6. Review process for updating contract manager details to ensure when named contract managers exit the organisation responsibilities are formally handed over and records updated

Kirklees COUNCIL

HP01 Emergency Planning & Business Continuity

The risk that the Council's incident management / emergency planning is insufficient to manage a serious incident or series of related incidents leading to short term or prolonged impacts on the Kirklees community and Council employees and operations.

Risk Owner: Jane O'Donnell, Head of Health Protection

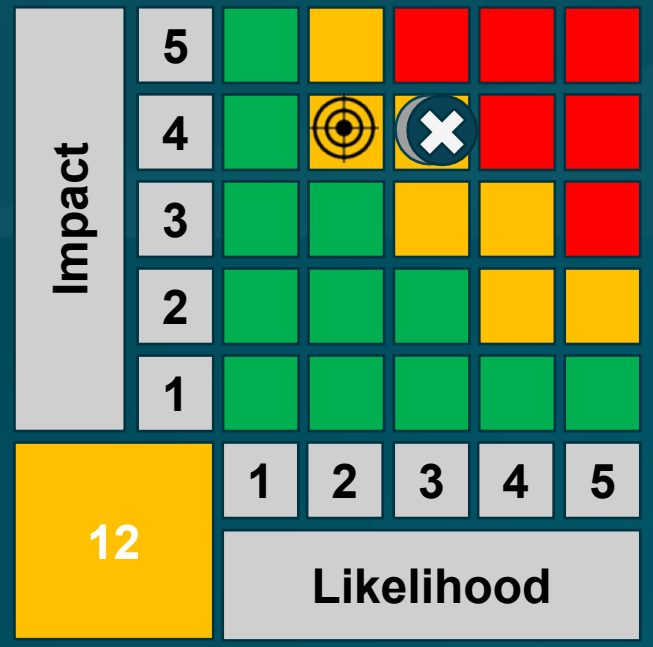
Quarterly update:

- Major Incident Plan continually reviewed in-line with review schedules and learning from our incident response
- Organised and delivered two lockdown workshops for schools
- Flood spotter development training
- Loggist training and business continuity exercise for Homes and Neighbourhoods
- Exercised Mourning Plan (Operation London Bridge)

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. Embedded emergency management system that aligns to national guidance (.gov, etc)
2. Readiness and competencies are monitored through completion annually of a self-assessment audit
3. Governance through Kirklees Health Protection Board and Local Resilience Forum
4. Business Continuity Resilience 'pulse check' completed on a monthly basis by all Services
5. Training people on their roles/responsibilities and exercising of plans.
6. Major Incident Plan and associated appendices
7. Collaborative working and information sharing with key stakeholders.

Further actions underway:

1. Protect Duty now enshrined in law. Work continues to meet new duties
2. Lockdown and Run, Hide, Tell procedures continue to be rolled out
3. Develop a corporate exercise to test our response to a fire in a high-rise block of flats

Kirklees COUNCIL

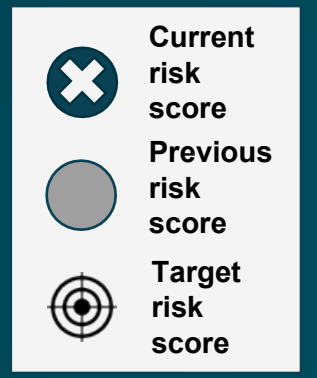
HP02 Health & Safety

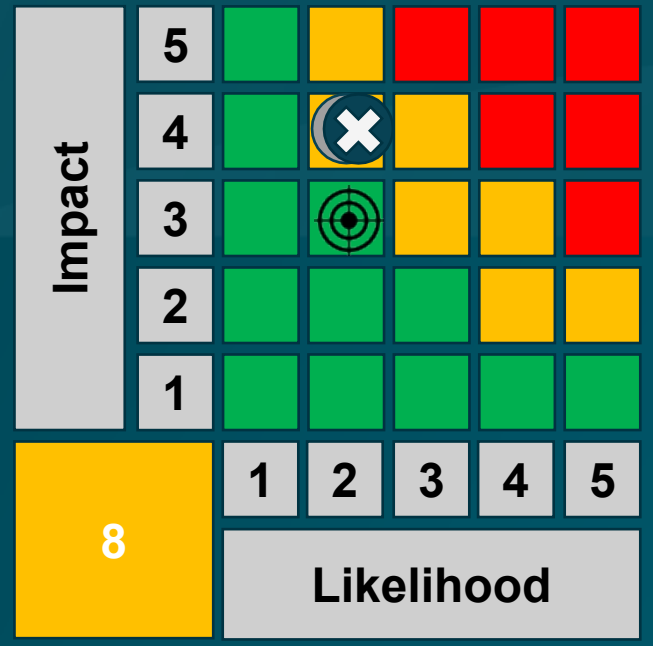
Failure to provide appropriate framework, guidance and monitoring of corporate H&S statutory requirements results in a preventable H&S incident involving colleagues and / or members of the public with possible financial, legal and reputational impacts

Risk Owner: Jane O'Donnell, Head of Health Protection

Two incidents in Q4 have prompted the Health & Safety Executive to contact Corporate Safety and investigate specific concerns. In both cases the health and safety management arrangements and information provided to the HSE were deemed satisfactory

Ongoing delivery of IOSH Managing Safely Refresher courses, with two courses completed in Q4





Controls in operation:

1. Policy, Strategy and associated guidance reviewed regularly. Legal compliance is the accepted minimum standard
2. Governance through H&S Oversight Board which meets quarterly and is chaired by Strategic Director. Board reports onwards to ELT with six monthly corporate H&S performance report
3. Mandatory training matrix specifies minimum level of training dependent on job role.
4. Online incident reporting system. Accident, incident and near miss reports monitored and investigated as necessary
5. Reportable injuries, Occupational diseases (HAV syndrome, carpal tunnel syndrome) and Dangerous Occurrences are reported to the HSE in line with RIDDOR regulations
6. Embedded safety advisor role sits within relevant Service organisational design to provide advice and guidance
7. Management review and inspection of high & medium risk premises

Further actions underway:

1. Ensure that Kirklees Leadership Team complete the IOSH Managing Safely for Senior Executives training

2. Set an ambitious target for the coming 12 months to increase employee uptake of mandatory IOSH approved health and safety eLearning

3. Monitor accident, incident and near miss reporting process to ensure timely RIDDOR reporting

Kirklees COUNCIL

AH01 Adults Safeguarding

Failure to adequately safeguard vulnerable adults from harm, abuse and neglect because of increased complexity, referral volumes and a lack of service capacity to respond to the assessed need.

Risk Owner: Cath Simms, Service Director Adult Social Care Operations

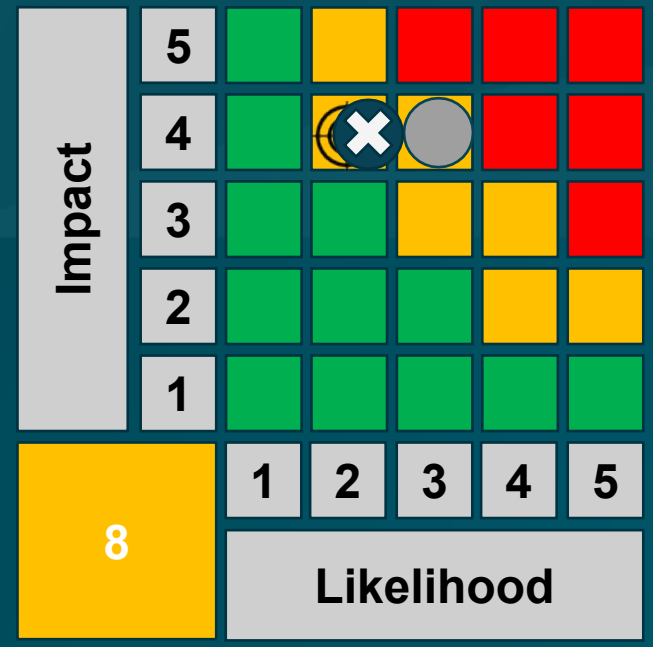
Quarterly update:

- Management of the Safeguarding Portal has moved to the Safeguarding team, timeliness of decision making on referrals has improved
- Referrals backlog is now cleared
- Adults Learning & Organisational Development group has been established, deep dive into the Safeguarding training planned in Q1 2025-26
- Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board annual report taken through Scrutiny and Health & Wellbeing Board

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. Corporate Safeguarding Policy reviewed regularly (Jan 2024)
2. Mandatory training requirements and additional training where need identified
3. Person in position of trust (PIPOT) process in place – being reviewed.
4. Self-neglect policy and pathway in place. Self-neglect cases managed through the multi-agency risk escalation conferences
5. Adult's representation on all strategic and operational groups related to safeguarding (such as; Prevent, Domestic Abuse and Modern Slavery)
6. Governance through Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board and Health & ASC Scrutiny Panel
7. Learnings and improvement plans from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR) reports
8. Prioritisation and escalation managed by Safeguarding Service Manager
9. Large Scale Safeguarding Enquiry (LSE) policy is being reviewed
10. Waiting Well policy rolled out in the hubs – S42 enquiries allocated within 48 hours

Further actions underway:

1. Integrated front door (Kirklees Direct / CHSCH) formal service change to be implemented in Q1 2025-26, Care Home portal for safeguarding concerns will be managed by this team

2. Long-term Adult Social Care front door safeguarding team to be implemented within Q1 of 2025-26. Delays have postponed the implementation date.

3. Improvement plan for Data Quality for safeguarding referrals, concerns and S42 enquiries progressing

4. PIPOT policy is being revised, to ensure internal processes are clear and in line with parallel Council procedure's – to be complete Q1 2025-26

Kirklees COUNCIL

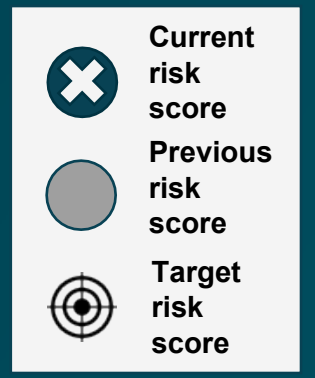
AH02 Adult Social Care assurance framework

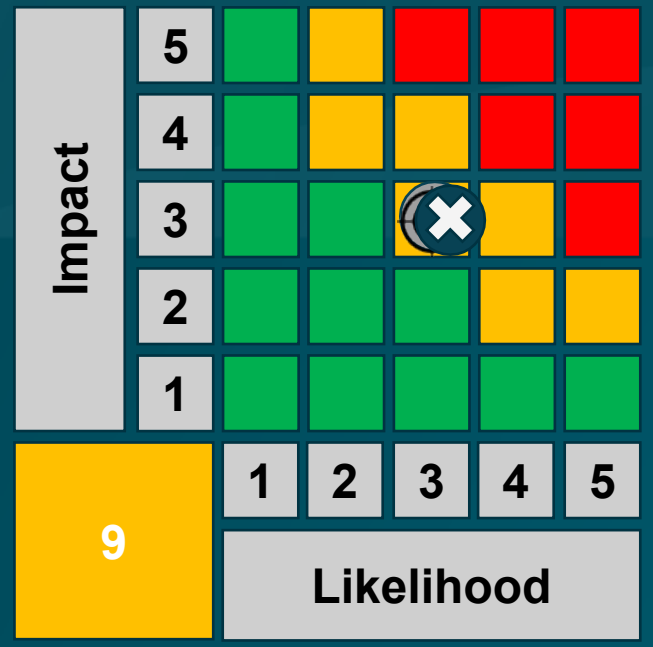
Failure to adequately plan and prepare for the reintroduction of the CQCs new assurance framework, resulting in an unfavourable outcome, regulatory scrutiny and associated reputational damage. Risk exacerbated by competing capacity demands, data issues (see separate risk) and (planned) staff exits.

Risk Owner: Cath Simms, Service Director Adult Social Care Operations

Quarterly update:

- Notification of onsite CQC inspection has been received with initial presentation in April and onsite visit in May. Go Plan enacted, CQC core team stepped up to weekly meetings
- Staff and management sessions delivered by PCH – action plan developed in response.
- ADASS supporting West Yorkshire region in their preparation
- All information requested prior to onsite visit has been submitted within timescales
- Preparation for the presentation and site visit underway. Some challenges with communications team capacity
- 50 cases for submission quality checked with some gaps identified. New cases identified





Controls in operation:

1. CQC Assurance project group established, and progress updates provided to SCLT on a regular basis
2. CQC data pack has been developed with Data & Insight, reported to SCLT on a monthly basis
3. Engagement with sector led groups (e.g. ADASS) to take learnings from Local Authorities who have already been subject to inspection. Identification of previous areas of focus and inspection themes.
4. Internal communications strategy in place to build staff awareness, understanding and engagement with the inspection process

Further actions underway:

1. Core member of regional ADASS group for peer support and sharing best practice. Information sessions available regionally for senior managers and portfolio holder to attend.
2. Quality and performance dashboards rolled out to all assessment teams to support with improvement plans
3. Staff briefing sessions and support stepped up in preparation for site visit
4. Progress updates on CQC preparation are regularly reported to ELT, Scrutiny and Portfolio Holder to provide assurance and opportunity for feedback and challenge

Kirklees COUNCIL

AH03 Data Insight for operational delivery of adult services

Absence of systematic high-quality data and intelligence to accurately determine if we are delivering and effectively monitoring good outcomes. Lack of historical and current Waiting Well data to support CQC requirements and inability to provide a validated data submission if requested.

Risk Owner: Cath Simms, Service Director Adult Social Care Operations

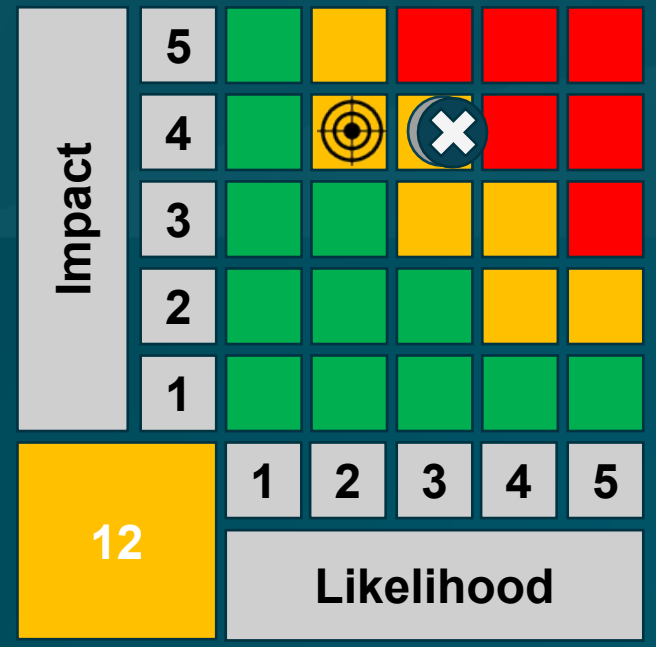
Quarterly update:

- Reporting requirements for SCLT and Portfolio holder rolled out – focus on CQC requirements and corporate monitoring
- National data set published – themes and trends identified
- Phase 1 of operational dashboards rolled out
- D&I input into Mosaic Improvement workshops to support easier reporting
- Some capacity issues remain and prioritisation meetings ongoing.
- Finance reporting dashboards created

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. Weekly Adults / Data & Insight prioritisation meeting established to review requests and dashboard progression to prevent duplication and manage prioritisation risk.

2. Quality Improvement Officers working with teams to identify data quality issues, feed into dashboard development and monitor ongoing data integrity issues.

Further actions underway:

1. Data Quality report on track to be produced and shared with teams in Q1, interim manual approach in place until report created.

2. Report performance linked to CQC requirements at SCLT and Portfolio Briefing, will be embedded as BAU

3. Continuous liaison between Directorate and Data & Insight to assess any capacity issues that may arise and allocate available resource accordingly

4. Additional Data & Insight resource agreed

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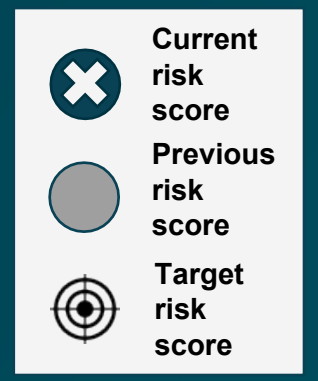
CF01 Childrens Safeguarding

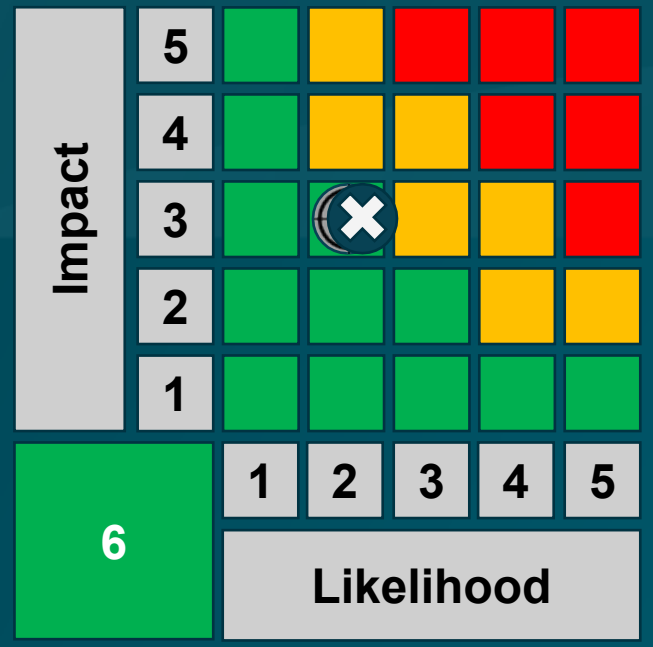
Risk of children and young people being at risk of significant harm due to increased complexity, referral volumes and a lack of service capacity to respond to the assessed need.

Risk Owner: Vicky Metheringham, Service Director Resources, Family Support & Child Protection

Quarterly update:

No change this quarter. All controls and actions remain in place.





Controls in operation:

1. Governance and senior management oversight – e.g. QA panel, scrutiny, Ambition Board
2. LADO procedures in place
3. Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)
4. Robust procedure in place to manage unregulated provision, if required
5. Training & supervision, Learning Conversations, Practice Learning Days, annual practice week,
6. Well embedded Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP)
7. Caseload management and IRO oversight
8. Rolling recruitment to key posts
9. Enhanced oversight of practice
10. Corporate parenting approach and support to care leavers has improved.

Further actions underway:

1. Implementation of Integrated model to meet requirements of Stable Homes Built on Love (McCallister recommendations) and updated Working Together guidance
   - Phase 1: Completed April 2024
   - Phase 2: Completed Jan 25, post implementation review currently being planned
   - Phase 3: Planning underway

2. Planning activity is underway preparing for the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, utilising regional networks and establishing appropriate oversight and governance arrangements to track required outcomes

Kirklees COUNCIL

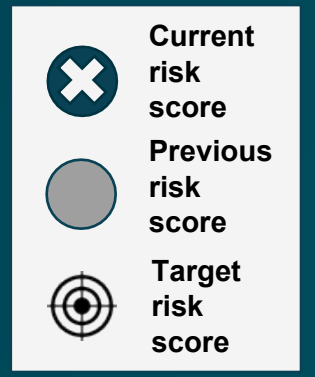
CF02 Sufficiency of SEND provision

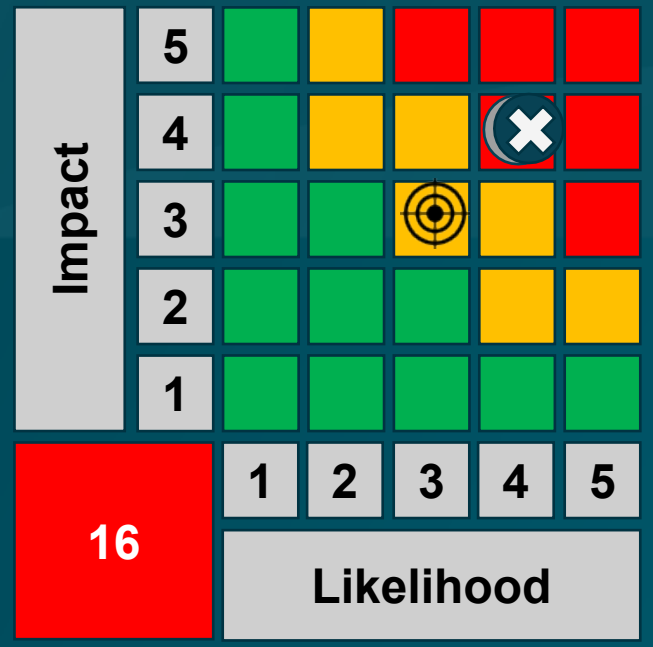
Failure to meet the needs of the SEND and pre-SEND community, due to increases in demand and complexity of clients needs, insufficient capacity within services and a lack of existing local provision leading to missing statutory deadlines and associated financial and reputational consequences.

Risk Owner: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director Learning & Early Support

Quarterly update:

- EHCP 20-week compliance rates showing positive improvement this quarter, however overall performance remains below statutory requirement, peer group and national average
- Positive feedback on strategy, plans and progress, with recognition of challenges, from DfE / NHS England and at WSoA catch up
- Safety Valve - quarterly report submitted April 2025
- Sufficiency Plan refreshed to inform future action





Controls in operation:

1. Half yearly focus / deep dive / assurance sessions undertaken
2. Documented process in place for EHCPs. Performance is being monitored and closely tracked. Renewed management focus supported by enhanced reporting data. Continue to work closely with schools to ensure the EHCP process is delivering the best outcome for children
3. Quality & Compliance partnership governance group and SENDACT weekly performance meetings in place to drive performance improvement
4. Delivery of Safety Valve commitments subject to ongoing monitoring and updates provided to the DfE on a quarterly basis, DfE engaged
5. Migration to Liquid Logic will provide more robust case management monitoring and reporting

Further actions underway:

1. Cluster working review being planned for May 2025
2. Quality & Compliance NHS and PCAN have commenced Quality Auditing random samples of EHCPs
3. Written Statement of Action formally completed but dialogue continues
4. SEMH Special School Rebuild (Joseph Norton Academy) – pre-construction agreement contract in place
5. Support from DfE for Preparing for Adulthood vision & planning workstream
6. Rolling programme of recruitment in place to address significant pressures including turnover e.g. in EHCP team
7. Preparation for SEND Area Inspection underway
8. DfE support via recommended SEND service specialist consultant.

Kirklees COUNCIL

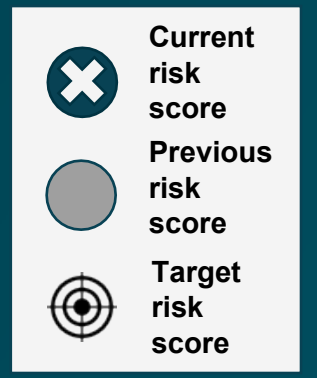
CAS01 Community Cohesion, Wellbeing & Resilience

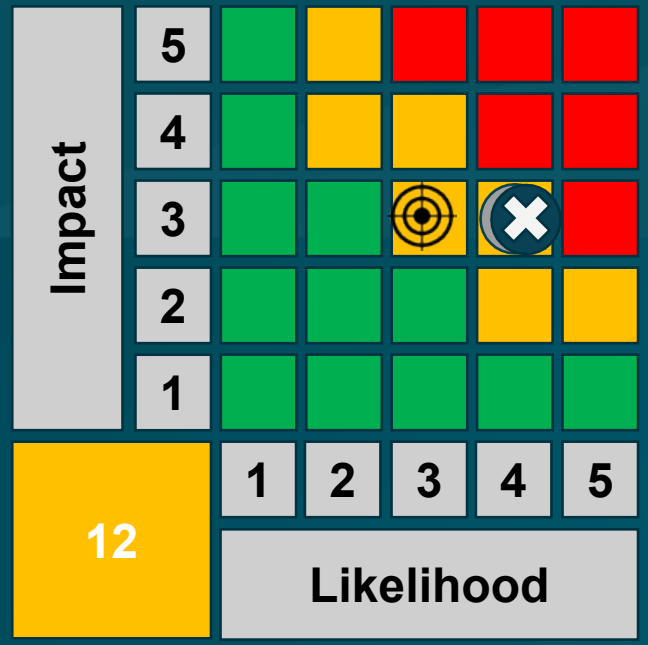
Risk of public disorder due to failure to monitor and mitigate rising community tensions, matters of violent extremism and related safer, stronger community factors, including criminal exploitation and national / international incidents

Risk Owner: Jill Greenfield, Service Director Communities & Access Services

Quarterly update:

- Tensions briefings delivered to staff members including Libraries to raise awareness around how to report
- Awareness raising sessions for Domestic Abuse across communities via community connectors and TSL community champions. Violence Against Women & Girls partnership with educational and specialist provider
- Prevent awareness week delivered briefings to School safeguarding leads, event delivered to primary care (ICB) staff. Regular action days within the Ashbrow Ward to tackle serious and organised crime.
- CCTV deployed at 3 locations covering safety for women and girls, anti-social behaviour and unlawful activities. Partnership actions days with Safer Kirklees, Police and Housing Officers to provide reassurance & build trust
- Strategic work with Policy and Operational links with faith sector continues to develop trusted relationships.





Controls in operation:

1. Dedicated community tensions monitoring process and a clear procedure to process intelligence related to protests and tensions. Procedure includes Police and Emergency planning colleagues.
2. Weekly tensions monitoring meetings are held with all relevant partners, escalations are reported into Police Silver and via Safer/Emergency Planning internally dependent on issue. Silver/Gold groups in place for oversight.
3. The Prevent Action Plan prioritises community engagement, critical thinking and ideological issues and seeks to mitigate risk.
4. Engaging with and enabling opportunities for communities to build relationships and counter extremist narratives.
5. Building community resilience via the Inclusive Communities Framework.
6. Annual refresh and full 3-year review (2022-2025) of Strategic Intelligence Assessment informing the Community Partnership Plan (statutory requirement)

Further actions underway:

1. Violence reduction needs assessment informing Kirklees implementation plan in development. Duty holders workshop held in February 2025 in partnership with the Violence Reduction Partnership highlighting key priority locations and suggestions for a strategic violence plan to be developed by April 2025
2. Prevent engagement training via Community Plus managers in pipeline, looking at how to upskill community connectors to hold conversations linked to prevent in the community, to be completed by June 2025
3. Prevent Learning Review recommendations (Feb 2025) being considered alongside government guidance on criteria changes. Engagement with HO on funding position
4. Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) and Partnership Plan at Scrutiny in May 2025 – work to begin on developing action/delivery plans against priority/high risk areas of focus under community safety partnerships and developing a new 3 yr Partnership Plan 2026-29 (full SIA review with D&I service), to start April 2025 and draft completed by end of 2025

Kirklees COUNCIL

DEV01 Corporate Assets

Failure to effectively manage the liabilities arising from the council ownership and management of corporate assets, including building safety and financial liabilities, caused by failure to implement the corporate property strategy and insufficient control environment

Risk Owner: Joanne Bartholomew, Service Director Development

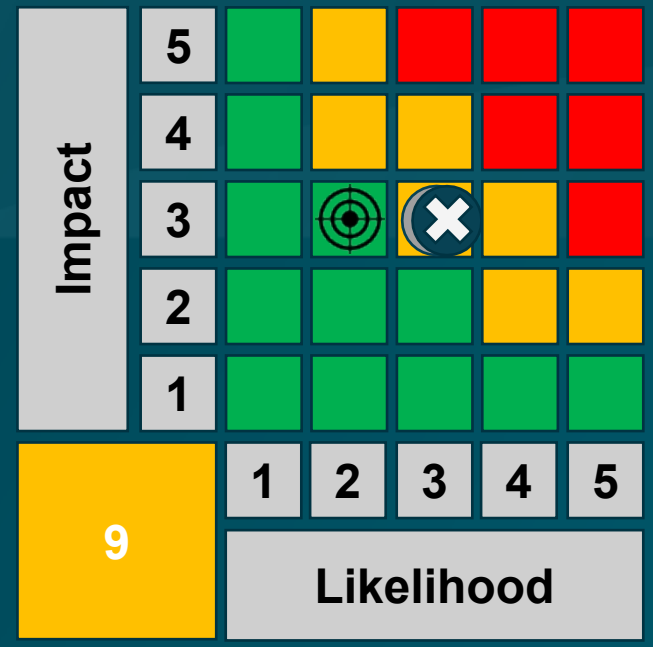
Quarterly update:

- Improved position relating to fire risk, with works continuing to be prioritised in sleep risk buildings with new strategy for delivery of work by architects' team and external contractors
- Asset rationalisation progressing and will achieve income targets set. Demand from market is higher than originally expected. Strategy in place for future auctions along with asset lists for these
- Almondbury school removal from PPP contract delayed leading to direct impact on new school project
- Building Safety compliance levels continue to improve and meet current regulations
- Increased focus from Insurers on availability and quality of building condition surveys

Current risk score

Previous risk score

Target risk score



Controls in operation:

1. Condition surveys – 5-year cyclical plan in place for all assets, final buildings to be surveyed in 25/26, 1 year ahead of projections. Any issues are reported to respective School or Corporate Facilities Management team immediately.
2. H&S Oversight Board, Building Safety & Assurance Board (Corporate)
3. Development of Corporate Compliance Guide and updating of supporting Processes & Procedures, published on intranet as they become available
4. Programme of disposals and asset rationalisation to reduce available assets and use only as required to reduce budget
5. Programme of Planned Preventative Maintenance in place. Ensures Health & Safety, does not necessarily deliver modern working practices

Further actions underway:

1. Procurement of new Corporate Assets Facilities Management database
   - Technology Board accepted business case
   - Specification prepared and issued to Procurement
   - Procurement strategy in place and underway with planned dates
2. Asset Strategy & Core Estate review
   - Asset Strategy on hold pending estate review
   - Implementation of Core Estate reviewed in line with NHS system to simplify the way we carry this out
3. Continued focus on addressing issues at high priority assets including Dewsbury Sports Centre, Cleckheaton Town Hall, Batley Town Hall & Batley Library

Kirklees COUNCIL

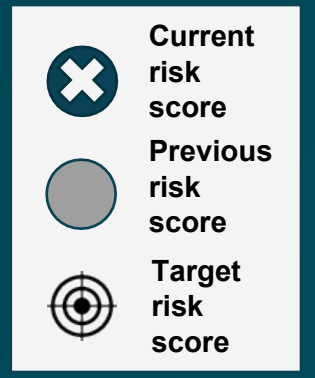
DEV02 Homelessness and housing stock availability

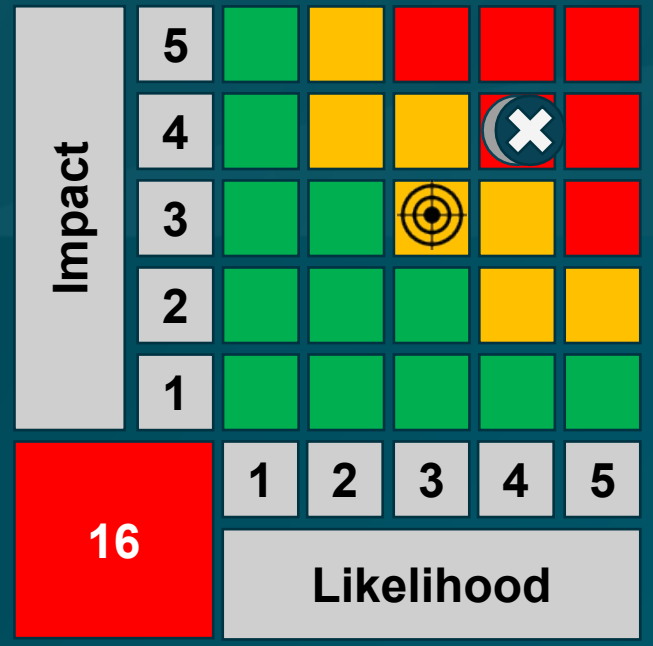
Insufficient availability of suitable accommodation options for temporary or permanent accommodation due to rising demand, reducing affordability and increasing complexity of priority need households, resulting in budget & legal challenge, poor customer outcomes and possible community cohesion issues

Risk Owner: Joanne Bartholomew, Service Director Development

Quarterly update:

- Demand pressures resulting in continued high usage of Temporary Accommodation (TA), at the end of March there were 395 households in TA, the number in B&B continues to reduce (146 at the end of March), demonstrating positive downward trend.
- Increased grant funding (c. £2.5m) awarded to Kirklees for 2025/26 to support homeless prevention, rough sleeping prevention and emergency accommodation pilot activity
- Longer term government approach to housing supply challenges remains unclear
- Ashenhurst TA lease due to be signed imminently. Fenton Sq TA due to be occupied Q1(25/6).





Controls in operation:

1. Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy
2. Revised emergency accommodation procurement framework now in place
3. Regular monitoring and management oversight of all temporary accommodation placements – new two stage approval process now in place and initial figures (first six months) showing slowdown in number of new placements
4. LAHF programme – acquisition/refurb of stock for meeting needs of Ukraine and Afghan households. (will also include new TA units now LAHF3 programme underway)
5. Governance structure in place via Homelessness/TA Transformation Board which has oversight of TA demands/pressures in particular
6. Implementation and the effectiveness of the revised Kirklees Allocations Policy (revised 2022) is monitored quarterly by a joint HSS/H&N Implementation Group. Portfolio Holder is briefed quarterly on performance of the Policy

Further actions underway:

1. Development of private rented sector options to divert customers from Temporary Accommodation, or to provide swifter ‘move on’ options
2. Flexible financial incentives being utilised for homeless prevention / diversion from TA
3. Effective management of expectations ensuring customers are aware at the outset of the likelihood of securing suitable alternative accommodation
4. Ashenhurst Scheme Cabinet report approved, awaiting new lease to be signed. Will provide additional 24 family TA units
5. Implementation of B&B reduction plan, and development of Service Development Plan. First 100 days of Service Development now been delivered
6. Work with Registered Providers to enhance nominations to homeless households
7. Planning for effective expenditure of 2025/6 grants (HPG, RSI and new Emergency Accommodation Pilot grant) to maximise homeless prevention
8. Market testing to be undertaken, led by Housing Growth team, to explore options to lease/acquire suitable TA from other landlords/providers

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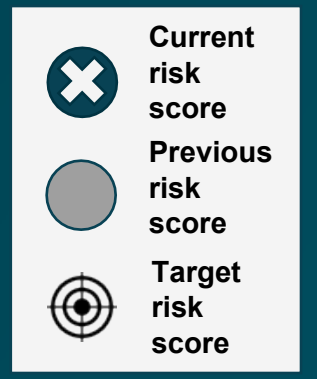
HN01 Housing Safety & Quality

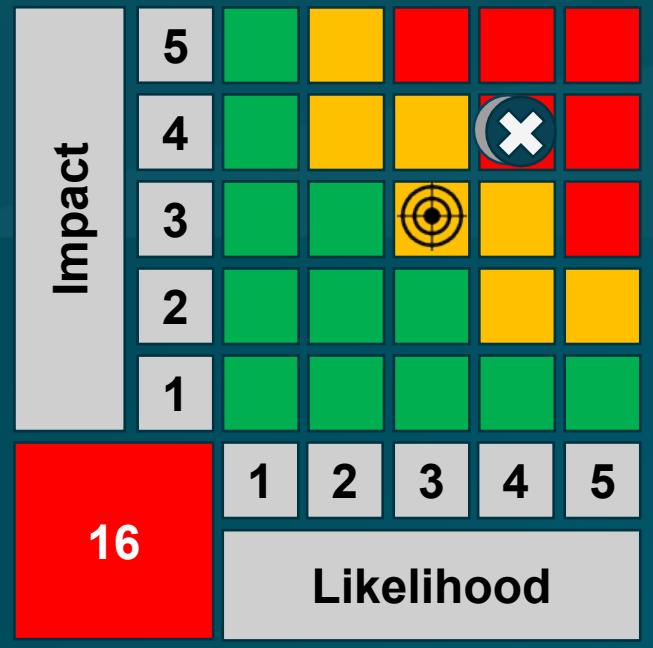
Risk that residential housing stock does not meet building safety regulations and / or the decent homes consumer standard resulting in service user dissatisfaction, complaints, regulatory scrutiny and reputational damage

Risk Owner: Janet Sharpe, Interim Service Director Homes & Neighbourhoods

Quarterly update:

Progress continues to address the issues identified in the Regulator of Social Housing Regulatory Notice (published March 2024), specifically regarding management of Fire Safety and Damp, Mould & Condensation (DMC). There is ongoing engagement with the regulator to inform them of the steps being taken to address the identified risks. Continued reduction in open DMC cases, through increased contracted and internal resources, will result in the 28-day requirement for hazard treatment being met in Q2 2025-26. Fire Risk Assessments remain broadly in line projected completion levels. Fire Safety works contract has been awarded.





Controls in operation:

1. Revised governance structure in place to monitor actions and provide oversight of controls with clear escalation routes and accountability points
2. Updated Policies and supporting Management Plans in place for all elements of Building Safety
3. Regulatory Notice action plan and monthly meetings in place to track progress
4. Asprey Asset Management system – now upgraded and accessibility improved through usage as a cloud based application.
5. 30-year Asset Management Plan

Further actions underway:

1. Review of 5 year Capital Investment Plan (£160m) to complete during Q1 2025-26
2. Stock condition surveys to inform future capital programme – commencing in Q2 2025-26 following successful appointment of stock condition contractor
3. Total repairs and maintenance system will be upgraded during 2025-26
4. Implementation of Cx, housing management system is underway and scheduled for completion during 2025-26
5. Governance effectiveness review being undertaken with completion in Q1 2025-26
6. Appointment of external contractor to provide programme and contract management support to Fire Safety programme
7. Preparations for Awaab's Law are underway including thorough review of relevant processes and record keeping

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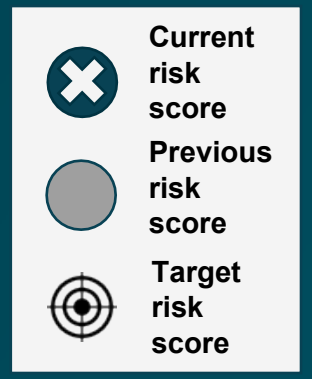
ECC01 Climate Change

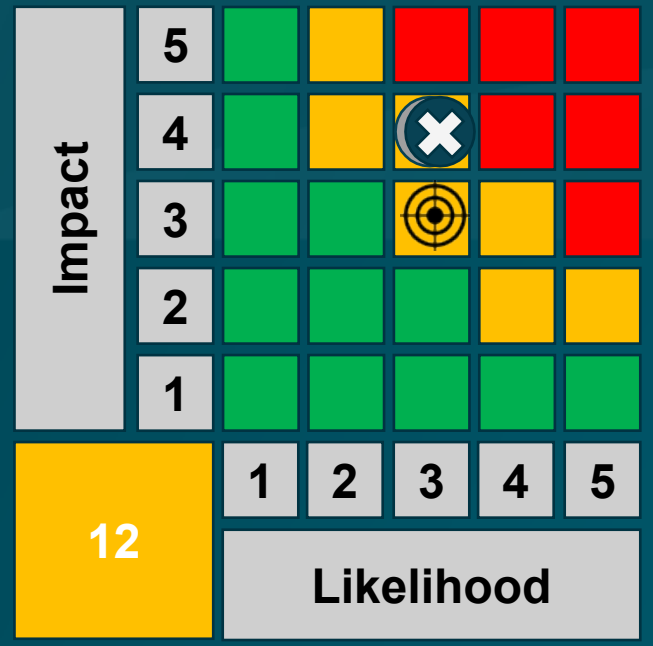
Failure to mitigate and adapt to a more volatile climate, caused by insufficient resource, inadequate funding and a lack of prioritisation, leading to prolonged impacts on the natural environment, residents, communities, businesses and delivery of Council services.

Risk Owner: Katherine Armitage, Service Director Environmental Strategy & Climate Change

Quarterly update:

The risk score remains static to reflect the ongoing impact from the absence of staff resource. Authorisation to recruit to key roles following recent staff departures has been received, which is considered necessary to restore a 'bare minimum' capacity, consultancy support being utilised as an interim position. The continuation of a restricted financial position impacts, recognising that the preferred choice (from a climate & environment position) is nearly always more expensive, especially in year 1, and reduces the ability to plan and mitigate future impacts.





Controls in operation:

1. Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Panel in place to check & challenge work from the legacy Environment and Climate Change Service Area.
2. Business continuity plans respond to severe weather event impacts, which are being made more extreme by Climate Change
3. Climate Change consideration included within the Integrated Impact Assessment which all new Council funded projects are required to complete
4. Climate Change and Environment Sustainability training is available on My Learning for Officers and Members, completion rates are being tracked but remain low
5. Top tier partnership strategy, 'Environment Strategy; Everyday Life' in place following approval by Council in September 2024

Further actions underway:

1. A new approach to the Councils direct, operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions has been completed in draft and is currently going through governance for approval. This provides a new baseline of emission to inform future decision-making and required actions to for rapid emission reduction to achieve the authorities Net Zero by 2038 target.

2. Intention to recruit to the currently vacant staff positions to manage the Councils response to Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability.

Kirklees COUNCIL

Report title:
Local Government Association (LGA) Corporate Peer Challenge – Kirklees Council Action Plan Progress Report

Meeting	**Cabinet**
Date	**8 July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr Carole Pattison, Leader of the Council**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**No** **No**

Purpose of Report

The Local Government Association (LGA) came to Kirklees Council in November 2024 to carry out a 'Corporate Peer Challenge', which is a key part of the LGA's improvement and assurance framework. The LGA produced a report following this visit, which contained eight key recommendations for action and improvement. This report is available to read on the council's website here: LGA (Local Government Association) Corporate Peer Challenge | Kirklees Council
On the 8 April 2025, Cabinet approved an action plan which sets out improvement activity in response to the recommendations provided by the LGA. This report provides Cabinet with a progress update against the actions in that plan.

Recommendations

- For Cabinet to note the progress update against the LGA's recommendations and our agreed action plan (see section 2.2). The full list of actions has been included at **Appendix A** for reference.

Reasons for Recommendations

- As part of the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge process, councils are required to develop and publish an action plan to deliver improvements based upon the recommendations provided by the LGA following the visit.
- On the 8 April 2025, Cabinet approved an action plan which sets out improvement activity in response to the recommendations provided by the LGA. This report provides Cabinet with a progress update against the actions in that plan (see section 2.2).

Resource Implication: The action plan will mostly be delivered with resources already existing within the council. Where additional/external resources are required to deliver specific actions within the plan, relevant council process and procedure rules will be followed, with value for money clearly demonstrated.

Date signed off by Executive Director & name	Rachel Spencer-Henshall – Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director for Public Health and Corporate Resources 23 June 2025

Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Kevin Mulvaney 23 June 2025
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?	Samantha Lawton 23 June 2025

Electoral wards affected: All
Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable
Public or private: Public
Has GDPR been considered? No personal data is included in this report.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Local Government Association (LGA) came to Kirklees Council between 26 - 29 November 2024, to carry out a 'Corporate Peer Challenge'.

1.2 The LGA produced a report, which outlines feedback following the visit, and contains eight key recommendations for improvement. This report is available to read on the Council's website here: LGA (Local Government Association) Corporate Peer Challenge | Kirklees Council. On the 8 April 2025, Cabinet approved an action plan which sets out improvement activity in response to the recommendations provided by the LGA.

1.3 This report presents to Cabinet, a progress update against the action plan that was approved in April. The action plan aims to deliver a range of corporate, and service led improvements in response to the key recommendations provided by the LGA. This report provides an overview of progress made so far against the LGA's recommendations, and our agreed action plan. The full list of actions has been included at **Appendix A** for reference.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 Background

2.1.1 The LGA requires every member council to undertake a Corporate Peer Challenge at least once every five years, and by doing so, this process is recognised by the LGA as a way to assist councils in meeting their Best Value Duty.

2.1.2 During the visit, local government peers provide feedback to the council on a range of corporate issues, based on evidence and information that is provided to them, and interviews and focus groups that took place with a range of staff, councillors, partners and other key stakeholders.

2.1.3 Following a Corporate Peer Challenge, a report outlining the key findings and recommendations from the peer team is shared with the council. In the spirit of openness and transparency, councils are required to publish this report within three months of the visit. The council is also required to publish an action plan, setting out key actions in response to the recommendations contained within the report, no later than five months following the visit.

2.1.4 All Corporate Peer Challenges now include a progress review which takes place approximately ten months after the original visit. The progress review provides space for a council's senior leadership to report to the peer team on the progress made against the corporate peer challenge recommendations, discuss early impact or learning and received feedback on the implementation of the action plan.

2.1.5 Following the progress review, a report outlining the peer team's findings is shared with the council. The council is then required to publish this report, no later than 12 months after the original visit.

2.1.6 All Corporate Peer Challenges focus on five core elements, as well as any additional local areas of focus or specific challenges requested by the council. The five core elements are:

- Local priorities and outcomes
- Organisational and place leadership
- Governance and culture
- Financial planning and management
- Capacity for improvement

2.1.7 Considering our story so far, and the challenges we were grappling with at the time, we asked the peer team to focus fully on the five core areas of inquiry, as these were the areas where we felt we would get the most useful insights.

2.1.8 Once the LGA report was received by the council following the visit, an action plan was produced. The suggested areas of focus for actions were discussed and shared with members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, and Political Group Leaders to help develop the plan. The plan was also discussed at the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the 4 April 2025, seeking feedback and engagement with delivery and reporting against the action plan once it is approved.

2.1.9 Cabinet approved the action plan on the 8 April 2025. Following this, the action plan was then presented to Council on 23 April 2025 for noting.

2.1.10 In September 2025, the Local Government Association will come back to Kirklees to undertake a progress review. Following the progress review, a report outlining the peer team's findings will be shared with the council. The council will then publish this report, no later than 12 months after the original visit.

2.1.11 When the action plan was approved in April, it was agreed that in advance of the LGA progress review, an initial progress update would be provided to Cabinet in July 2025, and then also discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

2.2 Overview of delivery progress against the action plan

2.2.1 In total, there are 42 actions included in the action plan against the LGA's key recommendations.

2.2.2 Progress updates for each action were sought from services in June, so the following updates provides a snapshot of progress at that point in time. Within **Appendix A**, ratings which reflect the delivery status have also been provided against each action. This reflects current confidence levels in completing delivery against the timescale agreed in the action plan. Colour codes are as follows:

- Blue (Fully completed)
- Green (on track for delivery)
- Amber (delivery may slip)
- Red (delivery has slipped)

2.2.3 Three actions have now been **fully completed** within the specified timescales in the action plan:

Action number 2.1 – Implement a new approach for resourcing transformation activity, with a focus on better outcomes and further efficiencies, including tracking the benefits and impacts of the initiatives which are delivered.

- The transformation reserve for 25/26 has now been launched, with a total allocation of up to £2.5m to support key transformation priorities aligned with council strategic goals, with nine business cases having been approved for funding. Ongoing monitoring for delivery of these priorities is planned and will be integrated into the quarterly transformation reporting cycle. Services will demonstrate progress against agreed savings, delivery milestones and impact.

Action number 6.1 - Update and Improve awareness of the member-officer protocol across both members and officers and continue to identify issues and required action through reports to standards committee every six months.

- The updated protocol was approved at the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee on the 7 March 2025, and subsequently approved at the Annual General Meeting of Council on the 21 May 2025. Work to improve awareness of the protocol amongst members will continue, and ongoing reporting against the protocol will now commence on a 6 monthly basis via the Standards Committee.

Action number 6.2 – Make further improvements in the clarity of decision-making reports, including improving templates, process, and guidance.

- Decision making report writing guidance for council officers has now been reviewed and refreshed, as well as changes to the templates officers use to write reports. Online training courses have also been developed and are now being used by officers. Governance officers are now attending Senior Leadership Meetings in order to reinforce and promote good governance to officers.

2.2.4 Delivery of all the remaining 39 actions has begun. As of June 2025, we are confident that **38 of these actions are fully on track for delivery** within the specified timescales in the plan.

2.2.5 By the time of the next progress update (September 2025) we are expecting an additional 8 actions to have been fully completed, in advance of the LGA progress review visit.

2.2.6 Delivery of the **Assets Property Transformation programme**, (action number 2.6), has been delayed slightly, however mitigations are in place to bring this back on track within the agreed timescales in the plan. The Assets Property Transformation programme is a large, and complex programme of work. The programme will support the Council in meeting its current and future property needs.

Activity includes the commissioning of an external benchmarking exercise, an assets disposal programme, and supporting asset utilisation activities (for example IT

infrastructure). Successful delivery of the programme is predicated on a number of external factors, for example processes and outcomes relating to the sale of buildings, or the management of external contractors. The overall programme is progressing well, with some external factors contributing to potential delays. A forward plan is due to be completed in July. The Benchmarking exercise is on track to start late June/ early July this will then lead to a period of intensive interviews, consultation and data analysis to support the programme moving forward.

2.2.7 In terms of the 38 **on-track actions**, the below provides an overview of progress with these against each of the key recommendations made by the LGA. The full list of agreed actions has been provided at **Appendix A** to this report for reference.

Recommendation 1: Continue to keep a grip on the council's budget. The financial challenges continue to be significant and require ongoing focus to deliver planned savings and replenish reserves. A longer-term plan needs to be developed to deliver a more sustainable financial situation for the council.

The Council continues to be confident it has a good grip on delivery of the Council's budget. Processes related to ongoing financial monitoring have been reviewed and are currently being implemented – for example, enhanced capital delivery monitoring will commence from Q1 of the current financial year. We have reviewed and completed a forward plan for the cross-party budget working group and have begun the development of plans for budget engagement around next year's annual budget.

We're on track for publishing a 'budget book' in July, which will provide a breakdown of all service budgets to support greater transparency and better service planning. We are also on track for developing a 3-year budget as part of September's MTFS (Medium-term Financial Strategy), which will also include an updated strategy for sustainably increasing reserves over time. We are currently developing detailed analysis around the financial implications of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (announced on the 11 June) – and will be inputting to the Government consultation via our links to SIGOMA (a national representative body relating to Local Government finance).

Recommendation 2: Apply successes and learning from transformation across the council more widely. There is a range of good projects and approaches from transformation, but they tend to remain within services. There are successes in children and adults social care and the learning from these approaches could be better understood by wider council services to help drive their improvement.

Work to apply our successes and learning from transformation more widely across the council is progressing well. We have already implemented a new approach to resourcing new transformation activity, which will help activity to focus on better outcomes and the achievement of further efficiencies. We have drafted an action plan for more effective support and engagement with the third sector, and this is on track to be approved by the Executive in July.

The Council's corporate Programme Management Office is leading an initiative to enhance awareness of our existing change and project management resources on the intranet and on internal training systems. This work is underway and continues to be developed. We have also begun work on identifying opportunities for partnership-led transformation through the development of a new partnership framework, and an internal benchmarking exercise. We have also begun work to develop a clearer vision for transformation, as part of work to produce the next iteration of the Council Plan for the forthcoming financial year.

Recommendation 3: **The council has some large-scale regeneration plans agreed with delivery underway. Revisit the plans to ensure they are affordable, viable and deliverable in the current financial context. Part of this consideration should include the balance of housing provision.**

Our plans to review the Capital programme are underway, and work has commenced to identify projects that can be re-profiled to a more realistic delivery timeframe (or removed altogether). Benchmarking will also be carried out with Yorkshire and Humber Councils. Our Review of phase 5 of the Cultural Heart is underway and on time. The review is a two staged process, and currently the last stage of this review is anticipated to be completed by September 2025. A supporting programme of work – a 'Cultural Heart Mobilisation Plan' has now begun. This programme will help to manage associated risks and opportunities related to delivery of the programme in a coordinated way – and the Council's Executive will be provided with an update on this activity in July. We have also completed a Capital Governance Review of our capital related governance mechanisms, and recommendations from that review are now being implemented to improve structures and reporting arrangements to support more effective decision making.

We have now also drafted an approach to deciding on our priorities for securing additional external investment. This approach is due to be considered for approval by the Executive in July, and work to develop these priorities will start following this and is on track to be completed by the end of the financial year.

Developing a longer-term strategy to increase residential provision in our town centres, and the refresh of our town centre blueprints, are both actions that will be delivered over a longer-term timescale, however these are now both underway. These actions will be delivered through the development of the Housing Strategy, the update to the Local Plan, and the development of a 10-year Regeneration Plan for Dewsbury alongside a new Strategic Regeneration Framework for Dewsbury.

Recommendation 4: **Explore planning in a more expansive and strategic way, including the role it can play in delivering the housing aspects of the new local plan, nationally determined local targets and how the council will deliver much-needed new homes.**

Work is continuing to understand and analyse the impact of national policy changes related to planning, which will have far-reaching and complex implications for the way in which local authorities undertake planning duties. Work to develop a new Housing Strategy for Kirklees is underway, and the strategy is on track for completion by the end of the year. Our plan to re-fresh the next iteration of the Local Plan (Local Plan 2) – is on track for completion by December 2027, however implementation of this is predicated on multiple layers of stakeholder engagement.

Recommendation 5: **Work more closely with businesses and economic partners to define potential growth, skills and investment opportunities in Kirklees.**

Work to complete and begin delivery of the Inclusive Economic Strategy is on track, and the final document will be submitted for approval by Council in July. Once approved, work to engage with businesses on the delivery of the strategy will commence and will be supported by the delivery of an Economic Summit at the end of the year. This work will also feed into a wider review of economic partnership arrangements. Feedback from the Economic Summit events will be used to further develop proposals for improved engagement with business and economic partners moving forward.

The council has engaged with work currently underway at a West-Yorkshire level to help identify areas for further strengthening the regional voice of the third sector. Proposals have been developed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and these will be shared back with local authorities for further engagement over the coming months. Locally, we are underway with delivering a programme of events for local businesses to help them connect to local third sector organisations, to support business aspirations for Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Value. Events delivered so far have been successful and well attended, and there are several further events planned over the coming months.

Recommendation 6: At the political level there has been some instability over the past 18 months. Given the position of no overall control, Members need to be mindful of their roles, responsibilities and work collaboratively to put communities and residents first. The council needs to keep working at good governance across a range of issues, including clarity of reports, Member development programmes and councillors' behaviours.

Two of the four actions associated with this recommendation have already been completed (see section 2.2.3 in this paper). Work to review and improve officer training and development initiatives for working with members, is now underway, and is on track for completion by the end of the financial year. Initial discussions have now also taken place with Governance, and Cllr Support functions, to develop and launch a new Member Development Framework. The plan for the framework, is to consult further with members, to develop an updated offer, particularly in advance of expected high numbers of new members elected in 2026 due to the all-out elections.

Recommendation 7: Considerable progress has been made in some service areas, with tangible progress, for example in children's services. Maintain this focus so that performance continues to improve.

Work to develop an overview of external inspections and associated improvement plans, and work to develop service planning and guidance has begun, and these will be completed on time by September 2025.

The revised approach to corporate quarterly performance monitoring and reporting, which had only recently been introduced at the time of the peer challenge, was embedded throughout 2024/25. The approach incorporates monitoring of delivery against the priorities within the Council Plan, informing strategic decision making. The council's approach to quarterly check and challenges has recently been reviewed and changes to the process are currently being implemented – which includes a more effective approach to reviewing performance against financial information and key risks at a service level. The approach to corporate quarterly report will be continuously reviewed and refined throughout 2025/26.

The Council continues to ensure effective delivery and performance monitoring associated with Children's social care, and across Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods.

For children's social care, we have recently recruited to a new quality assurance delivery manager role. The additional capacity is supporting more effective audit and quality assurance processes, and moving forward, we can now undertake a greater range of auditing process across key thematic areas. Work to progress the development of a wide range of routes into social work is also progressing well, for example the social work

apprenticeship route which continues to have active cohorts to support improvements in social care performance over the long-term.

Within Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods, we have now got refreshed governance arrangements in place, with regular reporting having commenced to ensure a high level of assurance and challenge is in place for required improvements to service delivery over the long-term.

<u>Recommendation 8:</u> Use this peer challenge as an opportunity to pivot towards a longer horizon for key decisions.

In support of the peer challenge action plan, and the recommendations within it, we have now launched and begun delivery of the 'Our Council' culture refresh initiative. The initiative was launched in April and communications activities have begun, with further work planned to embed and action the key principles as part of the working culture of the council workforce over the summer. As part of the Our Council initiative, a programme of work is also underway to support the delivery of a more customer-focused culture, the development of shared customer expectations, and to make it easier for residents and customers to engage with the council.

Work is also underway, and on track, with developing a new Digital Strategy, with a stakeholder engagement plan having commenced.

Work to review our approach to our high-level strategic framework is now underway, which will culminate in the production of a new Partnership Framework, and a new, longer-term Council Plan aligned to new multi-year financial settlements for Local Government. This work is on track to be completed by March 2026. Work to develop initial thinking, and an approach to wider engagement, is underway and will be considered by the Executive in June / July. Conversations with partners have also commenced, to support the development of a scope, expectations and appetite amongst partners for creating a shared leadership and management development programme and approach.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Council Plan

The action plan sets out some important next steps for the council and builds on recent work to improve and strengthen our position into the future. It will support the council to deliver on the priorities set out within the refreshed 2025/26 Council Plan, which was agreed by Council on the 5 March 2025. Within the 2025/26 Council Plan, the development and delivery of the LGA Peer Challenge action plan has been included as a 'Area of Focus' within the 'Getting the basics right – a balanced budget and a modern organisation' priority, and delivery of the action plan will be reported via regular progress and delivery reports relating to the 2025/26 Council Plan.

3.2 Financial Implications

One of the five core areas of focus for the Corporate Peer Challenge is around 'Financial Planning and Management'. The first recommendation provided in the LGA report outlines how the council should develop a longer-term plan to deliver a more sustainable financial situation. As such, the action plan provided at **Appendix A**, includes some key actions to deliver upon this recommendation.

3.3 **Legal Implications**

The LGA requires every member council to undertake a Corporate Peer Challenge at least once every five years, and by doing so, this process is recognised by the LGA as a way to assist councils in meeting their Best Value Duty. The Best Value Duty is a statutory requirement contained within Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1999.

3.4 **Other (e.g., Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**

The action plan presented at **Appendix A,** relates to a wide range of different areas of activity that the council delivers.

Integrated Impact Assessments for individual changes and projects referred to within the actions will be developed as required.

The council maintains a corporate risk register, and risks for individual areas of activity within the action plan will be managed accordingly and as part of the established corporate process.

Some of the actions within the action plan, relate to making improvements to ways of working for council employees. Most notably, the 'Our Council' culture reset initiative (included as an action against recommendation 8) will support positive changes in the way that all council employees work, for example by supporting an improved focus on the needs of our customers, encouraging better budget management, and further work to embed our corporate values of kindness, inclusion and pride.

4 Consultation

Corporate Peer Challenges involve extensive consultation, which is carried out by the Peer Team during the week of the visit. This is so the team can gather evidence and formulate their feedback. The LGA Peer Team spent four days onsite at Kirklees Council during which they:

- Gathered evidence, information, and views from more than 35 meetings, in addition to further research and reading. Most of these meetings were face to face, and some were conducted via MS Teams.
- Spoke to more than 140 people including a range of council staff together with Members and external stakeholders.
- Attended meetings at Dewsbury Town Hall.

5 Engagement

5.1 Relevant council officers (including Service Directors and the Executive Leadership Team) and the Cabinet, have been engaged in the development of the action plan.

5.2 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee were also engaged in the development of actions for the action plan, at a meeting on the 20 March 2025. Group Leaders were also engaged and were asked for feedback on development of the actions. Feedback from Scrutiny and Group Leaders was received and considered by the Executive.

5.3 This update report will also be provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on the 11 July for feedback and comment.

6 Options

6.1 Options considered

Our recommendation to Cabinet is to note the progress update contained within this paper, specifically within section 2.2 of this report.

6.2 Reasons for recommended option

As part of the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge process, councils are required to develop and publish an action plan to deliver improvements based upon the recommendations provided by the LGA following the visit.

On the 8 April 2025, Cabinet approved an action plan which sets out improvement activity in response to the recommendations provided by the LGA. This report provides Cabinet with a progress update against the actions in that plan (see section 2.2).

7. Next steps and timelines

The LGA will visit the Council in September 2025, to carry out a progress review. This progress review will enable the council to report to peers on the progress made against the recommendations, discuss early impact or learning, and receive feedback on the implementation of the action plan.

The Council and the LGA will then publish a progress review report by the end of November 2025, which must be within 12 months of the initial Corporate Peer Challenge visit.

8. Contact officers

Stephen Bonnell, Head of Policy, Partnerships, and Corporate Planning
Stephen.Bonnell@kirklees.gov.uk

Michelle Hope, Corporate Planning and Coordination Manager, Policy, Partnerships and Corporate Planning
Michelle.Hope@kirklees.gov.uk

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

The LGA's feedback report, has been published on the Council's website here:

LGA (Local Government Association) Corporate Peer Challenge | Kirklees Council

Cabinet paper which contains the approved action plan:

Peer Challenge Action Plan - Cabinet Paper - 8 April 2025 v2.pdf

10. Appendices

Appendix A: LGA Corporate Peer Challenge – Kirklees Council Action Plan

11. Service Director responsible

Andy Simcox, Service Director Strategy and Innovation

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge – Kirklees Council Action Plan

Recommendation 1

Continue to keep a grip on the council's budget. The financial challenges continue to be significant and require ongoing focus to deliver planned savings and replenish reserves. A longer-term plan needs to be developed to deliver a more sustainable financial situation for the council.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
1.1	Ensure monthly and quarterly financial monitoring to officers and Members continues to be clear, accurate and enables responsive and timely decision-making to support effective service delivery and planned savings.	April 2025 – March 2026	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
1.2	Continue to strengthen and develop our cross-party working group and budget consultation to support ongoing financial monitoring and the development of the next budget.	April 2025 - March 2026	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
1.3	Publish a 'budget book' – which provides a breakdown of all service budgets to support greater transparency and challenge and ensure a shared understanding of service budgets across the council.	August 2025	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
1.4	Within the next MTFS (Medium-Term Financial Strategy) update: • Develop a detailed 3-year budget for each service, to support longer term financial planning and stability for services across the council. • Continue to sustainably increase reserves over the coming years, including unallocated reserves.	September 2025	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
1.5	Implement an annual benchmarking exercise to help with the identification of further opportunities for transformation and efficiencies.	September 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**

Recommendation 2

Apply successes and learning from transformation across the council more widely. There is a range of good projects and approaches from transformation, but they tend to remain within services. There are successes in children and adults social care and the learning from these approaches could be better understood by wider council services to help drive their improvement.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
2.1	Implement a new approach for resourcing transformation activity, with a focus on better outcomes and further efficiencies, including tracking the benefits and impacts of the initiatives which are delivered.	April 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Blue**
2.2	Develop and begin delivery of a new plan for more effective support and engagement with the third sector working closely with our local infrastructure and voice organisation (Third Sector Leaders) to identify ways to enable communities to do more for themselves.	July 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
2.3	Further develop our council-wide approach to resourcing, connecting, and communicating about transformation initiatives, including: • Strengthening connections and coordination between transformation initiatives. • Sharing more widely the learning, methodologies, and approaches. • Communicating our transformation successes to Members and officers, to help build a culture of ongoing transformation and support shared learning.	September 2025 (develop) December 2025 (implement)	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
2.4	Identify opportunities for partnership-led transformation in Kirklees and ensure these are being effectively managed.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
2.5	Develop and describe a council-wide transformation vision for long-term transformation across the whole council connected to the next, longer-term Council Plan.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
2.6	Deliver the Assets Property Transformation Programme, using external advice to support implementation.	March 2026	Service Director, Development	**Amber**

Recommendation 3

The council has some large-scale regeneration plans agreed with delivery underway. Revisit the plans to ensure they are affordable, viable and deliverable in the current financial context. Part of this consideration should include the balance of housing provision.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
3.1	Review the capital programme, to make sure we have affordable plans, including considering an externally led capital plan review.	September 2025	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
3.2	Complete the review of phase 5 of Our Cultural Heart to ensure we maximise value for money whilst maintaining our ambition of long-term benefits for people, businesses and the local economy.	September 2025	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
3.3	Analyse the direct and indirect costs and implications for our major regeneration projects across all council services and directorates and continue to deliver a 'Cultural Heart mobilisation' plan to manage associated risks and opportunities in a cross-directorate coordinated way.	March 2026	Service Director, Finance/ Service Director, Strategy and Innovation/ Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
3.4	Conduct a governance review to ensure the right governance mechanisms are in place to support ongoing, effective delivery monitoring of our capital plans and programmes. Implement refreshed governance arrangements.	March 2026	Service Director, Finance	**Green**
3.5	Decide priorities for securing further external investment funding - including considering the balance of housing provisions alongside other types of development and investment – and proactively monitor external funding opportunities to support these priorities.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation / Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
3.6	Develop a longer-term strategy and plan to support the development of residential provision in our town centres, linked to the update of the Local Plan.	March 2027	Service Director, Development	**Green**
3.7	Refresh all our town centre blueprints and smaller centre regeneration plans to reflect the current financial context and consider future plans beyond the current timescales, ensuring they are fit for the future and ready for changes in transport, technology, and the economy.	March 2027	Service Director, Development	**Green**

Recommendation 4

Explore planning in a more expansive and strategic way, including the role it can play in delivering the housing aspects of the new local plan, nationally determined local targets and how the council will deliver much-needed new homes.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
4.1	Monitor and analyse the impact of national policy changes related to planning (including more powers for Combined Authorities), and ensure we are prepared to benefit, including through further workforce development to ensure we have sufficient capacity and skills.	December 2025	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration/ Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
4.2	Develop a new Housing Strategy for Kirklees, setting out a long-term approach for the types of housing Kirklees will need in the future, including the balance across market, affordable, and social housing.	December 2026	Service Director, Development	**Green**
4.3	Continue to progress work associated with the implementation of the next refresh of our Local Plan ('Local Plan 2'), including local engagement and cross-party working.	December 2027	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**

Recommendation 5

Work more closely with businesses and economic partners to define potential growth, skills and investment opportunities in Kirklees.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
5.1	Building on partner engagement, begin delivery of the Inclusive Economy Strategy.	August 2025	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
5.2	Deliver a Kirklees economic summit, bringing together key businesses and economic partners to develop tangible actions for delivering the Inclusive Economy Strategy and responding to economic opportunities across Kirklees.	By December 2025	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
5.3	Review the economic partnership arrangements, including engagement mechanisms, identifying any areas for improving collaboration and communication, and decide actions to progress these.	December 2025	Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**
5.4	In the context of increasing powers and flexibility at a West Yorkshire level, support better connections between the Combined Authority and local third sector organisations with a role supporting economic growth, skills, and investment. This includes organisations indirectly supporting the economy through improving health and wellbeing.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
5.5	Deliver a programme of events for local businesses helping them connect to local third sector organisations to support their aspirations for Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Value, including volunteering and mentoring.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation/ Service Director, Skills and Regeneration	**Green**

Recommendation 6

At the political level there has been some instability over the past 18 months. Given the position of no overall control, Members need to be mindful of their roles, responsibilities and work collaboratively to put communities and residents first. The council needs to keep working at good governance across a range of issues, including clarity of reports, Member development programmes and councillors' behaviours.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery Status
6.1	Update and improve awareness of the Member-officer protocol across both Members and officers and continue to identify issues and required action through reports to standards committee every six months.	May 2025	Service Director, Governance and Commissioning	**Blue**
6.2	Make further improvements in the clarity of decision-making reports, including improving templates, processes, and guidance.	July 2025	Service Director, Governance and Commissioning	**Blue**
6.3	Review and improve existing officer training and development initiatives for working with and alongside Members, to help develop a shared understanding of what working together looks like.	January 2026	Service Director, Governance and Commissioning	**Green**
6.4	Develop and launch a new Member Development Framework, and associated action plan, which aims to: • bring together existing support • identify opportunities for further support • This will support new and existing Members.	January 2026	Service Director, Governance and Commissioning	**Green**

Recommendation 7

Considerable progress has been made in some service areas, with tangible progress, for example in children's services. Maintain this focus so that performance continues to improve.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery Status
7.1	Develop an overview of external inspections, and any associated improvement plans to ensure there is sufficient planning and coordinated follow up. This includes inspections related to CQC, SEND, and the Regulator for Social Housing. Develop a set of principles for engaging with inspection regimes.	September 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
7.2	Ensure an effective, ongoing approach to monitoring and reporting performance across the council, that effectively informs decision making around improving performance.	September 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
7.3	Support and guidance provided to services around service planning, supporting service delivery against the priorities set out within the Council Plan and associated annual budget.	September 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
7.4	Ensure effective delivery and performance monitoring across children's social care, to ensure recent progress and improvements are maintained over the long-term.	Review by December 2025	Service Director, Child Protection and Family Support	**Green**
7.5	Ensure effective delivery and performance monitoring across Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods, to ensure required improvements are delivered over the long-term.	Review by December 2025	Service Director, Homes and Neighbourhoods	**Green**

Recommendation 8

Use this peer challenge as an opportunity to pivot towards a longer horizon for key decisions.

Actions agreed by Cabinet on 8 April 2025

Ref.	Action	Timescale	Responsible Service Director	Delivery status
8.1	Launch and begin delivery of the 'Our Council' culture refresh in support of the peer challenge action plan and other improvements.	April 2025 – September 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.2	Review current strategic partnership commitments as set out within the current Council Plan, with a view to developing a refreshed Partnership Framework for a longer-term period. This will include engagement across key partnerships, and potentially the development of a supporting action plan.	By November 2025	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.3	Ensure we continue to monitor national policy changes and implications across all council directorates (e.g. devolution, local government finance, and planning) to maximise the benefits for Kirklees residents.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.4	Deliver the customer expectations programme, which aims to deliver a customer-focused culture, shared customer expectations, and make it easier for residents and customers to engage with the council.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.5	Develop a new longer-term Council Plan, supported by the implementation of multi-year local funding settlements and more flexible West Yorkshire funding, to maximise the benefits for Kirklees residents.	By March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.6	Develop a new Digital Strategy, setting out how we will maximise the opportunities for technology and data to support our outcomes over the longer-term, including through considering the skills and capabilities we need in the organisation and the role of artificial intelligence.	March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**
8.7	Work with partners on shared leadership and management development programmes for more efficient leadership development and support connections across our organisations.	September 25 - March 2026	Service Director, Strategy and Innovation	**Green**

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Kirklees COUNCIL

REPORT TITLE: Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy

Meeting:	**Cabinet**
Date:	**8 July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**
Purpose of Report To present the Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy for endorsement prior to approval at Full Council on 16 July.	
Recommendations • Cabinet to endorse and recommend to Council adoption of the Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy **Reasons for Recommendations** • The KIES accurately reflects the ambition of the Council and partners for development of an increasingly productive, inclusive and sustainable economy in Kirklees. • It demonstrates alignment with the West Yorkshire Local Growth Plan and UK Modern Industrial Strategy. • It is an important strategy for the Council and partners forming the final Top Tier strategy.	
Resource Implications: There are no resource implications directly arising from this strategy.	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?**	**David Shepherd, 27June 2025** **Kevin Mulvaney, 23 June 2025** **Samantha Lawton, 26 June 2025**

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Ward councillors have been engaged through the strategy's presentation at Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Executive Summary

This report presents the Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy (KIES), which is the final top-tier strategy. The KIES is framed as a partnership strategy and aims to align with the national UK Modern Industrial Strategy and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Local Growth Plan. This economic strategy is crucial for driving local action and informing engagement with regional and national partners. It addresses the need for close collaboration with businesses and economic partners to identify growth, skills, and investment opportunities in Kirklees. The document emphasizes that the economic strategy's approval will contribute to establishing a clear vision for the local economy.

Cabinet is asked to endorse the strategy ahead of its presentation to Full Council on 16 July.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1. Background

The Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy (KIES) is the final top tier strategy to come to completion. The others are the Inclusive Communities Framework, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and Environment Strategy. As with all the top tier strategies the KIES is framed as a partnership strategy.

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) have agreed the Local Growth Plan (LGP) which was both a manifesto commitment of the mayor and a requirement of the new Labour Government. The Government has now published the UK Modern Industrial Strategy. This strategy is a key pillar delivery against the Government's mission to achieve the longest sustained growth in the G7.

It is important that Kirklees has an economic strategy in place that both aligns with the national and regional economic strategies. Furthermore, it must articulate our priorities to inform engagement with WYCA and Government as well as driving our own action. Recommendation 5 of the recent LGA Corporate Peer Challenge was "Working with Business and Economic Partners - Work more closely with businesses and economic partners to define potential growth, skills and investment opportunities in Kirklees." Approval of the economic strategy will contribute to addressing this by establishing a clear vision for the local economy and setting out a platform for engagement with businesses.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1. Council Plan

"Local economic growth, working with regional and national partners" is one of the Council Plan priorities. Under this sits the objective to "Engage on and deliver the Inclusive Economy Strategy".

3.2. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

3.3. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

3.4. **Climate Change and Air Quality**

Creating an increasingly environmentally sustainable local economy is a core objective of the strategy. This objective is aligned with local and West Yorkshire net zero targets and supported by the National Industrial Strategy.

3.5. **Integrated Impact Assessment**

An integrated impact assessment has been completed for the strategy and can be accessed via the link below. This demonstrates that the Strategy will have either a Neutral or Positive impact on Equality, diversity and inclusion, and Access to services.

https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/integrated-impact-assessments/home/details/IIA-671512717/

4. Consultation

Development of an economic strategy is not subject to formal consultation requirements.

5. Engagement

There has been significant engagement with partners and within the Council throughout development of the KIES, and there is ongoing engagement with key stakeholders. Meetings at which the KIES has been presented and discussed include:

- 25/01/2025 – Health & Wellbeing Board
- 10/12/2024 – Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel
- 04/01/2024 – Kirklees Health & Care Partnership
- 09/11/2023 – Kirklees Partnership Executive
- 06/12/2023 – Kirklees Health & Care Partnership, Development Session
- 10/10/2023 – Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel
- 04/10/2023 – Picture of Kirklees, Partnership Conference
- 12/06/2023 – Communities Senior Management Team
- 24/04/2023 – Inclusion and Diversity Hub
- 19/04/2023 – Tackling Inequalities Programme Board

The strategy has also been discussed periodically with the Leader and Cllr Turner as Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration throughout its development.

6. Options

6.1. **Options considered**

The options considered are:

- To recommend that this strategy should be endorsed. The reasons for this are set out below at paragraph 5.2
- To recommend that this strategy should not be endorsed. However, this would not achieve the council's commitment to deliver an inclusive economic strategy to

support local and regional growth. Without an inclusive economy strategy, Kirklees risks deepening inequality, missing out on local talent, and undermining long-term economic resilience. Having the strategy is essential to achieving the council's ambitions for sustainable growth, community wellbeing, and fair access to opportunity for all residents.

6.2. **Reasons for recommended option**

By adopting this strategy, we will:

- Demonstrate that, as a Council and as a district, Kirklees is committed to further developing a local economy that is productive, inclusive and environmentally sustainable.
- Deliver on one of the actions of the Council Plan 2025/26.
- Demonstrate Kirklees' alignment with the UK's Modern Industrial Strategy and West Yorkshire Local Growth Plan.

7. Next steps and timelines

Subject to Cabinet endorsement, the strategy will progress to Full Council for adoption on 16 July after which the strategy will be officially launched. This launch will activate our communication strategy and dedicated webpage on the Council website.

8. Contact officer

Jonathan Nunn, Policy & Partnerships Lead

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

The current Kirklees Economic Strategy was approved by Council on 20/03/2019.

10. Appendices

Kirklees Inclusive Economy Strategy

11. Service Director responsible

David Wildman, Service Director Skills & Regeneration

Kirklees



Inclusive Economy Strategy

2025

Contents

Foreword **3**

Executive Summary **4**

Socio-economic context **5**

Introduction 5
Our business stock 9
Key sectors 10
Productivity 11
Demographics and the labour market 12
Poverty, worklessness, and health and wellbeing 13
Alternative business models 14
Creative and digital 14
Sustainability and net zero 15
Conclusion 16

Policy Framework **17**

The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy 17
West Yorkshire Local Growth Plan 18
Local Policy Framework 19

Vision and objectives 2030 **21**

Vision 2030 21
Our objectives 22

Supporting people to acquire the skills they need **23**

Overview 23
Success Measures 23
Actions 24
Case Studies 27

Supporting business to start, grow and invest **28**

Overview 28
Success Measures 28
Actions 29
Case Studies 33

Investing in our Places **35**

Overview 35
Success Measures 35
Actions 36
Case Studies 40

Appendix – Accessible version of infographic **42**

Foreword

Kirklees stands at a pivotal moment. As we look ahead to 2030, we are determined to shape an economy not only stronger, but fairer and more sustainable – one that works for everyone, in every part of our district, and which guarantees a good future for our children and grandchildren. This Inclusive Economy Strategy sets out our shared ambition: to build a resilient, productive and sustainable economy where all our residents can thrive. It is a strategy rooted in the belief that economic growth must go hand in hand with social justice and environmental responsibility.

We are proud of our heritage and confident in our future. Kirklees is home to world-class manufacturing, a growing health innovation sector, and a vibrant network of communities with deep resilience and creativity. But we also recognise the challenges we face: persistent inequalities, rising economic inactivity, and the urgent need to transition to a low-carbon future.

This strategy is our response. It is bold in its vision and practical in its delivery. It focuses on three clear priorities: supporting our people to develop the skills they need to access good jobs; enabling our businesses to grow, investing and leading the way in inclusive and sustainable practices; and investing in our places – our towns, villages and infrastructure—to unlock opportunity and improve quality of life. Our ambition is rooted in the values and priorities of the Council Plan 2025-26: getting the basics right, protecting the most vulnerable, and enabling thriving communities. We are focused on delivering real change!

We will not achieve this alone. This is a strategy for everyone in Kirklees. It is a call to action for all of us—public, private and voluntary sectors – to work together. It reflects the voices of our communities and the strengths of our partnerships. Together, we will ensure that Kirklees is not just a place where the economy grows – but a place where everyone can share in that growth.

For too long, the North of England has been held back by underinvestment – its people, places and potential overlooked in favour of short-term gains elsewhere. In Kirklees, we know that this has come at a cost: to our economy, to our communities, and to the life chances of too many of our residents. This strategy is therefore also an invitation to Government to support our ambitions – both the specific actions identified in this document but also to redress the balance through long-term change to core funding approaches. We invite all our partners to join us in delivering this vision. Now is the time to invest in Kirklees. Now is the time to deliver the inclusive, sustainable and prosperous future our communities deserve.



Leader of the Council, Cllr Carole Pattison



Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration, Cllr Graham Turner

Executive Summary

This is the first Inclusive Economic Strategy for Kirklees, developed by Kirklees Council.

Inclusive growth is defined by the Royal Society of Arts Inclusive Growth Commission as 'enabling as many people as possible to contribute to and benefit from growth.' This can be both social – benefitting people across the labour market spectrum, including groups that face high barriers to high quality employment – or place based, addressing inequalities in opportunity between different localities[1].

The Inclusive Economy Strategy sets out how, working with a wide range of public, private and voluntary sector partners we will create the conditions for economic growth across Kirklees – and how, working together, we will ensure that as many communities and residents as possible both contribute to and benefit from growth.

The Inclusive Economy Strategy covers the period from 2025-2030. It sets out a vision, objectives and high-level priorities for action under three main themes:

- supporting our People to have the skills they need and to access jobs where those skills will be put to good use, including helping those residents who are furthest from the labour market to re-enter and remain in work
- supporting businesses, including social enterprises to start up, grow and invest so they create more good jobs, improve their productivity and increase wage levels whilst contributing to wider inclusive growth aims
- investing in our diverse Places and the physical and digital connections between them to increase access to job opportunities for Kirklees residents, widen the talent pool for local businesses and ensure that Kirklees remains a fantastic place to live, work and do business.

The strategy is aligned with the Government's emerging Industrial Strategy and Get Britain Working white paper, and with the West Yorkshire Local Growth Plan. The Inclusive Economy Strategy forms part of a wider suite of 'top tier' strategies developed by the Council and its partners – the Inclusive Communities Framework, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Environment Strategy.

1 Inclusive Growth Commission – Making our Economy Work for Everyone, RSA, 2017

Socio-economic context

Introduction

Perfectly placed between the core cities of Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield, Kirklees is an exceptional business location with strong connections to the UK's strategic road and rail network offering ready access to international airports and seaports.

Perfectly placed

Part of West Yorkshire, Kirklees is strategically located at the heart of the UK and the centre of the Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield City Region triangle – a pivotal central location within the UK's £339billion Northern Powerhouse.

Excellent transport networks include:

- Easy access to the M62, M1 and A1
- Direct rail links to Manchester and Leeds in 30 minutes, through to London in 2 hours
- Manchester and Leeds Bradford airports within 45 minutes, and a direct train to Manchester airport
- Seaports at Liverpool, Hull, Immingham and Teesport within 2 hours.



Figure 1: Map showing Kirklees' position within the northern region

Why Kirklees

Kirklees is the perfect place for businesses to grow, innovate and improve efficiency. We have industrial property solutions for investing businesses, including priority areas offering incentives and opportunities for development of employment space.

An integral part of Kirklees' £8.35 billion GVA economy, 15,000 local businesses benefit from:


commercial property rents up to 15% cheaper than competitor destinations


Grade A office space costing up to c63% less than nearby cities


potential incentives to support delivery of employment space


fast access to world-leading research and innovation centres


affordable gigabit-speed internet services across 91% of the district


a highly developed sector supply chain and easy access to exporting


access to 7 million consumers within one-hour's travel


dedicated business support via Business Kirklees


a skilled local workforce, with significant labour-saving costs


a beautiful, vibrant place to live and work.

Our diverse network of larger towns – Huddersfield and Dewsbury – and local centres (like Batley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Holmfirth and Marsden) – are evolving as centres for shopping, leisure and community activity and offer a wide range of housing with easy access to beautiful surroundings, including part of the majestic Peak District National Park which lies within the Kirklees boundary.



Figure 2: Interesting facts and figures about Kirklees (please see the appendix on page 47 for an accessible version of this information)

Connecting Kirklees

Connectivity within Kirklees and to the core cities beyond is being transformed through unprecedented levels of public investment in infrastructure projects like the TransPennine Route Upgrade, reducing journey times between Leeds and Manchester from over an hour to just 40 minutes.

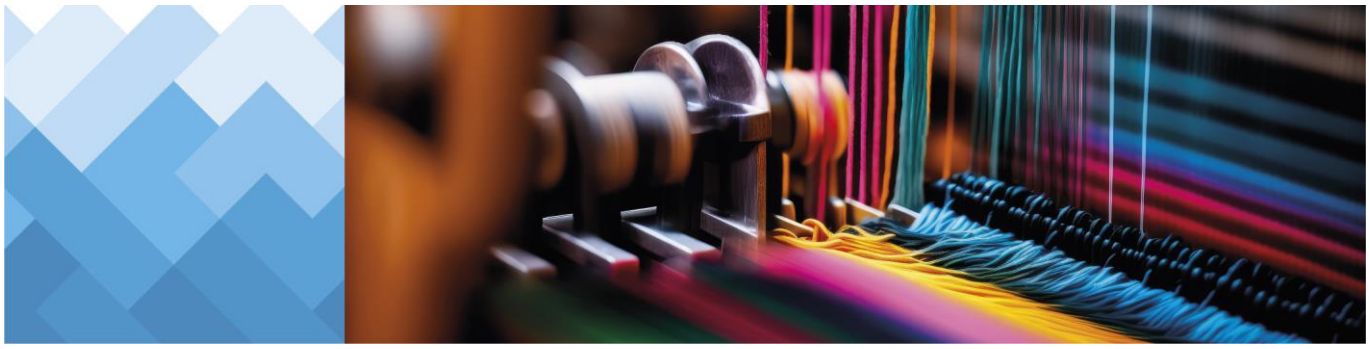


Figure 3: TransPennine Route Upgrade

Alongside planned improvements to the Penistone Line connecting Huddersfield with Sheffield, these investments will increase access to job opportunities and widen the talent pool for local businesses. Bus franchising also offers significant opportunities to connect more people with jobs and learning. In the long-term, the regional Mass Transit programme aims to improve connectivity between Leeds and Dewsbury. We also need continued improvements to our strategic road network, and to build on our active travel infrastructure to deliver a cohesive network that offers a safe and viable alternative to car use for short journeys.

Despite these improvements, we have yet to realise our full economic potential. This section of the IES sets out some of the opportunities and challenges that will need to be addressed over the next five years.

Our business stock



The Kirklees economy comprised 17,450 separate ‘business units’ in 2024. 84.1% of these were microbusinesses employing fewer than 10 staff – slightly below the England average of 84.6%. Just 60 businesses in Kirklees have more than 250 employees.

The number of new business start-ups in Kirklees increased from 1,735 in 2017 to 2,155 in 2022, or 18.4% of all start-ups in West Yorkshire, in proportion to our share of the West Yorkshire business stock. Business startup data suggests that entrepreneurs from neighbourhoods in Kirklees falling into the 20% most deprived nationally are now responsible for 40% of new businesses.

Key sectors



Manufacturing remains a key driver of the local economy, accounting for 25,000 employee jobs in 2023 or 15.8% of all jobs in Kirklees, more than double the England average of 7.4%. This figure has remained consistent since 2015.

With twice the national average concentration of **manufacturing and engineering industry**, and an established global reputation in multiple fields, Kirklees retains a pivotal role in the UK supply chain – with many businesses demonstrating their resilience by supplying a wide range of different sectors. Key specialisms include:

- **Textiles:** which has been synonymous with Kirklees for over 300 years and still employs over 3,500 people locally. The home of textile innovation, Kirklees leads the way in sustainable fashion and design, textile and product manufacturing, supplying fabric to world's most prestigious and best-known fashion brands.
- **Advanced precision engineering:** producing gears, bearings, valves, pumps, motors, turbo chargers and other critical components for diverse markets. Global automotive manufacturers, niche precision engineering supply chain companies and leading-edge innovators combine precision manufacturing with data analytics, artificial intelligence and robotics. This is reinforced by the presence of the National Physical Laboratory at the University of Huddersfield which provides world leading measurement capability.

Alongside these sectors, exciting new opportunities are emerging in **health and life sciences**. Huddersfield is emerging as a key regional hub for health, wellbeing, medical and digital technologies. The University of Huddersfield's National Health Innovation Campus (NHIC) will create the largest and most dynamic centre for workforce transformation and health and social care innovation in the North of England, building on the University's world leading research and innovation expertise in areas such as clinical diagnostics, skin integrity and infection prevention.

With the benefit of **Investment Zone status**, the aim is to curate a unique mix of research institutions, public health facilities and businesses seeking to co-locate alongside the NHIC to access its expertise and facilities. This will act as a catalyst for the regeneration of the Station to Stadium Corridor which connects Huddersfield's iconic railway station with the John Smith's Stadium to the east of the town centre.

Kirklees also has a **thriving voluntary, community and social enterprise sector**. As well as contributing directly to our local economy it creates a significant number of good jobs, provides training and voluntary opportunities, delivers a range of public services and contributes to achievement of outcomes beyond the reach of public organisations and mainstream businesses.

Productivity



Productivity is a key measure of an area's economic effectiveness and over the last decade Kirklees has seen a significant improvement. ONS estimate that the Kirklees economy generated Gross Value Added of some £8.5bn in 2022 – representing a 31% increase over 2015 levels and in line with GVA growth for England as a whole over the same period.

Whilst individual measures of productivity have seen significant improvement in recent years - GVA per hour worked in Kirklees has risen from £22.20 in 2012 to £30.70 in 2022, or 77% of the UK average – a significant gap remains. Factors affecting productivity include workforce skills, workforce participation, access to capital, diffusion and adoption of innovation and 'market dynamism' – the gradual movement of capital and labour from less productive to more productive firms.

There is also a strong correlation between productivity improvements and increased wage levels and household income. Gross weekly pay for full-time workers in Kirklees (based on place of residence) was just 89% of the England average in 2023 – representing a gap of more than £70 per week for the average full-time worker.

West Yorkshire has seen lower investment as a share of GVA than the already low national average. Performance has particularly diverged since 2013 at which point the region's productivity also diverges from the national average. Closing the investment gap would have required an additional £2.5bn of investment in West Yorkshire in 2019 alone.

Our economy has seen significant transformation over the last twenty years through automation, and this will continue to be a factor in driving up productivity. This takes different forms across sectors through robotics in manufacturing to self-checkouts in retail. This progress is set to continue, as is the uptake of artificial intelligence. Whilst this undoubtedly means that some jobs roles will be at greater risk of redundancy moving forward, there is also an opportunity to create new, skilled roles to support greater use of automation, digitisation and AI.

Demographics and the labour market



Kirklees had a population of 433,500 residents in 2021. In the ten years from 2011, the population increased by 2.5% – a slower growth rate than for Yorkshire and Humber (3.7%) or England (6.6%) as a whole. In 2021, 62.2% of the Kirklees population was aged 16-64 or of working age, slightly lower than the working age population of England as a whole (63%).

Kirklees is a net exporter of labour to other parts of West Yorkshire, with 2021 (pre-COVID) data highlighting significant net outflows of commuters to Leeds in particular (-13,564 commuters) but also to Bradford, Calderdale and Wakefield. There is a small net inflow of less than 1,500 commuters from Barnsley.

Commuting patterns partly explain why the number of jobs available in Kirklees relative to the number of working age adults (the 'jobs density') is low – at just 0.66 in 2022, compared to the England average of 0.88. Job density is also higher in the adjoining local authority areas (e.g. Wakefield 0.80, Calderdale 0.83, Leeds 1.03) which suggests there is scope to increase employment and economic activity rates in Kirklees as long as residents have the necessary skills and the right environment for business growth is in place.

There has been a significant reduction in the number of adults holding no qualifications – in December 2023 this equated to 6.6% of residents aged 16+, only marginally higher than the England average of 6.2%. The proportion of Kirklees residents qualified to at least Level 2 (equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grades A-C) also mirrors the England average, but there is a significant divergence at Levels 3 and 4.

41.2% of Kirklees residents hold a degree or higher qualification (RFQ Level 4) – significantly lower than the England average. Closing the gap would require almost 15,000 Kirklees residents to achieve a Level 4 qualification.

Poverty, worklessness, and health and wellbeing



Economic inactivity has increased both locally and nationally since the COVID pandemic, especially for residents aged 50+. In June 2024 there were 64,600 economically inactive residents of working age (23.5% of the working age population compared with 21.0% for England as a whole) – 10,000 of which want to work.

The overall picture of economic inactivity is worse for women as the gap to the national average is wider (around 4%) than for men (around 2%) and continues to diverge. Poor health and wellbeing, and worklessness are inextricably linked, with a high proportion of economically inactive residents suffering from one or more limiting health condition. This is especially the case for residents aged 50+.

Health inequalities are especially acute in our most deprived neighbourhoods – with males living in our most deprived wards experiencing a difference in life expectancy of 8.6 years than those living in our most affluent wards. Health Equity North found in their Health for Wealth report that ill-health in the North of England:

- reduced the probability of remaining in employment by 4.9% (3.5% in rest of England),
- reduced relative weekly wages by 32.4% (19.5% in rest of England),
- reduced household income by 13.3% (no effect in rest of England), and
- amongst those who remained in employment, reduced hours worked by 5.6% (7.9% in rest of England).

Kirklees has three neighbourhoods within the wealthiest quarter in England but also has a quarter of neighbourhoods fall within the poorest 10%. Nationally we know that disposable income – our best measure of living standards – for the bottom 10% of households barely changed over the 20 years to 2020 while all other groups saw improvements of around 25%.

Alternative business models



A healthy and resilient economy is one which has a range of business types and broad ownership. Community ownership and worker ownership have been demonstrated to be beneficial in improving long-term decision making and increasing investments in research and development as well as improving employee terms and conditions and environmental impact.

Employee ownership is seeing a rapid increase nationally and there have been some recent examples of Kirklees businesses taking up this option to ensure succession. This option may be attractive to more SMEs moving forward. There are also opportunities to extend cooperative approaches in key areas including rolling out digital infrastructure, renewable energy generation and home energy efficiency.

Creative and digital



Kirklees has a diverse cultural offering and growing number of creative businesses, freelancers, and cultural organisations that contribute to local employment, innovation, and place-making. Simultaneously, Kirklees has seen the information and communication sector grow by 167% in the 10 years to 2023. While development of Our Cultural Heart in Huddersfield will promote creative industries in Kirklees and draw on our heritage to attract people to spend time in the area, application of digital skills and technology are core to innovation in our wider economy.

We are committed to creating new cultural infrastructure – such as venues, galleries, studios, and festivals—that will animate public spaces, increase footfall, and support the night-time economy. We also recognise the role culture can play in tackling inequality by engaging communities, improving wellbeing, and creating pathways into employment.

Sustainability and net zero



Human activity since the industrial revolution – particularly the burning of fossil fuels – has driven climate change. The 2015 Paris Agreement created a legally binding international treaty on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to limit climate change to 1.5ºC above pre-industrial levels.

Kirklees Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, and following analysis by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change agreed to reach net zero – i.e. no longer adding to the total amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane – and be climate ready by 2038. This is in line with the 2038 net zero targets agreed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Yorkshire Leaders Board.

In 2022, the transport sector accounted for 28% of UK emissions with industry accounting for a further 19%. Business therefore has a critical role to play in meeting net zero targets – in the transition away from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources, in reducing waste and use of resources and in developing more sustainable solutions to transport goods and employees.

There are significant economic opportunities for Kirklees businesses arising from the transition to net zero. This includes being part of the renewable energy supply chain and developing sustainable construction methods as well as developing the role of the circular economy which reduces waste and supports refurbishment and recycling of materials and products.

Capitalising on this opportunity will require more businesses and their employees to acquire green skills. For Universities, Colleges and training providers delivering appropriate training courses can be challenging as there is often a lag in business/learner demand which drives funding.

Conclusion

Kirklees is a great place to start and grow a business – but we have yet to fully capitalise on its economic potential. Unprecedented levels of infrastructure investment, particularly in improving rail connectivity, are opening up new opportunities for housing and commercial development and widening access to skilled labour from across West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester.

Manufacturing and engineering continue to play a vital role in our economy, alongside new opportunities in the health and life sciences. We are truly 'the supply chain' to the nation, with many of our most resilient and dynamic businesses supplying a wide range of sectors.

Productivity is improving, but there is still a significant gap to the UK average, and this impacts not only on our economic performance but also on wage levels and household incomes. In addition, levels of economic inactivity are rising, often linked to poor health and wellbeing, particularly in those aged 50 and over. Tackling these challenges together is essential if Kirklees is to be a genuinely inclusive economy affording all residents the opportunity to both contribute and benefit from growth.



Figure 4: Working in partnership

Policy Framework

The Inclusive Economy Strategy (IES) has been developed during a period of change in the national policy landscape, with a new Government adopting a renewed focus on economic growth with the publication of a series of strategic documents including the UK's Modern Industrial Strategy, the 10-Year Infrastructure Strategy and the Get Britain Working White Paper.

This section of the IES presents an overview of the national, regional and local policy frameworks and the related policy drivers that will impact on the delivery of the strategy.

The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy

The Government published The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy in June 2025. The strategy outlines the Government's plans to deliver its priority mission "to deliver strong, secure, and sustainable economic growth to boost living standards for working people in every part of the UK".

The Industrial Strategy describes a new world era that is "more volatile, with new threats to our security and living standards" but also "a world of enormous and exciting possibility". It argues that we "need a new relationship between business and government, where government provides the strategic certainty that allows businesses… to create wealth". The strategy seeks to create "ease, speed, and long-term stability for business" by "supporting the UK's city regions and clusters… supporting our frontier industries… [and] creating an enduring partnership with business".

While inventors, entrepreneurs and tech adopters being able to attract private investment is at the heart of the strategy, there is a clear strategic and coordinating role for the Government who recognise the need to prioritise the interventions and investments that will deliver the largest growth benefit.

The Industrial Strategy focuses on creating "an independent, high-skilled, dynamic, and economically prosperous country, where opportunity, skills, and wealth are abound and are spread fairly; where jobs are high-quality, accessible, and secure; and where every person and every business have the chance to succeed". It also establishes net zero as a consistent priority, creating good clean jobs" while "boost[ing] green manufacturing, services, innovation, exports, and the circular economy".

The Industrial Strategy identifies eight growth-driving sectors, as well as enabling foundational industries, supported by Sector Plans. These are:

1. Advanced manufacturing
2. Creative industries
3. Life sciences
4. Clean energy
5. Defence
6. Digital and technologies
7. Professional and business services
8. Financial services.

There is a strong correlation between the Government's priority sectors and those that are high performing or display future growth potential in Kirklees. The Industrial Strategy creates important opportunities to see the national policy and regulatory framework better support local business growth and investment, and the IES complements this at the local level.

West Yorkshire Local Growth Plan

The Industrial Strategy Green Paper highlights the significant disparities in regional economic growth rates that have resulted in what is estimated to be a £47bn productivity gap for the eight largest cities outside London.

In this context Mayoral Combined Authorities have been invited to develop Local Growth Plans that will set out how they can unlock regional growth potential. In West Yorkshire, developing a Local Growth Plan (LGP) was also an earlier Mayoral manifesto commitment.

The LGP aims to tackle the barriers to growth – investment, skills and connectivity – that are holding back growth in West Yorkshire. It sets out five high level priorities:

1. **Unlocking growth in priority sectors** – creating an important interface with the sector-focused Industrial Strategy and the LGP identifies digital and tech, financial and professional services; health and life sciences, advanced manufacturing and engineering -including textiles, chemicals, food and drink, green economy, modern methods of construction and space – and the creative industries as key regional opportunities to drive growth
2. **Enabling all businesses to succeed** – which details how public/private sector support for businesses will be developed; support for alternative business models and promoting good business practices including the Fair Work Charter
3. **A region of learning and creativity** – this sets out how West Yorkshire's education and training system will be enhanced, including new technical pathways; improving the transition between different stages of education/learning; boosting the availability of early years childcare provision and increasing employer investment in skills
4. **Transport and connectivity** – which sets out the Combined Authority's plans to develop a Mass Transit network, initially focused on connecting Bradford with Leeds and Leeds and the White Rose shopping centre; development of a deregulated, franchised bus network across West Yorkshire; and highlighting the importance of rail infrastructure investment including the Transpennine Route Upgrade and Penistone Line
5. **Supporting thriving places** – acknowledging that vibrant places drive economic growth, the LGP identifies a series of 'Corridors of Opportunity' that seek to strengthen connectivity between the core city of Leeds and the adjoining communities; the 'Southern Corridor' extends from Leeds South Bank to include the major Dewsbury Riverside housing site, Dewsbury Town Centre and the Station to Stadium Corridor in Huddersfield.

As the Local Growth Plan continues to inform engagement with Government – particularly around the Industrial Strategy – the Council will continue to ensure that opportunities for investment in Kirklees are showcased.

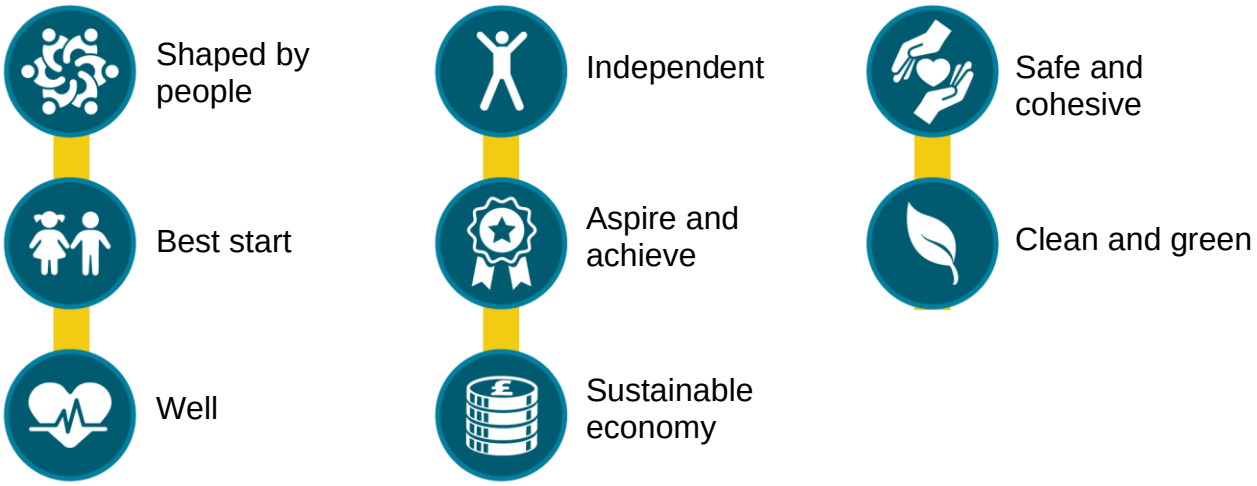
Local Policy Framework

Kirklees Shared Outcomes

The Council and its partners have a shared vision for Kirklees – for it to be a district that combines a strong, sustainable economy with a great quality of life – leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity and low inequality where people enjoy better health and wellbeing throughout their lives.

Our vision for Kirklees is underpinned by eight Shared Outcomes. Whilst the IES primarily impacts directly on Sustainable Economy and Aspire and Achieve we recognise that our health and nature of our economy will impact on all of the Outcomes. A population that is healthier means a stronger workforce and a more sustainable economy, and a sustainable economy means more disposable income to help children to have the best start in life.

Our Shared Outcomes are:



Top-Tier Strategies

The Inclusive Economy Strategy is one of four top-tier strategies for Kirklees – the others being the Inclusive Communities Framework, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Inclusive Economy Strategy, and the Environment Strategy. They are based on shared principles or 'building blocks,' namely:

- tackling inequalities must be at the heart of all we do
- working together we can achieve more than as individual organisations and must use all the levers we have available to us as anchor organisations
- one size does not fit all and the approach we take must reflect the different assets and needs of our places, residents and businesses
- change must be made sustainable through partnership, by sharing power and where possible 'getting out of the way' where appropriate
- our environment is important, and we need to think 'green' and think local
- fair work is a vital way to enable good mental health.



Figure 5: Our four inter-related top-tier strategies for Kirklees

Kirklees Local Plan

Local economic development is dependent on a supportive local plan. One that creates space for new quality housing in sustainable neighbourhoods but also space for businesses to start and grow. Under the current Local Plan adopted in 2019 we have seen an increase of around 930 jobs per annum but we know that land supply has remained a limiting factor on business growth. Specifically, there is high demand for business premises in parts of the district where it cannot currently be met due to limited availability of land and premises suitable for the needs of modern businesses. The Council is currently updating our Local Plan. The new plan will create opportunities for development of new business and industrial premises, in the right places, to address this demand, and support an even greater rate of job creation.

Vision and objectives 2030

Vision 2030

We have a clear vision for an inclusive economy in 2030:

- We aspire to have a resilient and inclusive economy, in which everyone can take part and benefit from growth. We aim to equip all our residents to fulfil their potential.

- We will take advantage of investments in our towns and villages and strong connections to surrounding cities and beyond to make Kirklees one of the best places to live, work and do business in the North of England, acknowledged for our exceptional quality of life.

- We will be known for our strengths in advanced manufacturing, precision engineering, textiles, and health and life sciences – and as the supply chain for the nation.

- We will contribute positively to achieving net zero and the transition to a low carbon economy and protect and enhance our natural environment as a vital economic asset.

Our objectives

How will we realise the vision, in partnership with private, public and voluntary sector partners?

We know we must continue to work with business to improve productivity in Kirklees. This is the primary route to increasing workers' wages, improving household incomes and wellbeing.

We must also work with the private sector to improve sustainability - how much we make and consume, how much new resource is required for this, how things get from A to B and the energy used to do it. We must also seek to capitalise on the economic opportunities arising from sustainability and net zero.

We must improve inclusion as there are significant differences in how residents experience our economy and the extent to which they can participate in it and benefit from it, strongly linked to health and wellbeing outcomes.

As resources become increasingly constrained, the Council will seek to prioritise investment in activities that achieve productivity, sustainability and inclusion outcomes.



Figure 6: Our objectives

Building on this framework, we have identified three simple objectives to achieve progress towards a more inclusive economy in Kirklees:

- supporting our **People** to have the skills they need and to access jobs where those skills will be put to good use, including helping those residents who are furthest from the labour market to re-enter and remain in work
- supporting **Businesses**, including social enterprises to start up, grow and invest so they create more good jobs, improve their productivity and increase wage levels whilst contributing to wider inclusive growth aims
- investing in our diverse **Places** and the physical and digital connections between them to increase access to job opportunities for Kirklees residents, widen the talent pool for local businesses and ensure that Kirklees remains a fantastic place to live, work and do business.

The following sections of the Inclusive Economy Strategy set out the priorities for action to achieve each of these objectives, and how we will measure success.

Supporting people to acquire the skills they need

Overview

Ensuring that Kirklees residents have the skills they need to access good work, and progress within work at all stages of their career, lies at the heart of our ambition for an inclusive economy. Accessing a skilled workforce is also essential for businesses to drive up productivity and increase wages. Increasingly this means creating a supportive environment for those who are furthest from the labour market to regain the confidence and resilience to return to and remain in work. This includes those who have been out of work or at risk of losing employment, due to long-term ill health and deskilling while on NHS waiting lists. In line with the Get Britain Working White Paper we aspire to achieving an economic activity rate of 80% and setting a trajectory to create 27,800 additional jobs by 2043 – the life of the refreshed local plan.

The challenges and opportunities facing our education and skills system are described above. This embraces every stage of learning and work – from early years childcare, through primary and secondary school, further/higher education, adult learning and work. To truly fulfil the potential of our residents and businesses, each stage needs to operate effectively and deliver a high-quality experience for learners. The transition between the stages is also vital.

The Inclusive Economy Strategy is focused on post-16 learning and work, complementing other strategies and plans – particularly Our Kirklees Futures – focused on earlier stages of learning.

Success Measures

- Employment rate
- Median disposable household income.
- Percentage of working age adults qualified to NVQ levels 2 and 4.
- Percentage of working age adults economically inactive, including 16-24 year olds and over 50s.

Actions

Empowering our young people

We will continue to take a partnership-approach to creating an inclusive jobs market for young people in Kirklees, building on our existing offer that includes Employment Kirklees and provision from C+K Careers. This enhanced support will ensure all young people are able to benefit from opportunities in Kirklees and the surrounding area, as our economy transitions towards greater sustainability and increased digital automation. We will seek to enhance support for care leavers, young people with learning disabilities and other priority groups.



Increasing young people's skill levels and removing barriers to employment is a key enabler of increasing productivity and reducing economic inactivity.



Incorporating green skills and awareness of green jobs and industries into training programmes and employment support will contribute to Kirklees having a workforce that is ready for a new economy.



We will work with employers and training partners to guarantee opportunities are available for all young people particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Strengthening digital skills

Working in partnership we will continue to deliver digital skills training for all. Local delivery will provide accessible support and interventions tailored to the specific needs of Kirklees residents and businesses. Our training providers will continue to incorporate new technology into their courses in order that Kirklees is at the vanguard of digital technology enabling all businesses to adopt technology that is appropriate for them.



Digital technology is central to delivering productivity gains in the modern economy. Uptake of this technology however requires a workforce at every level in organisations that can apply it and work with it.



Digital technologies are delivering significant gains in the efficient use of resources and contributing to avoiding travel, all of which supports reduced emissions and net zero targets.



Automation and AI can be seen as risks to jobs particularly those in lower skilled roles. Incorporating digital skills in all employment support will allow individuals to gain skills at an appropriate level and provide a foundation they can continue to build on.

Progression for all in the workplace

We will support employers to develop their workforce, with advice and guidance around skills training for those seeking to progress in work. This could be through Skills Bootcamps or other training programmes. In work support for both the employer and employee is provided where an opportunity has been brokered for a participant on one of our employment programmes.



Increasing skills is essential for adoption of new technology and improving management practices. We expect productivity to increase with enhanced workforce skills.



Refreshing and developing new skills is an important way in which individuals and businesses are exposed to new approaches. As courses increasingly incorporate new sustainable practices, we expect these to be adopted within businesses' operating models and governance frameworks.



We will continue to build inclusive practices in supporting progression and training within local employers through sharing good practice and by promoting the West Yorkshire Fair Work Charter and the Disability Confident scheme.

Supporting communities to learn and progress

We will build on our successes in adult and community learning and engagement with local communities by the University of Huddersfield and Kirklees College to expand our provision and see Kirklees recognised as a place of excellence for community-based learning.

We will focus more of our activity in neighbourhoods that fall within the bottom 20% of deprivation nationally, ethnic minorities and other under-represented groups.



By engaging with our communities, particularly those in our most deprived neighbourhoods, we expect to see individuals supported to overcome barriers to employment and to thriving more broadly.



This intervention will have a strong focus on our most deprived neighbourhoods in which we know Black and Asian residents are twice as likely to live in as the wider population. Low income has a significant impact on individuals' health and wellbeing outcomes, impacting on their ability to participate in society fully and adult learning can be a vital first step in re-engaging.



Transitioning to a new, greener economy is going to require new skills and new ways of living and working for all of us. Helping our communities to gain those skills and build on existing assets is key to everyone in Kirklees being able to thrive while living within the limits of our planet's resources.

Tackling poor health and wellbeing, and economic inactivity

Levels of economic inactivity have increased rapidly in recent years, linked to poor health and wellbeing. Tackling this challenge is vital not only to individual wellbeing but also to addressing skills shortages and increasing productivity.

We will work with the Department for Work and Pensions, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, the Integrated Care Board and other partners to deliver programmes from the Get Britain Working white paper. This will include the Trailblazer, Accelerator and 'Connect to Work'. Additional employment support and skill programmes will run alongside to complement/fill any gaps in provision.



Improving participation rates in the Kirklees labour market will have a positive impact on productivity whilst boosting health and wellbeing outcomes.



Low income has a significant impact on individuals' health outcomes impacting on their ability to participate in society fully and adult learning can be a vital first step to re-engaging.



Transitioning to a new, greener economy is going to require new skills and new ways of living and working for all of us. Helping our communities to gain those skills and build on existing assets is key to everyone in Kirklees being able to thrive while living within the limits of our planet's resources.



This intervention will have a strong focus on economically inactive residents experiencing ill health/disabilities to participate in the labour market.

Case Studies

Adult Learning Kirklees

The Council's Adult & Community Learning service offers a range of courses, enabling people to achieve their ambitions through education, training, employment and lifelong learning.

Through working closely with local partners, we deliver courses directly into our communities, tailored to our learners, their circumstances and their needs. We strive to ensure that learning is accessible for all, allowing every resident the opportunity to develop their life and work skills.

Having recently obtained a 'Good' rating in our latest Ofsted inspection (February 2025), this positive grading highlights the high-quality education, life-changing opportunities, and the strong support we provide to adult learners across Kirklees.

REAL Employment

The Council's REAL Employment team currently delivers the Local Supported Employment programme within Kirklees. This programme aims to support adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities, autism and/or additional needs, into paid, sustainable employment.

REAL are members of BASE (the British Association for Supported Employment) and follow their 5-stage model; Customer Engagement, Vocational Profiling, Engaging Employers, Job Matching, and in work support and Career Development.

The model is person centred, with allocated work coaches providing continuous support to job seekers throughout their employment journey. Those on programme are supported to find job roles that match their aspirations, interests and strengths, and through working closely with local employers, we strive to highlight the importance placed, and benefits which can be seen, from inclusive recruitment practises. REAL will continue to be a key local delivery partner as the Government rolls out the new work and health initiatives trailed in the Get Britain Working White Paper.

C+K Careers

Wholly owned by Calderdale and Kirklees Councils, C+K Careers has over 30 years' experience in delivering high quality, impartial, careers advice and guidance services. Through their work with local authorities, they deliver a range of integrated services designed to reduce the number of young people and adults who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET.

C+K is a delivery partner for the Councils Employment West Yorkshire providing practical one to one support to our residents aged between 16-24, to help them find work or change careers. The support provided is tailored to the individual's needs, helping develop their employability skills, supporting them with CV writing, completing applications, interview skills, job search and much more.

Minimising the number of young people and adults who are NEET not only provides a financial benefit for communities. It also has positive social benefits including improved mental health and reduced levels of crime.

Supporting business to start, grow and invest



Overview

Ensuring that Kirklees continues to be attractive as a location to start, grow and invest in business is a key objective of the Inclusive Economy Strategy. Despite a series of global economic shocks over the last five years, our local business base has remained resilient.

Manufacturing and engineering continue to underpin our local economy – accounting for just under 16% of jobs but 26% of GVA – and some of our most successful firms supply into a diverse range of sectors, reducing their dependency on individual markets. Textiles remains a key part of the Kirklees economy as it has for the last 300 years, with many businesses moving up the value chain.

Productivity is improving but continues to lag the UK average. Securing further productivity improvements – through developing the skills of the workforce, applying innovation and increasing capital investment – is a key priority and is, ultimately, how our key employers can sustain increased wages and, in turn, improve household incomes.

There are risks – and opportunities – associated with the rapid development of automation/digitisation and AI, but they will also drive productivity growth. Whilst some roles will undoubtedly be at risk, new, skilled jobs will also be required to ensure that businesses take advantage of their potential.

The vast majority of Kirklees firms are microbusinesses employing 10 or fewer staff. Start-ups, microbusinesses and smaller SMEs often need support – including in some cases grant finance – to capitalise on growth opportunities, deploy innovation or implement productivity improvements.

The public sector – both regionally and locally – will continue to play a key role in widening access to the support that is available, alongside private sector advisors.

Moving forward, the business support ‘ecosystem’ will balance support for those sectors with the greatest potential for productivity growth with increasing access to support for all businesses, including those in the foundational economy where there are opportunities to create entry level jobs.

Many of our business owners are also residents who care about their communities. We also understand that cooperatives, social enterprises and community businesses drive increased employment and investment while considering their impact on the environment.

Success Measures

- Number of start-ups.
- Percentage of start-ups surviving 3 years.
- Number of jobs created.
- Productivity improvements (measure TBC).
- Number of cooperatives, social enterprises and employee-owned businesses.

Actions

Build on the success of local start-up support

The Council's gateway model ensures there is no wrong way to access support and that each business gains the right support tailored to their needs. Local delivery of the West Yorkshire-wide Ad:Venture programme has been successful along with UKSPF-supported Thrive health and wellbeing incubator.

Moving forward, there is a need to retain locally embedded start-up capacity and develop more effective marketing campaigns and accessible role models to achieve a step change in the number of people considering starting their own business. It will also be important to ensure appropriate referral routes are in place for unemployed or economically inactive residents, and for those seeking to explore social enterprise or cooperative business models.



New businesses formed around innovative goods and services are one of the main ways our economy progresses. Timely access to the right support will see an increase in new, more productive business startups in Kirklees.



Increasingly, new businesses, products and services will take advantage of more sustainable approaches and respond to consumer and business demand for these. Providing rapid access to support will be key to their success in transforming markets.



Data shows more business startups are coming from our more deprived neighbourhoods, and from an increasingly ethnically diverse background. By providing tailored support, businesses of different types will be able to reach their potential, delivering benefits for local communities as well as the wider district.

Maintain an effective and streamlined business support system

SMEs often need access to a range of business support to fulfil their growth potential. The support ecosystem includes professional advisors, business networks and public sector-funded support.

WYCA's recent business support review has highlighted the need to develop a more compelling, universal online offer to increase engagement levels whilst maintaining essential advisor capacity at local level to sustain business relationships.

Working with partners, we will continue to simplify and streamline access to business support whilst seeking to widen and deepen engagement with microbusinesses and SMEs in particular.

Businesses across a broad range of types and sectors must be given opportunity to reach their growth potential. Removing barriers to investment, supporting innovation and promoting export readiness will contribute to growth.

Increasingly those businesses able to grow are those that demonstrate their goods and services are socially and environmentally sustainable.

Balancing a targeted approach to high growth sectors and a universal approach that enables foundation economy businesses to access support– our offer will guarantee all businesses with growth potential can benefit. By building on existing support requirements we expect to create more good jobs accessible to all local residents.

Developing the role of the University of Huddersfield as an anchor for Research and Development (R&D) and inward investment

The emerging National Health Innovation Campus (NHIC) will become one of the largest UK centres for teaching nurses and other allied health professionals, and for research in key areas of specialism including clinical diagnostics.

The inclusion of key public health facilities – including the first NHS Community Diagnostic Centre on a university campus – creates a significant opportunity for the co-location of businesses seeking access to facilities and research expertise.

The NHIC is a compelling example of a university aligning its teaching and research activity to address both global challenges and local needs. We will work with the University to explore wider opportunities to align research expertise with local business needs and inward investment. The National Physical Laboratory may provide an early opportunity to pilot this approach.

Building on existing mechanisms like Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, there is a significant opportunity to align research and innovation activity with local/regional business needs. Developing new products and processes and diffusing innovation will drive up productivity and market dynamism.

There is a significant opportunity to align research and teaching to support the transition to net zero and the development of new low carbon products and services.

The University can play a key role in developing a more inclusive economy in its role as an anchor institution through inclusive recruitment, local procurement and through research into inclusive growth.

Attracting inward investment and supporting the expansion of existing employers

In recent years we have developed our ‘place narrative’ on the unique benefits of locating in Kirklees and will continue to do so. We will deliver on this ambition by understanding the needs of incoming businesses, building effective partnerships and developing our lead generation capability, linked to key sectors.

If we are to compete successfully with other locations within and beyond West Yorkshire this will require a significant increase in the scale, quality and choice of employment land and premises across Kirklees. Market conditions dictate that there is little or no speculative industrial or commercial development in Kirklees and this is a significant barrier to growth.

We will capitalise on the unparalleled investment in rail connectivity to promote key development opportunities including the Station to Stadium Corridor in Huddersfield, underpinned by the University’s NHIC.



Increasing productivity is dependent on increasing investment levels that allow development of new floorspace to support growth, adoption of new technology and the acquisition of new plant/equipment.



We are keen to see investment from firms adopting new, more sustainable approaches and creating more green jobs. Many of our existing precision engineering and manufacturing businesses are already part of the supply chain for green products.



The new jobs created through inward investment will serve to reduce unemployment and economic inactivity. Often inward investment can take the form of the expansion of large or foreign-owned businesses already established in Kirklees. This helps embed those businesses in the area and creates the opportunity to work in partnership to achieve inclusive growth objectives and other corporate social responsibility benefits.

Socially-committed businesses

The vast majority of Kirklees business owners are local people who are invested in their local communities. We know that many of them want to see their local places thrive by doing more to serve their neighbourhoods, being more sustainable and supporting other local businesses. We will continue to increase support to businesses to do these things in ways that complement and support their own business activities.



Both younger employees and investors are increasingly seeking social engagement and impact from the organisations they work for. Attracting and retaining workforce and investment will therefore rely on demonstrating and supporting community participation.



The processes we develop to support SV – building on existing assets – will also be available for local businesses that want to engage in their communities. The same emphasis on places that might struggle to mobilise resources will also apply.



Both business leaders and communities see the environment as a key priority for local engagement. By providing clear information to businesses we expect to see positive impact in this area.

Support for alternative business models

We know that there continues to be strong interest in promoting diverse business models, including those with a clear social purpose.

Often specialist advice and support is required by entrepreneurs seeking to establish social enterprises, cooperatives or other alternative business models as corporate structures and governance frameworks may differ from more conventional business forms. Nonetheless, their founders share an entrepreneurial skillset and attitude with more conventional start-ups.

Employee ownership is also an increasingly relevant option for business succession. We will work with partners to build on and extend the existing support offer.



Productivity has been demonstrated to be higher in European countries with higher levels of cooperatives. This is in part explained through longer term thinking and increased investment in R&D. Employee-ownership is also likely to be important for the retention of well-established local businesses and related jobs.



Increased democratic ownership is expected to support benefits to the environment as decision makers consider the longer-term impacts for themselves rather than the short-term priorities of shareholders.



Alternative business models are often shown to provide better terms and conditions for employees and to have a focus on recruiting those with barriers to employment.

Case Studies

Huddersfield Health Innovation Incubator

Building on the success created by the Huddersfield Health Innovation Partnership and Kirklees Council's Thrive project, previously funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), the new Huddersfield Health Innovation Incubator (HHII), welcomes a next chapter of support for start-ups, microbusinesses and growing SMEs in the fast-growing Health and Wellbeing sectors across our region.

Now funded through the West Yorkshire Health Innovation and Digital Tech Investment Zone, the new programme will support businesses in three core phases: Start, Grow and Connect.

In partnership with NHS and local stakeholders, the Incubator aims to drive innovation, create high-value jobs, and support the regional health innovation ecosystem, including the University of Huddersfield's National Health Innovation Campus (NHIC).



Figure 7: Medical professional using advanced software on a portable IT device in a healthcare setting

Business Start-up Gateway

The Council provides free, expert advice for pre-start, new and young businesses up to three years old via our Business Kirklees service, helping support new business creation, economic growth and the creation of innovative entrepreneurs across our region.



Dedicated account managers provide tailored information and guidance in key business areas such as mentoring, research, business planning, employment, premises/workspaces and marketing.

New startups are encouraged to build their knowledge, ideas and confidence, grow their networks, form relationships with other key services and are also supported to access funding opportunities.

Figure 8: Start-up business owner despatching an order

Kirklees Top 100

The Kirklees Top 100 Companies initiative aims to shine a spotlight on the district as an attractive destination for inward investment, business start-up, scale-up and growth. It is a joint venture between the University of Huddersfield, Kirklees Council and the 3M Buckley Innovation Centre (3M BIC) and is designed to celebrate and measure business growth across the region.

Published annually every autumn, the list is compiled using a set of consistent metrics that include a combination of turnover, profit, employee numbers and growth, all derived from published company accounts of locally registered firms drawn from the Bureau Van Dijk - FAME database.

Spin-off editions of the brochure include the Careers edition, that goes into schools and colleges to be used as a tool by careers leads, to inspire our local talent, and future workforce, by highlighting careers opportunities that exist right here in Kirklees.

The initiative also aims to bring together the Kirklees business community through collaborative opportunities, events and sharing best practice. We have built a successful group of HR professionals from across the region that regularly meets to discuss challenges and topics of interest, including hybrid working, apprenticeships, international recruitment and graduate development.



Figure 9: Business leaders at the Kirklees Top 100 celebration event

Investing in our Places

Overview

Kirklees is a diverse mix of larger towns and smaller towns and villages, set against the incredible backdrop of the Pennines and Yorkshire Dales and benefitting from the exceptional connectivity afforded by the motorway network and the most important east-west rail link in the North of England. Together these attributes make Kirklees a highly competitive location for investment.

We know that place does matter when it comes to the investment decisions made by businesses and skilled, mobile workers. At the same time, we need to rethink the future role of our urban centres and some of the adjoining towns and villages; as their traditional shopping role changes, they will need to become mixed use, multi-functional places with leisure, cultural, housing and community uses to the fore.

Some of this change was accelerated by the pandemic – with places like Holmfirth and Marsden attracting more visitors and investment, driven by increased homeworking. Improved connectivity with Leeds and Manchester can strengthen the residential role of some communities, including places like Dewsbury and Batley.

Our visitor economy – underpinned by our cultural offer and heritage and beautiful landscapes – remains relatively untapped compared with other locations in West and North Yorkshire and there is a significant opportunity to unlock its potential.

Success Measures

- Percentage of residents who are satisfied with their local area.
- High street vacancy rates.
- Retail/commercial rental levels.
- Housing affordability index.
- Number of neighbourhoods in 20% most deprived in England.

Actions

Vital and vibrant town centres

The Council is leading the delivery of a series of major capital projects that, when realised, will change resident, visitor and investor perceptions of our major centres.

In Huddersfield, this activity is focusing on the Our Cultural Heart project that will transform the town's cultural offer; the reopening of the George Hotel; revitalising the Huddersfield Open Market; and the Station to Stadium Corridor.

In Dewsbury, the Towns Fund programme will deliver the refurbishment of the iconic Dewsbury Arcade and Dewsbury Market. Investment is also underway in Batley, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Holmfirth and Marsden.



Delivering improvements to our principal town centres will create places our residents want to spend time in and where businesses are proud to be based. Public investment will attract private investment, so we bring our vision into being in partnership.



Our town centre plans include increasing infrastructure for walking and cycling and creating town centre living supporting more sustainable lifestyles. In addition, increasing the quality of the local offer will reduce the need for travel to more distant centres, providing more services close to home.



All of our places merit investment and need to develop to support affordable living in order that they are viable places to live for those on lower incomes. Our development plans include improvements to active travel infrastructure and will support public transport improvements.



Our plans for our town centres seek to break down barriers, making them places all our different communities can enjoy and feel comfortable in. This will support every individual being able to thrive.

Improving the night-time economy

Strengthening the night-time economy in all our centres with a focus on Huddersfield and Dewsbury is part of our vision for modern centres.

To do so we must work with evening economy venues, the Police and other agencies to significantly improve community safety and tackle negative perceptions of our places.



The culture and leisure sectors form an important part of our economy in their own right while a thriving cultural life is important to the attractiveness of our place for those considering living or starting a business in Kirklees.



Developing a sustainable night-time economy will be an important consideration for the partnership. Direct impacts such as energy efficiency and waste management but also sustainable transport and noise pollution management will be integrated.



The culture and leisure sectors are a major source of entry level jobs providing routes into employment particularly for young people. Our cultural offer will continue to build on and celebrate our diversity.

Housing growth strategy

Nationally and locally we have challenges around accelerating housebuilding. Meeting the housing needs of our population is important so families have the foundations on which to thrive. We also need to significantly increase the delivery of affordable homes.

We will deliver our Housing Growth Strategy to meet rising need and improve the quality of our stock. This includes projects on large sites such as Chidswell and Dewsbury Riverside, town centre living in Huddersfield and Dewsbury, and working with mid-size SME developers to diversify the range of providers delivering new homes.

Through the update of the Local Plan, we will identify a range of new housing sites to meet future needs in line with the latest government guidance and evidence from the Council's updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment. This will include exploring development opportunities associated with the proposed Mass Transit line between Leeds and Dewsbury subject to agreement at full council in September.



High-quality housing underpins good health and wellbeing, and residents' ability to go out to work and study. An attractive housing offer that meets a range of needs also contributes to attracting new people to Kirklees.



Provision of energy efficient homes within neighbourhoods that enable and encourage sustainable lifestyles will reduce energy demand and decrease living costs.



Improving the availability of affordable housing for those wishing to buy or rent is central to our strategy. Increasing supply contributes to stopping our housing affordability ratio rising further from reach.

Transport strategy

We will develop a new Transport Strategy in which the TransPennine Rail Upgrade and Penistone Line Upgrade are complemented by development of mass transit for West Yorkshire, shifts to active travel and public transport, seeing improvements to bus services and bus stations, and delivery of key major projects such as the Cooper Bridge Corridor Improvement Scheme to resolve long standing challenges.



Effective transport that connects individuals and businesses to the full breadth of opportunities underpins an effective economy. Our location between three core cities requires top class transport to maximise the possible benefits.



Shifts towards active travel and public transport form an essential part of sustainable lifestyles. By reducing reliance on private cars we will see reduced emissions and improved air quality.



Our strategy will allow all individuals to access the work and training they need to thrive including through low-cost options such as active travel and buses.

Thriving rural communities

We will ensure we support thriving rural areas served by gigabit connectivity and high-quality public transport services.

Supporting a mixed economy including agriculture but also cultural businesses and others taking advantage of high-quality digital connectivity.



Kirklees contains many small rural communities. Each of these has a role to play in the wider productivity of Kirklees. Physical and digital connectivity supports this.



Rural communities are often more car-reliant than urban ones. Providing high quality bus services will reduce this while world class digital connectivity will reduce the need for journeys to the office or to meet with clients in person whether close by or far afield.



While our rural areas are generally more affluent than our major towns, maintaining good connectivity contributes to older people and those with limited mobility being able to take advantage of all Kirklees has to offer.

Visitor economy and heritage

Kirklees has significant untapped potential as a tourism destination, including part of the Peak District National Park and a diverse mix of urban and rural centres. We will further develop our culture and leisure offer including outdoor activities both enhancing quality of life for residents and attractions for visitors. This will be done through the Local Visitor Economy Partnership and delivery of our Heritage Strategy and Kirklees' strong programme of events and festivals.



Building on our culture and leisure offer – alongside other elements of this strategy – will contribute to attracting people to Kirklees and making it an enjoyable place to live, work and spend time.



The environment is increasingly a focus of and a concern in cultural events and businesses. Kirklees has a strong heritage in practices relevant to growing a more sustainable economy. We will build on this to create a unique offering.



A varied cultural offer will see Kirklees being a place where everyone can participate in and enjoy a range of events. It will provide economic opportunities for all our communities.

Social value

A number of large, locally rooted organisations have worked hard over recent years to embed social value (SV) approaches in how they operate – particularly in their procurement, including Kirklees Council.

Moving forward we will continue to adopt a more proactive approach to securing social value benefits from major capital and other projects and share best practice with other partners where we can. We will increasingly adopt a longer-term focus, considering social value opportunities across wider programmes rather than on a project-by-project basis. This will increase the effectiveness of our large, locally rooted organisations at buying locally and delivering social value.



SV allows organisations to maximise the benefits of their own spending power. Using this mechanism to full effect will contribute to other areas of this strategy including the skills development needed for greater productivity.



Environmental impact is one of the key themes considered through SV approaches. In this way we will continue to encourage best in class practice from our suppliers.



We will increasingly target SV benefits towards deprived neighbourhoods to focus the efforts of our suppliers as well as our public providers where there is most need.

Case Studies

The Transpennine Route Upgrade

Kirklees features significantly as part of the £11.5bn TransPennine Route Upgrade (TRU) with substantial investment in our rail infrastructure. Delivered by Network Rail and the TRU consortium, the game-changing project will bring cleaner, greener and more reliable railways, improving connectivity across towns and villages in Kirklees.

As well as investment in stations across Kirklees, the TRU will see more frequent, and faster trains, cutting down on journey times to cities across the Northern Powerhouse including Manchester, Leeds, York and beyond, creating more opportunities for employment, training and education for people who live and work in Kirklees.



Figure 10: TransPennine Route Upgrade works in Huddersfield

Our Cultural Heart

An ambitious centrepiece for Kirklees' largest town, landmark regeneration project Our Cultural Heart will build on and celebrate the character and culture of Huddersfield. The first phase to deliver a new library; food hall and events space is underway; and subsequent phases plan to provide a repurposed museum/gallery, a new urban park and a venue.



With a focus on experiences and making the town a more attractive place to live, study, work and visit, in line with today's market demands and the public's changing expectations, it will act as a major catalyst for growth of the local economy.

Sitting right in the middle of some of the North's most powerful cities, Huddersfield benefits from excellent connections attracting visitors from far and wide.

Figure 11: Artists' impression of the 'Our Cultural Heart' regeneration of the centre of Huddersfield.

Dewsbury Riverside

Kirklees' most ambitious housing project in living memory, Dewsbury Riverside is crucial to address the need for more quality, affordable housing outside the north's expensive major cities and will be transformative for the local area.

Up to 4,000 new homes across multiple new neighbourhoods will be created in phases, each with a unique sense of place and complete with the necessary amenities. TRU investment will help serve the development, supported by additional investment in highway infrastructure.

The scheme is currently going through procurement of a Master Developer and there will continue to be community engagement throughout the project.

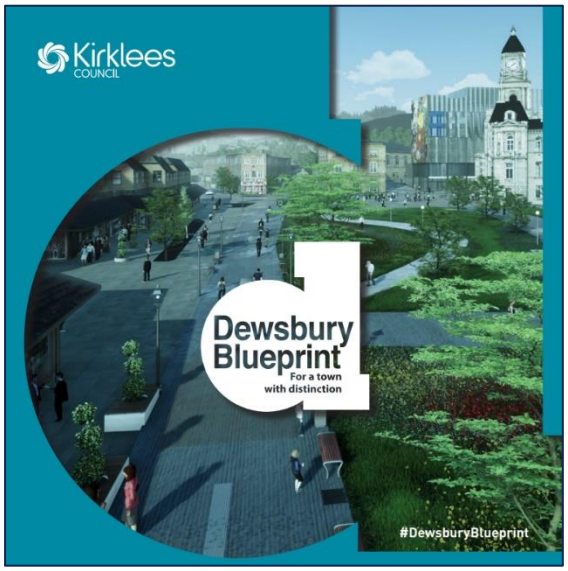


Figure 12: Dewsbury Blueprint - artists impression of the proposed 'greenway'.

Appendix – Accessible version of infographic

Facts and figures about Kirklees:

- Strategically located in West Yorkshire
  - Third-largest metropolitan district in England with 23 Wards
  - 157 square miles
  - Huddersfield is the 10th largest town in the UK
  - Central location within the UK's £339billion Northern Powerhouse
- A beautiful and vibrant place to live and work
  - 11% of Kirklees is within the Peak District National Park
  - Over 3,000 listed buildings
  - Population of 440,000
- £8.55billion GVA economy
  - 15,000 businesses
  - Diverse and skilled workforce of 275,000
  - Affordable gigabit internet speeds across 91% of the district
  - Key industry sectors: manufacturing, advanced precision engineering, creative industries, textiles, health innovation.



REPORT TITLE: Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework – Development Plan Document

Meeting:	**Cabinet**
Date:	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr Graham Turner/Cllr Moses Crook**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report:

To raise the awareness of Cabinet of the proposal to produce a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document (Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD). The Joint WY Mass Transit SPF DPD would provide a co-ordinated strategic planning approach for Kirklees Council, Bradford Council, Calderdale Council, Leeds City Council and Wakefield Council supported by West Yorkshire Combined Authority setting an agreed planning framework and to be used as a tool to support Mass Transit business cases.

It is a Cabinet function to approve the establishment of the joint member committee to support the preparation of the document (recommendation 2).

It is a Council function to approve the commencement of the joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD (recommendation 1) and to delegate authority to a Joint Member Committee to undertake statutory required development plan consultation (recommendation 3).

Recommendations:

Recommendation 1 – Establishment of a Joint Committee

Subject to approval of recommendation 1, Cabinet approve the establishment of a Joint Member Committee to oversee the drafting of the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Part 1 Development Plan Document**.**

Cabinet approve the nomination of a member (and a member to deputise in that member's absence) who will attend on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and represent Kirklees in line with the Terms of Reference.

Recommendation 2 – Resolve to start the preparation of a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Part 1 Development Plan Document.

Cabinet recommend to Full Council to resolve to prepare a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Part 1Development Plan Document.

Recommendation 3 – That Cabinet recommend Council delegates the decision to undertake initial Regulation 18 consultation and Regulation 19 consultation on the draft joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document to the Joint Member Committee

Subject to approval of recommendation 1 at Cabinet,

Cabinet recommend Full Council delegate authority to approve initial early engagement and public consultation (Regulation 18) on the draft joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document and to prepare the submission draft and consultation for Regulation 19 to the Joint Member Committee

Reasons for Recommendations:

- Council approval to begin the process of drafting a joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document is important to set out the commitment to the Mass Transit process across the West Yorkshire area, to ensure consistency and set high level policy parameters.

- Cabinet approval is sought for the establishing of a Joint Member Committee which would need to consist of a nominated member and a member to deputise in their absence from each West Yorkshire Council. This Joint Member Committee is to ensure each Council is able to have effective involvement in the content of the Development Plan Document in a collaborative and timely fashion.

- Council approval is sought for the delegation of the decision to undertake early engagement and consult on the initial draft Joint West Yorkshire Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document to the Joint Member Committee and delegation to consult on the submission version of the document (Regulations 18 and 19).

Resource Implications:

The drafting of the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document would be commissioned by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Support for this process will be accommodated within existing staff resources and revenue budget within the Planning Policy team where applicable and additional resourcing has been committed to by WYCA via Terms of Reference for the work moving forwards (see Appendix 1)

Date signed off by Executive Director & name	David Shepherd (Executive Director for Place) **25/06/2025**
Date signed off by the Service Director for Finance	Kevin Mulvaney (Service Director – Finance) **25/06/2025**
Date signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)	Samantha Lawton (Service Director – Legal/Governance) **25/06/2025**

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted:

Cllr Graham Turner/Cllr Eric Firth/Cllr Moses Crook:
Joint Transport/Regeneration PHB: 28th November 2024
Joint Transport/Regeneration PHB: 1st April 2025
Joint Transport/Regeneration PHB: 24th June 2025

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Executive Summary

Kirklees Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), and the wider constituent authorities have collectively identified the need for a coordinated strategic planning approach to guide the integration of Mass Transit across West Yorkshire. A key coordination point was the WYCA meeting on 8 May 2025 where a paper was presented to recommend this approach WYCA - Modern Gov. The approach was fully supported at the meeting.

WYCA is endorsing the preparation of a Mass Transit (MT) system aimed at enhancing connectivity, driving economic growth, and contributing to net zero targets. The MT Programme is targeting Spring 2027 for submission of the Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO) with spades in the ground in 2028. Given the project timelines, varied status of Local Plans and likely timescales associated with Regional Planning (West Yorkshire Spatial Strategy), a standalone statutory planning document is the best way to secure a clear policy framework to be in place to support the MT TWAO programme.

2. Information required to take a decision

The joint West Yorkshire Spatial Development Framework Mass Transit Development Plan Document would contain high level commitment and strategic policies relating to the West Yorkshire Mass Transit system.

Once adopted, this would carry the same weight as the Kirklees Local Plan and become part of this Council's Development Plan. As context, the Development Plan Document (DPD) preparation process broadly includes:

- Early engagement / public consultation on initial draft (Regulation 18 consultation)
- Public consultation on a Publication Draft (Regulation 19 consultation)
- Submission of the DPD to the Secretary of State for independent examination
- An Examination in Public with potential formal consultation on Main Modifications during the Examination in Public
- Adoption

The proposed Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework will be structured into two strategic planning documents which will be led collectively by Local Planning Authorities and provide a spatial planning framework to align spatial plans with transport priorities and support the Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO) process. WYCA does not currently have statutory planning powers which is why a joined-up approach across the districts is required to facilitate the timelines for the Mass Transit project.

The Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework will set out a long-term vision and policy framework for guiding sustainable growth, land use, and development decisions in areas influenced by mass transit investment. It will provide a consistent, evidence-based approach to integrating transport and spatial planning across the region.

The Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework will be structured via two Joint Development Plan Documents (JDPDs) as follows:

Part One – West Yorkshire-Wide Strategic Spatial Planning Policy Document (2026-2056):

- Establishes a high-level strategic planning policy framework for Mass Transit, ensuring integration into emerging Local Plans and providing a basis for future planning applications that support sustainable development.
- Provides strategic policies supporting transit-oriented development, economic growth, regeneration, and environmental sustainability.
- Aligns with broader transport and spatial planning objectives to enable coordinated infrastructure investment.

Part Two – Corridor-Specific Policies and Land Use Proposals:

- Focuses on the South Leeds Corridor (potentially extending to Dewsbury) and the Leeds-Bradford Corridor as part of Phase One.
- Defines policies and land use proposals to support the delivery of Mass Transit infrastructure and associated economic growth.
- Serves as a template for future corridor-wide planning as subsequent phases of Mass Transit are developed.

  It is proposed that the five Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) collectively agree to produce and adopt the SDF Part one as a Joint Development Plan Document (JDPD) which sits within their wider Local Plans. It should be noted Part One DPD will not identify specific route corridors or seek to allocate land for development. More detailed route corridor identification will form part of Part Two document production and this first iteration will be focused on agreed Mass Transit Phase 1 routes Leeds to South Leeds and Leeds to Bradford.

  Additional feasibility work will be undertaken as part of the Dewsbury Line Development Project which will run alongside the timescales anticipated for DPD1 production. It was agreed at Combined Authority meeting in March 2024 to fund the Dewsbury Line Development Project to collaboratively work with Kirklees and Leeds districts to explore future world scenarios where a mass transit route extends from South Leeds to Dewsbury and reflect growth ambitions for both authorities. Should this be taken forward as an option in the future phases work for Mass Transit, a future part 2 DPD may be developed with Kirklees which would provide the planning framework for this route corridor and associated development.

  In terms of the timescales for the production of Mass Transit Part One DPD – work is anticipated to start on the document in October 2025 with the intention of all five districts adopting the document in March 2027.

Collaborative Process and Governance

To oversee and input into this work, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) is proposing a Joint Member Committee including a nominated Cabinet Member from each of the West

Yorkshire authorities (Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds, Wakefield) to work alongside an officer working group. It is proposed that the Joint Member Committee would also make the decision on initial consultation and on submission draft consultation (Regulations 18 and 19 consultations). This paper seeks authority for such a Joint Member Committee to be convened and given appropriate authority. A working group of specialist officers would have day to day involvement in the drafting of the document as well as the appointed consultants. WYCA are requesting that each Council approve the initial consultation stages (Regulation 18 and 19) on the draft Joint West Yorkshire Spatial Development Framework Mass Transit Development Plan Document, subject to approval of the content by the Joint Member Committee.

Submission to the Secretary of State is to be independently examined and final adoption of the document would still be taken in accordance with the Council's constitution by Cabinet or full Council as appropriate. The eventual adoption of the Development Plan Document would be a decision for Full Council.

WYCA has secured consultancy support to draft the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document with a Steering Group (WYCA + Local Authorities Representatives) set up to guide the document production in a collaborative way. This will be composed of officers from WYCA and the five local authorities and will:

- facilitate discussions, ensuring strategic alignment, and provides WYCA's technical input into the SDF.

- ensure policy consistency and integration with local plans.

Cabinet is therefore recommended to give approval to the establishment of a Joint Committee (Decision-Making Body) legally constituted under the provisions of provisions of Sections (101)5, 102(1)(b) and 102(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This will be composed of Cabinet Members from all five local authorities. It is also proposed to co-opt the Mayor of West Yorkshire onto this committee as a non-voting member. The need for this joint committee is to expediate the decision-making process for the MT SDF Joint DPD, whilst still retaining political oversight and local authority autonomy of the process. The Joint Committee would be responsible for coordinating and preparing the MT SDF Joint DPD, including approval to consult on the draft and submission draft of the MT SDF Joint DPD. The Terms of Reference for the Joint Committee are attached in Appendix 1.

Approval of submission of the Mass Transit SDF Joint DPD and final adoption will remain a full council responsibility for each authority, involving a formal resolution by each LPA to incorporate the MT SDF Joint DPD into their Local Plan. This process will follow each LPA's statutory procedures for Development Plan Documents.

The Kirklees district is not affected by the earlier phases of the Mass Transit proposals which initially focus on the route between Leeds and Bradford. Although the Kirklees district is not affected by the earlier phases, it is important that the overarching policy approach is co-ordinated between each Council from the beginning to ensure the Mass Transit project co-ordinates effectively as a whole during the development of the project and syncs with anticipated growth ambitions reflected in associated local plans, regeneration frameworks and regional strategies. The inclusion of all districts at this early phase ensures that districts can shape and input into the spatial planning framework for their own areas at a regional level and ensure that growth ambitions over the longer term period are effectively considered.

In addition, the intention of the first DPD document is not to identify or safeguard specific route options but to provide high level strategic policy support to the development of the scheme across

the region. Such co-ordination through a Development Plan Document provides support for the associated Transport and Works Act Order required to implement Mass Transit through the first phase which will be submitted to the secretary of state in due course.

The Council has a legal duty to 'prepare and maintain a scheme to be known as their local development scheme'('LDS'). The LDS lists the existing adopted Planning Policy and Guidance documents as well as details, including the timetable for preparation, of emerging Neighbourhood Plans and planning guidance. This will be dealt with in a separate report to Cabinet (8th July 2025).

If Full Council are minded to approve the preparation of a joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Development Plan Document, this would need to be formally set out in a revised LDS. The Council would need to publish a revised Local Development Scheme (17th September 2025) which would replace the previous version adopted in March 2024 and include reference to MT SDF.

It is proposed that Cabinet approve:

- The setting up of a Joint Member Committee to oversee and steer an officer working group and agree the Terms of Reference as set out at Appendix 1
- The nomination of a Cabinet member and a deputy to sit on the Committee subject to approval at Full Council to commence work on the MT SDF (**Recommendation 2)**

It is proposed that Cabinet recommend to Full Council (17th September2025) to approve:

- Kirklees officers commencing work to draft the Spatial Development Framework as a Joint DPD **(Recommendation 2)**

- Delegated approval to consult on the early draft (Regulation 18) and submission draft (Regulation 19) to the Joint Member Committee when established **(Recommendation 3)**

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Council Plan

The development of a planning framework to support opportunities for West Yorkshire Mass Transit supports Council Plan priorities including improved, quality places, encouraging thriving communities, securing economic growth for the district, encouraging inclusivity. It also advocates a positive approach to working with our regional partners to deliver these joint ambitions.

3.2 Financial Implications

The drafting of the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document would be commissioned by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA). Support for this process will be accommodated within existing staff resources and revenue budget within the Planning Policy team where applicable. Additional support is available via WYCA where required.

3.3 Legal Implications

WYCA currently does not have planning powers and so cannot adopt the proposed Spatial Development Framework as a policy that carries the weight of a development plan document. That can only be done by the individual planning authorities or, as here, jointly between authorities.

Terms of Reference for the Joint Member Committee are appended to this report (Appendix 1) with the request for them to agree to constitute a Joint Member Committee.

This will formalise the roles and responsibilities of the Joint Member Committee which, legally constituted under the provisions of Sections (101)5, 102(1)(b) and 102(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 is legally recognised and will enable collaborative decision-making while ensuring compliance with statutory requirements.

Setting up a Joint Member Committee for to prepare a joint DPD

Regulation 4(1)(c) and Schedule 3 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 confirms the making of a development plan document (DPD) involves split functions. Reg 4(3) specifies those tasks that are not the responsibility of the executive and are the sole responsibility of each Council's full council as follows:

i. Responsibility for giving of instructions to the executive to reconsider the draft joint development plan document submitted by the Executive for the authority's consideration.

ii. The amendment of the draft joint development plan document submitted by the Executive for the full Council's consideration.

iii. The approval of the joint development plan document for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

iv. The adoption of the joint development plan document.

Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 allows two or more authorities to prepare a joint local development plan document. adoption of a joint plan by each local authority. Sections 101(5) and 102(1) Local Government Act permit local authorities to discharge their functions jointly and do so via a joint committee to whom the functions are delegated. Further, section 9EA Local Government Act 2000 and Part 4 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 permits a local authority to delegate certain executive functions to a joint committee.

Article 11.2c of the Councils constitution permits the Council to establish joint arrangements with one or more local authorities and their executives to exercise functions which are not executive functions or to advise the Council on such functions.

The Cabinet may also establish such arrangements in respect of a mixture of executive and non-executive functions but requires the agreement of Cabinet before doing so. Where the Cabinet appoints more than one member to such a joint Committee, at least one of those members must be a member of the Cabinet.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The MT SDF will consider a planning framework and suite of policies that support the Regional Climate Plan and Council's Climate Action Plan as part of the Council's Climate Emergency. It will also consider how planning interventions can contribute towards reducing carbon emissions associated with the progression of the Mass Transit project.

3.5 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

Human Resources – For the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document, the drafting of the document would be commissioned by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Support for this process will be accommodated within existing staff resources and revenue budget within the Planning Policy team and Major Projects Team where applicable.

Inclusive Impact Assessment – An IIA assessment has been completed. No equality implications of the recommendations have been identified as these relate to agreeing to prepare a Development Plan Document (rather than agreeing the content) and agreeing to publishing a timetable for the preparation of planning documents. Equality issues will be considered when planning policy or guidance documents are prepared including formal public consultation on emerging documents. Integrated Impact Assessments | Kirklees Council

4. Consultation

WYCA will facilitate consultation and incorporate the requirements of all districts SCI (Statement of Community Involvement) on their own website and update when needed, as will the Council as per the regulations set out in 10A(1)(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Respondents will be notified of its consultation events and formal adoption as part of our feedback processes. There will be formal public consultation on the joint West Yorkshire-Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document referred to in the Local Development Scheme.

5. Engagement

See above

6. Options

6.1 Options considered:

Recommendation 1 – Joint Member Committee

Option 1 – Cabinet approves the establishment of a Joint Member Committee comprising of a nominated Cabinet member and a member to deputise in their absence from each West Yorkshire authority who would work alongside an officer working group to input, oversee and review the preparation of a joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document. ***(recommended)***

Option 2 – Cabinet does not approve the formation of a Joint Members Committee for the purpose listed above. This option is not recommended because gaining formal decisions on every aspect of the emerging content would be disproportionate and would not result in the timely creation of the draft Development Plan Document. Kirklees would also not be in a position to be able to inform and shape the production of the Spatial Development Framework to reflect the districts long term future economic ambitions and reflect the districts commitment to improving connectivity and inclusive growth.

Recommendation 2 – Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document preparation

Option 1 – Cabinet recommends that Full Council approves the preparation of a joint West Yorkshire Spatial Development Framework Mass Transit Development Plan Document ***(recommended)***

Option 2 – Cabinet recommends that Full Council do not approve the preparation of a joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document. This option is not recommended as it would mean Kirklees Council were not involved in the preparation of this document which will support the delivery of Mass Transit and ensure consistency across the West Yorkshire area. The exclusion of Kirklees at this early phase would potentially reduce how Kirklees could shape and input into the spatial planning framework at a regional level as it develops and influence longer term growth ambitions for Kirklees. Option 2 would also make Recommendation 1 redundant

Recommendation 3 – Delegate the decision to undertake initial Regulation 18 and Regulation 19 consultation on the draft Joint West Yorkshire-Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document to the Joint Member Committee

Option 1 – Cabinet to recommend to Full Council to delegate decision making powers to authorise early engagement and public consultation on the draft Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document (Regulation 18 and 19 consultation) to the Joint Member Committee ***(recommended)*** – this would avoid delays seeking a formal decision from each of the five Councils in relation to the early consultation document and submission document. Submission to the Secretary of State to be independently examined and the eventual adoption would be made by each individual Full Council in accordance with their Constitution.

Option 2 –The alternative option of not delegating decision making powers would meant that the powers to authorise early engagement and public consultation on an initial draft and submission draft would incur delays to the co-ordination of the joint DPD process across the five districts.

6.2 Reasons for recommended options:

Recommendation 1 – Joint Members Committee

Cabinet approval is sought for a Joint Member Committee which would need to consist of a nominated Cabinet member and a member to deputise in their absence from each West Yorkshire Council. This Joint Member Committee is to ensure each Council can have effective involvement in the content of the Development Plan Document in a collaborative and timely fashion. The drafting of the document will require input from each Council on an ongoing basis. This is proposed to take place using an officer working group with oversight by the Joint Member Committee. To avoid delays, there would not be time for each decision on the emerging text to be taken through the decision-making processes for each Council therefore the Joint Member Committee would provide input in between formal decisions on the emerging document.

Recommendation 2 – Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document preparation

Council approval to begin the process of drafting a joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document is important to set out the commitment to the Mass Transit process

across the West Yorkshire area, ensure consistency and set high level policy parameters and help shape the spatial planning framework at a regional level. This document would be prepared by consultants appointed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority with proposed input from a Joint Members Committee (consisting of a nominated t Cabinet Member from each Council) and an officer working group (see Recommendation 2).

Recommendation 3 – Delegate the decision to undertake initial Regulation 18 and Regulation 19 consultation on the draft Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document to the Joint Members Committee

Approval is sought for the delegation of the decision to undertake early engagement and consult on the initial draft Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document to the Joint Member Committee and delegation to consult on the submission version of the document (Regulation 18 and 19). This will avoid delays during the drafting of the document and progressing the earlier stages of public consultation. It will still be ensured that the formal decisions to submit the document to the Secretary of State to be independently examined, and the decision to adopt the final DPD would be taken by each Council in accordance with their Constitution.

7. Next steps and timelines

If recommendations in this report today are approved by Cabinet agreement Full Council approval will be sought on 17th September 2025 to commence drafting a joint West Yorkshire MT SDF Part 1 DPD (including Reg 18 and 19 consultation)

Officer working groups and project boards for the SDF to be set up and in place by October 2025.

8. Contact officer

Mathias Franklin – Head of Planning

Elaine Orme – Senior Planner

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

WYCA CA meeting 8th May - WYCA - Modern Gov

10. Appendices

11. Appendix 1 – Proposed Terms of Reference MT SDF Joint Committee (DRAFT as at 03/06/2025):

12. Service Director responsible

David Wildman (Interim – Service Director Skills and Regeneration)

Appendix 1 – Proposed Terms of Reference MT SDF Joint Committee (DRAFT as at 03/06/2025):

WEST YORKSHIRE MASS TRANSIT SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK JOINT COMMITTEE

AGREEMENT

THIS DEED is made the day of and provides for an agreement (the Agreement) between:

1) **City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council**
2) **The Borough Council of Calderdale**
3) **The Council of the Borough of Kirklees**
4) **Leeds City Council and**
5) **The Council of the City of Wakefield,**

the parties to the Agreement being referred to collectively as "the Councils".

WHEREAS

Each of the Councils has resolved to prepare a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework. This will be structured into two development plan documents, part one of which will be a Joint WY Mass Transit SDF Development Plan Document (2026 – 2056)(the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD). The Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD will:

- establish a high-level West Yorkshire strategic planning policy framework for mass transit, ensuring integration into emerging and future Local Plans and providing a basis for future planning applications that support sustainable development,
- provide strategic policies supporting transit-oriented development, economic growth regeneration and environmental sustainability, and
- align with broader transport and spatial planning objectives to enable co-ordinated infrastructure investment.

The Councils now agree to appoint a joint committee on the terms provided by this Agreement, to prepare the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

THIS DEED WITNESSETH AS FOLLOWS:

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

1.1. There shall be constituted under Sections 9EB Local Government Act 2000, (101)5, 102(1)(b) and 102(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, and the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012, and all other powers thereby enabling, a joint committee known as the "West Yorkshire Mass Transit SDF Joint Committee" (the Joint Committee)

1.2. The Joint Committee shall provide political oversight and strategic direction for the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

1.3. The Joint Committee will ensure that the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD aligns with Local Plans, reflects the development needs of each of the Councils, and supports the delivery of the West Yorkshire Mass Transit Programme.

1.4. The area within which the Joint Committee can exercise its power is the administrative areas of the Councils.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Joint Member Committee are to:

- provide oversight of and direction to the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.
- ensure that the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD is consistent with the strategic objectives of West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Local Plans of each of the Councils.
- provide a forum for political engagement and consensus-building between the Councils.
- provide oversight of and direction to an Officer Steering Group supporting the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.
- monitor progress against an agreed timetable for the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.
- approve key stages in the development of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD including consultation drafts.
- make recommendations to each of the Councils with respect to the adoption of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

3. FUNCTIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

3.1 The Joint Committee shall be authorised to exercise any Executive Function of the Councils in relation to the preparation of a draft Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD, including:

- the duty to co-operate in relation to planning of sustainable development (Section 33A of the Planning and Compensation Act 2014 (the Act)) including agreeing a Statement of Common Ground,
- approving and publishing a draft Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD for public consultation, notifying specified persons and bodies inviting them to make representations and considering representations about the proposed Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD (Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 2012 (the Local Planning Regulations),
- complying with each of the Councils' statement of community involvement (Section 19(3) of the Act),
- preparing any further documents in connection with the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD, as a local development document (Section 19(6) of the Act),

- carrying out a sustainability appraisal of the proposals in the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD, and preparing a report of the findings (Section 19(5) of the Act),
- approving and publishing a draft Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD for representations to be made (Section 36 of the Act and Regulation 19 of the Local Planning Regulations),
- summarising and considering representations made on the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD (Section 36 of the Act and Regulation 22 of the Local Planning Regulations),
- Making recommendations to each of the Councils to submit the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD for independent examination,
- any function of the Executive (Cabinet) in relation to the independent examination process (including any additional consultation required),
- making recommendations to each of the Councils to adopt the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD following the independent examination.

3.2 The Joint committee may arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by a sub-committee of the Joint Committee or by an officer of one of the Councils.

3.3 Any sub-committee appointed by the Joint Committee may arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by an officer of one of the Councils.

3.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the appointment of the Joint Committee shall not preclude any of the Councils individually from exercising any function in relation to the preparation of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD in respect of their administrative area, whether by officer or otherwise.

3.5 Each of the Councils shall be individually responsible for complying with any constitutional requirements relating to the scrutiny or review of the draft Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD under their standing orders.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 The Joint Member Committee shall comprise a single Member from each of the Councils.

4.2 Each of the Councils shall appoint a Member to the Joint Committee who should be a member of its Executive (Cabinet).

4.3 Each of the Councils may appoint a substitute to attend and vote at a meeting of the Joint Committee in the absence of the regular member appointed by the Council. A substitute member may not exercise any special powers or duties (such as chairing responsibilities) exercisable by the regular member.

4.4 Once established, the Joint Committee should determine to co-opt the Mayor of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to the Joint Committee as a non-voting member to reflect the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's role as Mass Transit scheme promoter and lead of contracted underpinning technical work.

4.5 The Joint Committee may appoint any other person to be an additional non-voting co-opted member of the Joint Committee where it considers the person to provide expertise.

4.6 Terms of appointment of non-voting members will be confirmed by the Joint Committee on an individual basis, however any appointment may be terminated earlier by the Joint Committee at any time.

5. CHAIR

5.1 The Joint Committee shall agree a Chair and Deputy Chair by majority vote at the Joint Committee's inaugural meeting.

5.2 The Chair shall preside at each meeting of the Joint Committee. If the Chair is absent, the Deputy Chair if present shall preside. If both the Chair and Deputy Chair are absent, the meeting must elect another voting member to preside.

5.3 The Chair will be responsible for liaison with the Officer Steering Group to set the agenda and forward plan for the Joint Committee.

6. MEETINGS

6.1 The Joint Committee shall meet as required by the Chair, at a place to be agreed by the Chair.

6.2 The Joint Committee is an ordinary joint committee under the Local Government Act 1972, and as such:

- each question will be decided by a simple majority of those members of the Joint Committee present and voting in the room.
- at any meeting if there are an equal number of votes for and against, the Chair will have a second or casting vote.

- Subject to the Lead Authority's standing orders, meeting agendas and items shall be open to public inspection at least five clear working days in advance and meetings open to the public.
- at any meeting of the Joint Committee, the Chair will move that the minutes of the previous meeting be signed as a correct record. No discussion will take place upon the minutes except as to their accuracy.

6.3 Subject to any provision in the Agreement, the procedure for a meeting of the Joint Committee shall follow the standing orders of the Lead Authority.

6.4 No business shall be transacted at a meeting of the Joint Committee unless the quorum of 3 voting members is present. If the Chair declares there is no quorum, the meeting will adjourn to a date and time to be fixed by the Chair.

7 OFFICER SUPPORT AND RESOURCING

7.1 One of the Councils shall be appointed to the role of Lead Authority for the Joint Committee, to provide secretarial support including in relation to the preparation and publication of agendas, items and minutes for the Joint Committee.

7.2 Any notice from any of the Councils given in connection with or required by the Agreement shall be made in writing and delivered to the Monitoring Officer of the Lead Authority.

7.3 At the date of this Agreement, the Lead Authority is Leeds City Council.

7.4 An Officer Steering Group, comprising officers from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and each of the Councils, will provide technical and administrative support to the Joint Committee in relation preparing the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD. The Officer Steering Group will be responsible for undertaking the research, analysis, and drafting necessary to prepare the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

7.5 The expenses incurred by the Joint Committee shall be defrayed by the Councils in such proportions as they may agree. Collaboration Agreements are in place to support officers from each of the Councils to engage with the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD process through recharge. Recharging for technical input will be supported through Task Orders to support the defined work packages and associated deliverables of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

8. REPORTING

8.1 The Officer Steering Group provides the Joint Committee with updates on the progress of the Joint WY Mass Transit SDF DPD.

8.2 Updates to the Councils shall be provided by the Lead Authority in the form of agendas and minutes which may be circulated for the attention of the Councils' Executive (Cabinet).

9 DURATION, TERMINATION, WITHDRAWAL AND REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT

9.1 The Agreement shall come into force on the date of the Agreement and continue until terminated by agreement of the Councils.

9.2 Any of the Councils may withdraw from the Joint Committee by giving notice of not less than [xxx]. In the event that any of the Councils indicate an intention to withdraw, there shall be engagement between the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Councils to mediate and see if withdrawal can be avoided.

9.3 The Agreement may only be amended by resolution of the Joint Committee.

IN WITNESS whereof the Councils have caused their respective Common Seals to be hereunto affixed the day and year first above written:

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF CALDERDALE was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KIRKLEES was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

THE COMMON SEAL OF LEEDS CITY COUNCIL was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAKEFIELD was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Report title: Local Development Scheme 2025

Meeting	**Cabinet**
Date	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Councillor Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) as set out at Appendix 1. Subject to adoption, the LDS would replace the current version dated March 2024.

The LDS is a three-year timetable for producing development plan documents including the Local Plan, other policy guidance/advice and the annual authority monitoring report/programme associated with them. The LDS sets out when documents will be produced, the brief purpose of those documents and when consultation is likely to happen. It is a statutory requirement to prepare and maintain an up-to-date LDS.

Recommendations

- Cabinet approves the Local Development Scheme July 2025 as outlined at Appendix 1.
- Cabinet delegates authority to Service Director, Skills and Regeneration to publish the approved Local Development Scheme on the council's website.
- Cabinet delegates authority to Service Director, Skills and Regeneration to send a copy of the adopted Local Development Scheme to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
- Cabinet delegate authority to the Service Director, Skills and Regeneration to make any necessary minor amendments and corrections to the Local Development Scheme.

Reasons for Recommendations

- It is a requirement of Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by Section 111, Localism Act 2011 to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme.
- It is a Cabinet function to approve a Local Development Scheme and a Council function to approve the commencement of a development plan document for the purposes of plan making.
- The Government response to the proposed plan-making reforms: a consultation on implementation updated 27th February 2025 states that "the government will require planning authorities to revise their timetable at set milestones and regular intervals". Submission of an up-to-date timetable will allow MHCLG to closely monitor progress of plan making to ensure progress towards its aim of universal coverage of up-to-date plans. The publication of an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS provides clarity and transparency of the Local Plan process and demonstrates a commitment to updating the Local Plan. Delegated authority to update the LDS following a Full council decision ensures transparency of decision making processes in line with Cabinet and Council functions.

Resource Implication: Council November 2023 resolved: "That Council approves the funding of the update of the Kirklees Local Plan, estimated at £2m over a five-year period, including utilising funding from the Leeds City Region Business Pool and other funding sources". To date, the main costs incurred on the Local Plan relate to the commissioning of up-to date evidence to justify and evidence the Local Plan update. Further evidence costs for 2025/2026 relate to transport/air quality modelling and infrastructure delivery and whole plan viability. Other costs relate to informal and statutory consultation and to examination costs. The drafting of the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document would be commissioned by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Support for this process will be accommodated within existing staff resources and revenue budget within the Planning Policy team where applicable (see Cabinet Item on Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework – Joint Development Plan Document).

Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name David Shepherd Executive Director for Place Date: **20/06/2025** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** Kevin Mulvaney (Service Director – Finance Date:**24/06/2025]** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?** Samantha Lawton (Service Director Legal/Governance) Date: **24/06/2025**	**Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports** This must be the Executive Director(s) responsible for the report and the topic(s) involved **Give name and date for Cabinet reports** Send to this officer on every occasion **Give name and date for Cabinet reports** Send to this officer on every occasion

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Cllr Graham Turner Portfolio Holder Briefing 6th May 2025.

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes. The Local Development Scheme is a timetable to produce planning policy documents and does not contain any personal data.

1. **Executive Summary**

The LDS is a three-year timetable for producing development plan documents including the Local Plan, other policy guidance/advice and the annual monitoring activity/programme associated with them. The LDS sets out when documents will be produced, the brief purpose of those documents and when consultation is likely to happen. It is a requirement of Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by Section 111, Localism Act 2011 to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme.

The current Local Development Scheme (LDS) was approved by Cabinet on 12th March

2024.

A revised LDS has been prepared for the following reasons:

- To provide an updated timetable to produce the Kirklees Local Plan update.
- To provide a timetable for the preparation of a joint Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework (SDF) to be produced by Kirklees Council, Bradford Council, Calderdale Council, Leeds City Council and Wakefield Council in conjunction with West Yorkshire Combined Authority (subject to council approval on 17th September 2025 to commence the project).
- To update the LDS in respect of references to national planning policy and other legislative changes which have impacted on the nature, content or timing of the documents to be produced.

This report is seeking approval of a revised LDS to be made publicly available on the council's website and to be submitted to MHCLG who require an up-to date LDS against which to monitor plan making progress. It is also a requirement to support any bids for MHCLG funding linked to plan progression.

2. Information required to take a decision

A revised LDS is outlined at Appendix 1 which reflects the following:

Local Plan timetable revisions

A revised timetable to produce the Local Plan update:

Plan Stage	Current Timetable	Proposed Revised
Draft Plan	Sept – Nov 2025	December 2026
Publication Plan	Sept – Nov 2026	October 2027
Submission Plan	March 2027	January 2028

The Local Plan process is a complex and lengthy one including preparing and establishing an evidence base, prescribed periods of statutory consultation and notification of examination process, analysis and preparation of responses to consultation representations and consideration of Local Plan changes in the light of the comments received, site assessment and strategy development, policy review and additional statutory requirements to consult on sustainability appraisal scoping and outcomes.

Under the current system, Local Plans are taking an average of 7 years to prepare often with significant amounts of time spent in examination where the Local Plan is assessed by an Independent Inspector appointed by the Planning Inspectorate.

MHCLG has indicated a commitment to universal coverage of up-to-date Local Plans produced at pace. To this end, MHCLG are proposing the following to increase the speed of plan-making:

- Increasing the amount of standardisation through a range of standard templates to allow councils to prepare plans more quickly and ensures consistency between plans.
- The evidence required to support local plan policies may also be standardised in terms of what information is required and how it is produced and presented. However, local planning authorities will still need to demonstrate that policies to address local issues are evidenced and justified.

- Increasing the speed of examinations through less notice and removing the opportunity to pause examinations.
- Introducing a 30-month preparation period for Local Plans.
- Introduction of three gateway tests where the plan will be reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate before proceeding to the next stage.

We are currently expecting the above to be formalised in regulations in December 2025. Consequently, the Local Plan update is progressing under the current plan making system with the aim of transitioning to the new system as soon as this is formalised.

It will be noted that that there is slippage from having a draft plan published for consultation of September – November 2025 (LDS March 2024) to December 2026 in the proposed revised timetable. Reasons for delays in progressing the timetable outlined in the LDS March 2024 include:

- Review and rescoping of evidence based on revised National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024) and additional new government guidance such as advice on the role of Green Belt in the Planning system and Grey Belt (27th February 2025).
- Internal and external capacity to respond to requests for site assessments and views on policies has impacted on the current timetable.
- National Development Management policies to be produced by government have not yet been published which will impact on the content of the Plan.

To keep the proposed revised timetable on target, it is proposed that the remainder of 2025 is spent on completing the Local Plan evidence base and assessing the suitability of sites submitted through the council's call for sites process to meet defined development needs. Both these elements of work will inform and start the process of shaping draft spatial strategy options and scoping policy requirements. We will review this work in the light of any further national planning policy guidance and in the light of any new requirements outlined in new plan-making regulations. We will then invite the Planning Inspectorate to review our Local Plan scoping as part of the proposed first Gateway subject to the regulations being implemented or if this is not the case, request an advisory meeting. Subject to advice from the Planning Inspectorate, the timetable has been predicated on the basis that agreement of the Plan scope at the Gateway test/advisory meeting will mark the start of the 30-month process commencing January 2026.

Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document

There is the potential for a new development plan document (DPD) to be included in the LDS relating to the production of a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework. The reasons to produce a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework DPD are outlined in a separate report to be presented to Cabinet 8th July 2025 and to Full Council on 17th September 2025. In summary, the Spatial Development Framework would provide a co-ordinated strategic planning approach for Kirklees Council, Bradford Council, Calderdale Council, Leeds City Council, and Wakefield Council supported by West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

It is a council function to agree to commence preparation of the joint DPD and a Cabinet function to approve the LDS.

Updating to reflect legislative and national policy changes/clarification

Outlined in the LDS revisions at Appendix 1 are changes resulting from changes resulting from changes to legislation or national planning policy. These relate to new text on:

- Local Development Scheme function and role and amends the text on the Local Plan timetable.
- Design – the text on design has been amended to reflect revised national planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework which no longer requires an area-wide approach.
- Supplementary Plans – a government decision on whether Supplementary Plans will be introduced to replace Supplementary Planning Documents has not yet been made. Reference to the text has been deleted until the decision is made.
- Reference Statement of Community Involvement has been updated.
- Additional text has been included to explain custom and self-build and the council's Brownfield Register.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Council Plan

The Kirklees Local Plan will identify development to meet housing requirements and land to support economic growth. This supports the Council Plan priorities of supporting thriving communities and local economic growth. Opportunities for West Yorkshire-wide Mass Transit will further support economic growth and inclusive communities.

3.2 Financial Implications

Resourcing the LDS
The production and monitoring of the LDS will be accommodated within existing staff resources.

Resourcing the Local Plan
Council November 2023 resolved: "That Council approves the funding of the update of the Kirklees Local Plan, estimated at £2m over a five-year period, including utilising funding from the Leeds City Region Business Pool and other funding sources". To date, the main costs incurred on the Local Plan relate to the commissioning of up-to date evidence to justify and evidence the Local Plan update. Further evidence costs for 2025/2026 relate to transport/air quality modelling and infrastructure delivery and whole plan viability. Other costs relate to informal and statutory consultation and to examination costs.

Resourcing the Joint Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework DPD
The drafting of the joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document would be commissioned by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA). Support for this process will be accommodated within existing staff resources and revenue budget within the Planning Policy team where applicable. Additional support is available via WYCA where required.

3.3 Legal Implications

It is a requirement of Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by Section 111, Localism Act 2011 to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme. MHCLG are seeking to introduce further requirements for the production and

timings of Local Development Schemes to be embedded in regulations (expected by the end of the year).

WYCA currently does not have planning powers to produce the Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework DPD and as such is being proposed as a joint development plan document with West Yorkshire authorities. See Cabinet item on this issue.

3.4 **Climate Change and Air Quality**

The Local Development Scheme does not have a direct influence on climate change itself, but the production of the Kirklees Local Plan will seek to include a range of policies that support the council's Climate Action Plan and sustainable development in line with national planning policy.

3.5 **Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**

- **Risks**
  The risk of not having an up-to-date Local Development Scheme is non-compliance with statutory requirements and potential intervention by MHCLG. Planning Policy documents outlined within the Local Development Scheme have their own risk assessments.

- **Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)**
  An integrated impact assessment was undertaken for the Kirklees Local Plan Review and update: Integrated Impact Assessments | Kirklees Council

  An integrated impact assessment will be undertaken for the Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework: see Cabinet item on this issue.

4 Consultation

There is no statutory requirement to consult on the LDS. It is, however, a requirement to make it publicly available on the council's website and to submit a copy to MHCLG.

The Finance and Regeneration Portfolio Holder has been briefed on the content of the LDS.

Planning policy documents outlined in the document are subject to non-statutory and statutory requirements. Consultation for Kirklees planning policy documents will be undertaken in accordance with the council's Statement of Community Involvement adopted 12th March 2024: Statement of Community Involvement | Kirklees Council

5 Engagement

The Kirklees Local Plan timetable has been subject to engagement with Heads of Service through the Local Plan Project Board.

The Finance and Regeneration Portfolio Holder was briefed on 6th May 2025.

The council is engaging with West Yorkshire local authorities and West Yorkshire Combined Authorities through duty to co-operate, and project meetings on Mass Transit.

6 Options

6.1 Options Considered

Option 1 **(preferred option)** – Cabinet to approve the Local Development Scheme July 2025 as outlined at Appendix 1.

Option 2 – Cabinet to approve the Local Development Scheme July 2025 as outlined at Appendix 1 for adoption and publication on the council's website omitting any reference to the production of a Joint West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework DPD which is subject to Council approval to commence the Joint Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework. The Local Development Scheme will be redrafted and presented to Cabinet for approval at a subsequent meeting.

6.2 **Reasons for recommended Option**

Options 1 and 2 – It is a statutory function to prepare and maintain an up-to-date Local Development Scheme. Option 1 and option 2 allows an updated Local Plan timetable to be made publicly available at the earliest opportunity to add transparency and joint working and demonstrates a clear commitment to progressing the Local Plan. Delegated authority to include agreed text on the Joint Mass Transit SDF DPD following a Full Council decision allows for an efficient process to update the LDS following a Council decision.

7 Next steps and timelines

- Subject to Cabinet approval of the Local Development Scheme (outlined at Appendix 1), the next step would be for the Service Director, Skills and Finance to publish the Local Development Scheme, with delegation to publish the text on the Joint Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework following a decision by Full Council on 17th September to commence work on this item.
  The LDS July 2025 will supersede the LDS March 2024

8 Contact officer

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9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Kirklees Local Development Scheme 12th March 2024: Local Development Scheme (local Plan Timetable) | Kirklees Council

10 Appendices

Appendix 1: Kirklees Local Development Scheme July 2025

11 Service Director responsible

David Wildman Service Director, Skills and Regeneration.

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Appendix 1

Kirklees Council

Local Development Scheme

~~March 2024~~July 2025

Contents

Kirklees Council 0

Local Development Scheme 0

July 2025 0

1. Introduction 3

2. The Current Development Plan 5

3. Kirklees Local Plan Review and Update 6

4. Development Plan Dpocuments (DPDs) 6

5. Neighbourhood Development Plans 9

6. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) 9

7. Guidance and advice notes 10

8. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 11

9. Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) 11

10. Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 12

11. Design Codes 12

12. Additional Policy Work 13

Planning Policy Advice and Guidance 13

Evidence Base 13

Duty to Co-operate 13

Environmental Duties 14

Statutory Registers 14

13. Resource Management 14

14. Monitoring and Review 15

15. Local Plan Update Timetable 16

~~1. Introduction ..... 2~~

~~2. The Current Development Plan ..... 3~~

~~3. Kirklees Local Plan Review and Update ..... 4~~

~~4. The Local Plan Update - Timetable ..... 4~~

~~5. Neighbourhood Development Plans ..... 5~~

~~6. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) ..... 6~~

~~7. Supplementary Plans (SPs) ..... 7~~

~~8. Guidance and advice notes ..... 7~~

~~9. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) ..... 7~~

~~10. Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) ..... 8~~

11. Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 8
12. Design Codes 8
13. Additional Policy Work 9
Planning Policy Advice and Guidance 9
Evidence Base 9
Duty to Co-operate 9
Environmental Duties 10
Statutory Registers 10
14. Resource Management 10
15. Monitoring and Review 11
16. Local Plan Update Timetable 12

1. Introduction

This document is a Local Development Scheme (LDS) for the purposes of Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended by Section 111, Localism Act 2011 and is being processed in accordance with that Act.

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a three year ~~the~~ timetable for producing development plan documents including the Local Plan~~Local Plans, Supplementary Plans, Design Codes~~, other policy guidance/advice and the annual monitoring activity/programme associated with them. The LDS sets out when documents will be produced, the brief purpose of those documents and when consultation is likely to happen.

~~The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 received Royal Ascent on 26 October 2023, and set out there is no longer a requirement for local planning authorities to specify the timetables for producing other planning documents such as Neighbourhood Plans and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in future timetables. However, the council is aware that this is useful information that should be publicly available. Consequently, the timetable for the SCI is outlined within this document.~~

The update of the Local Plan and the proposed joint production of a Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework are ~~is~~ the development plan documents ~~main document~~ outlined in this LDS.

The purpose of the Local Plan is to set out a spatial development strategy identifying how much development is required over a plan period, where it will be located and designations for the protection of land. It also contains a suite of planning policies which facilitate the development strategy and against which planning applications for development will be assessed. Local Plans are key to delivering sustainable development that reflects the vision and aspirations of our area. The Local Plan together with other guidance will set a clear vision for the area, together with a strategy for delivering it.

The Local Plan will be prepared in the context of the Council Plan and its Health and Well-being Strategy 2022/2027, Inclusive Economic Strategy, Environmental Sustainability Strategy, and Inclusive Communities Framework. It will also consider how the Local Plan can contribute to the delivery of the council's Climate Action Plan and emerging plans such as the Kirklees Housing Strategy and Kirklees Transport Strategy.

The Local Plan process is a complex and lengthy one including preparing and establishing an evidence base, prescribed periods of statutory consultation and notification of examination process, analysis and preparation of responses to consultation representations and consideration of Local Plan changes in the light of the comments received, site assessment and strategy development, policy review

and additional statutory requirements to consult on sustainability appraisal scoping and outcomes.

Under the current system, Local Plans are taking an average of 7 years to prepare often with significant amounts of time spent in examination where the Local Plan is assessed by an Independent Inspector appointed by the Planning Inspectorate.

MHCLG has indicated a commitment to universal coverage of up-to-date Local Plans produced at pace. To this end, MHCLG are proposing the following to increase the speed of plan-making:

- Increasing the amount of standardisation through a range of standard templates to allow councils to prepare plans more quickly and ensures consistency between plans.
- The evidence required to support local plan policies may also be standardised in terms of what information is required and how it is produced and presented. However, local planning authorities will still need to demonstrate that policies to address local issues are evidenced and justified.
- Increasing the speed of examinations through less notice and removing the opportunity to pause examinations.
- Introducing a 30-month preparation period for Local Plans.
- Introduction of three gateway tests where the plan will be reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate before proceeding to the next stage.

We are currently expecting the above to be formalised in regulations in December 2025. Consequently, the Local Plan update is progressing under the current plan making system with the aim of transitioning to the new system as soon as this is formalised.

The LDS sets out the resources that will be required and an approximate timetable for preparing the Local Plan. The LDS will be kept up to date and will need to be revised at such a time as is considered appropriate should timelines for production of the plan change and/or statutory requirements.

This LDS sets out:

- the local development documents which are to be development plan documents (DPDs);
- the subject matter~~s~~ and geographical areas to which each DPD is to relate;~~which the authority's local plan for their area is to deal with;~~
- ~~the geographical area to which the authority's local plan is to relate;~~
- ~~any supplementary plans which the authority is to prepare;~~
- ~~the subject matter and geographical area, site or sites to which each of those supplementary plans is to relate;~~
- ~~how the authority proposes to comply with the requirement to produce a district wide design code;~~
- which DPDs (if any) are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities;~~whether the authority's local plan for their area is to be a~~

~~joint local plan and, if so, each other local planning authority for whose area the joint local plan is to be their local plan;~~

- ~~whether the authority are to prepare a joint supplementary plan and, if so, each other local planning authority who are to prepare that joint supplementary plan with them;~~
- any matter or area in respect of which the authority has agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee under section 29; and
- ~~a~~the timetable for the preparation and revision of the DPDs.~~of the authority's local plan for their area, and any supplementary plans the authority are to make, which is consistent with this Part and any regulations made under it.~~

~~To ensure that the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 becomes effective, this will require further government consultation and secondary legislation. Additionally, an updated National Policy Planning Framework (NPPF) was published in December 2023.~~

The LDS will be reviewed as the local plan update progresses and in the light of any revised planning legislation, statutory requirements, or national guidance.

The LDS will be published and kept up to date in the Council's website: Planning and development | Kirklees Council

2. The Current Development Plan

Legislation[1] states that planning applications must be determined in accordance with the development plan and any national development management policies, taken together, unless material considerations strongly indicate otherwise.

The statutory development plan for Kirklees is currently comprised of the Local Plan and, in applicable areas, the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Kirklees Local Plan

The Kirklees Local Plan comprises two main documents to be read together:

- Local Plan: Strategy and Policies: This establishes the vision and strategic objectives for the development of Kirklees up to 2031. It includes a spatial strategy setting out how development will be accommodated across the district as well as the policy framework used to assess planning applications, including a minerals and waste policy framework.
- Local Plan: Allocations and Designations (and Policies Map): This sets out the different land allocations and designations, including minerals and waste allocations and designations. The Policies Map illustrates the geographical application of policies in the Local Plan.

Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan

[1] Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 Part 3, Section 93

The Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan (HVNDP) covers the Holme Valley Parish Council area including the area within the Peak District National Park. The HVNDP comprises the policies document and associated designations. The HVNDP divides the neighbourhood area geographically into eight Landscape Character Areas where different policy considerations apply. The HVNDP designates four sites as Local Green Space and identifies individual buildings and structures to which new policy relating to their value as heritage assets now applies.

3. Kirklees Local Plan Review and Update

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended, states that local planning authorities must review their plans every five years from the date of adoption to assess whether they need updating. Following the adoption of the Local Plan in 2019 the council committed to reviewing the plan within 5 years in line with government guidelines.

The first formal review of the 2019 Local Plan was completed in October 2023, the outcomes of this review can be found: Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 17th October 2023, 3.00 pm | Kirklees Council. The decision to begin a full update of the Local Plan was made at Full Council on 15 November 2023: Decisions 15th-Nov-2023 17.30 Council.pdf (kirklees.gov.uk).

4. Development Plan Documents (DPDs)~~The Local Plan Update - Timetable~~

A profile for each DPD~~LDS~~ document is provided below, setting out the scope of the document and the proposed timetable for its preparation between the current stage and the formal adoption of the documents.

Local Plan Part 1 – Strategy and Policies	
Overview	
Role and content	The Local Plan will establish the vision and strategic objectives for the development of Kirklees up to ~~2039~~2043 and a spatial strategy setting out how development will be accommodated across the district. The Local Plan will set out policies for Minerals and Waste rather than the production of a separate plan.
Geographical Area	District wide
Chain of conformity	National Planning Policy Framework
Local Plan Part 2 – Allocations and Designations (and Proposals Maps)	
Overview	
Role and Content	Part 2 of the Local Plan sets out the different allocations and designations that are included,

	subdivided into different categories and areas depending on their strategic nature. Part 2 of the Local Plan will set out allocations and designations for Minerals and Waste rather than a separate plan.
Geographical Area	District wide
Chain of conformity	National Planning Policy Framework
Timetable and milestones	**Dates**
Early Engagement Consultation	~~August - October 2024~~ November 2024 – February 2025
Draft Plan Consultation	~~September - November 2025~~December 2026 – January 2027
Publication Draft Consultation	~~September - November 2026~~October – November 2027
Submission to Secretary of State	~~March 2027~~ January 2028

Joint Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Development Plan Document (Part 1)

Kirklees Council, in collaboration with Bradford Council, Calderdale Council, Leeds City Council and Wakefield Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority, will draft and adopt a Joint DPD to provide a framework for Mass Transit and aligned growth objectives. Once adopted, the Joint DPD will form part of the Local Development Plan for Kirklees.

The Joint Development Plan Document (JDPD) will be:

Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework (Part 1) is a Joint Development Plan for Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield 2026 to 2056 – a network-wide strategic spatial planning policy document for the delivery of current planned and future phases of Mass Transit and recognition of the wider benefits to arise from evolution of transit corridors to economic growth corridors.

The timetable for the preparation of the Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Joint DPD is set out below:

Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Joint DPD (Part 1)	
Overview	
Role and content	Establishes a high-level strategic planning policy framework for Mass Transit, ensuring integration into emerging Local Plans and providing a basis for future planning applications that support sustainable development.

	Provides strategic policies supporting transit-orientated development, economic growth, regeneration and environmental sustainability. Aligns with broader transport and spatial planning objectives to enable co-ordinated infrastructure investment.
Geographical Area	West Yorkshire-wide
Chain of conformity	National Planning Policy Framework
Part 2 – Corridor-specific policies and land use proposals	
Overview	
Role and Content	Focuses on the South Leeds Corridor (potentially extending to Dewsbury) and the Leeds-Bradford Corridor as part of phase one. Defines policies and land use proposals to support the delivery of Mass Transit infrastructure and associated economic growth. Serves as a template for future corridor-wide planning as subsequent phases of Mass Transit are developed.
Geographical Area	West Yorkshire-wide
Chain of conformity	National Planning Policy Framework

Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework (Part 1) Timetable and milestones	**Dates**
Consultation (Regulation 18)	February 2026
Consultation on Publication Draft (Regulation 19)	August 2026
Submission of DPD	October 2026
Examination of DPD	Winter 2026/2027
Adoption of DPD	Spring 2027

5. Neighbourhood Development Plans

Since April 2012, local communities have been able to produce Neighbourhood Plans for their local area, outlining planning policies for the future development and growth of the neighbourhood. Similar to a local plan, it can contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving an area or providing new facilities, or allocation of key sites for specific kinds of development. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs.

The Localism Act 2011 enables communities through Qualifying Bodies (Parish or Town Councils or designated Neighbourhood Forums) to produce Neighbourhood Plans to be prepared in conformity with the strategic polices of a Local Plan. Adopted Neighbourhood Plans will form part of the Development Plan against which planning applications will be determined.

Neighbourhood plans will be subject to examination by an independent Examiner. Where the Examiner considers that the neighbourhood plan meets basic conditions set out in legislation, they will recommend that it proceeds to a referendum. At referendum, the residents of the neighbourhood area will vote to decide whether the plan comes into force. Once approved at a referendum the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the statutory development plan (the same legal status as the Local Plan). This status gives neighbourhood plans more weight in the planning process than other community documents such as parish plans, community plans and village design statements.

At present there is one made Neighbourhood Plan, the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Plan, and other potential Neighbourhood Plan proposals at various stages including Kirkheaton and Mirfield. The council will continue to publish updates on the neighbourhood plans on the council website.

6. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

These documents provide further guidance and information relating to one or more specific policies or proposals set out in the Local Plan and they will be a material consideration when determining planning applications.

The previous LDS (2019) identified and proposed several SPDs, which have subsequently been adopted. Listed below are our adopted SPDs and an outline of their role, they can all be found on the councils website: Adopted Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) | Kirklees Council.

SPD (adopted)	Role
Affordable Housing and Housing Mix SPD (2023)	Seeks to ensure the provision of affordable housing in new housing developments and ensure that the housing mix meets local needs.
Hot Food Takeaway SPD (2022)	Provides guidance to businesses and the local community on how the LPA will assess planning applications for new hot food takeaways.
Housebuilders Design Guide SPD (2021)	Guides residential developers to ensure future housing development is high quality, socially inclusive and built to high environmental standards.
House Extensions and Alterations SPD (2021)	Guides householders, developers, agents, and architects in planning and designing extensions or alterations to residential properties.
Open Space SPD (2021) and 2025/2026 Open Space SPD financial contributions (to be updated on an annual basis).	To ensure consistency and provide clarity when applying the Local Plan policy covering the provision of new open space.
Highways Design Guide SPD (2019)	To promote high standards of highway design, encourage good design in terms of how developments, routes and spaces relate to one another to create streets and public spaces that are safe, accessible, and pleasant to use.

~~7. Supplementary Plans (SPs)~~

~~The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act Section 15CC outlines the replacement of Supplementary Planning Documents with Supplementary Plans. Supplementary Plans differ from SPDs in that they must be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination and will have the weight of the development plan. There are certain limits on the allowable scope of supplementary plans (either by subject matter or geography). Supplementary plans address site-specific needs or opportunities which require a new planning framework to be prepared quickly (like a new regeneration opportunity), or to act as a vehicle for setting out authority-wide or other design codes.~~

~~The requirement for SPs will be considered as the need arises through the implementation of the Local Plan.~~

~~8.~~7. Guidance and advice notes

In addition to SPDs the council have a wide range of guidance and advice notes, which can be found on our website: Guidance and advice notes | Kirklees Council:

- Negotiating Financial Contributions for Transport Improvements (Leeds Road, Huddersfield) (2007)
- Climate Change Guidance for Planning Applications
- Dewsbury Repairs Leaflet
- Dewsbury Design Guide
- Dewsbury Conservation Area Guidance (May 2020)
- Public Art Policy
- Going Smokefree - A Planning Advice Note on Smoking Shelters and Other Features
- Guidance on Noise, Odour and Air Quality Control for Residential Development in Town centres
- Rapid Health Impact Assessment (HIA) for spatial planning
- Planning application supporting information and guidance - Trees
- Waste Management Design Guide for New Developments
- Large New Stores
- Mirfield Design Statement 2002
- Wind Energy
- Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note (2021)

~~9.~~8. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

The ~~latest version of the~~ Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the council intends to engage with local communities, businesses and other interested parties when developing and reviewing planning documents. The SCI contains more detail on the methods of consultation ~~was adopted by the Council on 3 December 2019. The council is revising the SCI to update the content~~ including promoting digital communications, progressing to a more digital way in which we engage with people during the plan preparation process, whilst still providing options for those who have limited online access and/or ability. The council's Inclusive Community Framework provides guidance on how we can engage efficient to service the needs of the Kirklees community.

Statement of Community Involvement	
Details	**Description**
Role and content	The purpose of this document is to set out how the council will work with local communities and stakeholders to develop planning policy documents such as the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents.
Geographical Area	District wide
Progress	~~Anticipated a~~Adopted~~ion date~~: March 2024

~~10.~~9. Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)

The Planning Policy Group plays a key role in collecting intelligence for the council. The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (previously known as the Annual Monitoring Report) monitors the effectiveness of planning policies including those set out in the Local Plan. The report includes indicators such as progress towards the LDS, rates of housing development, housing land supply, employment, open space, retail occupancy and flooding. The AMR is updated annually and made available on the council website: Authority monitoring reports | Kirklees Council.

~~11.~~10. Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS)

In accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (CIL) (Regulation 121A), any authority that receives a contribution from development through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 planning obligations must prepare an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS). The IFS provides a summary of financial contributions the Council has secured through Section 106 agreements from new developments for off-site infrastructure works and affordable housing. The information included in the IFS is updated annually and made available on the council website: Infrastructure Funding Statements (IFS) | Kirklees Council.

~~12.~~11. Design Codes

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 133 (December 2024) states that "To provide maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage, all local planning authorities should prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code, and which reflect local character and design preferences. Design guides and codes provide a local framework for creating beautiful and distinctive places with a consistent and high-quality standard of design. Their geographic coverage, level of detail and degree of prescription should be tailored to the circumstances and scale of change in each place and should allow a suitable degree of variety".

NPPF paragraph 134 further states that design guides and codes can be prepared at an area-wide, neighbourhood or site-specific scale, and to carry weight in decision-making should be produced either as part of a plan or as supplementary planning documents.~~Under Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 (Schedule 7 Section15F(1)) a local planning authority must ensure that, for every part of their area, the development plan includes requirements with respect to design that relate to development, or development of a particular description, which the authority consider should be met for planning permission for the development to be granted.~~

The council will publish updates on the preparation of ~~district wide~~ design codes on the council website.

~~13.~~12. Additional Policy Work

The Planning Policy Group commissions and prepares a significant number of studies, intelligence, and research to underpin planning policy formulation and justify the robustness and credibility of planning policies when making planning decisions. The group also has responsibility for providing planning policy advice to assist Development Management in making decisions on planning applications and the team has a number of other statutory duties, aside from preparing the development plan.

Planning Policy Advice and Guidance

In addition to the Planning Policy Group role providing planning policy advice on planning applications, a series of guidance notes will also be prepared to assist Development Management in the implementation of the Local Plan and ensure clarity for developers about the information required to meet the criteria in Local Plan policies. This is likely to be specific guidance relating to the information the council require from developer showing how their proposals have considered climate change and guidance relating to master-planning, biodiversity net gain and viability appraisals. Some of this guidance may be produced jointly with other West Yorkshire planning authorities.

Evidence Base

A key feature of the development plan is that their policies and proposals are soundly based on up-to-date and robust evidence. The evidence base not only provides the justification for the Local Plan, but also enables an assessment of the extent to which policies and proposals are being achieved. Evidence gathered as part of future planning policy work will be made available on the council's website. The Planning Policy Group is also responsible for calculating whether there is an ongoing five-year supply of deliverable housing land and providing information to inform the government's Housing Delivery Test as well as responding to other monitoring information requests.

Duty to Co-operate

Under the Localism Act 2011 local planning authorities are required to "engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis" with neighbouring planning authorities and a prescribed list of bodies (which will be set out in the SCI) when preparing development plan and other local development documents concerning matters of "strategic significance" that is matters affecting two or more local planning authorities.

The Council will be expected to demonstrate evidence of having effectively co-operated to plan for issues with cross-boundary impacts at the Examination stage of development plan documents.

Progress with regards to the Duty to co-operate on the council's development plan documents and also with regard to the work being carried out by other duty to co-operate bodies is set out in the Authority Monitoring Report.

Environmental Duties

The council must comply with various environmental legislation and obligations which can have a bearing on the preparation of planning policies. Key statutory duties exist directly in relation to plan making and include the preparation of documentation under Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations. These requirements will be replaced by Environmental Outcome Reports subject to forthcoming legislation.

Statutory Registers

The Planning Policy Group is responsible for preparing, maintaining, and updating statutory land use registers. At present the Planning Service holds the Custom and Self-Build Register and the Brownfield Land Register. ~~These can be viewed on the council's website: Planning and development | Kirklees Council~~

The Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 places a duty on the local authorities to keep and have regard to a register of people who are interested in self-build or custom-build projects in their area. Self-build or custom-build housing is built by an individual, a group of individuals, or persons working with or for them, to be occupied by that individual. Such housing can be either market or affordable housing.

The Brownfield Register includes details of previously developed (brownfield) land which is suitable for residential development. There is no requirement to consult on sites proposed for inclusion on the register.

Further details on the Custom and Self-build and the Brownfield Land Register can be viewed on the council's website: Planning and development | Kirklees Council

~~14.~~13. Resource Management

The Planning Policy Group has the responsibility for the preparation and review of Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents and other duties listed in this LDS. The team is assisted by staff from other teams in the Place ~~Growth and Regeneration~~ Directorate. It is, therefore, important to recognise that future resourcing decisions could impact delivery of these work areas.

Planning policy documents have direct and indirect impacts on other service area in the council. Other service areas also hold key information for the planning policy evidence base and have particular expertise which is needed to produce justified and effective policy. The policy group is particularly reliant on resources outside of the team, including colleagues involved in the following work areas:

- Development Management (planning)
- Highways and Transport
- Flood Management and Drainage
- Education
- Public Health

- Minerals and Waste
- Housing Strategy, growth, commissioning, and affordable housing
- Employment and Skills
- Regeneration and economic development
- Town centres / Retail
- Environmental Health
- Green infrastructure, parks and street scene services
- Legal
- Business Support
- Energy
- Conservation and Design - historic assets
- Environmental protection, air and water quality, odour, contaminated land, and noise
- Landscape
- Natural environment including biodiversity net gain

~~15.~~14. Monitoring and Review

The LDS will be reviewed and updated regularly to maintain a flexible and realistic timetable for document production, ensuring that production programmes are aligned with resources. Updates will be published on the council's website and progress on delivery of plans will be tracked through the AMR. To check for the latest update to the LDS at any time and key updates to specific stages in the preparation of the Local Plan visit the council's website: Kirklees Development Plan | Kirklees Council.

~~The government has announced a series of planning reforms, which will aim to make the process of plan making shorter and faster. Once these changes come in to force the LDS will be updated and published.~~

15. Local Plan Update Timetable

	2025												2026												2027												2028		
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J		
Development Plan Documents																																							
Kirklees Local Plan																																							
Local Plan Part 1- Strategy and Policies (Inc. Minerals & Waste)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	PC	PC	R	R	S		
Local Plan Part 2- Allocations and Designations (Inc. Minerals & Waste)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	PC	PC	R	R	S		
Joint West Yorkshire-wide DPD																																							
Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework (Part 1)							P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C	C	R	R	R	R	PC	PC	S																		
Other Planning Policy Documents																																							
Authority Monitoring Reports (AMR)	Ongoing monitoring of Local Plan and other indicators																																						
Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS)	Ongoing the information included in the IFS is updated annually																																						
Sustainability Appraisal (Inc. SEA)	Ongoing throughout the plan making process/across financial years																																						
~~District Wide~~ Design Codes	Ongoing throughout the plan making process/across financial years																																						
Neighbourhood Plans	Ongoing across financial years – latest progress available on the council website																																						
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)/ Supplementary Plans (SP)	Ongoing across financial years – latest progress available on the council website																																						

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P	Plan Preparation / Early engagement	PC	Publication Consultation (6-week period)	I	Inspectors Report
C	Consultation (6-week period)	S	Submission to Secretary of State	AP	Adoption Process
R	Responding to the consultation	E	Examination in Public	A	Adoption / Approval

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	2023				2024												2025												2026												2027		
	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Statement of Community Involvement																																											
SCI	P	P	C	C	C	AP	A																																				
Local Plan Documents																																											
Local Plan Part 1- Strategy and Policies (Inc. Minerals & Waste)				P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	PC	PC	PC	R	R	R	S
Local Plan Part 2- Allocations and Designations (Inc. Minerals & Waste)				P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	PC	PC	PC	R	R	R	S
Other Planning Policy Documents																																											
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Kirklees COUNCIL

REPORT TITLE: Surplus Property Disposals 2025/26 and consideration of objection to the disposal of Public Open Space at Grasscroft, Almondbury

Cabinet date	8th July 2025
Cabinet Member	Cllr Graham Turner (Finance & Regeneration)
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	Yes – KDN published 2nd May 2025 Yes

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval and delegated authority from Cabinet for bringing forward the proposed Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule for 2025/26 as shown at **Appendix A**, delivering a targeted level of capital receipts in alignment with the Council's approved budget and Capital Strategy.

This report also asks Cabinet to consider the objection received following advertisement of the Council's intention to dispose of open space at Grasscroft, Almondbury edged red on the Plan contained within **Appendix B** and to determine whether to proceed with the intended disposal of the open space.

Cabinet is also asked to consider revoking the highways improvement lines at Walkley Lane, Heckmondwike as detailed in **Appendix C** to enable the land to be sold without fetter.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that Cabinet:

i. Approves the disposal of the land and property within the Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule 2025/2026 (Appendix A) to support the Council's income targets.

ii. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration, to negotiate and agree terms and complete the sales of any land and property identified within the Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule 2025/2026 **Appendix A** to support the Council's income targets, in line with the legal requirements outlined in paragraph 3.7.1 and on such terms as officers deem most appropriate.

iii. Approves the disposal of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury shown edged red on the plan at **Appendix B** having considered and dismissed the objection to the disposal of public open space**.**

iv. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place to negotiate and agree terms and complete the sale of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury shown edged red in the plan **Appendix B.**

v. Delegates authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning authority to enter into all agreements necessary to affect any of the disposals approved by this report.

vi. Resolves to revoke all the highway improvement lines as shown in the plan at **Appendix C** and as identified in paragraphs 2.20 - 2.22 of the report.

Reasons for Recommendations

- To support the Council's requirement for capital receipts as part of its budget strategy, to help reduce its long-term revenue commitments and to support wider regeneration of the area through the disposal of surplus buildings and land.

Specifically, in the case of Grasscroft:

- The objection does not highlight any use or value in the open space, nor object to its loss.
- The objections raised are in relation to issues and concerns associated with the future use of the site will be considered as part of the statutory planning process.
- The land can be better utilised and maintained compared to its current derelict and unused state.
- A capital receipt would be achieved and is required to part-fund the Capital Plan.

Specifically, in the case of the proposed Highways scheme at Walkley Lane, Sycamore Industrial Estate:

- The land is no longer required for use in a Highways improvement scheme. Revoking the scheme will enable the land to be sold un-fettered.

Resource Implications:

Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule

The Council has a capital receipts target of £6M in Financial Year 2025/26. A pipeline of sites is already developed and scheduled for disposal either at auction, private treaty or through freehold reversion based on previous cabinet reports and the scheme of delegations. By identifying these additional assets as surplus, it will provide further opportunities to support the Capital Plan through capital receipts either in 2025/26 or more likely during 2026/27 for which a target of £4M has been set.

Disposal of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury

This site forms part of the disposals pipeline identified for 2025/26. It has already been declared surplus to the Council's requirements in a previous cabinet report and – if sold – will contribute towards the Council's capital receipts target of £6m for 2025/26.

Signed off by: • **Lead Executive Director** • **Service Director for Finance** • **Service Director for Legal and Commissioning**	David Shepherd – Executive Director for Place –17/06/2025 Kevin Mulvaney – Service Director Finance – 30/06/2025 Samantha Lawton – Service Director Legal & Commissioning – 24/06/2025

Electoral wards affected:
Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule (**Appendix A**)

Almondbury, Ashbrow, Batley East, Birstall & Birkenshaw, Crosland Moor & Netherton, Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South, Greenhead, Holme Valley South, Lindley, Mirfield, Newsome.

Disposal of the land at Grasscroft **(Appendix B**)
Almondbury

Revocation of the Highways improvement scheme at Walker Lane **(Appendix C)**
Heckmondwike

Ward councillors consulted: Yes

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes – no personal information is presented within this report.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report, in alignment with and in response to the Council's approved budget and Capital Strategy, presents a proposed Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule for 2025/26 to be brought forward for delivery as detailed in **Appendix A**.

1.2 As a result of the previous cabinet approval received on the 14th November 2023, officers have moved forward with the disposal of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury. The land in question is classed as 'open space' and therefore requires the advertising of the intention to dispose in the local press to determine if there are any objections to the disposal of the land. Any objections received must be referred to Cabinet for consideration pursuant to Part 3.7, Section F paragraph K(d) of the Constitution. Cabinet is therefore asked to consider the objection received in response to the advertisement of disposal of open space at Grasscroft **Appendix B** and to determine if the intended disposal should proceed.

1.3 As a result of the previous cabinet approval received on the 14th November 2023, officers have moved forward with the disposal of the land at Walkley Lane / Sycamore Industrial Estate **Appendix C**. The land was previously approved for a Highways Scheme which is no longer required. Cabinet is therefore asked to agree to revoke the scheme to enable the land to be sold without fetter.

2. Information required to take a decision

Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule

2.1 As part of the Council's approved budget, the Capital Strategy presents a £6m minimum 2025/26 in-year target for capital receipts – which is money received from the sale of property assets (land and buildings).

2.2 Since the last Surplus Property reports in June and November 2023 and in January 2025, progress has been made to dispose of the assets declared surplus through a series of auctions, private treaty, and Freehold Reversion sales. In financial year 2024-25, Capital receipts totalled £5.9M.

2.3 Table 1 illustrates the progress we have made in disposing of assets formerly declared surplus in the previous three Surplus Assets reports:

Table 1

Date of Cabinet Report	Number of Assets Declared Surplus	Number of assets disposed	Due for disposal 2025-26	Capital Receipt (£M)
June 2023	45	24	8	6.175
November 2023	14	5	7	2.260
January 2025	29	3	17	0.210

2.4 A further review of the estate has identified another batch of surplus property, which is property no longer required to support the Council's strategic or organisational delivery requirements. It is government policy that local authorities should dispose of surplus property wherever possible.

2.5 The property interests identified for disposal have been assembled to form a Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule (SCRS) for 2025/26 in addition to that approved by Cabinet in January 2025, which is presented as **Appendix A** for consideration.

2.6 The property interests identified on the SCRS each require further evaluation to determine the appropriate legal process, market value, mode of disposal, and possible timings, to allow a forward delivery programme to be developed and accelerated to achieve the in-year target. Further investigation and consideration of these assets during their passage to market may result in them no longer being considered surplus and therefore not being disposed of.

2.7 Assurance and progress will be monitored, with risks and issues managed by exception by an established Assets Disposal Board. This forum will report progress into leadership and strategic groups. The Portfolio-holder will be regularly updated.

2.8 Over the course of the disposals programme, we have developed a focussed approach in collaboration with other services, particularly legal colleagues, that has proven successful in delivering the capital receipts we are targeting. Early identification of surplus assets will enable the service to start work on their disposal well in advance of proposed auction dates or private treaty sales meaning we can work through the barriers to sale or consider how we can enhance the values. The delivery of the SCRS list will continue to use this proactive and planned approach, with clear lines of communication, management of risks and issues, and assurance/progress monitoring.

2.9 To ensure seamless delivery, interdependencies and key stakeholders need to be identified and engaged at the earliest opportunity, with resource and capacity requirements actively monitored and planned for. Project Management discipline aids this accelerated approach, as does a continual review of the required capacity and gearing up needs across key services such as Corporate Landlord and Legal Services. There may also be opportunities to consider wider service linkage, where the skills and expertise needed may be present in-house and could be re-prioritised to support the required activity.

2.10 As sites are evaluated, key strategic partners will be consulted as appropriate, thereby dealing with any initial first refusal and/or private treaty opportunities.

Disposal of the land known as Grasscroft, Almondbury

2.11 Section 123 (2A) of the 1972 Local Government Act requires local authorities wishing to dispose of any land consisting of or forming part of an open space to advertise their intention to do so for two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper. The Council must then consider any objections to the proposed disposal. There is a 21-day objection period.

2.12 Caselaw has established that in determining whether land is or forms part of open space a Council should use the definition of open space provided at section 336 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which states:

"open space" means any land:
1) laid out as a public garden, or
2) used for the purposes of public recreation, or
3) which is a disused burial ground.

2.13 As it was possible there may have been use for public recreation at Grasscroft, open space notices advertising the intention to dispose of this open space were placed on the Council's website and in the Huddersfield Examiner on 30th October and 6th November 2024 with a deadline for objections to be received by no later than 20th November 2024.

2.14 One letter of objection was received from the residents of Grasscroft and surrounding areas which included a petition signed by 36 people. Due to the fact that an objection was received, it is necessary for this issue be referred back to Cabinet for consideration of the objection pursuant to Part 3.7, Section F paragraph K(d) of the Constitution and for a final decision to be made by Cabinet on whether to proceed with the intended disposal of the land.

2.15 The objections contained in the letter are:

- An objection to the area being described as an open space.
- A request, if sold, to sell with a restrictive covenant to use Grasscroft as an open space in it is true sense (in the opinion of the residents), or as grazing land only
- Unsuitability for Grasscroft to be used as anything else than grazing land, specifically any form of development for several reasons:

    - Restricted access from St Helen's Gate.
    - The land is steep, marshy in places with poor drainage.
    - The potential impact on wildlife including badgers, foxes, deer, bats, and birds using the land. The potential loss of plants, trees and fruit bushes and the possible impact on the green network for the movement of wildlife as far as Farnley Tyas.
    - The Council gave the previous tenant of 24 years Notice to Quit on the understanding the land would be used to address the climate emergency, habitat creation and woodland planting. This has not gone ahead despite it being ideal land in the opinion of the residents.
    - The land is greenbelt and should therefore be retained as an area of undeveloped, wild, or agricultural land.
    - Unsuitability for development for the above reasons as well as the impact on the local infrastructure, traffic, noise, overcrowding, pollution if developed and as such should be disposed of with a restriction on development.

2.16 An Open Space Notice informs interested parties of the Council's intention to dispose of public open space. The notice is published to inform the public about the proposed disposal and to give them an opportunity to detail how the land is used as open space, the value of that use and to object to the loss of the open space. The Notices conform to prescribed legal requirements.

2.17 The main objections raised are of a nature which are dealt with via the planning system. The site is designated as greenbelt in the Local Plan, meaning that a subsequent purchaser will be restricted by this designation. In accordance with the Government's National Planning Policy Framework and accompanying National Planning Practice Guidance,

should a future application for development be submitted, consultations are made with all relevant council departments, residents and an information notice placed close to the site advising members of the public of any intended development. All comments received are taken into consideration by the Planning Committee before a decision is taken on the application.

2.18 The previous tenant was issued with a Notice to Quit when the land was identified for use by the White Rose Forest project. However, following community engagement and a review of the site-specific conditions, it was decided that the land was inappropriate for planting. It was, therefore, handed back to the Corporate Landlord Service to consider for disposal.

2.19 Cabinet will note that the objections received relate to possible impacts of any future use of the land on the neighbourhood and a desire to keep the land undeveloped. The letter does not detail any public recreation, object to the loss of open space in relation to public recreation amenity nor highlight any current use or value in the open space to the objectors or the community for recreational purposes. Cabinet is therefore asked to dismiss the objection and approve the disposal of the site.

Revocation of Highways Scheme Improvement Lines – IL489

2.20 Land at Sycamore Industrial Estate, Walkley Lane, Heckmondwike was declared surplus by Cabinet on 14th November 2023. However, there is a highway improvement line prescribed over a portion of the land. Highway Improvement Lines are sections of land designated for the construction of new roads and the alteration of existing roads. Where an improvement line is prescribed no new building shall be erected, and no permanent excavation below the level of the street shall be made, nearer to the centre line of the street than the improvement line, except with the consent of the authority who prescribed the line. This allocation will make a portion of the land undevelopable without council consent and therefore less attractive to potential purchasers

2.21 The Highway Improvement Line IL489 at Sycamore Industrial Estate was prescribed in 1995 and delivery of a scheme has not come forward to date. Major Projects colleagues have confirmed that the Council no longer envisages the prospect of implementing a new access road progressing as shown in the existing improvement lines shown in **Appendix C**. The Council's Local Plan ambition for the area has changed to improve the local green network connectivity in the area. Consequently, the prescription of the land as an improvement line is no longer necessary or desirable.

2.22 Officers recommend revocation of the full extent of the allocated highway improvement line as shown on the plan at **Appendix C** and will comply with the requirements outlined at 3.7.3.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with people

The agreed continued approach to reviewing the Council's Estate requires Council Services to work closely together and proactively to communicate and deliver agreed outcomes. The disposal of the land will potentially provide the opportunity for local small-scale development and support the local labour market.

3.2 Working with partners

As part of the process for bringing forward disposals, key partners will be made aware to help identify any collaborative opportunities.

3.3 Place Based Working

Changes to property can often highlight wider opportunities and be a catalyst for development, which in turn can make our places more attractive and vibrant.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Rationalising and optimising property assets will deliver a smaller, more efficient, and effective estate, contributing to the reduction of the Council's carbon footprint and commitment towards net zero.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

None

3.6 Financial Implications

The generation of capital receipts supports the Council's Capital Strategy and more specifically the delivery of the Capital Programme (and, where appropriate, the transformation of services through the Flexible Capital Receipts Policy), safeguarding service delivery into the future. Releasing assets for disposal will, equally, contribute to the savings required in the Council's Revenue Budget by reducing the cost of holding assets. Capital receipts also support the revenue budget as 4% of the receipt is top sliced to fund staff costs involved in the disposals process.

3.7 Legal Implications

3.7.1 The disposal of property assets will need to be in accordance with the relevant statutory framework which applies to the particular asset. The Council has the legal power to dispose of assets generally under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 usually for the best consideration that can be obtained. Where it is proposed that an asset is disposed of at an undervalue, the General Disposal Consent 2003 (contained within circular 06/93) and the Subsidy Control Act 2022 (and associated regulations) must be assessed, and, where applicable, complied with. Housing assets may only be disposed of in accordance with The General Housing Consents 2013 issued pursuant to section 32 of the Housing Act 1985.

3.7.2 Alongside the Localism Act 2011, which may highlight certain sites for potential listing as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), the Council's approach to Community Asset Transfers (CAT) will also need to be considered. Both disposal routes require additional lead-in and determination time and need to be highlighted as a significant risk should applicable sites be targeted for disposal within year, or within a specific time limit.

3.7.3 The Highways Act 1980 Section 73(8) provides that where in the opinion of a highway authority an improvement line prescribed by them under this section, or any part of such a line, is no longer necessary or desirable and should be revoked, they may revoke the line or that part of it. If Cabinet resolve to revoke the improvement line Schedule 9 Paragraphs 9 requires the authority shall—

(a) give notice of the revocation to every owner, lessee or occupier of land affected and to the Chief Land Registrar; and
(b) indicate on the plan prepared in accordance with paragraph 8 above the extent to which the line has been revoked.

3.8 Other Issues

An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the Council Budget setting process and is published on the Council's website. Individual assessments may need to be considered for individual property solutions and should be undertaken as part of bringing each forward for delivery alongside appropriate consultation and communication.

4. Consultation

4.1 Consultation took place with all Ward Members impacted by the proposed disposals in **Appendix A** (see list of wards affected at the start of this report) between 7th May 2025 and 22nd May 2025. Their comments and any responses provided by Officers have been summarised in this report below and will be circulated to Cabinet for consideration prior to any decisions being taken.

4.2 In Almondbury, questions were raised about the land being declared surplus on Sharp Lane and Lumb Lane and whether it was being sold as green belt and grazing land. The current Local Plan review is considering the designation of greenbelt land in Kirklees. We will await the outcome of this work before making any final decision on it but its inclusion in this report provides officers with the necessary approval should disposal be the preferred option.

4.3 In Newsome, all Ward Members agreed to the need for the land on Elm Street to be disposed of.

4.4 This report has been subject to consultation with the Council's Executive Leadership Team (13th May 2025), Executive Board (19th May 2025) and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration (9th May 2025) and their comments have informed the contents of this report.

5. Engagement

5.1 The Portfolio Holder for Finance & Regeneration confirmed that the assets in the SCRS as listed at **Appendix A** are considered surplus to operational requirements.

6. Options Considered

Option A – Do not declare any more assets surplus to requirements.

6.1 The Council's Capital receipts target for 2025/26 is £6m, with a further £4m to be raised in 2026/27, 2027/28, 2028/29 & 2029/30. A pipeline is in place consisting of assets that have already been declared surplus. This includes Riverbank Court, strategic housing sites and other land and buildings set to be auctioned during the first six months of this financial year. If all properties sell for the predicted estimates the current targets for capital receipts would be met during 2025/26.

6.2 However, if any of the assets already approved for disposal fail to sell, or the estimated values have to be revised downwards the annual target for 2025/26 may not be met. The assets in the Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule will be used to cover the shortfall and form the pipeline for future years.

Option B – Declare the new list of assets on the SCRS attached at **Appendix A** surplus to the Council's requirements

6.3 By declaring the supplementary list of assets at **Appendix A** as surplus and approving them for disposal the Council will have more flexibility and alternative options for disposal in the event that properties do not sell, or do not make the predicted estimates. This reduces the risk of the annual capital receipt targets outlined above not being met.

7. Reasons for Recommended Options

The officer recommendation in relation to the proposed Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule at **Appendix A** is that Option B should be pursued. The reasons for this are as follows:

- Declaring these assets as surplus will improve our ability to reach the target for capital receipts either during 2025/26 or more likely in future years when the targets remain challenging. The income from capital receipts plays an important role in supporting the Council's Capital Plan, reducing borrowing, investing in projects, and supporting the Council's financial reserves;
- The supply of small sites, surplus buildings and leasehold interests provides an opportunity for developers to invest, create jobs and business growth for the Kirklees Economy;
- The supply of small sites also provides the opportunity for future owners to help fulfil the Council's ambitions of housing growth and/or community use.
- Disposing of surplus assets reduces the Council's maintenance liabilities, thereby easing revenue and capital financial cost pressures.

In relation to the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury, the officer recommendation is that the site should be released for disposal for the following reasons:

- The objection does not highlight any use or value in the open space for public recreation, nor object to its loss.
- The objections raised are in relation to issues and concerns associated with any potential future development. Use of the site will be considered as part of the statutory planning process should any development be brought forward in future.
- The land can be better utilised and maintained compared to its current derelict and unused state.
- A capital receipt would be achieved, which helps to part-fund the Capital Plan.

In relation to the highway improvement scheme at Walkley Lane / Sycamore Industrial Estate:

- Revoking the proposed scheme will enable the land to be sold without fetter.

On this basis, Cabinet is asked to:

a) Consider and approve the list of assets identified in **Appendix A** as being surplus to requirements, with their disposal being managed as business as usual in line with the contents of this report;
b) Support the immediate need to limit ongoing revenue liabilities and to meet the requirement for capital receipts, by

i. Approving the disposal of the land and property within the Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule 2025/2026 (Appendix A) to support the Council's income targets.
ii. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Regeneration, to negotiate and agree terms and complete the sales of any land and property identified within the Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule 2025/2026 **Appendix A** to support the Council's income targets, in line with the legal requirements outlined in paragraph 3.7.1 and on such terms as officers deem most appropriate.
iii. Approves the disposal of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury shown edged red on the plan at **Appendix B** having considered and dismissed the objection to the disposal of public open space.
iv. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place in consultation to negotiate and agree terms and complete the sale of the land at Grasscroft, Almondbury shown edged red in the plan **Appendix B**.
v. Delegates authority to the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning authority to enter into all agreements necessary to affect any of the disposals approved by this report.
vi. Resolves to revoke all the highway improvement lines as shown in the plan at **Appendix C** and as identified in paragraphs 2.20 - 2.22 of the report.

8. Next Steps and Timelines

8.1 Following this report, and subject to approval, instruction will be given to proceed at pace with the proposals, forming an accelerated programme for delivery.

9. Contact Officer

Alistair Kimpton: Strategic Manager – Logistics - alistair.kimpton@kirklees.gov.uk

David Martin – Head of Property – david.martin@kirklees.gov.uk

10. Background Papers and History of Decisions

i. Surplus Property Disposals 2023/24
ii. Asset Review November 2023
iii. Surplus Property Disposals January 2025

11. Appendices

A. Supplementary Capital Receipts Schedule (SCRS) 2025/26

B. Red Line Boundary Grasscroft, Almondbury

C. Highways improvement scheme, Walkley Lane, Heckmondwike

12. Service Director Responsible

Joanne Bartholomew: Service Director – Development – Place – 01484 210000 – Joanne.Bartholomew@Kirklees.gov.uk

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Appendix A – Supplementary CRS 2025/26

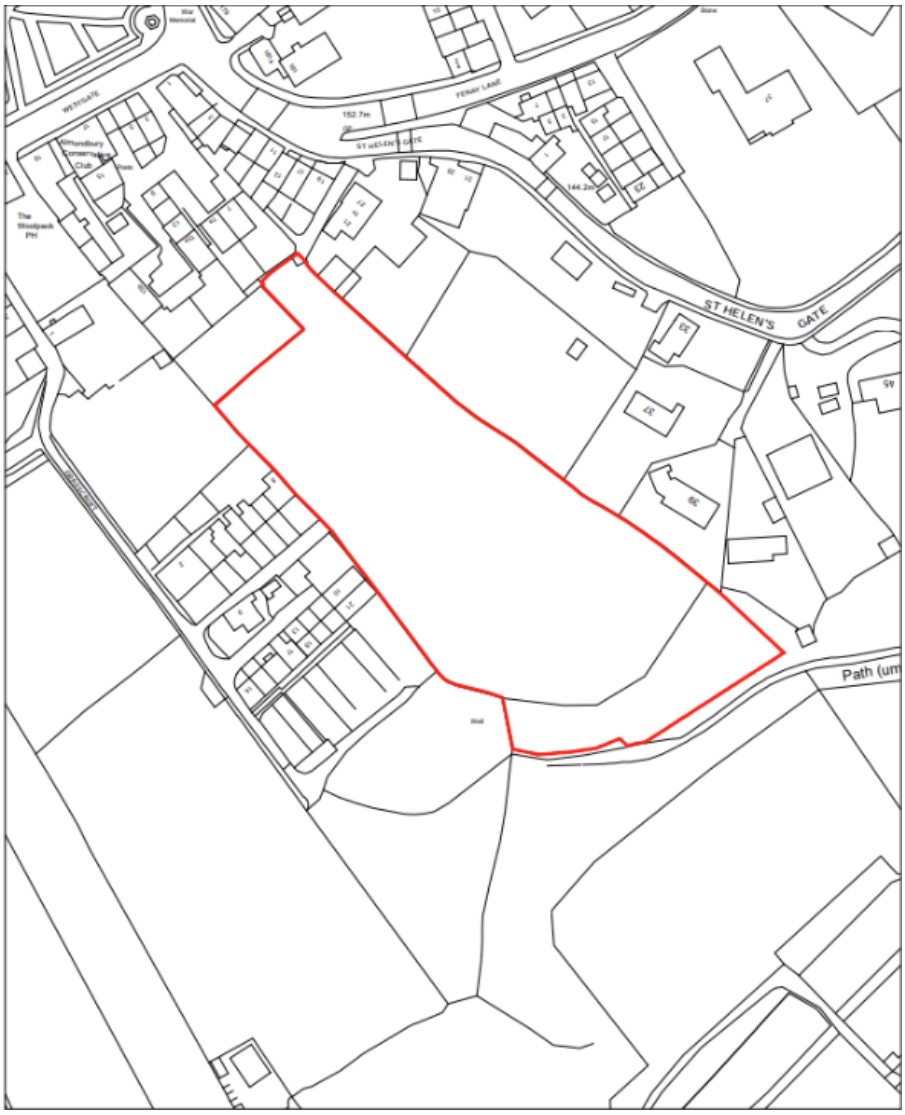
Asset Name and Address (Nearest)	Brief Description	What 3 words	Ward
Land at Lumb Lane Almondbury Huddersfield HD4 6SZ	Vacant Land	Payer.shark.jumps Olive.tapes.fish	Almondbury
Land at Sharp Lane, Sharp Lane Almondbury Huddersfield HD4 6SS	Vacant Land	Fleet.making.tone	Almondbury
74-80 Northgate Almondbury Huddersfield HD5 8RX	Vacant residential properties	Spider.sharp.create	Almondbury
Tenter Hill Farm Deighton Road Deighton Huddersfield HD2 1JP	Vacant land and buildings	Long.scales.statue	Ashbrow
34-38 Station Road Batley WF17 5SU	Derelict Grade 2 Listed buildings and land	Start.rivers.police	Batley East
Land at Smithies Moor/Bridge Street Smithies Moor Lane Birstall Batley WF17 9AT	Vacant Land	Leans.ears.start	Birstall and Birkenshaw
Land at Rudding Street Crosland Moor Huddersfield HD4 5DT	Vacant Land	Weeks.newest.medium	Crosland Moor & Netherton
Land adjacent to 10/17 Swan Lane Lockwood Huddersfield HD1 3TW	Vacant land	Minute.solo. goal	Crosland Moor & Netherton
Land at John Ormsby VC Way Shaw Cross Dewsbury WF12 7RL	Vacant land	Locals.area.ducks	Dewsbury East
Earlsheaton Cemetery Lodge (Former Gatehouse)	Vacant property	Middle.factor.daisy	Dewsbury East

Appendix A – Supplementary CRS 2025/26

Asset Name and Address (Nearest)	Brief Description	What 3 words	Ward
Syke Lane Earlsheaton Dewsbury WF12 8EU			
Land at Woodville Road Eastborough Dewsbury WF12 7BE	Surplus land	Train.melt.jukebox	Dewsbury East
Land at Lea Street/Halifax Old Road Lea Street Hillhouse Huddersfield HD1 6HF	Surplus land	Moods.left.sank	Greenhead
Land at Gate Head Lane Hepworth Holmfirth HD9 7TU	Surplus land	Liquid.remarking.quickly	Holme Valley South
Land adjacent to 83 Prince Royd Halifax Road Birchencliffe Huddersfield HD3 3NQ	Surplus land	Desk.slope.gent	Lindley
Land adjacent to 23 Stocks Bank Mirfield WF14 9QB	Surplus land	Person.maybe.meant	Mirfield
Land at junction of Newsome Road/Elm Street, Newsome Huddersfield HD4 6NX	Surplus land	Social.mouth.open Plants.list.strong	Newsome

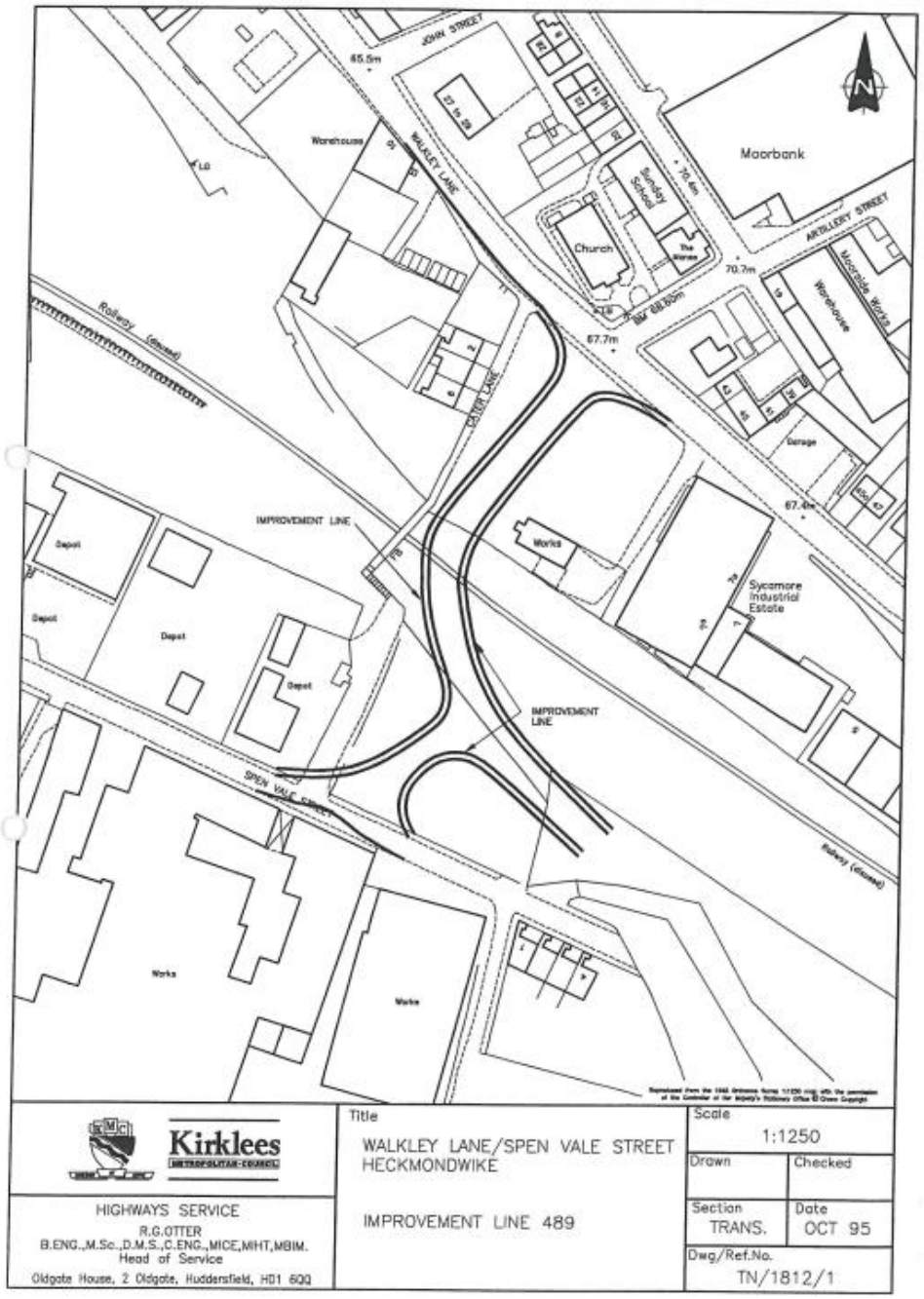
Appendix B

Red Line Boundary – Land at Grasscroft, Almondbury



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Appendix C – Land at Sycamore Industrial Estate (Walkley Lane), Heckmondwike



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Report title: 2025/26 – 2026/27 Corporate Landlord Capital Plans - Proposed allocation of capital funding.

Cabinet date	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member	**Finance & Regeneration (Corporate Landlord) - Cllr Graham Turner**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report

This report will identify potential projects, for Member approval, to be funded from the 2025/26 – 2026/27 Corporate Landlord baseline programmes in the Council's Capital Plan. It will use the delegation in this report and the officer delegation scheme (if necessary) to manage the programmes within the proposed two-year budget envelope.

Recommendations

Cabinet Members are requested to:

- Consider and approve the programmes of work for 2025/26 – 2026/27 as shown in **Appendix A** of this report for delivery.

- Consider and approve the proposed delegated powers to the Service Director – Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder as outlined in paragraphs 2.24 to 2.26 of this report and shown below:

    - Add to or delete projects from the programmes detailed in this report without prior Cabinet approval, allowing for emerging priorities around health and safety, providing that the total cost of the programmes remains within the approved capital allocations set by Council.

    - transfer resources between the Corporate Landlord programmes without restrictions to enable efficient delivery of projects.

    - Slip, delete or reallocate budget between projects during the course of the two financial years providing that the total cost of the programmes remains within the approved capital allocations set by Council to enable the effective management of the programmes concerned over the two-year period.

- Approve the acceptance and addition to the Capital Plan of £76,006 (retrospective for £68,405 already applied in 2024/25) grant from Sport England and £100K capital from the Trustee of Clayton West to be vired into the Scissett Baths budget as agreed contributions to support this essential H&S / Refurbishment scheme.

Reasons for Recommendations The Corporate Landlord baseline budgets address urgent and essential condition, health and safety, and service delivery issues within the Council's extensive portfolio of land and buildings. The budget is also used to deliver better outcomes by facilitating a programme of refurbishments, remodelling and rationalisation to ensure that operational buildings remain fit for purpose and suitable for the delivery of the Council's objectives, promoting a strong, sustainable economy for the residents of Kirklees. Where it is not considered financially viable to invest funding into a building, the Council will seek disposal ensuring essential savings on maintenance costs.	
Resource Implication: The Corporate Landlord capital investment programmes as outlined in this report are funded through Council prudential borrowing, the revenue impact of which is included in the Council Medium Term Financial Plan.	
Date signed off by Executive Director & name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?**	**David Shepherd (Place) – 24.06.2025** **Kevin Mulvaney – 24.06.2025** **Sam Lawton – 24.06.2025**

Electoral wards affected: **All**

Ward councillors consulted: **No**

Public or private: **Public**

Has GDPR been considered? There are no GDPR implications relating to this report.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report will identify themes for programmes of work to be funded in financial years 2025/26 and 2026/27 from the Corporate Landlord baseline programmes, including Asset Investment, Compliance and Welfare. All these referenced funding streams are contained in the Five-Year Capital Plan pending approval by Cabinet in July 2025.

1.2 Members will be requested to consider and approve the baseline programmes along with the broad themes of investment as shown in **Appendix A** and to authorise delegated powers to the Service Director – Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to manage the programmes within the overall budget envelopes so that priority projects can be identified, designed and delivered.

1.3 This baseline investment to maintain facilities and address urgent condition items is a two-year rolling programme which runs alongside and compliments the wider capital plan. Members are asked to note the connectivity between baseline investment, partners and strategic work programmes e.g. the Cultural Heart, Blueprints and Small Towns programme.

2.0 Information required to take a decision

(a) Background

2.1 The Corporate Landlord portfolio of assets includes, for example, Office Accommodation, Libraries, Children's Homes and Centres, Adults Care Homes and Day Centres, Town Halls, Public Halls, Sports and Leisure facilities, Museums, Crematoriums, Cemeteries, Car parks, Depots and Parks.

2.2 Pending the approval of the rollover Capital Plan at Council in July 2025, the funding allocations for the Corporate Landlord baseline programmes will be as follows:

- Asset Investment baseline of £9.358M for 2025/26 and £7.810M for 2026/27
- Compliance baseline of £1.479M for 2025/26 and £1.125M for 2026/27
- Welfare baseline of £517K in 2025/26 and £1.068M in 2026/27

The above budgets reflect a recent reduction by an overall figure of approx. £2M to the programmes which has been moved into future years to aid the financing of the Council's borrowing profile. This report details how it is proposed to spend the allocated funds.

2.3 Due to the size and complexity of the Council's portfolio, which includes many heritage assets, a system of prioritisation is required to ensure that the available funds are targeted at the buildings with the highest need. A rolling programme of condition surveys and fire risk assessments, together with local intelligence, is used to determine a prioritised list of schemes. Discussions are held with Services to understand their condition needs. Potential projects are brought forward for pre-scheme feasibility studies to identify more detailed cost estimates and scheme priority.

2.4 The Asset Strategy team also considers the draft programme to ensure that the proposed investment aligns with the key objectives of the Council's Corporate Asset Strategy and complements strategic priority investments such as the Cultural Heart, the Huddersfield and Dewsbury Blueprints and the Small-Town Centres programme.

2.5 As a major land and building owner, the Council's aims and ambitions go beyond simply delivering buildings that are warm, dry, safe and secure. We aim to add value and to utilise land holdings and properties to achieve our vision for Kirklees, which is to be a district which combines a strong, sustainable economy with a high quality of life – leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity and low inequality where people enjoy better health and high-quality services throughout their lives. How we use our significant land and buildings portfolio can have a major impact on economic growth, regeneration and health and wellbeing, whilst helping to contribute to the Council achieving its Climate Emergency commitments.

2.6 The Corporate Landlord Asset Investment and Compliance baseline budgets address urgent and essential condition, health and safety and legislative issues within the Council's extensive portfolio of land and buildings. The baseline Welfare budget helps address identified shortfalls in the shape / form / layout of buildings which impacts on the ability of Council Services to deliver their operations / outcomes. This budget helps to deliver better outcomes by facilitating a programme of refurbishments

remodelling changes to ensure that operational buildings remain fit for purpose and suitable for the delivery of the Council's objectives.

2.7 To aid strategic and operational planning, improve capital outturn and project delivery, two-year programmes of work have been developed and proposed for approval. These consist primarily of themes of work for implementation, plus some generic pots that have been allocated for groups of buildings such as parks and depots, demolitions, commercial properties and Children's and Adults Services, with the detailed schemes to be agreed during the course of the financial year.

2.8 The delegated powers proposed in the recommendations and paragraphs 2.24 to 2.26 will provide officers with the flexibility to be able to adjust delivery plans and project budgets whilst maximising our investments. This is particularly important given the challenging construction market at present where contractors are being more selective when picking the tenders that they wish to submit for. A balance needs to be struck between undertaking essential works and ensuring continuing value for money, and the proposed delegated powers will enable officers to take a flexible approach with the management of individual projects and the overall programmes.

(a) *Proposed Corporate Landlord **Asset Investment** Programme allocations for 2025/26 - 2026/27.*

2.9 As previously mentioned, pending the approval of the five-year Capital Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30 due at Cabinet on 8th July 2025, the Corporate Landlord Asset Investment programme has been allocated £9.358M in total for 2025/26 and £7.810M for 2026/27. The 2025/26 allocation includes funds rolled forward from the previous financial year that have already been contractually committed.

2.10 The proposed programmes for the next two financial years, as shown at **Appendix A**, targets investment at buildings and land holdings that align to the Council's Asset Strategy and other major investment programmes and concentrate on the following:

- Urgent condition works to address or prevent the deterioration of the asset e.g., replacement roofs and roof coverings, boilers and heating systems, fabric repairs and electrical works.

- Health and Safety work to address legislative requirements and ensure that assets remain safe for use e.g., repairs to boundary walls, demolition of failed structures, improvements to parks, depots, car parks.

2.11 The Council has many listed heritage assets and as a responsible asset owner, it has a duty to ensure that these buildings remain in good repair and safe for their intended purpose. The next two years will include proposed investment in buildings such as our Town Hall estate, Bagshaw Museum, Dewsbury Mansion House, Oakwell Hall and Tolson Museum to address essential works that deliver on our duty to maintain and protect our heritage, and which compliment key Council priorities such as the Cultural Heart redevelopment and the relevant Blueprints / Small Centres programmes.

2.12 Works are proposed to a number of buildings in the Council's Commercial Estate to fulfil our landlord obligations to tenants and partners delivering key Council objectives. A number of demolitions are planned in relation to life expired buildings, which will

deliver revenue savings and provide potential development sites that will boost housing and regeneration aims. The former Birkdale High School site is one of these sites with proposed demolition to take place in 2025/26 at a total estimated cost of around £650K, following persistent vandalism and arson. Where we exit buildings as part of the Council's asset rationalisation, dilapidation works will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant leases.

2.13 Many schemes will tackle a mixture of condition, compliance and suitability issues in order to deliver fit for purpose accommodation that meets the future needs of the Council. A rolling programme of improvements to Adult Services Care Homes, Children's Homes, Children Centres, Libraries and KAL Leisure Centres will make a noticeable difference to public facing buildings that the Council delivers its services from. The Walsh Building in Dewsbury will see significant investment to address condition needs, improve security and the overall customer experience. As well as using a mix of Corporate Landlord funding, the Libraries Service have contributed £40K to enhance the Library Hub at this location.

2.14 Essential repairs to the Civic Centre 1 piazza and car park are due to start in 2026/27, following on from the current refurbishment of the Upperhead Row car park, which is the precursor to a multi-million pound investment in Huddersfield Bus Station by the Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority, The proposed £1.67M investment in the Piazza will include ramp works in 2025/26 to improve access to Civic Centre 1 and a UPS Generator to enable the building to continue to operate in times of a power cut.

2.15 Although Kirkgate Buildings is currently mothballed as office accommodation, it retains a significant commercial presence at ground floor. Urgent condition works are required to the roof to prevent a serious deterioration of the building, and fire safety and compliance works to ensure the ongoing safety of all occupants. The scheme is expected to represent around £750K investment in this heritage building.

2.16 Work is continuing in 2025/26 at Scissett Baths to address urgent condition issues and improve the visitor experience through the refurbishment of the changing rooms. This is being partly funded through external funding from Sport England and the Trustees of Clayton West. Members are requested to approve the acceptance and addition to the Capital Plan of £76,006 (retrospective for £68,405 already applied in 2024/25) grant from Sport England and £100K capital from the Trustee of Clayton West to be vired into the project budget as an agreed contribution to support the scheme.

(b) *Proposed Corporate Landlord* ***Compliance*** *programme for 2025/26 and 2026/27.*

2.17 Pending the approval of the five-year Capital Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30 as mentioned above, the Corporate Landlord Compliance programme has been allocated £1.479M in total for 2025/26 and £1.125M for 2026/27. The 2025/26 allocation includes funds rolled forward from the previous financial year, which are already contractually committed to ongoing schemes.

2.18 The first few years of the compliance programme were focused primarily on the Council's sleeping risk accommodation with extensive fire safety improvements undertaken throughout our portfolio of Children's Homes and Aged Person's Homes,

and a major refurbishment of our residential outdoor adventure facility at Cliffe House. We continue to invest in these buildings where needed.

2.19 Fire safety works are now being targeted at the Council's core office accommodation portfolio, buildings leased to third parties, and buildings undertaking commercial activities. In addition, a rolling programme of works involving our portfolio of maintained schools is occurring on a risk assessed basis.

2.20 All works will be based on a building-by-building Fire Risk Assessment (FRA), supported where necessary by a fire compartmentation study. A new rolling programme of FRAs was begun in 2022, which identifies prioritised works to be tackled through the fire safety programme. Typical works include improved fire compartmentation, repair or replacement of fire doors, new fire alarms and improvements to means of escape. Individual projects will be developed and designed as FRAs are received on a rolling programme using the delegated powers requested in paragraphs 2.24 to 2.26 of this report.

(c) *Proposed Corporate Landlord **Welfare** Programme for 2025/26 and 2026/27*

2.21 As previously mentioned, the five-year Capital Plan 2025/26 - 2029/30 has allocated £517K for 2025/26 and £1.068M for 2026/27 for suitability purposes pending the Plan's approval at Cabinet in July 2025.

2.22 This budget will be used to improve the suitability of existing accommodation to enable it to be fit for purpose for the services being delivered from the location as well as providing modern welfare facilities for staff and visitors. Typical works would include improved disability provision, ensuring that kitchens, toilets, and showers are provided or refurbished to modern standards and installing modern furniture, fittings and equipment to facilitate mobile and agile working across the Council.

2.23 Priorities for the next two years include improving the welfare facilities for depot-based staff, with significant improvements identified for a number of Parks and Bereavements locations. Further details of the proposed allocations of funding are provided at **Appendix A**.

(d) *Financial Delegations*

2.24 In order to aid the implementation of the Corporate Landlord Capital programmes described in this report and build upon the improving capital outturn performance of the last two years, Members are requested to delegate authority in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules 3.9 dated June 2025, to the Service Director – Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to manage the implementation of the programme areas within the respective agreed total programme budgets.

2.25 Delegated powers would include the authority to:

- Add to or delete projects from the programmes detailed in this report without prior Cabinet approval providing that the total cost of the programmes remains within the approved capital allocations set by Council.

- transfer resources between the Corporate Landlord programmes without restrictions to enable efficient delivery of projects.

- Slip, delete or reallocate budget between projects during the course of the two financial years providing that the total cost of the programmes remains within the approved capital allocations set by Council to enable the effective management of the programmes concerned over the two-year period.

2.26 Significant amendments to the approved programmes under delegated powers will be reported to Cabinet through the Quarterly Financial Monitoring process or through delegated decision notices on the Council's website.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

Schemes developed in the condition and compliance elements of the programmes are designed to prevent severe disruption to service delivery e.g., by preventing part or total failure of boilers, roofs, electrical systems. These works ensure that our buildings and facilities are warm, dry, safe, secure and fit for purpose in line with our corporate asset strategy key objectives. The impact of such works on the operation of individual buildings is discussed and agreed in consultation with the relevant Services to limit the effect on day-to-day operation of front-line services.

The schemes within the suitability element of the programme have been developed together with Directorates to enhance service delivery and deliver improved outcomes for communities. They fit with our strategic asset strategy objectives to provide operational assets that value our staff, enable the delivery of effective and efficient services and work closely with partners and residents.

3.2 Working with Partners

Collaborating and working together with partners has been key to ensuring we are constantly improving accommodation for staff and service delivery. Many partners share space with the Council in key buildings that we are wishing to invest in and therefore collaborative discussions with partners are key to providing solutions that facilitate increased integration of services to provide a better intelligence led, outcome focused service delivery.

3.3 Place Based Working

We continue to invest in the creation of community assets to facilitate place-based working for council staff, partners and communities. The proposed modernisation of key Council buildings will enable more locality-based services to operate from them, serving the communities in which they are based, and enable closer working with key partners. Investment in Libraries, Adult Care Homes, Markets and Town Halls will ensure that these much-valued buildings continue to be available to serve their local communities.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

A key objective is to ensure that we invest and manage our assets to ensure that the Council's Carbon Neutral Vision is supported and enhanced. The condition and refurbishment schemes identified in this report will ensure that we are replacing inefficient roofs, boilers, heating and electrical systems with modern, energy efficient materials and equipment that will contribute to an ever-reducing carbon footprint for

the Council. The refurbished buildings will be fit for purpose, modern, energy efficient buildings with consideration given to green technologies where feasible and appropriate.

3.5 **Improving outcomes for children**

Investment in assets such as our Parks, Children's Centres and Children's Homes through the Corporate Landlord programmes will help deliver better services for children and young people.

3.6 **Financial Implications**

The Corporate Landlord baseline programmes are funded through Council prudential borrowing. All the funding streams are identified in the Council's Five-Year Capital Plan due for approval at Cabinet in July 2025. The revenue impact has been incorporated into the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan, due to be approved at the same meeting.

3.7 **Legal Implications**

All works will be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. The Council has a public sector equality duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and an integrated impact assessment will be considered at the appropriate stage of delivery of individual projects. The Council will comply with its landlord obligations in relation to properties / land leased to third parties.

4 Consultation

4.1 The programmes outlined in this report have been subject to consultation with officers from the Council Services impacted by the proposed works. The Council's Executive Board and Executive Leadership Team have been consulted as part of the approval process.

5 Engagement

Not applicable.

6 Options

6.1 **Options Considered**

The Corporate Landlord capital programmes provide much needed investment in the Council's extensive portfolio of land and buildings, which are used to ensure that the Authority can meet its statutory, legislative, commercial and social duties. Without such investment, buildings would close or be unable to provide residents with the services they need. Before any investment is made, the long-term future of the asset is considered to ensure that it fits with the Council's needs moving forward.

6.2 **Reasons for recommended Option**

The Corporate Landlord baseline investment budgets address urgent and essential condition, health and safety, and service delivery issues within the Council's extensive portfolio of land and buildings. The budget is also used to deliver better outcomes by facilitating a programme of refurbishments, remodelling and rationalisation to ensure that operational buildings remain fit for purpose and suitable for the delivery of the Council's objectives, promoting a strong, sustainable economy for the residents of Kirklees. Where it is not considered financially viable to invest

funding into a building, the Council will seek disposal ensuring essential savings on maintenance costs.

7 Next steps and timelines

7.1 Subject to approval of the proposed 2025/26 – 2026/27 capital programmes, officers from Corporate Landlord and the Council's Technical Services will ensure that the programmes are updated, and the projects concerned are identified, developed, designed, procured and implemented.

8 Contact officer

David Martin - Head of Service for Property - Tel: 01484 221000. Email: david.martin@kirklees.gov.uk

Emma Griff – Strategic Manager Facilities – Property - Tel: 01484 221000 Email: emma.griff@kirklees.gov.uk

Chris Watson – Strategic Manager for Asset Data & Compliance – Property - Tel: 01484 221000. Email: chris.watson@kirklees.gov.uk

9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

5th March 2025 Council: 5 Year Capital Investment Plan 2025/2026 to 2029/2030

10 Appendices

Appendix A: Proposed Allocations 2025/26 and 2026/27 Corporate Landlord Baseline Capital Investment Plans

11 Service Director responsible

Joanne Bartholomew - Service Director – Development
Tel: 01484 221000 Email: joanne.bartholomew@kirklees.gov.uk

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PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2025/26 AND 2026/27 CORPORATE LANDLORD BASELINE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLANS **Appendix A**

	2025/26	2026/27
PLACE - CORPORATE LANDLORD ASSET INVESTMENT PROGRAMME		
Essential condition works to stabilise, protect and restore heritage assets.	£660,403	£743,235
Essential works to address urgent condition and Health & Safety issues across a range of buildings e.g. replacement roofs, external weatherproofing, new boilers, electrical rewires, supporting walls, structures and lighting.	£1,498,000	£4,073,944
Asset Rationalisation – demolitions, dilapidations relating to exited buildings, schemes to relocate / refurbish facilities to enable building closures.	£800,093	£400,000
Investment in Adult and Children's Services e.g. Care Homes, Children's Homes, Children Centres and other front-line delivery buildings.	£533,627	£600,000
Investment in KAL sites to ensure that they remain in good condition to ensure future provision.	£341,136	£860,166
Capital Plan preparation costs - advance surveys / feasibility studies / asbestos surveys / condition surveys / programme management.	£199,624	£50,000
Risk pot for emergency additions to the Capital Plan / balance for high tenders / New scheme determined through the course of the financial year.	£197,658	£607,655
Rollover schemes from 2024/25 previously approved by Cabinet – primarily contractually committed.	£5,127,126	£475,000
TOTAL	**£9,357,667**	**£7,810,000**
PLACE - CORPORATE LANDLORD COMPLIANCE PROGRAMME		
Rolling programme of Fire Risk Assessments and compartmentation surveys.	£75,000	£75,000
Fire safety improvements in the Council's office and commercial estate.	£402,822	-
Replacement fire alarms and doors, emergency lighting and compartmentation works.	£815,000	£1,000,000
Risk pot for emergency additions to the Capital Plan / balance for high tenders.	£80,036	£50,000
Rollover schemes from 2024/25 previously approved by Cabinet – primarily contractually committed.	£105,729	-
TOTAL	**£1,478,587**	**£1,125,000**
PLACE - CORPORATE LANDLORD WELFARE AND SUITABILITY PROGRAMME		

Improvements to the suitability of Council depots including Greenhead Park, Cawley Lane and Peace Pit.	£203,639	£392,385
Contribution to the adaptation of the Walsh Building	£112,351	-
Feasibility study to look at depot rationalisation.	£50,000	£100,000
Schemes to be determined in conjunction with the relevant Service.	£100,561	£575,615
Risk pot for emergency additions to the Capital Plan / balance for high tenders.	£50,000	-
TOTAL	**£516,551**	**£1,068,000**

Kirklees COUNCIL

REPORT TITLE: UPDATE REGARDING PROGRESS WITH THE REGULATORY NOTICE

Meeting:	**Cabinet**
Date:	**8 July 2025**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**No** **N/A**
Purpose of Report: This report provides an update on the Council's progress in meeting the requirements set out in the Regulatory Notice issued by the Regulator of Social Housing. It outlines developments in fire safety, damp, mould and condensation (DMC), water hygiene, data and systems improvement, governance, and resourcing. The purpose is to ensure continued transparency, demonstrate accountability, and reinforce the Council's commitment to delivering safe and compliant housing services.	
Recommendations Cabinet is asked to note the contents of this report and approve its dissemination to stakeholders including residents, partners, and relevant regulatory bodies. **Reasons for Recommendations** This report supports transparency and accountability, demonstrating the Council's continued commitment to improving housing safety and compliance. It ensures stakeholders remain informed of progress and actions taken to safeguard tenants.	
Resource Implications	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> and name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?**	David Shepherd, Executive Director of Place 28 May 2025 K T Mulvaney Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director of Finance 24 June 2025 Sam Lawton, Service Director for Legal Services 24 June 2025

Electoral wards affected: **All**

Ward councillors consulted: **N/A**

Public or private: **Public**

Has GDPR been considered? **N/A**

1 Executive summary

1.1 Background & Context

On 6 March 2024, Kirklees Council received a Regulatory Notice from the Regulator of Social Housing following a self-referral that highlighted substantial shortcomings in its compliance with statutory health and safety obligations. The primary issues identified were overdue fire safety actions and a large backlog of unresolved DMC cases. Further investigations revealed weaknesses in governance, data integrity, and water hygiene risk management.

These findings constituted a breach of Part 1.2 of the Home Standard, which mandates that registered providers must ensure tenant health and safety and maintain a responsive, cost-effective repairs service. In response, the Council launched a far-reaching improvement programme that includes structural governance reforms, recruitment of key personnel, investments in new IT systems, and engagement of external partners to support delivery.

1.2 Governance

1.2.1 To ensure effective oversight and delivery of the improvement programme, the Council has implemented a revised governance framework. This includes the establishment of the Homes and Neighbourhoods Improvement Board (HNIB), chaired independently with membership from elected councillors and tenants.

1.2.2 Weekly programme management meetings are held with Turner & Townsend, who have been engaged to support the delivery of the fire safety programme, and all activity is overseen by the Portfolio Holder and Executive Leadership Team.

1.2.3 Additionally, bi-monthly reporting to the Building Safety Assurance Board allows for continuous monitoring and accountability.

1.2.4 A governance review is also in progress to assess the effectiveness of these structures and identify opportunities for improvement, including the integration of external independent oversight.

1.3 Fire safety

1.3.1 The Council has taken comprehensive steps to address fire safety deficiencies. All buildings requiring a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) are being reassessed under a new 12-month programme conducted by Pennington Choices.

1.3.2 As of 16 June 2025, a total of 505 out of 860 (59%) FRAs have been completed since November 2024, from which 4724 fire safety actions have been identified.

1.3.3 The Council has appointed Turner & Townsend to provide programme and contract management to manage the scheduling and quality assurance of action remediation between 12 contractors and the Council's Property Services. This includes fire doors, signage, electrical work, and compartmentation.

1.3.4 Mitigations for all high-risk buildings including evacuation plans, weekly safety inspections, sprinkler systems, and alarm installations remain in place to protect residents.

1.3.5 Significant fire safety upgrade works are underway across the Council's high-rise blocks with Harold Wilson nearing completion currently at defect remediation stage in readiness for final sign off in July 2025, Berry Brow and Buxton House are fully decanted and awaiting decommission.

1.4 **Damp, mould, and condensation (DMC)**

1.4.1 To address the DMC backlog and prevent future cases, the Council has established a multidisciplinary team to manage case triage, surveys, treatments, and repairs. This approach has led to improved output and significant progression towards the achievement of a business-as-usual position, which the Council is on track to achieve from August 2025, at which point the backlog of cases will have been addressed and the overall number of cases will be stable for the Council's teams to manage within its usual processes.

1.4.2 From an initial backlog of over 1,800 cases in March 2024, the open caseload has been reduced to 532 cases at 16 June 2025.

1.4.3 A formal DMC Policy was approved by Cabinet in September 2024, underpinned by a strategic approach that prioritises cases involving vulnerable tenants. Capital investment is being designed to target at high-incidence areas such as Bradley and Chinewood, with preventative works focusing on ventilation and structural repairs.

1.4.4 Performance monitoring of the effectiveness of repairs has also been strengthened through 3-month and 6-month post-inspection procedures that identify whether there is any recurrence of DMC requiring further remediation and informing surveying accuracy.

1.4.5 The development of revised tenancy agreement mandating access for necessary repairs will enable hazards to be addressed at the earliest convenience preventing any further risk to tenants. Additionally, a recent trial of the EPA legal enforcement process was successful enabling the Council to have clear escalation to support resolution in no-access scenarios.

1.4.6 Training for operational and management staff is ongoing, including sessions focused on compliance with the forthcoming Awaab's Law and the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) management. Further, new communication materials and web content have been developed to support tenant engagement and understanding.

1.5 **Water hygiene**

1.5.1 The Council has made significant strides in improving water hygiene compliance. Legionella assessments have been incorporated into the annual gas safety inspection cycle. As of 16 June 2025, 15,207/67.5% of assessments have been carried out over 33 weeks.

1.5.2 Properties with higher-risk systems will be prioritised for assessment and are scheduled to be completed by December 2025.

1.6 **Stock condition surveys**

1.6.1 A new stock condition survey programme will commence in July 2025. The survey is planned over a three-year period and aims to cover 100% of the Council's housing stock. The first year will assess 20% of properties, followed by 40% in both years two and three. These surveys will collect data to support investment planning, ensure compliance with decent homes standards, and identify Category 1 and 2 hazards under the HHSRS framework. The results will also support the Council's response to Awaab's Law from October 2025.

1.7 **Data quality and systems**

1.7.1 Accurate and transparent data is critical to delivering an effective compliance programme. The Council is currently upgrading its asset management (July 2025) and repairs systems (Jan 2026) to enable enhanced data governance and reporting.

1.7.2 In parallel, the Council is rolling out CX, a new housing management system due to go live by October 2025 which will enable improved service delivery and customer service.

1.8 **Regulatory compliance**

1.8.1 The Council is working towards its ambition for the removal of the Regulatory Notice by the end of the calendar year.

1.8.2 Whilst this report specifically addresses the Council's response to the regulatory notice concerning damp and mould and fire safety, it should be viewed within the broader context of the Council's enduring commitment to full compliance with all regulatory standards set by the Regulator of Social Housing.

1.8.3 In particular, the Council remains committed to meeting the expectations of the Consumer Standards, which encompass not only the quality and safety of homes, but also tenant engagement, neighbourhood management, and the fair and effective management of tenancies. This includes the Home Standard, which is of direct relevance to the issues outlined in this report, as well as the wider framework that ensures tenants are treated with respect, empowered to participate in service delivery, and live in well-managed, sustainable communities.

1.8.4 The actions outlined in this report form part of a wider and sustained programme of work designed to achieve and maintain compliance across the full suite of regulatory requirements, and to deliver high-quality, safe, and accountable housing services to all residents.

2 Resourcing and recruitment

2.1 To support delivery of improvement plans, the Council has significantly strengthened its staffing. A new Director of Housing will join in June 2025, bringing senior-level experience in asset management and housing compliance.

2.2 The Council is preparing to recruit a new Head of Assets and Building Safety whilst undertaking a review of the service structure to ensure that the Council benefits from the required roles and skillsets to ensure successful delivery of its capital programme.

2.3 Agency staff have been deployed to provide short-term capacity and will remain in place until permanent staffing structures are embedded.

3 Communications and engagement

3.1 A building safety communications plan is in development which will be aligned to other communication initiatives across the service and wider Council to enable accessibility and alignment.

3.2 In the meantime, regular communications are sent to tenants to advise of planned inspections, works and updates to ensure tenants are aware of any Kirklees staff or contractors attending blocks and individual properties and to ensure that tenants are kept informed of the progress of any cases.

3.3 Engagement with the Tenant Led Panel (TLP) continues to ensure that resident voices are reflected in programme delivery. Feedback gathered through this engagement will inform ongoing improvements to service standards and communication strategies.

3.4 A service wide communications plan is being drafted that will focus on engagement with a range of audiences. As part of this work, the Council is committed to providing updates to councillors relating to planned works and any potential impacts on residents.

4 Information required to take a decision

4.1 N/A.

5 Implications for the Council

5.1 The Regulatory Notice has been in place since March 2024. Significant improvements have taken place and regular progress updates are provided to the Regulator for Social Housing with bi-weekly trajectory updates, monthly narrative improvement plan reporting, and meetings setting out progress made to address the most urgent cases and achieve a business-as-usual position.

5.2 Failure to deliver the programme and meet the requirements of the regulatory notice could result in several outcomes: inspection, sanctions for the Council or other such measures as stipulated by the regulation.

5.3 Failure to deliver the programme will result in the Council not fulfilling its commitment to keeping residents safe.

5.4 Reputational damage to the Council could be significant.

6 Council Plan

6.1 ***Thriving People and Communities***

6.1.1 Ensure people are living in homes that are modern, safe, and warm, addressing all outstanding issues in compliance relating to fire safety, water quality, and DMC.

7 Financial implications

7.1 Budgets have been provided to support the current pressures identified in this report. For damp and mould works, the outturn position at 31 March 2025 reported an overspend of £239k against a budget of £2m. For 2025-26 the budget for damp and mould works has been increased to £2.750m to provide for additional works required. For fire surveys there is a revenue budget of £500k, for 40% stock condition surveys a budget of £1.7m and a budget of £316k has been provided for water quality testing as a large proportion of this work was carried out in the last financial year.

7.2 There is a baseline capital budget of £39.5m which includes £23.5m for planned component replacements and estate improvement, £9.8m for general building safety works, which includes budgets for the works to the six storey blocks, low rise blocks and the retirement living scheme. There is an approved budget of £57m for the high-rise blocks of which £2.8m relates to 2025-26.

8 Legal Implications

8.1 Section 198A of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (as amended by the Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023) states that the Regulator's regulatory and enforcement powers may be used if a registered provider has failed to meet a consumer standard.

Following the self-referral by the Council the Regulator determined that the Council had potentially breached part 1.2 of the Home Standard (which has subsequently been superseded on 1 April 2024 by the Social and Quality standard). As the Council has put in place a programme to rectify these failures the Regulator determined there was no need to take statutory action. The Council will need to continue to provide assurance to the Regular that any breach is being remedied.

8.2 Kirklees Council is seeing an increase in disrepair claims because of homes being impacted by DMC. A separate report is planned to understand the scale of DMC resulting in a disrepair claim. A disrepair improvement plan is being developed and additional financial provision has been set aside within the HRA business plan to fund claims.

8.3 A review of the self-assessment against the introduction of Awaab's Law is to be undertaken to ensure Kirklees Council is compliant with the regulations being introduced from October 2025.

9 Climate Change and Air Quality

9.1 The impact DMC has on tenants' health and particularly young people and those with any vulnerability is considerable. The improvement plan aims to eradicate damp and mould in Council homes which should improve this position.

10 Other

10.1 N/A.

11 Consultation

11.1 A consultation was carried out with tenants affected by DMC with learning used to revise the process. Improved communications are planned as part of the delivery of the improvement plan.

12 Engagement

12.1 A full review of the letters and communications channels for reporting and carrying out works has been undertaken to inform the new suite of communications with tenants.

12.2 Tenant Led Panel has been consulted and engaged throughout the improvement planning and delivery of work associated with the regulatory notice.

12.3 There is an agreed resident engagement and communications strategy with includes regulatory notice requirements as well as the key building safety priorities. Resident engagement is carried out as part of the wider building safety engagement strategy. This ensures that there are consistent messages and opportunities for residents' feedback which can and will be incorporated into the delivery of the programme.

12.4 All individual projects for delivery have dedicated engagement teams to ensure that all residents are fully aware of any changes, improvements and requirements. Regular updates will be provided on the website, and regular communications will be published throughout the length of the programme.

13 Options

13.1 N/A.

14 Reasons for recommended option

14.1 N/A.

15 Next steps and timelines

15.1 The delivery of the DMC improvement plan is on track to arrive at a business-as-usual position by August 2025.

15.2 The fire safety risk assessment programme will run until January 2025 and remedial works delivered until completion of any identified actions.

15.3 The stock condition surveys will begin in July 2025 over a three-year period.

15.4 The Council will continue regularly engaging with the Regulator for Social Housing through reporting and meetings until the Regulatory Notice is removed.

16 Contact officer

Erran Taylor: Head of Housing Governance and Improvement
Erran.taylor@kirklees.gov.uk

17 Background Papers and History of Decisions

17.1 Update regarding progress on the regulatory notice – 8 October 2025
17.2 Regulatory Notice – Gov.uk

18 Appendices

18.1 None.

19 Service Director responsible

19.1 Janet Sharpe: Interim Service Director for Homes and Neighbourhoods
Janet.sharpe@kirklees.gov.uk

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Kirklees COUNCIL

REPORT TITLE: VARIATION TO THE TERMS OF TENANCY AGREEMENT

Meeting	Cabinet
Date	8th July 2025
Cabinet Member	Cllr Moses Crook Deputy Leader and Transport and Housing
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	Yes Yes
Purpose of Report To seek Cabinet approval to vary Kirklees Council's Tenancy Agreement.	
Recommendation That Cabinet approve the variation to the Council's Tenancy Agreement and if approved, this change takes effect from Monday 18th August 2025. **Reasons for Recommendation** The Tenancy Agreement is the legal contract between the Council and its tenants, the agreement sets out both the tenant's and the Council's rights and responsibilities. Under Section 102/103 of the Housing Act 1985, the Council has recently concluded a statutory consultation regarding the proposed amendments to the Council's Tenancy Agreement. The feedback from this statutory consultation is summarised in this report. Given the responses provided Cabinet is asked to approve the variation to the current Tenancy Agreement.	
Resource Implications There will be financial costs incurred as part of this process. Letters will be sent to all tenants (circa 21,500) by 2nd class post on two occasions.	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?** **Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?**	David Shepherd - Place SLT 14th May 2025 Kevin Mulvaney 24th June 2025 Samantha Lawton 25th June 2025

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: A Councillor Briefing was sent in April 2025 as part of the formal consultation.

Public or private: Public – Appendix 2 is Private

Has GDPR been considered? Yes. Appendix 2 is not to be published online.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The terms and conditions of Kirklees Councils (KCs) Tenancy Agreement (TA) were last reviewed in 2016 and 2022. The variations made at that time were for the frequency of when rent payments should be made. The last variation in 2022 was for rent payments to be made weekly in advance rather than monthly.

1.2 The remaining terms and conditions of the TA have not been comprehensively reviewed for some time and not since the former ALMO (KNH) moved back into the control of KC in April 2021.

1.3 The review is necessary to ensure the TA reflects up to date policy, practice, and regulations. It needs to provide clarity about a tenant's rights and their responsibilities. The current TA also needs to provide clarity on:

- The right to access properties for periodic visits and tenancy reviews
- The right to access properties for essential work or compliance checks
- Responsibilities for different types of repairs, and approach to costs & recharge
- Making tenant responsibilities clear and how we will address neglect, damage to property including tampering of electric meters, smoke detection equipment etc
- Rent and Service Charges
- Domestic Abuse, Safeguarding
- Social Housing Fraud
- How Tenants can engage with us
- The Tenants right to complain

1.4 There is a statutory duty under Section 103 Housing Act 1985 to consult all tenants likely be affected by a change in an area of housing management. A variation to the conditions of the TA therefore requires a full tenant consultation exercise.

1.5 The statutory process provides tenants with the opportunity to comment on the proposed variation and requires KC to consider these comments. The review also offered an opportunity to engage meaningfully with our tenants, in accordance with the Regulator of Social Housing (RSH) Consumer Standards for social housing providers, allowing their views on the proposed changes to be heard, given the TA is the legal contract between the Council and tenant and details the tenant's rights and responsibilities and the Council's rights and responsibilities

1.6 In compliance with Section 103 of the Housing Act 1985, the statutory consultation took place over a 28-day period ending on Friday 9th May 2025. The Preliminary Notice, a document outlining the changes to the TA, and a set of frequently asked questions were posted to all tenants, inviting them to comment on the proposed changes (**Appendix 1)**. Tenants had the opportunity to respond in the following ways:

- By completing a questionnaire via a dedicated consultation webpage on the Council website
- By e-mail
- By completing a feedback form at the back of the Preliminary Notice and posting this to the council
- By telephone or face to face with Housing Management Staff

1.7 Whilst the consultation ended on Friday 9th May 2025 any replies received after this date will continue to be incorporated into subsequent reports on the Cabinet flightpath for 8th July 2025.

2. Information required to make a decision

2.1 Outcomes from the consultation. As at noon on Wednesday 18th June 2025, 798 consultation responses had been received. The following provides a summary of responses relating to each section of the TA. A copy of the responses provided is shown in **(Appendix 2).**

2.1.1 Rent

Proposed changes

The TA variation provides clarity on how service charges will be applied and what tenants must pay. It allows the council to introduce service charge payments at any point in the year for service charges not already claimed from tenants, to cover reasonable block and estate costs, such as communal cleaning, communal grounds maintenance and communal lighting etc.

Whilst not directly included in the TA the frequently asked questions explained that should this tenancy variation be adopted then the Council intends to introduce a service charge for communal grounds maintenance that will be limited to a maximum amount of up to £1.00 a week in 2025/26.

Summary of responses

The most common theme is that tenants do not agree with paying a service charge for communal grounds maintenance. Concerns were raised around the quality of the current service and that if a service charge is levied then the quality should improve. To provide some context, the results from the informal consultation undertaken in summer 2024 to introduce a service charge for communal grounds maintenance reflected the same concerns, with 70% of respondents disagreeing with the proposal to introduce a charge and 24% stating they felt the current service is poor.

Concerns were also raised around what the service charges will cover, and that these additional charges could be open ended. There were concerns raised about rising rents and service charges, which are becoming unaffordable and causing hardship for tenants.

Respondents stated they have a right to be formally consulted if any new service charges are introduced. Social landlords must provide at least one month's notice written notice before implementing service charges.

Help and support is available to any tenant facing hardship or requires additional support, in doing so protects our most vulnerable tenants.

Additional Variation

Kirklees Council currently runs weekly tenancies from Monday to Sunday, with new tenants unable to move in until the following Monday if they sign up after a Monday. This causes inconvenience and additional costs for temporary accommodation and void rent loss. The proposed change allows tenancies to start any day between Monday and Friday, enabling immediate occupancy and reducing void-related costs. The TA will be

updated so that rent is due each Monday in advance, with the first rental payment prorated based on the start day of the tenancy.

Consultation with existing tenants is not required as this change only affects new tenants. The council will be required to proportion the rent due, if the tenancy is not commenced on a Monday, and provide the information on the tenancy agreement together with the full weekly rental liability. Training will be required for housing officers, so they are aware of the need to document any proportioned rent together with the full weekly rental liability.

2.1.2 **Repairs**

Proposed change(s)
The TA variation is more prescriptive on what repairs the council is responsible for and what the tenant is responsible for and a list of these will be published. The TA also directs the tenant to read the Councils Repair and Maintenance Policy for more information, including information on how often the Council will paint the exterior of properties.

Summary of responses
Of the responses, we did receive some positive feedback with regards our repairs service. Some responses referred to damp, mould and condensation concerns. The other comments were about delays with repairs and them taking too long to complete, remaining incomplete, or still waiting to be undertaken.

There were also concerns around the condition of fixtures and fittings that need replacement and were out of date. A number commented about how often planned maintenance programmes should take place with a lack of painting highlighted several times . Suggestions include providing an online option to upload photos/videos of repairs needed, and that we should provide a list of what the council and the tenant is responsible for. There was also a comment about KC checking property conditions annually, and a suggestion that KC should offer items to be sold to tenants with a pre-payment agreement.

2.1.3 **Access**

Proposed change(s)
The TA variation enhances the Council's authority to enter a tenant's home for addressing repair issues and any health and safety concerns. Tenants must also allow access for an annual home visit to be undertaken. In either case failure to allow access may result in legal action being taken.

Summary of responses
Feedback was generally positive in relation to allowing access to undertake repairs etc. Although, one respondent felt the council made it difficult for tenants when arranging access for repairs as the appointments are too vague and should take more account of tenant commitments.

There were comments made about the need for KC to consider tenant vulnerabilities and make reasonable adjustments when access is required.

There were also concerns raised around the increased use of CCTV/ring doorbells and the need for permission, given privacy issues.

2.1.4 **Using your home and keeping you safe**

Proposed change(s)

The TA variation provides more clarification on a range of tenant responsibilities and how the council will address significant safety concerns, around the storage of items, accumulations of refuse, neglect and damage to property including tampering of electric meters, smoke detection equipment etc.

It outlines in more detail what prescribed items tenants can keep in the property and that permission must be sought for certain items such as a mobility scooters/ motorised wheelchair. If the safety rules are compromised this puts resident at risk, and legal proceedings will be taken. This means that the tenant could be at risk of losing their home or subject to criminal proceedings.

Summary of responses

There is a general agreement on the proposed changes, in relation to the storage of items such as e-scooters, flammable substances etc, the unauthorised use of communal grassed areas and storage of junk and litter.

Some respondents referred to tenants leaving bags of rubbish outside of their properties, and that some tenants allow their pets to foul in communal areas and fail to clear it up.

Several respondents believe unannounced visits are necessary to inspect property conditions, as mentioned in 'Repairs' above. Responses also included references to the quality of the communal grounds' maintenance service.

2.1.5 **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Proposed change(s)

The TA variation strengthens the Councils approach when dealing with ASB and refers directly to the ASB policy. Tenants must adhere to the requirements set out in this section failing which legal action may be taken to end their tenancy. The impact on tenants who may suffer or be a perpetrator of Domestic Abuse is that if reports are made, these will be escalated to the Police and other agencies that can offer support and advice. If Domestic Abuse causes anti-social behaviour within the community, action will be taken to remove the perpetrator.

Summary of responses

The responses are very clear in that most tenants who responded to this section feel that ASB, litter, fly tipping, drug taking and dealing, criminal activity and damage does not appear to be dealt with and needs improvement with better and swifter enforcement

2.1.6 **Flats, maisonettes and shared areas**

Proposed change(s)

The TA variation states that tenants must adhere to the provisions requiring communal areas, balconies and alleyways to be kept clear of rubbish failing which legal action may be taken. Tenants will be expected to dispose of rubbish using chutes or refuse bins.

Summary of responses

Tenants generally agree with the proposals. The standard of communal grounds maintenance was again referred to. Dog fouling, the quality of the maintenance of communal areas, and car parking were also raised as concerns.

The need for KC to undertake regular tenancy checks was raised

2.1.7 **Animals**

Proposed change(s)
This proposed change outlines the need for tenants to be responsible for their pets. They must ensure that pets are well cared for and not left to stray or tied up in communal areas, in gardens, or on balconies. The impact on tenants is that if they have pets, they are responsible to clean away faeces and any mess left by them and ensure that they do not cause a nuisance. Tenants will be required to seek permission from the council for keeping a dog or cat(s). There will be an impact on tenants who breed animals as this will not be permitted

Summary of responses
The responses are very clear in that most tenants who responded to this section feel that nuisance pets, mainly dogs are not dealt with and that the Pet policy needs to be better enforced.

Respondents suggested that dogs should not be allowed in flats and that there should be a limit on the number of pets in a household.

Two responses have referred to tenants feeding pigeons which results in excess bird droppings and the risk of rodent infestation.

2.1.8 **Vehicles and parking**

Proposed change(s)
This change will impact tenants as it could restrict the type of vehicles they park within the boundary of their property. The proposal will impact tenants who have not requested permission for dropped kerbs so they can park vehicles in their garden.

Summary of responses
Most respondents raised concerns about the lack of car parking and that anyone is allowed to park anywhere. A respondent suggested introducing permit parking and/or for the council to provide more parking.

2.1.9 **Leaving your home and ending the tenancy**

Proposed change(s)
This proposed change will affect tenants who fail to make contact when it is suspected their tenancy has been abandoned. The TA variation also provides clarity on a tenants' succession rights and will only entitle certain people to succeed to the tenancy provided they have lived with the deceased tenant for set times prior to the death of the tenant. Tenants who succeed may be required to move to suitable alternative accommodation if the property is too large for the remaining occupier(s) following a death of either tenant.

Summary of responses
Respondents raised that they needed more clarity on what to do if a tenant passes away.

Some respondents said that they liked living where they did and didn't want to end their tenancy. Other responses stated that they may wish to purchase their property through the Right to Buy in future.

2.1.10 **Information, consultation and participation**

Proposed change(s)

The TA variation updates how tenants personal data will be stored and used by the council to assist with the effective management of its properties.

Summary of responses
No issues raised in this section, but some respondents said there needed to be communication and consultation with tenants more on a local basis, not just via on-line methods. Respondents also asked for more feedback on initiatives or consultations.

2.1.11 **Notices**

Proposed change(s)
Updated with a new PO Box address.

Summary of responses
No issues were raised with this section, although some respondents stated that any Notices should be clear, easy to understand, and in formats to support those with disabilities or language barriers.

2.1.12 **Fraud**

Proposed change(s)
This is an entirely new section that has been added to outline how the council will deal with cases of suspected tenancy fraud.

Summary of responses
No issues were raised with this section and tenants are supportive of the inclusion in the tenancy agreement. A respondent raised that consideration should be given for those who may commit fraud but are unaware they have done so.

The feedback provided at this stage of the consultation period does not highlight any specific concerns about the proposed variations to the TA. However, the feedback in relation to service charges for communal grounds maintenance, how we arrange repair appointments, and our response to ASB does provide an insight into the areas of service delivery tenants are not satisfied with.

The feedback from tenants is greatly appreciated and provides clarity on the key areas of concern that tenants have with the service, and where improvements need to be made.

If the proposed variations to the TA are supported, a revised TA has been developed for consideration and approval. (**Appendix 3**)**.**

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Council Plan

The review and any proposed variations to the existing terms and conditions of the TA supports the key principles of the Council Plan. It ensures we get the basics right, take responsibility, focuses on customers, collaborates, connects, listens and responds.

3.2 Financial Implications

There will be financial costs incurred as part of this process. Letters will be sent to all tenants (circa 21,500) by 2nd class post on two occasions.

The postage costs for the first batch of letters cost £54,961.48 and a similar cost is expected when the next set of letters are sent.

3.3 **Legal Implications**

The general power of management of its housing stock is vested in KC by section 21 of the Housing Act 1985. Section 103 of the Housing Act 1985 enables a local authority to vary the terms of a TA by serving a notice of variation on each tenant. KC has complied with the prerequisite to the notice of variation, this being the service of the preliminary notice (see 1.6 above) and inviting tenant consultation on the proposed changes.

If Cabinet approves the proposed amendments to the TA, then Section 103 of the Housing Act 1985 requires a Notice of Variation to be served on all tenants informing them of (i) the variation affected by the notice and (ii) the date on which the variation shall take effect. It is important to note that the period between the date on which it is served and the date on which it takes effect must be at least four weeks given that KC operate a weekly period tenancy.

KC must also ensure that the notice of variation, when served, should be accompanied by such information as KC considers it necessary to inform the tenant of the nature and effect of the variation. For example, this should include details of any increase in weekly payments payable by any tenants.

3.4 **Climate Change and Air Quality**

Not applicable.

3.5 **Other (e.g Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)**

The revised TA has been drafted following support and advice from Legal Services. The statutory tenant consultation closed the 9th May 25, and to date no major objections have been received, or have any specific risks been identified with the proposed conditions.

Although the consultation period has ended, any further feedback will continue to be incorporated into subsequent reports on the Cabinet flightpath.

An Integrated Impact Assessment was approved and published on 30th April 2025, and no adverse impacts were identified - **IIA-697989281**.

4. Consultation

Please see paragraphs 2.1.1 to 2.1.12 above which outlines feedback from the consultation. All consultation responses can be found in (**Appendix 2**).

5. Engagement

This report and the outcome of the tenant consultation will be presented at the following meetings for the flightpath to Cabinet on the 8th July 2025. Although the tenant consultation deadline for feedback is the 9th May 2025, any feedback after this date has continued to be updated in reports on the flight path to Cabinet.

Any feedback from tenants that raises concerns about areas of service delivery will be reviewed and used to inform future improvements.

6. Options

Although the existing TA meets KCs Landlord obligations, it has not been fully reviewed for some time and parts of the agreement are no longer in keeping with the services delivered. This review focussed on whether clauses need adjusting, removing, or adding.

Options considered

There are no alternative options other than to retain the current Tenancy Agreement, but this needs to be updated to enable KC to undertake its obligations in relation to the Regulator of Social Housing, Consumer Standards.

Reasons for recommended option

The recommendation to vary the Tenancy Agreement is made as there has not been a comprehensive review of the terms and conditions of the agreement since 2016. There has also not been a review since the former ALMO (KNH) moved back into the control of KC in April 2021.

The review is necessary to ensure the Tenancy Agreement reflects up to date policy, practice, and regulations. It also needs to provide clarity about tenant and landlord rights, and their responsibilities.

7. Next steps and timelines

If Cabinet approve the recommendation made, a Notice of Variation to the Tenancy Agreement will be posted to all tenants with a copy of the new Tenancy Agreement.

There is a 28-day notice period before the new Tenancy Agreement can come into force.

8. Contact officer

Lisa Ramsden, Head of Housing Management and Partnerships.
Tel: 01484 221000 extension 72919 or Email: lisa.ramsden@kirklees.gov.uk

Background Papers and History of Decisions

None.

9. Appendices

- Appendix 1A,B,C - Preliminary Notice of Variation sent to tenants.
- Appendix 2 - Updated Consultation feedback from Tenants*
- *Appendix 2 is private and not to be published online.
- Appendix 3A,B,C - Draft Revised Tenancy Agreement (June 2025)

10. Service Director responsible

Philip Jones for Homes & Neighbourhoods
Tel: 01484 221000 ext. 75073 - Email: philip.jones@kirklees.gov.uk

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Name
Address 1
Address 2
Address 3

SECTION 103 HOUSING ACT 1985 - PRELIMINARY NOTICE CHANGES TO YOUR TENANCY AGREEMENT

This preliminary notice of variation sets out changes Kirklees Council intends to make to its tenancy agreement. The reasons for making the proposed changes are:

- The current tenancy agreement was last updated in 2022 when a variation was made for rent payments to be made weekly in advance rather than monthly.
- The other terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement have remained unchanged for a number of years, and we need to update it. The way that the council manage tenancies needs updating in order that we can offer an effective and efficient service to tenants.
- There have also been changes in the law which we need to include.
- To allow the council to apply a service charge to cover reasonable block and estate costs, such as communal grounds maintenance in addition to the separate charge for rent.
- To include a new section on dealing with tenancy fraud

The change would apply to all council tenants including those properties managed by Pinnacle PSG.

What is the change?

The changes can be found in the enclosed document and are available online at www.kirklees.gov.uk

What will this change mean for you?

Generally, the areas of the tenancy agreement that are changing will not impact on those tenants who abide by their tenancies now, taking good care of their home and community. The changes do bring clarity around areas of the current tenancy that are overly complicated or act as a barrier for us to take enforcement action. We believe that through these changes we will be able to more effectively manage tenancy breaches ensuring that tenants can have enjoyment of their home and the area in which they live.

What next?

By law we are required to consult you on the proposed new tenancy agreement since once the consultation has been completed this will become your new tenancy agreement, subject to any further changes we make as a result of consulting you.

Please do not sign and return the enclosed draft new tenancy agreement. This preliminary notice of variation and draft tenancy agreement are served in accordance with section 103 of the Housing Act 1985 because the council intends to serve a notice of variation to change the terms of your tenancy agreement. This notice of variation will be served after the consultation period.

How to respond to this preliminary notice of variation:

We welcome any comments you may have on this intended change to the terms of your tenancy agreement. Homes and Neighbourhoods will be collating any comments. If you would like to comment, please contact them in one of the following ways:

- By completing the online form at: www.kirklees.gov.uk.
- You can email us housing@kirklees.gov.uk. Please put 'tenancy agreement' in the subject line.
- You can write to us: Homes and Neighbourhoods, PO Box 1720 Huddersfield, HD1 9EL.
- Call us on 01484 414886
- By providing comments to your Housing Management Officer or at a retirement living scheme through your Independent Living Officer.

To help you provide your response to the preliminary notice you can complete the enclosed form which can be found at the end of this letter.

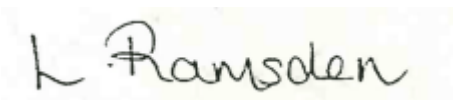
Proposed timetable for change

We are inviting comments on the proposed new tenancy agreement by 5.00pm Friday 9th May 2025. Following the consultation, we will consider all the comments we receive and may make changes to the draft tenancy agreement.

Once the council has finalised the Tenancy Agreement, we will contact you again and give four weeks' notice before any change is made to your tenancy agreement.

End of Preliminary Notice of Variation

Signed on behalf of the Council



LISA RAMSDEN
HEAD OF HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS
KIRKLEES COUNCIL

APPENDIX 1

PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF VARIATION - RESPONSE FORM

Section in the new tenancy Agreement e.g. Section 1 Rent Section 2 Repairs	Your comments or suggestions

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Homes & Neighbourhoods – Tenancy Agreement Review – Proposed Changes

Section Number & Topic	Clause	Proposed Clauses	Impact of Proposed Changes for Tenants
(1) Rent			
	2. If it is a condition of the tenancy that you have to pay a service charge for the property; that service charge is part of the rent. This service charge will also be charged on a weekly basis. **3.** You must tell us if you expect any changes to the date when we receive your payment. This includes any changes to your Direct Debit, benefits, or being moved onto Universal Credit.	**Proposed 2.** You may need to pay for additional services provided. These are called Service Charges and will be an extra charge that you will need to pay with your rent. A breakdown of the charges will be provided on your tenancy agreement if this applies to your tenancy. The council has the right to introduce additional services, and we will tell you in writing what these are, and the cost of the Service Charge you will need to pay. The charges may be increased or decreased, and you will be given at least four weeks' notice in writing of any changes. **Proposed 3.** If you claim any benefits, including but not limited to housing benefit or council tax benefit you must notify Kirklees Council or if you claim universal credit or other benefits the Department of Work and Pensions immediately, if your circumstances change, as any change may affect your benefit entitlement. This includes any changes that have been made to any of your household members if they move in or move out. You must also notify Kirklees Council of these changes.	The effect of this proposed variation is that a tenant may pay more each week for service charges and this sum will be added to the rent to form a new weekly payment. The council can introduce new service charges at any point in the year provided that you a tenant is given at least one months' written notice of the proposed new weekly rental payment. A tenant will also be required to notify the benefit provider of any change in circumstance immediately as this may affect the money they receive. All tenants shall be responsible for compliance with the tenancy agreement

	4. If you are joint tenants, you are both responsible for paying by direct debit all the rent and any arrears (rent you owe). If you have rent arrears, we can require any individual joint tenant to pay the money that is owed; we can also require any individual joint tenant to set up a direct debit to ensure that future rent payments are made on time. You are both responsible for ensuring that rent is paid by direct debit, even if one of you has left your home. **5.** Proposed New Term	**Proposed 4.** If you are joint tenants, you are responsible, individually and together for keeping all conditions of this agreement. This includes paying your rent. **Proposed 5.** You must not withhold rent for any reason or offset the cost of outstanding repairs which are our responsibility against your obligation to pay rent	failing which includes not withholding rent. See explanatory note: section 1 rent at the bottom of this proposed agreement – how we can help tenants.
(2) Repairs			
	1. We (the council) are responsible for repairing the structure and the outside of your home and also for any systems that supply water, gas and electricity within your home.	**Proposed 1 (Incorporating 1&2)** We (the council) are responsible for repairing the following: 1.1 The structure and outside of the building, including shared parts, (roof, outside walls, external doors, windows, chimneys and chimney stacks, drains, gutters and outside pipes) 1.2 Inside walls, skirting boards, doors, door frames, floors and ceilings 1.3 Electric wiring, sockets, light fittings and gas and water pipes 1.4 Heating equipment (such as fires, radiators and storage radiators) and water heating equipment (boilers and immersion heaters)	A tenant will have a list of repairs the council is responsible for and also a list of repairs that the tenant is responsible for. Tenants will receive communication regarding repairs by text message or alternatively the preferred method.

		1.5 Kitchen and bathroom fixtures (sinks, basins, baths, showers and toilets (excluding the replacement of toilet seats or shower curtains) 1.6 Pathways and steps which are the main means of getting to your home 1.7 Shared television aerial or shared satellite dish we have provided 1.8 Supporting or retaining walls, and boundary walls and metal railings to the property 1.9 Trees in the boundary of your tenancy if they are a danger 1.10 Decoration of the outside and any shared parts of the building 1.11 If repairs cannot be undertaken safely when the property is occupied. You will need to leave your home temporarily, and for as long as necessary so we can do the work. 1.12 Please refer to the councils repairs and maintenance policy for further information	A tenant will require written permission to undertake alterations.
	2. We are also responsible for repairing any of our systems for heating your home or for providing hot water or sanitation (baths, sinks and toilets). **3.** You are responsible for decorating the inside of your home, anything that we are not responsible for and also for items which you own or have put in. **6**. You are responsible for any damage to your home caused by you, your family or your	**Proposed 2 (Incorporating 3,6,&7).** You as tenant are responsible for the following**:** 2.1 Any repairs not listed in condition 1. 2.2 Taking reasonable steps to avoid damage (this includes but is not limited to) applying artex or polystyrene tiles, to any walls or ceilings. 2.3 You must use your home properly and responsibly. You are responsible for any damage to your home caused by you, your family or your visitors. You must pay us for any damage. 2.4 You must keep all grates, grids, drains and gullies (not including gutters that catch water from the roof) clean and clear, and you must take care not to block toilets and sinks. You must ensure that shower heads are kept clean.	

	visitors. You must pay us for any damage. **7.** You must use your home properly and responsibly. You must keep all grates, grids, drains and gullies (not including gutters that catch water from the roof) clean and clear, and you must take care not to block toilets and sinks.	2.5 You are responsible for the safe keeping of the keys and fobs we have provided for the property, including door, window and communal access locks. 2.6 You must keep your home and any outbuilding safe and secure. 2.7 You are responsible for the installation of doorbells and cameras, but you must not cause damage to the property, to doors/fire doors or windows. Please see council guidance on domestic recording systems which include CCTV and smart doorbells. 2.8 If you lose your keys, you are responsible for arranging a lock change at your own cost. 2.9 Decoration and cleanliness to the inside of your home. 2.10 If we need you to leave your home temporarily so that we can do work safely, you must leave for as long as necessary so we can do the work. 2.11 We may charge you if you do not comply with any terms of this condition. 2.12 It is advised that tenants obtain their own home contents insurance. 2.13 Please refer to the councils repairs and maintenance policy for further information.	
	4. You must report any repairs that are needed that we are responsible for as soon as you notice them. **5.** We will send you a series of texts (or a written receipt upon request) to confirm the details of the repair. If the repair cannot be authorised by the contractor, they will arrange for an inspection by a KNH surveyor	**Proposed 4.** You must report repairs that we are responsible for as soon as possible. **Proposed 5.** When you ask for a repair and we agree to do it, we will contact you by text message or by your preferred method of contact to confirm the repair and to tell you when we will carry it out.	

	8. You must not alter your home without our written permission. **13.** The Housing Act 1985 gives secure tenants the right to be consulted on a number of matters including managing, maintaining and improving their homes. We have set out a framework for consulting our tenants in our current Tenants Participation Charter. You can get a copy of this from your housing office. **14**. We will regularly paint the outside of your home and shared areas. **17.** Under Section 96 of the Housing Act 1985 we will pay compensation for certain repairs if we do not do them within a certain time, depending on certain conditions. Your housing office can give you more details. **18.** Under Section 97 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a right to carry out your own alterations or improvements, but you must get permission, in writing, from your housing office. You may also get compensation for this work when you end your tenancy. Introductory tenants do not	**Proposed 8**. You must not alter or improve your property unless we have given you written permission. **Proposed 13.** This has been added below under the consultation section. **Proposed 14.** We will paint the outside of your home and communal areas in line with the councils repairs and maintenance policy.	

	have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.		
(3) Access			
	1. You must give our officers, agents and contractors access to inspect your home or do work on it if we have given you at least 24 hours' notice, in writing. **2.** If we have asked to come into your home to inspect it or to do work but you do not let us in, we may ask you to pay us if we lose any money because we cannot get in.	**Proposed 1 (Incorporating 1&2)** 1.1 You will allow our staff, our agents or contractors access to your home where there are repair issues and any potential health and safety concerns. You will allow access for an annual home visit to be undertaken. We will in all circumstances (except in an emergency) give reasonable notice of our requirement for access. Reasonable notice will be a minimum of 24 hours' notice. 1.2 This includes where we wish to inspect the property or any installations (including but not limited to) smoke alarms, sprinkler systems, gas servicing, electrical safety checks, carbon monoxide alarms, Legionella tests, damp, mould and condensation or other as prescribed by the landlord and carry out any required servicing and associated works. 1.3 Notice of our requirement to access the property can be through a range of media via a text message, voice mail, e-mail, social media notification or a letter. If you have notified us of your preferred media, we will use this. Otherwise, it will be at the landlord's discretion. We will use the contact details you have provided us with, and it is important that you keep us updated with any changes.	Tenants must allow access following reasonable notice of at least 24 hours being provided, except in an emergency. A failure to allow access may result in legal action being taken.
	3. If there is an emergency and we need to get into your home immediately, we have the right to force entry without giving you notice.	**Proposed 3. Emergency Access** 3.1 In emergencies if access is needed it means that notice may not be given, and your property may be entered even if you are not there. 3.2 If access is unreasonably denied, the council may use reasonable force to gain entry to your home without giving you any notice.	A tenant's property can be accessed (using reasonable force if necessary) by the Council, without notice in the event of emergencies or a

	4. If we have asked to come into your home but you have not let us and we may have to pay a penalty if we cannot get in, we have the right to force entry without giving you further notice. **5. – This has been added into Section (2) Repairs**, in paragraphs **3, 6, & 7**	3.3 You may be recharged for any damage resulting from forced entry. **Proposed 4**. You are responsible to allow access for works. 4.1 We will require access to the property to inspect and then carry out any works to discharge our repair and improvement obligations including but not exclusively: 4.2 The Housing Regulators Consumer Standards including the decent homes standards and requirements under the Housing Health & Safety rating system. 4.3 The Health and Housing section 11 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 4.4 Any improvement works to your home and/or other repair, or improvement works as required over time. 4.5 Section 3 (Access) of your Tenancy Agreement outlines why access to a property is required and the action that could be taken if you do not allow access.	reasonable request for access is denied.
(4) Using your home **add** 'keeping you safe'			
	1. You must use the property as your only or principal (main) home in a responsible way **2**. You must only use the property to live in and not for any business or other purpose, unless we, as your landlord, have given you permission in writing.	**Proposed 1,2,7,8.** 1.1 The council does not support tenants in taking in lodgers or sub-letting part of your home however: 1.2 Under Section 93 of the Housing Act 1985, if you are a secure tenant, you have a right to take in lodgers, but you must not allow your home to become over crowded 1.3 You have a right to sublet part of your home, but you must get our permission, in writing, first. 1.4 You must not sublet your entire home.	The impact to tenants is that although lodgers may be taken in, doing so must not overcrowd the property and it is the tenant's responsibility to make a lodger leave. Overcrowding shall have the same meaning as set out in

		1.5 You must notify any relevant authority that administers any welfare benefits you are claiming. 1.6 You are responsible for making a lodger leave if you want to end the arrangement. 1.7 Introductory tenants do not have this right.	the Allocations Policy. This section regulates how a resident can allow other persons to lodge at the property. The impact is, that a tenant can only sublet part of the property and permission must be sought in order to do so. Any sublet of part cannot result in overcrowding as set out in the Allocations Policy. This section regulates how a resident can allow other persons to occupy part of the property.
	3. You must not keep any moped, motorbike or similar vehicle, or any other machine driven by an internal combustion engine, inside your home.	**Proposed 3&11** 3.1 You or any member of your household or visitors are only permitted to keep bottled gas, paraffin, petrol, LPG, acid or any other hazardous material in safe and secure storage and in suitable storage containers. 3.2 You can only keep a limited amount of such material which is reasonable for domestic use. 3.3 You must not keep such materials in any common areas. 3.4 If you or any member of your household wish to keep mobility aid such as a mobility scooter or motorised wheelchair you must get prior written permission from the council. If you do not get written permission for the mobility aid you may be required to remove it. Please see the council's mobility scooter policy for more information. 3.5 You must take adequate care and precautions when storing, charging or using E scooters, mobility	The impact to tenants is that they can only keep certain prescribed items in the property and permission must be sought for certain items such as a mobility scooters/ motorised wheelchair.

		scooters or other mobility aids to ensure that damage does not occur to your home. This includes removing batteries when charging. 3.6 You must not keep or charge mobility aids such as mobility scooters or motorised wheelchairs in any common area. 3.7 You must not let waste or other materials build up which may cause a fire or attract vermin. 3.8 You must not store bottled gas, petrol, paraffin or other flammable or explosive substances in your home or on any land nearby.	
	4. You must keep your home clean and tidy and make sure the decoration inside your home is in a good condition.	**Proposed 4.** 4.1 You must keep your home clean, free from pests and in reasonable condition. 4.2 You must not allow an accumulation of personal property or rubbish or other items to prevent access, cause structural damage or deterioration to the property or any common areas or to pose an environmental health risk, or a health and safety risk to any person lawfully at your property, or to cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents. 4.3 You must wipe down any water that has formed on windows, sills, walls and doors to help prevent condensation, damp and mould from forming in the property.	The impact on tenants is that they must ensure that rubbish is properly disposed of and not accumulated in or around the property. The effect for tenants is that the proposed change means they must take steps to prevent damp, mould and condensation becoming a problem.
	5. You must cultivate and look after the garden and keep any trees, bushes, hedges or grass at a reasonable size or height. **6.** You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders.	**Proposed 5&6.** 5.1 You must make sure your garden is kept cultivated, neat, tidy, and free from rubbish, pests, weeds and animal waste or faeces. For example: lawns must be cut and trees, shrubs and hedges kept trimmed. 5.2 Trees, shrubs and hedges must be kept from overgrowing or overhanging into neighbouring properties or into public areas to cause a nuisance.	The impact for tenants is that they will be responsible for the condition of their garden. They must keep the garden tidy and clean and ensure any pet faeces are removed immediately.

		5.3 You must make sure that you keep any outbuilding, yard or garden clear and free from rubbish. 5.4 You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders.	Tenants must ensure that shrubs, trees and hedges are cut back and well maintained.
	8. You must not assign (or sign over) your tenancy without our permission, in writing.	**Proposed 8 – Sub Letting.** 8.1 If you are a secure tenant and want to sub-let part of your home, you must get prior written permission from the council. 8.2 The council will not give permission for more than the permitted number of persons to live there as allowed under the council's Allocations Policy for the type and size of your property. 8.3 Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant. 8.4 You must not sub-let the whole of your home. 8.5 You must not advertise the whole of your property as available to occupy or rent. 8.6 The council will prosecute any tenant who parts with the possession of or sub-lets the whole of their home under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013. The council may also seek an unlawful profit order in such cases. 8.7 The council will seek possession of your home if you have sublet the whole of your home.	
	9. You must not allow any of the boundaries of the property, or any land that is let with it, to be changed. **10.** You must not put any structure (shed, garage, greenhouse or something similar) on any land that is let with your home without our permission, in writing. You must remove any structure at	**Proposed 9.** 9.1 You must not change the boundary of your property without our written permission. **Proposed 10.** 10.1 You must not put up, change or demolish a garage or any other structure within the boundary of the property without our written permission. 10.2 If you undertake work without written permission, you may need to reinstate boundaries or structures to the original condition.	A tenant cannot make any changes to the boundary or any structures without permission from the Council. Legal action could be taken, and their tenancy could be at risk if they do not adhere to this condition.

	the end of the tenancy, unless we agree, in writing, that it can stay. **13.** If any part of your home is above the ground floor, you must make sure that nothing is thrown, dropped or allowed to fall from any window or balcony or any part of the outside of the building. **14**. After 10pm and up to 7am the following morning, you must make sure that no-one entering or leaving your home makes a noise which might disturb the neighbours. **15.** Also, after 10pm and up to 7am the following morning, you must make sure that you do not use any musical or audio equipment, TV, washing machine, power tool or other domestic appliance in a way that might disturb the neighbours. **16.** You must not apply any material to any surface, wall or ceiling in your home which is difficult to remove (for example, a textured wall finish) or highly flammable (for example, polystyrene tiles), unless you get our permission, in writing.	10.3 Legal action may be taken if you do not adhere to these conditions, and you could be at risk of losing your home. **Proposed 13.** 13.1 You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your property or communal area. **14 and 15 have been moved to Section 5 – ASB** **16. moved under Section 2 (Repairs)**	

	17. You must not allow any fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm, smoke detector, security system or similar safety or security device we have put in to be interfered with or removed at any time. You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open.	**Proposed 17.** 17.1 You or any member of your household or visitor must not interfere with security or safety equipment in any council property or communal areas. 17.2 This includes (but is not limited to) fire-fighting equipment, fire alarms, smoke detector, security systems or similar safety or security device. 17.3 You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open. 17.4 Any devices that have been installed to remove condensation from your property such as ventilation bricks or extractor fans, must not be removed or blocked up.	Tenants must adhere to safety rules where they live. If these are compromised this puts resident at risk, and legal proceedings will be taken. This means that the tenant could be at risk of losing their home or subject to criminal proceedings.
	18. Your Housing Officer will provide you with a copy of our heat sale agreement, together with an introductory pack, which you should sign and return to your housing officer as soon as possible. notify the benefits service or DWP about your change in circumstances.	**Proposed 18.** District Heating - If your home is connected to our District Heating System then: 18.1 We will supply heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms for the supply of heat and/or hot water (as varied or changed from time to time). 18.2 We will supply heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms for the supply of heat and/or hot water (as varied or changed from time to time). 18.3 You will accept this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time). 18.4 Your Housing Management Officer will provide you with information about the District Heating scheme and charges. 18.5 You agree that you will pay for this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on those standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time). 18.6 You must not tamper with any part of a District Heating system (including any meters, pre-payment controllers or cards). 18.7 If you do you will be charged for any repairs to reinstate the equipment, and legal action could be	This proposal impacts on tenants as any tampering or damage caused to District Heating equipment will lead to legal action against the tenancy, as well as criminal proceedings.

		taken against your tenancy. If there is criminal damage a report will also be made to the police. 18.8 If the property is individually metered, you must pay for all the heat which is supplied to your home along with the weekly standing charges.	
(5) Anti-social Behaviour			
	1. You will make sure that no-one (whether an adult or a child), either living in your home or visiting your home, does anything which is likely to cause nuisance to, or harass, annoy, distress or worry any person who either lives in or has lawful business in the Borough of Kirklees, for any reason. **2.** You will make sure that no-one (whether an adult or a child), either living in your home or visiting your home, does anything which is likely to harass anyone because of their colour, race, creed, religious belief, legal occupation, sex, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability or any other particular thing about them. **3**. You, and any other person living in or visiting your home, must not:	**Proposed 1. (Incorporating 1,2,3,4)** 1.1 Please refer to the council ASB policy incorporating noise nuisance and hate crime. 1.2 You, your household and visitors must not do anything which is illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people. 1.3 This condition applies within the boundary of and in the locality of your property. 1.4 You, your household and visitors must not cause nuisance or annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress towards any person employed in connection with the exercise of our housing management functions. 1.5 You, your household and visitors must make sure that no-one entering or leaving your home makes a noise which might cause a disturbance. 1.6 You, your household and visitors must make sure that you do not use any musical or audio equipment, TV, washing machine, power tool or other domestic appliance in a way that might disturb the neighbours. 1.7 The council will investigate both statutory and non-statutory noise nuisance in line with line with relevant legislation. 1.8 If there is evidence or the likelihood that you, your household and visitors are involved in anything illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people or the community. Kirklees Council will utilise its tools and	Tenants must adhere to the requirements set out in this section failing which legal action may be taken to end their tenancy. The proposed change sets out how occupiers and visitors to the property are expected to conduct themselves.

	a. do or fail to do anything which causes, or is likely to cause, a nuisance or annoy residents, visitors or other people in the Borough of Kirklees; b. harass anyone; c. physically or verbally abuse anyone, including inflicting domestic violence or threatening violence against your partner, ex-partner or another member of your family. We will notify the Police and the Council's Domestic Violence Unit of any instances reported to us and we will consider action against the perpetrator in every case; d. use your home for illegal or immoral purposes; e. take, sell, supply or possess illegal substances; or f. damage or interfere with any property that belongs to us. **4.** If you tell us you are the victim of anti-social behaviour, we will investigate your complaint and take whatever action we think is practical to sort out any problems. T his may include taking legal action to evict tenants and their families who are behaving in an antisocial way. We may	powers to tackle anti-social behaviour, and you could lose your home. 1.9 If we are aware of Domestic Abuse against you or a member of your family, we will notify the Police and any relevant council services. 1.10 We will consider action against the perpetrator in every case reported, to protect the household and the wider community. 1.11 If you experience anti-social behaviour, you must report it to us, and we will decide if we are able to investigate. Support and advice will be provided to you.	The impact on tenants who may suffer or be a perpetrator of Domestic Abuse is that if reports are made, these will be escalated to the Police and other agencies that can offer support and advice. If Domestic Abuse causes anti-social behaviour within the community, action will be taken to remove the perpetrator.

	also take other legal action to prevent antisocial behaviour.		
(**6) Flats, maisonettes and shared areas**			
	1. You must not allow any shared area (including any stairway, passageway, corridor, lift, drive, path, lane or road) to be obstructed at any time. You must not allow any shared area to be used in a way which may cause a nuisance. **2.** You must share responsibility with your neighbours for cleaning any shared corridors, stairs, landings or entrance halls. **3**. You must not store anything in any shared area without our permission, in writing. **4.** If you live in a flat, bed-sit or maisonette, you must only allow people to enter or leave your home through the doors and make sure they use any door-entry system or security system properly. You must not prop fire doors and security doors open. **5.** If there are rubbish chutes in flat, bed-sit or maisonette blocks, you must only use	**Proposed 1 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5)** 1.1 As the tenant of a flat or maisonette you must use the rubbish chute, or refuse bins provided for normal household refuse only. Do not try to force large items down the rubbish chutes or leave them in the communal areas or outside the block. 1.2 You must make proper arrangements to dispose of special medical waste such as needles, syringes or sanitary items. 1.3 Do not throw any dangerous items down a rubbish chute or into refuse bins. 1.4 You must not use bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bed-sits, or maisonettes 1.5 You must not keep a dog or cats if you live in a flat or maisonette without first obtaining the Council's written consent. You should refer to the councils Pet Policy on the council's website before you ask for permission. 1.6 You must keep all communal areas, balconies and alleyways free from items and clutter. Such items include (but not limited to) animal faeces, debris, mobility scooters, e-scooters bikes, plants and other items as referred to in Kirklees Council's Clear & Safe Policy. 1.7 If when asked, you fail to remove items you own from the communal areas they will be removed, and you will be re-charged for any costs associated with this. 1.8 You must take all reasonable steps to ensure that you, your visitors and those residing with you do not cause any health and safety hazard.	Tenants must adhere to the provisions requiring the communal areas, balconies and alleyways to be kept clear of rubbish failing which legal action may be taken. Tenants will be expected to dispose of rubbish using chutes or refuse bins. Tenants will be required to seek permission from the council for keeping a dog or cat(s). Tenants will be required to remove rubbish from communal areas when requested to do so by the council.

	them for small amounts of rubbish. You should put large items of rubbish in the special area provided, in a suitable plastic sack or container. **6.** If there are shared parking facilities for residents and their visitors, you must not park any untaxed or unroadworthy vehicle, or any lorry or large commercial vehicle, caravan, boat or trailer, in any of the parking spaces unless you have our permission, in writing. You do not have the right to use one particular parking	1.9 You, your household or visitors must not interfere or damage anything in the communal areas and or, anything provided for health or safety purposes, this includes (but is not limited to) smoke detectors, fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, dry or wet risers, fire doors or door closers, emergency lighting, CCTV, door entry or sprinkler systems. You must ensure fire doors are not wedged open. 1.10 You must not place items on your balcony that are dangerous or could cause nuisance to others. 1.11 You must not chain or tether your pet on balconies or in communal areas. 1.12 You must not allow your pet to deposit faeces on your balcony or in communal areas. 1.13 You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your property or a communal area. 1.14 You must not smoke in enclosed communal areas e.g. enclosed corridors, stairwells, lifts and enclosed entrance areas. 1.15 You must not park vehicles where they will prevent access for emergency services vehicles or obstruct hatched areas marked 'keep clear' communal areas or access to driveways. **6.** moved to new **Section 8 'Vehicles and Parking'**	

	space, unless you have a special arrangement with your housing office.		
(7) Animals			
	1. You must make sure that no animal, bird, insect or reptile that you keep at, or which is brought to, your home, causes any nuisance or annoys or frightens anyone. **2.** You must take and pay for, all reasonable steps that we consider to be necessary to prevent any animal, bird, insect or reptile you keep at or which is brought to, your home from causing a nuisance or annoying or frightening anyone. This includes providing suitable fencing. **3.** If you want to keep a cat or a dog in a maisonette, flat or bed-sit that does not have its own direct, separate entrance to the outside, you will need our permission, in writing. **4.** You cannot keep any animal, bird, insect or reptile at your home after it has caused any nuisance or annoyed or frightened anyone, unless you have our permission, in writing. **5.** You cannot keep more than two animals at your home	**Proposed 1 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5)** 1.1 You or any member of your household or visitors must not keep or allow any animal in or near the property unless this is permitted by the council's Pets Policy and you have prior written permission from the council. Permission will not be given to keep or allow certain types of animals. 1.2 Any animal at your home must not cause or be likely to cause a nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to neighbours or others lawfully in the locality of your home. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, fouling in common areas, straying, barking or causing other noise, creating an offensive smell, harming people or other animals, or animal waste not being cleared. 1.3 You must keep the number of pets at or below the permitted number of cats and/or dogs allowed by the policy or the reasonable number of other pets agreed in writing by the council. 1.4 Where permission is given, this is on condition that pets are neutered and micro-chipped, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the council. 1.5 You or any member of your household or visitors are not permitted to allow the breeding of any animals in your home, running a business breeding animals, advertising, or selling animals in or from your home. 1.6 You or any member of your household are not permitted to use any animals for fighting or other unlawful purposes. 1.7 Dogs and other pets are not permitted to enter, visit or live in blocks above 6 storey and above accommodation other than an animal recognised as an official support	This proposed change may impact tenants as it outlines the need for tenants to be responsible for their pets. They must ensure that pets are well cared for and not left to stray or tied up in communal areas, in gardens, or on balconies. The impact on tenants is that if they have pets, they are responsible to clean away faeces and any mess left by them and ensure that they do not cause a nuisance There will be an impact on tenants who breed animals as this will not be permitted.

	without our permission, in writing. You must not keep a lot of birds if they are likely to cause any nuisance to your neighbours.	companion or dog and where written permission has been given by the council. 1.8 Dogs listed under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (as amended) will not be permitted at your home. 1.9 Dogs must be accompanied by you or a responsible adult and kept on a lead when in common areas. 1.10 You must not tether or chain any animal while leaving them unattended or allow them to be chained or tethered in communal areas. 1.11 You must not allow dogs to stray and you must abide by any Dog Control Orders and/or Public Space Protection Orders (or equivalent) relating to dogs that may be in force. 1.12 You, members of your household or visitors must ensure that any animal kept at your home does not prevent an employee, contractor or agent of the council or other lawful visitor to your property, gaining access to your home and that all animals are kept under control to allow such access. 1.13 In cases of cruelty to animals or where there is a breach of this tenancy agreement or the council's Pets Policy, the council may revoke your permission to keep a pet and give you written notice requiring you to remove any animals from your home. This will include requiring proof that you have rehomed your animal responsibly. The council may also share information with animal welfare charities, the Police and/or the Dog Warden service for example where concerns are raised about animal welfare, neglect or abuse. 1.14 You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your home without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare when you are away from your home. You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your property when you move out of your property.	

		1.15 You also agree that in cases where it appears that an animal has been left in the property without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare, or when it appears that you have left an animal in the property once you have moved out, then the council may gain entry to your property using the council's emergency access provisions. 1.16 You must not keep or tether horses on any council owned land or on any land in the locality of your property without the express written permission of the landowners.	
(8) Vehicles add 'Parking'			
	1. You must not park any motor vehicle in the open air either at your home or on any housing land unless it is in a roadworthy condition and fully taxed, unless you have our permission in writing, or it is an emergency. **2.** You should not allow any motor vehicle to be repaired, serviced or worked on after 10pm until 7am the following morning at your home or on any housing land or on any road outside your home, unless it is an emergency. **3**. You must not allow any motor vehicle to be repaired, serviced or worked on at your home, or on any housing land or on any road outside your home, that is not registered in	**Proposed 1 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5,6)** 1.1 You or any member of your household or visitors must park motor vehicles within the boundary of your property on a council approved hardstanding (a driveway or paved area intended for parking) or if appropriate using on-street parking. 1.2 Prior written permission must be sought from the council before parking a trailer, caravan or boat on a hardstanding. 1.3 Caravans, motor homes, trailers or boats must not be parked on the garden, driveway, paved area around your home or any communal areas without the council's prior agreement in writing. 1.4 If the property has a designated resident's parking space, only you or any member of your household or visitors can park there. You must not rent or sell the parking space to anyone else. Where a property has a disabled space you and your legitimate visitors must only park there if you or your legitimate visitor hold a blue badge parking permit.	This proposal will impact tenants as it could restrict the type of vehicles they park within the boundary of their property. The proposal will impact tenants who have not requested permission for dropped kerbs so they can park vehicles in their garden.

	your name or a member of your current household's name, unless you have our permission, in writing, or it is an emergency. **4.** You should not park any motor vehicle in the open air at your home, or on any housing land, unless it is on an authorised area of paving. You must not allow a vehicle to enter any land that is let with your home, except across a proper crossing. **5.** You must not allow any motor vehicle, trailer, caravan or other wheeled vehicle to obstruct any road, lane, path or access way or to block the route of emergency vehicles **6.** You must get our permission, in writing, before you park a caravan, trailer, lorry or large commercial vehicle, boat or similar vehicle at your home or on land that Housing Services own or controls.	1.5 Parking spaces that are not designated, should be prioritised for residents and any members of their household. 1.6 You or any member of your household or visitors must not cause or allow an obstruction to any driveway, garage, rights of way, roads, footpaths or access routes across your home, in common areas, shared areas or in the locality of your property. 1.7 You or any member of your household must share the use of any driveway that gives access to both your home and an adjoining property with the occupants of that adjoining property. The driveway must not be blocked in any way, for example, with bins or other items, by parking a vehicle, or by fencing off part of it. 1.8 You or any member of your household or visitors must not drive across a kerb to access the property unless it has been lowered with prior written permission and in accordance with the council's regulations. 1.9 You or any member of your household or visitors must not park a vehicle or drive across grassed areas in or around the locality and you must pay the cost incurred by the council for any works required to repair any damage to the kerb or drains, soil replacement and re-sowing of grass. 1.10 If there are shared parking facilities for residents and their visitors, you must not park any untaxed or unroadworthy vehicles. 1.11 You must not park any lorry or large commercial vehicle(s), caravan, boat or trailer, in any parking spaces or any area that prevents other residents from parking near their home unless you have our permission, in writing. 1.12 You do not have the right to use one parking space as your own unless this has been designated for you by the council.	

(9) Leaving your home and ending the tenancy			
	2. At the end of the tenancy, if there is any damage to your home or if you have removed any item we own, you will have to pay for any repair or replacement and any other loss we suffer. **4**. Once the tenancy has ended, we will remove any item we find in the property and get rid of it. We will charge you for doing this.	**Proposed 2 (Incorporating 2,4)** 2.1 You must allow the Council to complete an inspection of your home before you leave and, by appointment, permit the Council to show prospective tenants around your home. 2.2 At the end of the tenancy, if there is any damage to your home or if you have removed any item we own, you will have to pay for any repair or replacement and any other loss incurred. 2.3 You must leave the property, including any garden and outbuildings, in a clean and tidy condition, clear of all personal property, furniture and rubbish. 2.4 Any personal property left (including animals) will be removed and cleared by the council and you must pay the costs incurred by the council in clearing the property. 2.5 The council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal.	These proposals will impact tenants who do not leave a property in a good condition as charges could be made if the property and garden have not been left in a clean and tidy condition. Charges will also be made for repairs and damage that are beyond 'wear and tear'.
	3. If you abandon your home without telling us, we can assume that you have given up your tenancy.	**Proposed 3.** 3.1 You agree that the council can enter the property (whether you have been away from home for 28 days or more) where it reasonably appears that you have abandoned the property. 3.2 You also agree that if, following inspection of the property, it still appears to the council that you have abandoned the property, the council may change the locks and take any other appropriate steps to protect the property we dispose of all personal property found in the property.	This proposed change will affect tenants who fail to make contact when we suspect their tenancy has been abandoned. Tenants will be at risk of legal proceedings and will be charged the costs of taking this action. They will also be

		3.3 The council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal.	impacted as their belongings could be disposed of.
	7. Tenancies starting before 1 April 2012 Unless you took over the secure tenancy after someone had died, Section 87 of the Housing Act says that your tenancy will automatically pass to your husband or wife or civil partner who is living with you when you die. If you have no husband or wife or civil partner living with you when you die, the secure tenancy could pass to your relative, if that person had been living with you continuously for the 12 months immediately before your death. Introductory tenants have this right under Section 131 of the Housing Act 1992 **Tenancies starting on or after 1 April 2012** Unless you took over the secure tenancy after a previous tenant had died, section 86(A) of the Housing Act 1985 as amended says that your tenancy will automatically pass to your husband or wife or civil partner living with you at the time of	**Proposed new paragraphs 7,8,9,10,11,12.** 7.1 If you are an Introductory Tenant your succession rights are limited to those allowed by sections 131 to 133 of the Housing Act 1996. In general, this means that if you die whilst your tenancy is an introductory tenancy, your tenancy will pass to: 7.2 Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death. 7.3 If you do not have a husband, wife or civil partner the tenancy can pass on to a member of your family who occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death if they also resided with you throughout the 12 months immediately before your death. **8. Sole Secure Tenants where tenancy started before 1 April 2012** 8.1 If you are a secure tenant and your tenancy started before 1 April 2012 then succession rights are those allowed by s.87 of the Housing Act 1985. In general, this means that on your death your tenancy may pass to: Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death. 8.2 If there is no such occupier, a family member if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death and resided with you throughout the period of twelve months ending with your death. **9. Joint tenants – Introductory and Secure**	Tenants succession rights will only entitle certain people to succeed to the tenancy provided they have lived with the deceased tenant for set times prior to the death of the tenant. Tenants succession rights will only entitle certain people to succeed to the tenancy provided they have lived with the deceased tenant for set times prior to the death of the tenant.

	death. Housing Authorities may extend succession rights provided there is an express term in the tenancy agreement to that effect. The Council's policy is that where there is no surviving spouse or partner, and another person has lived with the tenant as their sole or principal home they will succeed to the tenancy if: They have lived at the property as their sole or principal home for a minimum of one year prior to the tenant's death. And the property does not provide specialist services (such as being fully adapted for a wheelchair user); And The accommodation meets their housing needs, in accordance with the Allocations Policy e.g. is not too big for their needs as defined in Kirklees Council Housing Allocations Policy. **Sections 118 to 188 of the Housing Act 1985 give secure tenants the 'Right to Buy' their homes.** You can get more details about this from your housing office. Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this	9.1 If you are a joint tenant then your tenancy will pass to the other joint tenant upon your death, and this will count as a succession. In all cases of succession the definition of family member is that set out in the Housing Act 1985. 9.2 In all cases there can only be one succession, and succession is limited to where there has been no previous succession or assignment. 9.3 In all cases of succession when the tenancy passes to a member of your family (other than your spouse, civil partner or person living with you as spouse or civil partner) and the home is larger than they need the council may apply for possession of the property. 9.4 We will usually offer them a suitable alternative property. If they do not accept that offer, we have the right to ask the Court to give us possession of the property. 9.5 Where there is more than one person living in the property at the time of your death who may be entitled to succeed under the criteria in the Housing Act 1985, or under the express terms of this tenancy agreement, your spouse, civil partner (or person living with you as if you were spouse or civil partner) will have priority over other family members as set out in the Housing Act 1985. 9.6 Where more than one family member is entitled to succeed then they should agree who will succeed and if they do not agree then the council will decide who will succeed. 9.7 Where the right of succession has been used up then the council may agree to grant a new tenancy to the remaining occupant; however, this is not an automatic right and will be considered on a case by case basis under the council's policies applicable at the time.	Tenants who succeed may be required to move to suitable alternative accommodation if the property is too large for the remaining occupier(s) following a death of either tenant. Where required, if the remaining occupiers cannot agree who will succeed, the council will make a decision.

	right if you become a secure tenant. **Under Section 92 of the Housing Act 1985**, you have a 'Right to Exchange' your home with another secure tenant. You must get our permission in writing, before you move and we may refuse permission if you do not meet certain conditions. If you do move without our permission, in writing, you will have to return to your original home. Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.	**10. Assignment** 10.1 Introductory and secure tenants have the right to pass their tenancy to another person (called an assignment). Certain conditions apply to this right. Generally, you can only pass your tenancy in this way to someone who would have the right to take over your tenancy under succession if you died. B) You cannot assign the tenancy in this way if there has already been a succession or an assignment. **11. Mutual exchange** 11.1 If you are a secure tenant, you may have the right to swap your property (called a Mutual Exchange) with another tenant of the council, a housing association or another local council, but you must get the council's written permission first and the written permission of any other landlord authority. 11.2 The council can only refuse permission or impose conditions on an exchange for the reasons set out in the Housing Act 1985. 11.3 If you exchange your property without the council's written permission, we may take legal action to evict you. You may not be able to return to your original property and may not be offered alternative housing. **12. Right to Buy** 12.1 In certain circumstances, you have the right to buy your property. You should contact the council if you want to know more about your right to buy.	Tenants will only be entitled to assign a tenancy to those people who would be entitled to succeed to the tenancy. A tenant may be able to complete a mutual once written permission is obtained from the council. In the absence of written permission legal action may be taken where an unauthorised exchange has taken place.
(10) Information, Consultation & Participation			

	1.Under the Data Protection Act 1998, you have a right to ask to see parts of your tenancy file. Your housing office can give you more information about this. **2**. We will keep you up to date with changes to our services,	**Proposed 1** 1.1 Kirklees Council, collects, holds and processes a considerable amount of information, including personal information about the tenants and residents it serves, to allow it to provide services effectively the council recognises that this information is important to tenants and residents and that it is responsible to tenants and residents for the information it holds about them. As such, it takes seriously its responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. 1.2 Kirklees Council is the processor for the information which it collects holds and processes. This means that the Council must look after all the personal information which it collects and uses and make sure that this is done so proportionately correctly and safely. 1.3 Kirklees Council collects and processes personal information to allow it to allocate homes and to manage and improve its services. This may involve sharing your personal data with other organisations that are contracted to carry out services on its behalf. This includes services to you such as repairs but also services to the Council such as fraud detection provided by credit reference agencies and the police. It also includes other services provided by organisations such as the police and the fire. 1.4 These organisations are obliged to keep your personal information safe and secure. The Council may pass on certain personal information to other organisations (such as local authorities, the courts, or the police) where this is requested or the Council has a legal requirement to do so such as during a criminal investigation, a court case or to report on benefit fraud. **2. Remove as no longer in place.**	Tenants personal data will be stored and used by the council to assist with the effective management of its properties.

	or the introduction of new services, through our newsletter Door to Door. **4.** We will support you to get involved in the decisions that affect your home and community by offering a range of opportunities for you to work with us. **5**. We will send you a copy of our Tenant Participation Charter, if you ask us, or you can see it on our website. **6.** We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, or any proposed changes to those services. We will also share our performance with you. It is important that your voice is heard, and our tenants are encouraged to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or our Tenant Led Panel (TPL), or to get in touch to see if you can get involved in another way. To find out more our 'Customer Voice Strategy' can be found on Kirklees Councils website	**4. To remove as incorporated in 6 below** **5. To remove as outdated and no longer exists** **6: Replace beginning with:** 6.1 The Council will consult you on important matters to do with managing and maintaining your property before changing: 6.2 Any part of this Tenancy Agreement (other than for rent). The Council will ask for your opinions and take them into account before deciding to make any changes. 6.3 If the Council decides to go ahead with changes to your Tenancy Agreement, you will be given four weeks' notice in writing. 6.4 The Council will use whatever platform of consultation it considers appropriate, so you can provide feedback on any proposed changes 6.5 We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, or any proposed changes to those services. 6.6 We will also share our performance with you. It is important that your voice is heard, and our tenants are encouraged to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or our Tenant Led Panel (TLP), or to get in touch to see if you can get	Tenants will receive information from the council regarding any important matters concerning their property when the council are looking to make changes.

		involved in another way. 6.7 To find out about our 'Tenant Voice Strategy' it can be found on the Kirklees Councils website.	
	9. We will involve tenant and resident representatives when we select and recruit to a wide range of housing posts.	**9. To remove.**	
	10. Under Sections 102 and 103 of the Housing Act 1985, we may change the terms of your tenancy agreement. Apart from changes in rent or service charges, we will always consult you before we take any action to make such changes. Consultation may be by writing to all tenants individually or through our Door to Door newsletter.	**10. Replace with.** 10.1 Under Sections 102 and 103 of the Housing Act 1985, we may change the terms of your Tenancy Agreement. 10.2 Apart from changes in rent or service charges, we will always consult you before we take any action to make such changes. 10.3 Consultation may take place across a range of platforms including, social media, in writing, or face to face.	
(11) Notices			
	Any notice will be properly served on us (the Council) if you deliver it or send it by first-class post to Homes & Neighbourhoods, Kirklees Council PO Box 1720 HUDDERSFIELD HD1 9EL Any notice will be properly served on you (the Tenant) if we deliver it or send it by first-class post to the property.	**11.** Updated to reflect the new PO Box address	

12) New section - Fraud			
		Proposed Section 12 12.1 Tenancy fraud is when people are living in our homes without the right to do so. It's against the law and a breach of your tenancy agreement. It also denies homes to those most in need. The different types of tenancy fraud are: 12.2 Obtaining housing by deception - where a person gets a home by giving false information on their housing application. 12.3 Unlawful subletting - where a tenant rents out their home without our knowledge or permission. 12.4 Wrongly claimed succession - where a resident dies and someone without entitlement tries to take over or succeed the tenancy. 12.5 False Right to Buy - where a tenant gives false information in a Right to Buy application. 12.6 Key selling - where a resident is paid to pass on their keys in return for a one-off payment. 12.7 Unlawful assignment - where a resident stops using their tenancy as their main home and allows another person to live there without our permission. 12.8 We carry out regular tenancy checks to make sure that the right people are living in our properties, this could be with or without notice. 12.9 We work with other social landlords and statutory agencies to detect fraud. 12.10 If there is evidence that you have committed any type of Tenancy Fraud. Legal action will be taken, and you could lose your tenancy. 12.11 You may also be subject to criminal proceedings.	

Explanatory Notes

Section 1: Rent

a. What does this mean?

These conditions explain the rules on paying your rent, changing your rent and dealing with rent arrears.

If you are joint tenants, you are each responsible for paying all rent due.
An individual joint tenant can set up a Direct Debit to ensure that future rent payments are made on time.

- If you have rent arrears, any individual joint tenant must pay the money that is owed. You are both responsible for ensuring that rent is paid, even if one of you has left your home.
- You may lose your tenancy if you do not pay your rent when it is due. If legal action is taken that leads to you being evicted, you may not be able to get another Council tenancy in future.
- If you are having difficulties paying your rent it is important that you contact us as soon as possible.

b. How we can help.

- We can arrange with you to pay off the rent arrears.
- Give you help and advice on any benefits you can claim.
- Give you help and advice on budgeting and debts.
- Refer you to specialist money advice services.

c. How to pay?

- Direct Debit is the easiest way to pay your rent.
- Setting up a Direct Debit is simple and there are choices about when you pay.
- Contact us if you are unable to pay by Direct Debit or would like to discuss alternative payment methods.

d. How will I know if the amount of my rent changes, or if I need to pay for service charges?

- At the start of each year, we will review your rent for the coming financial year, this runs from April to the following March.
- We will tell you, in writing, at least four weeks before we do this.
- If you are required to pay service charges, you will be consulted before the charges are introduced.
- Service charges can be introduced at any time of the year to recover the costs of the serviced delivered. We will tell you, in writing, at least four weeks before we do this.

Section 2: Repairs

a. You are responsible for decorating the inside of your home. This includes repairing minor cracks in plaster work and preparing surfaces so they can be painted or papered.
b. You are also responsible for: changing locks if you lose your keys; replacing lost or broken keys; keeping grates, grids, drains, gullies, toilets, baths, sinks, shower heads, and waste outlets clean; taking care not to cause blockages
c. You are also responsible for; buying curtain rails and light bulbs; taking reasonable care to make sure that your pipes do not freeze; providing your own tv aerial, unless there is a shared aerial; replacing missing plugs in sinks and wash basins, and toilet seats.
d. You must report any vandalism or criminal damage caused by other people to your home to your housing office otherwise we may charge you for any repair work.
e. You are responsible for taking out your own insurance to cover damage to your belongings and decorations and any third-party liability if there is a fire, flood or other accident. We can help you arrange home insurance cover. For more details about our approved insurance scheme, please contact your housing office.
f. We will insure the structure of the building as well as our fixtures and fittings.
g. We will not insure for deliberate or accidental damage that you or your family cause.
h. If we damage your belongings while we are carrying out repairs, please get advice from your housing office.

Section 3: Access

We need to check your gas, electric appliances regularly, we also need to check any fire safety equipment to make sure they are safe. We may be prosecuted if we don't do this. You could put lives at risk if you do not let us into your home.

a. We may need to force entry without giving you notice if, for example, there is a water burst, a gas leak or an electrical fault which may put people in danger, or which would cause more damage to the property, if we did not repair it. In these circumstances, we will try to contact you or your relatives, if possible, before we force entry.
b. We have a right to move you from your home, either temporarily or permanently, if this is necessary because the property needs major repair work, demolishing or redeveloping. Under these circumstances, we will usually offer you other accommodation, compensation and help with moving costs.

Section 4. Using your home and keeping you safe

a. You must use the property as your only or principal (main) home. For security and maintenance reasons, you should tell your housing office, preferably in writing, if you will be away from your home for more than a month.
b. You must only use the property to live in and not for any business or other purpose, unless we have given you permission in writing.

c. Under Section 93 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a right to take in lodgers, but you must not allow your home to become overcrowded. A lodger is someone who lives with you, but is not one of your family, and who pays you for his or her keep. Information about the number of people allowed to live in your home can be found in Kirklees Councils, Allocations Policy.
d. You must not keep any moped, motorbike or similar vehicle, inside your home.
e. You must keep your home clean and tidy and make sure the inside your home is in a good condition.
f. You must make sure that you keep any outbuilding, yard or garden clean and free from rubbish. You must cultivate and look after the garden and keep any trees, bushes, hedges or grass at a reasonable size or height.
g. You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders.
h. You must not allow any of the boundaries of the property, or any land that is let with it, to be changed.
i. You must not put any structure (shed, garage, greenhouse or something similar) on any land that is let with your home without our permission, in writing. You must remove any structure at the end of the tenancy, unless we agree, in writing, that it can stay.
j. You must make sure that nothing is thrown, dropped or allowed to fall from any window or balcony or any part of the outside of the building.
k. You must not allow any fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm, smoke detector, security system or similar safety or security device we have installed to be interfered with or removed at any time. You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open.

Section 5. Anti-Social Behaviour

a. You are expected to be considerate and respectful towards your neighbours, your community and to our staff.
b. You are also responsible for the behaviour of people who live with or visit you (this includes your partner, children, friends and family).
c. You must not commit criminal offences in or around your home. Examples of behaviour which would breach this condition: excessive noise, verbal abuse, threatening or violent behaviour, harassment/hate crime, drug use, supply or cultivation, Storing stolen property in your home. If you breach these conditions, you could face legal action including eviction.
d. You should contact us if you are experiencing problems with your neighbours or suffering anti-social behaviour in your area.
e. If you are the victim of or witness to a crime you should report this to the Police on 101 (or 999 in an emergency).
f. Absolute ground for possession. We can evict you with the court's permission if anti-social behaviour or criminality has been proved by another court, for example by a conviction, breach of injunction, or closure order.
g. We must give you notice that we intend to apply to court, and you will have the right to request a review of our decision. The court does not have to be satisfied that it is reasonable, only that the conviction or other court order is proved.

Section 6. Flats, Maisonettes and Shared Areas

a. You must not allow any shared area (including any stairway, passageway, corridor, lift, drive, path, or road) to be obstructed at any time.
b. You must not store anything in any communal You must not prop fire doors and security doors open.

c. At your sign up you will have been given information about our 'Clear and Safe' Safety in Communal Area Policy, please ensure that you read this and if you have any questions contact your Housing Management Officer on 01484 414886.
d. If there are rubbish chutes in flat, bed-sit or maisonette blocks, you must only use these for small amounts of rubbish.
e. You must not use bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bedsits, or maisonettes with three or more stories.
f. We expect residents within a block to work together to ensure that the communal areas are clean and kept to an acceptable standard.
g. Your Housing Management Officer will be able to provide you with further information about the cleaning of communal areas.

Section 7. Animals

a. We do not want to stop you keeping animals, but you must make sure that they do not cause a nuisance.
b. You must ensure that your pets are looked after, and you must clean up after them.
c. If we are aware that an animal in your care is being mistreated this will be reported to the RSPCA, or Police.
d. If new tenants want to have a pet in their property, permission must be obtained in line with the Homes & Neighbourhoods, Pet Policy. Please ask your Housing Management Officer for a copy of this.

Section 8. Vehicles and Parking

a. We know that vehicles can cause many problems, and we hope the conditions above will reduce these problems as far as possible.
b. If you have any difficulties involving vehicles that you are unable to sort out, you should discuss the situation with your Housing Management Officer to see if we can work out an acceptable solution.
c. Please behave in a reasonable and neighbourly way if there are a limited number of parking spaces.
d. You must ensure that your vehicle does not cause damage to grassed areas or is parked inconsiderately.
e. Large commercial vehicles must not be parked outside or near your home.
f. You need our permission, in writing, if you want to create a parking area in your garden.

Section 9. Leaving your home and ending the tenancy

a. If you give us notice, you should do so on a Notice of Termination form, which you can get from your housing office, or complete online on Kirklees Councils website.
b. If you hand in your notice and then change your mind, we do not have to give you the tenancy back.
c. If a tenancy is in joint names, both tenants should sign the Notice of Termination when they decide to leave. However, one joint tenant can give notice which binds the other, even without his or her permission. The law says that ending a tenancy in this way is valid against the other tenant if it is done properly. If you give us notice in this way, we do not have to re house either of the joint tenants, although we may do so in special circumstances.

d. We will need to inspect your home before you leave. This will be arranged during the notice period. This may include bringing possible new tenants to look at your home.
e. If we cannot get into your home after your notice has ended, either because you have not returned the keys or have not left the property empty, we may claim compensation for any loss we suffer.
f. If you have difficulty moving items of furniture or rubbish when you leave, please contact your housing officer for advice. The council has a scheme for removing bulky household items.
g. When you end your tenancy, you must not leave anything behind, including rubbish, unless you have agreed to with your housing office. If you leave anything inside or outside your home we will charge you for removing this.
h. When you end your tenancy, you must pay for repairing any damage which you, or anyone in your household, has caused deliberately or by neglect. You will not have to pay for normal wear and tear.
i. If we have to carry out work which we can charge you for and which we must do before we can re-let the property, we may charge you for the lost rent while we are doing this work.
j. If someone, other than your husband or wife, takes over a tenancy when you die and the home is bigger than they need, we may have the right to move them to more suitable accommodation. This also applies if the property was specially adapted for a disabled person who no longer lives there.

Section 10 & 11 – No Notes

Section 12. Fraud.

a. If you suspect a property is being used fraudulently ie: you think someone in your area may be subletting their home or living elsewhere, please report this to us. Any information you give us will be treated in confidence and your identity will be protected.

General Information

Where you are required to obtain written permission for any matter set out in the agreement, a tenant must seek permission in writing. The tenant must send the request to the housing officer and await a response. No action should be taken until a formal response to the request has been received.

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Tenancy Agreement Variation Consultation April 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are changes being made to the Tenancy Agreement?

The terms and conditions of Kirklees Councils, Tenancy Agreement were last reviewed in 2016 and 2022. The variations made at that time were for the frequency of when rent payments should be made. The last variation in 2022 was for rent payments to be made weekly in advance rather than monthly.

The remaining terms and conditions have not been comprehensively reviewed for some time and not since Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH) the former Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO) moved back into the control of Kirklees Council in April 2021. The proposed review will focus on whether clauses need adjusting, removing, or adding.

This also provides an opportunity to provide absolute clarity for tenants in some areas that add confusion, overlap between and, tenant responsibilities and, how we can improve our relationship with our tenants.

The changes are necessary to ensure the Tenancy Agreement reflects our responsibilities as a Landlord, and up to date policy and practice including our Statutory and Regulatory responsibilities. It needs to provide clarity about a tenant's rights and their responsibilities, and how we can improve our relationship

What do I need to do?

Read through the summary document which explains the proposed changes and if you have any comments, then contact us. Details of how to do this are outlined in the covering letter, in addition to this document, including who to contact should you require assistance with the letter and contents of the document.

Will this variation affect my tenancy?

Generally, no. We are proposing to change some of the terms and conditions of your existing Tenancy Agreement. The date you started a tenancy with us will remain the same. Your tenancy will not end and will continue with new conditions.

Will I have to sign another tenancy agreement?

No. We will send you the revised Tenancy Agreement with a covering letter once consultation is complete, this is called "serving". The letter will tell you the date the new conditions will be used from.

What about my rights?

Your rights will not change. They are set out in the new Tenancy Agreement.

Can the conditions be backdated?

No. We can only use the new terms from the date they are in force from.

Who will this affect?

Everyone who lives in or visits the property. The tenant (or where there are two people, both tenants) are responsible for making sure all terms and conditions in the agreement are kept to. This means that the tenant(s) is responsible for everyone who lives in the property. This includes family members, friends, and lodgers. The tenant is also responsible for the actions of any visitors to the property regardless of who they are visiting.

Does this mean that I will have to pay more rent?

The current text in the agreement is being changed to allow the council to introduce service charge payments at any point in the year for service charges not already claimed from tenants.

The Council is considering whether to apply a service charge to cover reasonable block and estate costs, such as communal cleaning, communal grounds maintenance and communal lighting etc, this is in addition to a separate charge for rent.

These proposed variations are necessary to provide clarity on how service charges will be applied and what tenants must pay for. The cost of delivering the services will be calculated by the Council and split on a fair and reasonable basis for those tenants that benefit from the services. Tenants will be required to pay the service charge in addition to their rent each week.

Should this tenancy variation be adopted then the Council intends to introduce a service charge for communal grounds maintenance that will be limited to a maximum amount of up to £1.00 a week in 2025/26 and tenants will be given at least 4 weeks written notice which will state the exact amount of service charge payable by each tenant. Information is included in the documentation on the arrangements in place to support tenants including help and advice on any benefits to claim, budgeting and referral to specialist money advice services.

What are the proposed changes?

Many of the conditions cover the same things as before, with any updates or new conditions added under each section of the Tenancy Agreement. Each section covers areas such as payment of rent, use of your home, keeping of animals, repairs and access to properties and anti-social behaviour. This makes it clearer for everyone in relation to tenant responsibilities and landlord obligations.

Where can I view a copy of the proposed full Tenancy Agreement?

The document enclosed describes the proposed changes. Following the consultation exercise and approval by the council's cabinet, the full new tenancy agreement will be made available.

What if I don't agree with some or all the proposed changes

You can have your say through the consultation. We value your views on the proposed changes and will look at all consultation comments and take these into account before we issue the final document.

How can I feedback my comments:

Information on how you can feedback your comments is outlined in the Preliminary Notice letter.

What happens next?

Once the consultation closes and any changes made, the Tenancy Agreement will be approved by the Council, we will then serve you with a formal Notice of Variation under Section 103 of the Housing Act 1985. This notice letter will tell you about the date on which the changes become effective.

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

SECTION 1 – RENT
There is a complete lack of clarity about what these service charges are and whether service charges i currently pay will become additional service charges or even what these additional service charges are
There is no point sharing comments as Kirklees will ignore them.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Do not agree to having to pay for communal areas cutting
If a property has to pay service charges on a weekly basis as rent is paid on a weekly basis include service charge as part of rent cost so it all one payment.
We pay rent and council tax yet get no helo with nothing no reassurance no helo no support goverment and the system just no words
The rent is fair but sometimes things need updating..plus why dont council have a handy man or lady service for a small free like myself doing DIY painting decorating for tenents ... A small free .
You can't even sort the building out and it taken all most 6 an half years to sort the roof out and you keep putting the rent up
We do not agree with you increasing our rent to include"Ground maintenance",so please do not increase our rent to take this into account.We have maintained our garden/plot/ bushes/ lawn for the 18 years of our tenancy,so we will continue to do so.This garden project is therapeutic, and a healthy hobby,which my husband enjoys.
Keep rents lower.
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
I don't consent and will not sign anything
The rent should be consulted with parents with kids who have long term illnesses or disability.
I would like to know what these other charges will be in the rent? Because we are not prepared to pay for other lazy residents who do not keep their Gardens cut back & tidy like xxxxxxxx back Garden is constantly over growing into our flower bed & I have a damaged back & struggle to remove all the weeds that come frequently from noxx, but I still keep the Garden presentable , We are not paying for a Garden service that won't clear the mess next door to us & we cut our own Lawns as well.
I find it somewhat concerning that you will seemingly have the right to charge additional services to the rent account. Seemingly without consultation? I am aware of council debates around gardening services, recycling , communal areas etc. Based on the standard of current

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

gardening services. Which I believe are awful . I would not be comfortable in paying any additional costs.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millonsIllegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Agree with all rules
Where I live: xxx One Bedroomed Bungalow - open plan No delegated /separated areas for a private garden. We need some clarification for this area.I see we have a right to Consultation on the grounds maintenance. Please could you ensure we get this consultation.
If there is going to be a service charge ,think certain things need to be upgraded,,grass cutting and the mess thats left behind
Thank you I am satisfied with the payment options. I am very grateful to KNH for everything. But I would like to suggest KNH allow tenants who are 60+ (or sick tenants) to include 1 family member in the rent agreement to take care of them.
I know rent as to rise with costs ect but we’re paying more rent and a service charge, we seem to have to pay more for less services I.e no bins on the estate also back alleys are only being cut in winter all overgrown the rest of the year which obstructs walking, prams and disabled access
No this section is ok.
Rent should be charged monthly not weekley direct debits are taken every month on a fixed date leave it as it is .. for people who are on benefits... get payment off universal credit automatically ... people will not go into arrears .
All ok
Agree
I have lived in my flat 25 years I think I have a right to complain a bit!
Seems to us , if you pay your rent, your well being gets overlooked for the anti social pet tenants!
We would like to respond as follows with regards to your question around service charging. If the variation to the tenancy agreement is approved by the council then as the frequently asked questions (FAQs) say this could include the introduction of a service charge for communal grounds maintenance that will be limited to a maximum amount of up to £1.00 a week in 2025/26. The properties located on xxxxxx do receive a communal grounds maintenance service for grass cutting so a service charge would apply. So does that mean everybody on xxxxxxx are charged for the grass in the middle of the street which is cut about 4 times a year I think you just trying to get as much money as you can for the mistakes you have made with your finances and isn't this on your rent or council tax I totally don't agree with this The service charge additional payments is very sneaky of the council. A lot of your tenants will not be able to understand these clauses fully and will then have to pay whatever costs you decide to add on. As a resident I would want to know what to budget for - if a new service charge is introduced I won't have a choice but to pay it, currently the service for communal

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

areas is too much especially when I don't even see the benefit of it all the time. The properties are not well looked after or maintained, guttering, painting, windows, doors are all old and need updating but there is no budget. The grass and bushes hardly get cut and not to pay more for something that's not going to benefit me is not what i expected from my landlord. This is another way to make money from tenants rather than cut back on services which may not be needed and extravagant management fees and wages rather than to provide a better service for tenants.
We live at xxxxxxx a lovely area. Regarding the proposed service charge, obviously for cutting communal grass . For myself and joint tenant i strongly object as we pay £13 per fortnight for our grass cut correctly front and back and clippings etc taken away. Also once a year we pay to get our back hedge trimmed back for the winter. We have done this since 2018 . We also keep the upkeep of outside our home ie. Painting handrails , window sills and soffits when required. We have alot of pride in our home and like our garden to look good and have a pleasant outlook. Unfortunately the Kirklees grass cutters dont do this az wd wpuld like . Do as we pay to maintainnpur ptoperty we object to any extra charge for us.
I think the council's intention to include Service charges as part of the rent is unlawful. Extra charges like 'Service' etc should be kept separate from the actual house rental and any extras should be paid for by all regardless of circumstances as this will promote responsible tenants.
If non payment of rent for 3 months or more action will be taken
Customer called to say he disagreed with the extra communal grass cutting charge as states that he often has to challenge the gardeners currently as they never cut it properly now - they miss bits - an extra £4 a month is a lot to someone on either state pension or state benefits - also wanted to add that they will even not cut an area and use things like 'washing line in the way' as an excuse. Concentrate on getting it right now!
Basically you are putting up the rent of our semi detatched home for a slimlined service. Making us more responsible for more expenses e.g. boundry walls...Unjustified. If we are responsible for more you should be paid less.
Lack of Transparency on Charges: The agreement references “associated charges” but does not break down how these are calculated or how changes will be communicated. Service charges, in particular, can be complex and should be clearly itemised. Risk of Financial Hardship: Tenants facing temporary hardship (due to illness, job loss, or benefits delays) may be more vulnerable under a stricter enforcement regime. If repayment options or discretionary support mechanisms are not detailed, tenants may feel discouraged from coming forward early. No Mention of Support or Pre-Action Protocol: The agreement does not refer to the Pre-Action Protocol for Possession Claims by Social Landlords, which obliges councils to engage with tenants before starting legal action for arrears. There is no stated commitment to early intervention or referral to financial support services. Lack of Assurance on Reasonableness or Discretion: There is no mention of hardship policies, repayment plan flexibility, or how tenants can dispute charges or errors. Questions: Will the Council provide clear, itemised breakdowns of all rent and service charges, including how these are reviewed and communicated to tenants? Will tenants be consulted or informed in advance of any significant changes to charges? How does the Council intend to support tenants experiencing temporary financial difficulty before enforcement action is considered?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Will the tenancy agreement be amended to reflect compliance with the Pre-Action Protocol for rent arrears? Is there a hardship policy in place to guide staff when tenants are unable to pay due to circumstances beyond their control? Will tenants have access to appeal or dispute incorrect charges before they are referred to enforcement?
Hi - We object to any increase in our rent for communal service charge. We have a regular gardener who cuts our front and back grass every 2 weeks which we pay for. We are both retired pensioners and cannot manage it anymore. If the council did a better job were tidier and took away the grass clippings maybe we would agree but they cutters dont and its unsightly to see grass blown around our area.We maintain our home as much as possible also minor repairs which don't require qualified workers we use your repair system for that. We maintain the outside of our property as best we can by painting unsightly areas that wear due yo age and weather. So please don't include us in this extra charge we like to keep things as they are.
Could all services be clearly stated an amounts , and amounts yourself has to pay for an who do we contact if need to find this out. I did think communal cleaning was part of our rent as this has been done since my tenancy started an thought these were your responsibility. Also grounds maintenance such as grass cutting you do a very minimal service an d is left unkempt. Even if these are minimal charges it all adds up to the cost of living for tenants and people who cannot manage due to health reasons. The lighting of the building i had thought that this came in with the heating charges and we wer already paying for this. The lighting in xxxxx retirement living is overboard in each wall light in every corridor there are three bulbs and are several of these lights in each corridor, couldn't these be replaced with some lighting that is more cost effective, also on evening s when gets dark and during daytime we do not need that many lights on could they go on when a person is walking past or reduced lighting if possible as these lights seem to be excessive In daytime do not need that much lighting
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
I understand that the council needs to make money BUT as tenants we are going to have to pay for grass to look like hay fields.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
This matter is covered by a package of documents delivered to my home from Kirklees council described as section 103 housing act 1985 preliminary notice changes tenancy agreement this is as written in the covering letter (unsigned and un-dated) attached to the package of duccuments, any errors in grammer, syntax, or spelling are Kirklees council's own. My complaint is about the imposition of a change to my tenancy agreement with Kirklees council. The covering letter states that this change is required because of reasons, unstated and so it is impossible for myself as a tenant to ascertain the reasonableness as defined by law not Kirklee council's own opinion on any reasonableness attached necessarily to Kirlees council's actions in this matter or nature of the alleged need or that any surcharges are in fact lawful. The surchages themselves appear to open-ended as they are to intended to vary at any time in both cost and as to who is to pay the surcharges imposed by diktat of the coucil. That

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The have a council have discovered a need to obtain more funds this is clear and the council have found what they no doubt think is a clever way around the legal requirements regarding an increase in rent or legal and more likely political diffculties regarding an increase in the council tax which is the more reasonable home of the costs the surcharges are allegedly to cover. the covering letter itself has never been graced by the gaze of the coucil's legal department. the sugestion in the letter that new legislation, unspecified, has some in hand in the matter is I suspect deliberately, left unclear. this whole project stinks of dishonesty. Stop this Tyranny and do the honnest and politically difficult thing and increase the council tax. I have no hope nor expectation that this request will be met with the affirmative
I would not want to pay a service charge for grass cutting as I already pay for my own. I also would prefer the communal grass to be left uncut as when it is mowed it encourages children to congregate and cause issues for the neighbours
Keeps going up every year and at some point I will struggle like any tenets.
Service charges should be at suitable charge shouldn’t be a high charge as a lot of tenants are suffering because of the cost of living and the price increase in everything!
I think All rent in England including private rent should be rent controlled and now permanently fixed at rates below what we currently pay, to make up what we've been ripped off so far. Private rent should be the same as council rent. We are renting not buying properties. It is unbelievable what private rent is. It stupid how much council rent is and might as well catch up to private now, as it soon will at this rate. I resent paying so much for property that will never be our own. We never feel settled. Landlords are disgusting and don't do what they should, on both parts, properly. Landlords do not get credit checked or any other checks. I don't see why we should in private renting. I am still tempted to go back to private renting, after my experience in council property last year and this so far. You think i want to pay service charges and constantly increasing rents?No i don't. The council and private renting sector needs changing. Rent cap lowering on both and never increasing, as i said. We're renting not buying. It isn't ours. It's dead money to us. Stop being greedy.
I am concerned about the section regarding additional services. and paying for additional services as yet unspecified. Will these "additional services" be optional or compulsory? The following quoted passage is very vague and open ended "Service charges can be introduced at any time of the year to recover the costs of the serviced delivered. We will tell you, in writing, at least four weeks before we do this."
Agree with new actions
The rent should stay as it is as it is becoming very intense and difficult for people living in high rent property when you have already made it difficult to buy as it is, any notification should be sent out with honesty and integrity not years after the change, there should be no additional charges whatsoever isn’t it bad enough as it is and rent in arrears now that’s a good point when arrears are made to be there when they have never been there is wrong in so many ways especially when you have that information in writing and nothing whatsoever is being done or has been done, should be allowed to withhold rent for valid reasons.

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Does my rent go up
We are joint tenants me and my husband this was just addressed to me
I struggle to pay my bills monthly as i am a single person, cost of living is crippling me but still you ask for more money, its ridiculous, rent and council tax go up yearly, to be honest im not sure what i will do if it goes up anymore, and now you are asking people to pay a service charge? I will say now i will not be able to afford this!
I am a single person, i literally work to pay my rent, council tax and bills and rarely have spare money left. Cost of living is crippling me so to have to pay a service charge as well is ridiculous! I work full-time and its hard, you don't think of single people when putting rent , council tax etc and now you want more money?
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I feel the rent is getting higher each time and it makes it hard for those off us in work but on low pay to be able to pay for it
i don't agree too these charges too mi tenancy as long as a long term tenant. as i hav long-term mental health issues change is not very gud at al. on that i do not agree too any change.
I think thay should be checks on home to see if anything need doing like new windows as their condensation in ours most of the windows and any damaged kitchens damaged fences roofing and guttering leaking
I retire in December hope the rent don't go up again
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
The proposed service charge,i have lived on xxx lane estate for 9yrs And the council have done no grass cutting or gardening around my flat,i have done this my self,reason they just do a quick diabolical job. Will this charge be payable by people who have purchased there homes, I know people in the flats do,but what about people who live in 2 and 3 bedroom houses. People pay council tax ,up keep of the estate should come from this
I think the rent is fair
see you have sneaked in two stelth taxes /cutting grass and lighting tax typical labour
shouldn't be so much in rent it's a run down place and area
Yes the rent is to high for a damp and damage property
Bit of a cheek ' Service charges can be changed at anytime ?
I am happy living at the property. Things are generally good, and any problems have been dealt with. We appreciate staying here
Proposed 5- if a repair has been reported multiple times & hasn't been completed the tenant should be able to withhold rent to cover the cost they end up paying another workman for. I've reported an outside repair multiple times which either disappear from the system or appear as 'completed'. It's getting to the point where I'm tempted to pay someone to do the repairs & I expect to be reimbursed!
the strong do what they wish the weak do what they must. I have already filled in this form once completely . only to find that the session had been terminated without warning or notice which to my mind exemplifies the dishonesty of the councils approach in this matter.
The biggest problem with the rent increase is that it is a larger percent than our pension increase and this adds to our financial burden
Any increase in Service Charges or additional charges must be proportionate to the level of service provided as well as considering the cost of living increases already having an impact on tenants income, particularly pensioners who are on a fixed income and not eligible for additional benefits, e.g. Housing and Council Tax benefits.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Direct debit stipulation doesnt guarantee payment. Assumes appropriate bank account and sufficient funds. Seems may just increase costs both to council and tenants. Why can tenants continue to pay in manner they see fit including cash and standing order?
I would like to have a full breakdown as soon as possible. In the past we have raised several times that the services included in the rent are not adequate. For example, we are paying for window cleaning but the windows had not been cleaned for over 5 years, yet the charges are being taken regularly. The same applies to cleaning the communal areas - there are days where corridors are left dirty, bins not taken and overall the quality of the cleaning services is not satisfying.
My rent is okay, just the mould remaining a big problem as I've lost fridge, washing machine and Cooker to just the mould is too much am scared to replace those as it's going to be same issue
I think my rent is reasonably
Why do we have to pay for the rent and council tax and have to pay for our repairs.
Mr x does not have a clue what is rent amount is per month due to having no computers, dyslexia therefore cannot read and write. He doesnt know how much rent he owes
I do not understand why the need to separate the charge for communal ground maintenance etc when for years it has worked to be included in the rent. Isit our intention to contract this throughout?
If a choice is made for a service which the council fails to provide then a charge for such period should be refunded.
Yet again we have to pay more, whereas your asb tenants will get away scotch free. We already pay for the so called gardening which asb tenants just let their dog foul there
A new additional service charge. I hope any new service charge affects everybody as we are surrounded by people who have money for weed and beer all day everyday. Which is very unfair to the rent payers.
We are not paying the council to cut the grass, we are paying a relative to cut the communal area from number 20-32. The bloke who cuts the front area from the council, misses a lot of grass and leaves all the cuttings on the path which is dangerous and slippy when wet.
No comments
Considering I put in right to buy form on the 12/11/2024 and have still not recieved an answer as there is a back log, I would assume that my tenancy agreement would fall under the previous agreement until the process has ended. Especially as I'm unable to have any repairs once the right to buy form is handed in, then surely my tenancy will also remain the same until the process has commenced. So can I please have an update regarding where I stand regarding this new tenancy agreement. I also do not agree to being charged service charges as the ground maintenance that is done is done poorly. I would expect a reply before you proposed changes happen.
NO COMMENT
Why as a tenant of nearly 15 years do i still have to pay a service charge in my rent the communal doors are always broken so anybody can walk in when they like the back communal door is always getting smashed in once again nothing to do with anybody who visits my property i for sure wouldnt allow this its only been happening in the last 4 years since a certain

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

tenant moved in i refuse to pay service charges for security that isnt their its not fair! I refuse to also pay any charges with regards to any doors been broken or booted in as i would never mistreat anything i have been a very good tenant for the past 14 years and look after things to the best i can so i will not pay for other peoples damages not a chance
No problem
88 replies at noon Friday 9th May
None
I a letter from yourselves about new surcharges and a new tenancy agreement to be forced upon me in a very dishonest manner. What would you like us to do to put it right?: stop this nonsense and just do the honest thing and put up the council tax.
I have no Intention of commenting on each section so I will make a overall comment to cover everything . Here we have another document provided by kirklees ostensibly a Change to our Tenancy agreement but all ii is, is yet another diatribe telling us what we can and can't do , what we will do and what we won't do and as usual all the provisions to increase our rents through the Back door using unwanted and unwarranted "Service Charges" all this whilst forcing those us who live in Flats to live in "Sterile conditions" The Councils definition not ours , conditions they never apply to themselves . Kirklees Council do not abide by anything they say in these agreements , rules for us but not for you ,there is one thing I know for sure that any criticism the like of which I have just written will never get a reply or I would be surprised if it is even read.
90 replies at Monday 12th May
Disagree with being charged for communal clean up. People littering are mainly benefit people. They pay no rent no council tax. Getting everything for nothing. These are the people you should charge. If they are not made to contribute they will just carry on littering. Laughing at the people they already annoy. Knowing that they are being made to pay. This does nothing to either deter littering or punish the wrong doers. Instead it is people who pay their way who are being punished. Disgusting. Our solution - make people who have to do community service do the clean up. No need to do this weekly. Once a fortnight or even a month should be sufficient. Someone should be sent out with them to make sure they do the job right. Full rubbish bags can be collected by the people who pick up the rubbish bags filled by street cleaners. No need for charges at all. If you decide to charge then everyone should be made to pay including benefit people and private owners of flats in the block. Flytipping - a problem everywhere a service should be set up whereby you can pay a smaller amount say for example £2.00 per item, you book for bulky items to be taken away in advance once a fortnight a van to be sent to each area, where you have a booking to remove items. One trip for council van so cost effective. Fee per item. Whilst you have a bulky item service charges are too high and hence Flytipping for which you recover nothing. Smaller fee could make more people book because the service is more affordable plus each area would know when you were due. So at last you get some payment instead of nothing at all for Flytipping. E.g. an area could have 1st Wednesday of each month for collection day. If the van picks up 10 items at £2.00 each that's £20 in council costs. 1 trip saving petrol and man hours and less Flytipping. Could this be worth a trial in say 3 areas. Right now the full cost of Flytipping is paid by the council or should I say council tax payer. Some items might be able to be sold in your revive shops saving things going to land fill. If people want things taken away quicker then a higher charge should be paid.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
Firstly i am quite annoyed that k.h.n is to charge residents a service charge as tenants are paying extortionate amounts of council tax as it is and getting sorry to say it very mediocre services for the council tax they are paying. Also correct me if i am wrong in the literature provided it mentions weekly rents to be paid to k.h.n as i am on ESA and PIP and to be transferred in the coming future by managed migration on to universal credit the government only pay monthly rents how does that impact people like myself.
Not happy
94 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
96 replies at Thursday 29th May
96 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 2 - REPAIRS
I dont bother with repairs unless it is essential as the faff and they always seem rushed. My kitchen is falling to bits but guess thats ok. Because if tgey cam to fix all the things i would be black listed.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
There is no protection for tenants regarding repairs/works that have been reported and not dealt with. My house has a hole in the corner that birds live in. It causes damage and everytime I report it there is a reason they can't fix it - weather, birds nesting, wind, incorrect equipment. My home was treated terribly by the last tenant and some of my home is still damaged from them (eg: bedroom floors, inside of cupboards, bath). I have also been told by repairmen that some things can't be repaired as they don't make it stock that particular item any more so there's nothing they can do about it. My kitchen floor is very uneven and the workman made it worse, because; and I quote "there's no money to replace the floor". My uPVC window sills are fitted terribly and yet I cannot have them repaired as they're not technically broken. There's nothing at all that will protect me from Kirklees saying that I did any of the things that were an issue caused by the previous tenant or from Kirklees charging me because of these things. The repair reporting service doesn't let you report what needs repairing easily. If you leave additional comments so you can specify the issue, these are not passed on to repair people. This can result in repairs not happening.
Online repair reporting would be helpful if able to attach photos and videos to a repair request made online via my kirklees.
Need to do better with repairs and in contacting and time frame as have been waiting months and job still not done
Repairs are ok .could be better ..
Disappointed can't even repair the roof after been told some many time and taken al lost 6 and half years to sort out

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Throughout our tenancy my husband has cleaned all the guttering, removed all debris from numbers 8 /9/10 along with 15/16/17,taking the rubbish to the tip,with no payment from the council. My husband has rubbed down, undercoated and glossed the wooden outside cupboard and fall pipe over the years, without payment. Surely these are maintenance jobs which need to be carried out each year to make sure the guttering isn't overflowing water on to the brick work,and not needing to be carried out by a tenant?.My husband totally removed at least 12 metres of ivy from the memorial garden wall,disposing of 9 black bin liners,in our car,taking them to the council tip ,with no cost to the council.All we have asked over the years is,to prevent this continuous issue, could the ivy possibly be poisoned?.
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
I understand we are responsible for decorating but what about when your home is bad for mould and no matter how many time someone supposedly comes out to sort it it's still not right which means I'm having to redecorate and buy new furniture that's had to be replaced due to covered in mould.
My home is overcrowded and in serious disrepair
Kirklees Council should follow up the repairs done as some workers leave in-completed jobs e.g skirting board after plumbing job and to see if quality items or parts are installed. After moving in to our home we noticed after few months that the old mould and black spots were overpainted which showed after few months. I have already informed council about it.
I am still waiting for our flat roof to be recovered ? We have water ingress in our kitchen but no one has been near to inspect it this year , last year it was patched three times but it hasn’t worked
Repairs are generally dealt with very quickly. I would appreciate more clarification on " responsibilities" . I have an ongoing issue with the flooring and ceilings in my property. Basically my carpets are ruined because of the unsealed floor beneath. The matter is in limbo . Without doubt the floor is " fabric of the building" . You are willing to repair but the removal of all furniture, etc . And the cost of new carpets and coverings are mine ? The floor caused the damage .
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
I find the repairs service very good.the workers are polite and get the repairs done .
Agree with rules
Make it clear the process if a tenant has to move out due to repairs. Advice of copy of council rehoming policy regarding moving out due to repairs.
No probs

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

☝KNH You could check the condition of your house or apartment once a year and note what needs to be repaired. ☝KNH could recommend its workers to replace, for example, carpet, wallpaper, etc., for tenants at a reasonable cost. ☝Tenants who cannot repair their property themselves can apply for this service 3 months in advance and set up a payment plan for the work.
I can understand that some basic repairs can be done by ourselves but some items I.e council shower rails can't be purchased anywhere as I've tried myself which means damage to tiles that I'd have to replace just because I can't get the same one anywhere, a good idea would be to have these for sale through Kirklees council along with other things which would be easier for tenants
No this section is ok.
Gas fire was removed, still in working order, removed due to chimney leaking - tenancy agreement states we are responsible for the repair of chimneys so why wasn't the chimney repaired
Repairs for kitchen cabinets, door locking systems, window locking system, toilet,basins, baths, skirting boards gas related appliences boiler electrical skirting boards flushing systems door handles as they are already shabby in many cases should be done by the council your repair men are cowboys i once bought anti mold sealent gave to your repair person told him to use it he still refused before making amy changes come change and fix all problems secure all problems the apply your changes if your going to start charging tenants since iv moved here i have got shabby windows shabby door handles even shabby window sills ! You should also repair for damp and you should install extractor fans in ever kitchen i live in a flat there wasnt one installed ! It should come with the property and you should be responsible for for repacing the grills make sure you have plenty if tenents request new ones charge them !
all ok
agree
All my requests have been dealt with efficiently and usually very quickly
Repairs are taking longer to get repairs done, than we use to
The repairs are not always done to a good standard, the lack of appointment availability is disgusting. Over the years I have had so many tradesmen coming, each give conflicting information and depending on who wants to work they all mainly do as little as possible and leave. So many times I have seen them sat in vans on their phones for hours and then they pop in and out of a property within a few minutes. I had a lot of draught coming through the windows and front door. I called so many times, i got handles, hinges and even some glazing changed on some windows. Other times I was told I shouldn't have put blinds in, it's nothing they can do I need curtains! I have now taped the front door shut to keep the wind out, the windows will ultimately need replacing which I am saving up to do. The roof is knackered, the council are not interested in holistic renewal of property, they'd rather let it get to a very bad state. If after every 15 years the roof/windows etc were renewed the properties would have less issues but for that you need to invest in existing housing which the council doesn't want to do by the looks of things
We will do repairs if we are able but anything that needs a tradesman we contact repairs and having lived in our property nearly 8 years i can say we never have had a problem.
All good
Negligence, not reporting repairs, having an impact on neighbouring properties, possible recharges.

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

We have been waiting the upgrades to kitchens that we were told would be undertaken more than 5 years ago so it would be good if the planned repairs could be listed with updated dates for work to be carried out. It just seems to have got lost in the changing over of systems.
Some of the borders of council properties are already in need of repair. By making all tenants responsible for them will just result in fencing and walls etc becoming more dangerous falling apart and looking unsightly.
Improvements and Alterations •Will tenants be required to seek retrospective permission for past alterations, especially if no records exist? •Is there an appeals process for denied improvement requests? •Will minor improvements (e.g. painting, curtain rails) be exempt from requiring permission? Risk: Tenants who made alterations (e.g. fitted flooring, sheds, satellite dishes) without formal permission—especially years ago—may be forced to reverse these at their own cost. Potential Consequences: •Financial burden due to reinstallation or removal of works. •Risk of legal disputes or rent account charges if alterations are deemed unauthorised.
2.10 Who pays and where do we go. 14. What do you class as regular.
As to keeping drains clear, a lot of people living in sheltered living are not capable of cleaning gullies drains etc Think your responsible for clearing gutters but was told at some point you were not now doing this is this true were not capable of doing this an could lead to damp an damage to building What are we allowed to do or use in hot weather as my flat gets over 30 in hot weather
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
It will be incredibly helpful to have a list of the repairs the council is responsible for & a time scale for them to be completed. It would be greatly appreciated if the council could contact tenants when they are coming to do outside jobs as not everyone has open access to their property.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
I would like the council to be quicker dealing with repairs. I have had a damp issue for sometime and im still waiting for it to be resolved
Repairs could be on time , and don’t keep tenets waiting in all day .
Good
Repairs are sometimes done without any real care or attention. Since moving in, every few weeks there is a horrific smell of poo all around the flat, all year round. Either myself or her report it. Kirklees men come to clear the drains, which have apparently always backed up.My toilet also blocks and overflows.They have to sort that too. Using a plunger myself us pointless. I've tried. But all they say when i ask why the source of the problem can't be located properly and fixed permanently, is, oh it can't it's ingoinfmg because of what people put down their toilets. Well it can't be this same thing every few weeks, people aren't that consistent. I've been told it could be the soil pipes that wree incorrectly fitted originally at the flats. I mean, they won't automatically come out on a regular basis either to check and unblock

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

anything, so it's clear a much bigger issue that needs addressing. But they won't because they know it will involve spending a lot of money. I'm paying rent for my flat to stink quite often. I shouldn't have to buy candles to be on or smelly sticks all the time to hide it. It's your mistake and problem to sort.You put the rent up a month after i moved in. I was totally gobsmacked.The bixes i've compketed so far, not even that many, tell me that any further rent incteases are jyst a massive rip off to tenants and it should now be rent controlled. As should private renting. Thst should be similar costings to renters as this. We're renting, not buying properties. It's disgusting. I pay rent for this. I hate it.
agree
The repairs should continue as they and get better in service not change for the worse, where the listed repairs at time don't get done for time i am meaning time as in left if tenants don't chase they either cancel or don't bother they should be carried out and are required either way, tenants shouldn't pay for their own locksmith as the amount of money we pay for our rent especially with all these increases in everything as whole shouldn't be made to not in exceptional circumstances but should be done at all times no cost as its not easy or you might not have the capacity to do given all the increases etc.
Could i have an electric fire put in please
Rubbish at the moment
The house has not been painted for well over 10 years since the insulation went on , it said in the letter is was regularly painted this is not tru
It said in the letter that the house's were painted regular, my house has not been painted since the insulation went on over 10 years ago
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
My repairs are bad, the kitchen is out off date with surface top broken, door that have mould on them, or don't close. I have lived there since 2006. MY home is always cold and needs installation sorting to keep the heat in. The bathroom is old and tile are old and warn
repairs ar not alwys gud an dont like wen people just turn up on i not notified before hand. work is not alwys gud eg. repairs ar sometimes not very gud sometimes needs improvement. Some of the repairs could be done sooner .instead of giving you all. Day appointments. Give morning or afternoon x
I live in block of 4 flats upstairs one of tennents keeps putting communal doors through but nothing happens ...she should be taken to court and made to pay ...ive been here since December 24 and she as busted locks on six doors being pissed up thinking she owns the block
Repairs I've had have been ok
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I asked kirkless for a new kitchen and cuboard storage wall to be removed its dated back from the 60s needs updating for 1 bed flat its taking up too much space in a small kitchen.
Never come when you want them. When they say they have been and no one is and not even knocked on th e door
Repairs that are promised should be sorted
Sometimes dont turn up when there supposed to. Also said they came and no one was in when there actually was

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Been waiting 2 years for a repair on my council garage,my flat has no Outside water stop tap,or you cannott find it,contacted yorkshire water and they tell me you have plans on paper,and on visual records
The repairs system is ok
I have a dangerous tree that is overgrown in my front garden its lifting the path outside my house and i have raised bumps inside my front room probably caused by the roots of the tree.i have asked a million times as lived here for 34 years for something to be done about it,ive always been told its not your problem but its in section 2 clause so why does it always get passed else where ?
Very good at repairs. Quick to respond
All reasonable efforts are taken to carry out repairs
no consideration for help for the frail and elderly
That I should not be charged so much for a window to be fixed
The lenght of time it takes for them to come and do the work. And when you phone through to council they dont always long it on the records for repairs
Everything good so far
Proposed 14- nothing is mentioned about compensation for certain repairs carried out or compensation for work the tenant has done at the end of the tenancy. see above
Repairs and maintenance can be a bit haphazard, incorrect tradesperson being allocated to the repair. Length of time taken for repairs to be done requires improvement. Communal areas and outside areas are looking neglected and not appealing to prospective new tenants. It would be ideal if a list of repairs the Council is responsible for would be provided to each tenant.N
Our building repairs are a joke as the current waiting period for a repair in our home is almost 4 weeks. To be without access to kitchen sink for this period is totally wrong and unfair, Painting and repairs to the outside of the building has not been done since we moved into the building and we were informed that our repairs are on a cyclicle basis and so we still have our guttering and down pipes awaiting repaired for the last 3 years
1.9 what constitute a danger? Ambiguous description which i fear will leave tenants fighting to get things actioned depending on hosuing officer in area. Over 10yrs in my house and for years overgrown bushes NOT trimmed. Took a complaint escalation to get it done. One tree now overgrown to point of branches almost touching ground. Issue unresolved in iver 10yrs as task to housing officer who doesnt seem to follow through. Took much mental health toll to have to raise complaints just to get council to honor agreements. For tenants protection, i would say needs clearer terms maybe even describe vegetation growth in meters etc. However term "danger" seems too Ambiguous. 1.11 Please add who will responsible for costs of temporary accommodation if tenant asked to evacuate as you repair. Same point for 2.10
Please repairs advise what and who is responsible for kitchen appliances that is built in? For example cooker and hob is fully built in. There is no mention who covers the repair or replacement of this.
Repairs take too long at times since i took everything out of cupboards end of last year, am still waiting for someone to come round to sort out the kitchen cupboards but its not happened to date
I have had all my repairs done on tim
The houses have not been painted for years
Cupboard in the kitchen does not work anymore, trying to charge for a new cupboard when it was the council that fitted this kitchen

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Our communal area has not been painted for 20 years, what does it mean by regular? The council should commit to a programme of maintenance to include clearing gutters or removing mess from the paths
We do report repairs ASAP it is usually the council that takes ages to respond and carry those out.
Tenants have to carry out certain repairs as it is our responsibility. This can be very hard, people can become very distressed and in a bad shape. We would welcome any amendments if necessary.
Not everybody is tech savvy, a certain generation prefer to speak with somebody over the phone. No consideration for those who work and have to wait in all day for somebody to arrive.
Repaired on time and professionally
Operatives need to be more tidy when doing jobs and do the job properly.
Much of the agreement seems to be more relevant to council houses rather than an assisted living complex. It would be clearer if there were separate tenancy agreements to reflect the different types of accommodation proposal 2.10. If a disabled person is required to vacate their property, what provision is there to find suitable alternative accommodation for the period of repair?
I am a tenant in a disabled adapted bungalow as I am a permanent wheelchair user. The oven is a built in accessible oven and hob which I have previously been informed by the surveyor and the housing officer is the responsibility of the council to repair as it is built in and should I leave the property the oven and hob will stay in the premises. Will the tenancy agreement include this please? I also have a wet room shower. Is the wet room shower to be maintained/repaired by the council or are I expected to make any repairs to the shower please?
NO COMMENT
Damp and mould issues who pays for the decorating after the work is done as ive had a few works done and not been compensated for it! Its not my fault my flat is damp and mouldy as ive had council out enough times but no one will actually get to bottom of what the issue is! Grates outside the property not all tenants will comply with this! As they dont look after anything else
It is not clear about who's responsibility falls regarding fencing, gates and outside brick shed.
No problem
91 replies at Monday 12th May 2025
91 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
Section 2 Repairs B he doesn't agree
The whole of the language used seems to be very harsh and heavily direct.
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is there plain to see. I cannot see anyone disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
Also regarding repairs this service need to improve as it took nigh on nearly 4 years for the gardening and forestry workers to cut one single branch over the property of ******* close over my bedroom of the property as the branch was hitting the roof of my bedroom particularly in the windy autumnal months and could have caused extensive damage to in all honesty a volatile roof that needs replacing. Thankfully about 5 or so weeks ago the offending branches were cut but the amount of hassle

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

to have this ridiculously simple procedure done was quite frankly ridiculous and was told via an email by ****** housing officer ********* due to funding it might never be done so whats the payment of council tax for then it begs the question doesnt it. Also as i made a complaint in december of last year regarding the doubling of costs and continual breakdowns of the ********** communal boiler system as it is more expensive to heat our homes as the unit costs have shot up from 8p to 16.5p as usual nothing was done to mitigate the costs of this extortionate new costs luckily i shouldnt tempt fate the communal boiler as of yet hasnt broke down for wow wait for it nearly 5 months which is a world record as it broke down 8 times in 2024 and you want to charge us service charges on top of the high price for the heating system which has mediocre reliability at best its not on really is it.
not happy
96 replies at Tuesday 20 May 2025
None
I don’t have
98 replies at Thursday 29th May 2025
98 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 3 – ACCESS
Haven't read it as it it will be crap
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Access is always granted
Current system for accessing homes for repairs or servicing is terrible. If you report a repair you aren't given a time, but a very vague time period. If a repair person is delayed you're not notified. There's nothing that takes into account the tenants other commitments.
Access is a joke the phones are temporary dont work mosr the time
Suitable access is priority
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
The council do not help unless they are forced into doing so
Maintenance of access areas and as to who is responsible, seems ambiguous?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Currenty my bins are out front becsuse i find it very difficult to get them up the steps.my limited moblity is a big problem.need a pathway have asked council panel to look into it and spoken to housing officer
Agree with rules
No probs
A camera would be desirable to be able to monitor deliveries and also people coming in for security.
I agree gardens pathways ect should be kept clean and accessible but that should go for walkways ect that arnt maintained by tenants they should be kept maintained more than once a year and in the spring/summer when they’re accessed more
No this section is ok.
Access is ok council should be notified if you go on holiday they can use a spare key to enter if you are away you should have a spare key for every house
All ok
Agree
My upstairs think they have a right to sit in front of my door when it is windy. I have to ask them to move each time I want to go out not right ?
None, apart from this should apply to ALL TENANTS
The outside of the property is not always maintained as it should be as per the policy. I have never seen any guidance regarding CCTV or doorbells, this was not part of my tenancy agreement and I feel that tenants should be advised of this at sign up, for residents already in the property this information should be given in easy to read, simple format not just referred to in this consultation when we have never had sight of this before. So many people now have cameras up, it's a violation of privacy - if the council are giving permission then they should also be checking to ensure no one is breaching data protection laws and just keeping tabs on others in the area
No problems.
All good but would benefit from compulsory annual inspections from housing office
Must provide NOK information and keep us updated with change of contact details
Access to properties is always going to be contentious
Section 3 outlines the Council’s right to access tenants’ homes for a range of purposes, including inspections, repairs, compliance checks (e.g. gas, electrical, or fire safety), and to address tenancy breaches. While the landlord’s right of access is a legal necessity under the Housing Act and related regulations, the way this clause is framed has important implications for tenant rights, autonomy, and wellbeing. The section allows the Council to enter the home with reasonable notice (usually 24 hours) except in emergencies, and states that failure to provide access may be treated as a breach of tenancy. However, there is no detail on what constitutes "reasonable attempts," how access will be scheduled, or how vulnerable tenants will be supported through this process.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Additionally, the clause does not mention tenants' rights to reschedule non-urgent visits, to have a representative present, or to receive accessible communication in line with the Equality Act 2010. For tenants with mental health conditions, learning disabilities, or those who have experienced trauma, unscheduled or unaccommodated access can be invasive and harmful.

Furthermore, there is no mention of the Council's responsibilities during access—such as treating the property respectfully, leaving it secure, or providing identification and clear explanations. Tenants have a right to know not just that entry is permitted, but also how it will be conducted and what safeguards are in place.

Risks Associated with Section 3 – Access

Risk to Privacy and Mental Wellbeing
Issue: Without adequate notice or flexibility, access could feel intrusive and violate a tenant's sense of safety in their home.
Potential Consequences: Tenants with anxiety, PTSD, or sensory processing needs may experience distress or panic during home visits.
Forced access may damage trust and engagement between tenant and landlord.
Risk of Inadvertent Breach Due to Missed Communication
Issue: Tenants may miss or misunderstand notices of access, especially those with literacy issues, learning disabilities, or language barriers.
Potential Consequences:
A tenant may be deemed in breach for failing to grant access even if they never received or understood the notice.
Risk of escalation (e.g. legal action) without fair warning or opportunity to respond.
Risk of Discrimination
Issue: The policy does not reference reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010 for disabled or neurodivergent tenants.
Potential Consequences:
Failure to make adjustments (e.g. longer notice, use of support workers, calmer environments) could amount to unlawful discrimination.
Vulnerable tenants may be disproportionately impacted by rigid enforcement.

Lack of Transparency or Appeal
Issue: The agreement does not describe how tenants can challenge access decisions, request alternative arrangements, or complain about inappropriate conduct during visits.
Potential Consequences:
Tenants may feel powerless or disrespected during inspections or checks.

No clear accountability for staff behaviour during visits.
Notice and Scheduling:
What is the standard notice period the Council will give before accessing a tenant's home for non-emergency purposes?
Will tenants have the right to reschedule non-urgent inspections or visits if they cannot accommodate the proposed time?
Equality and Reasonable Adjustments:

How will the Council ensure reasonable adjustments are made for tenants with disabilities, mental health conditions, or neurodivergent needs (e.g. longer notice, quieter visits, presence of a support worker)?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Will the Council involve support services or carers in arranging access where appropriate, to prevent enforcement against vulnerable tenants? Communication and Accessibility: How will the Council communicate access requests to tenants who have language barriers, literacy difficulties, or limited access to post? Will access notices be available in accessible formats (e.g. Easy Read, translated materials, audio notifications)? Conduct and Safeguards During Access: Are staff or contractors required to provide identification and explain the reason for the visit upon arrival? What procedures are in place to ensure staff conduct themselves respectfully and leave the property secure after access? Enforcement and Disputes: Will tenants be considered in breach of tenancy for missing one access appointment, even due to illness or misunderstanding? Is there an appeal or complaints process for tenants who feel that access was unreasonable, poorly communicated, or distressing? Accountability and Oversight: How is the Council monitoring its compliance with the Equality Act and its duty to accommodate access-related needs? Will there be any internal review process if access enforcement disproportionately affects vulnerable groups?
Proposed 3 & 11. Section 3.4. As I am an electric wheelchair user both inside and outside the home (my only means of mobility) I have no option but to keep it in the home. Now apparently I will need written permission, which seems a little ridiculous. I don't have a choice other than to use the chair. This section needs a rethink and rewording unless you now want all permanent electric wheelchair users to seek permission, just to have some level of independence. Section 3.5 Quote 'This includes removing batteries when charging'. This is very vague. What is it supposed to mean? Are you expecting us to charge the batteries outside? I can't remove the batteries and have no option but to charge in the house. This shows a complete lack of understanding of the day to day problems of permenant electric wheelchair users. We can't just remove batteries to charge from our only means of mobility.
If forced entry to check for burst or other hopefully you will pay for replaced locks keys as we do have key entry safes if necessary to enter the flats as to which ILOS Have details of these an contact should be made to ourselves or if not the ILOto check our pin

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

entry code the ILOS should be availabe for these at all times If a repairs person causes a flood or your heating system does i assume you will cover this with your insurance
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I agree the council should do yearly inspections to ensure everything is ok.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
Access to bungalow when needed.
I hate that we have a shared area under the steps.I hate the steps. It said there were 10 steps in the ad when i bid. It was still too many but i wanted to be back in xxxx and knew nothing else would come up. Boy, have i regretted it, with the nasty and fake people living here. There are at least 6 steps up, which are metal, so they're dangerous to start with. Then at least another 12 or more steps down in a curve, with nothing to hold on both side, only a railing on one side. The stupid neighbour hangs rope up to put washing on at the bottom, where you have to walk through, ridiculous. It's too low, and i've had to lift it up out of my way many times when i reach the bottom of the steps, so i don't walk into it. Disgusting. Should not be allowed. I'm tall and this is a disgrace. She thinks she owns the estate anyway. Her at No.1. I suggested ways to make the space better for borh of us, but they deliberately did opposite, so that they still had to put their things against mine under the steps. I clearly had more things to put under there, but she bullied me into taking things to tip before i was ready then immediately put some of their things under the steps, after i moved mine, when i hadn't even finished sorting what i wanted to put oyt there, i had more to bring oyt from inside. Ever since she deliberately puts things against mine, and when i move them, she puts them right back like a three year old would do. Disgusting behaviour. Also the gardeners, they hardly anything. They cut grass, don't gather up the remains, they leave a big strip down the middle every year all year, claiming they can't do it because there are bulbs, yes there are bulbs.....underneath the ground, that doesn't stop them mowing over them to get rid of the usual weeds etc. I think we should have doors from our living rooms down to the grass area, so we can properly use it more. The people upstairs don't anyway and there is bits of grassy areas they can use which aren't outside downstairs flats. We should be able to fence them off and not have to have a through access section. I would be happier to pay an independent gardener to cut it. Kirklees gardeners are useless on every level. I cannot stand walking past the bully flat to go round to the grass area in front of my flat, when i could just have a patio door and wide steps. I do not want to pay extra service charges, when thry do nothing.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Same with the binmen. Most times i don't get left bin bags in either bin. There are toi many steps for me to have the tall bins. I had to move my bins out of the bully's way too. So they are closer to me. I try to doubke up my bin bags, but i can't afford to, when they dob't even leave me any every time. I've requested an area by the steps to be concreted months and months ago. Because i use it to put heavy bags and items there to collect when i've used the steps and l9ng access routes to my flat. It gets so muddy that i can't use it. They syill have my request in the office. I've lived here since January 2024. It wasn't too long after that i requested the area to be concreted. Last week a Kirklees driver knocked into a wall with his larger van and it was then crooked but not safe. He never reported it to be fixed. So a resident had to do it. The other residents are older and it could be dangerous. Other residents moaned but it was left to my friend and myself to sort and report. But the nasty residents stick their noses in when it suits them. I was disgusted. This estate is horrible. I hate it here and wish i never came. I stay inside all the time. I lived being oytside and was the reason i returned to Holmbridge, so i could enjoy the fresh air again. I haven't enjoyed it more than once in over a year almost a half.
Agree
Never had issues from my side about access even in emergency when your door is being broken into access to sort issues as emergency whatever it may be but then doesn't get dine or left boarded for months on end with sorry for this will have to wait.
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I am still at a age where i can still go up and down stairs so access is ok at the moment
Put drives in with ppl that have cars im disabled and sometimes i carnt get out of our drive
Upstairs as a quad bike on stairs been told loads of times to move but when she does move it it comes straight back some new people in a private rented flat above me had to stride over quad first to get to steps yet again nothing done about it she thinks she owns the block
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
More help with gardens for those with disabilities such as myself and elderly
No problem with access
No issues
Only 1 access
I am.ok with that
we have just received new fobs for access to our building and low and behold we can use a fob from another building to gain access to our building which should never happen, So why waste

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

money to replace fobs for each building and then I can access any of the buildings in xxxx with my current fob
No problem with allowing access as long as informed previously. This does not always happen. In emergencies no issue with allowing access.
None
Section 2.5 in mentions that we are responsible for the safe keeping of the keys and fobs provided including doors, windows and communal access locks. Can this incorporate keys and access to the electricity meters in the basement? This is an enormous inconvenience as we are unable to provide readings on time due to not having the access. We are waiting for the officer to do it when it is convenient to them but often this is exceeding the time given by the electricity provider which results in discrepancies in the accuracy of the bill. THis has a negative impact on our finances as often we are requested to pay more due to estimated and not the actual readings.
I always get notified anytime tradesmen come to do jobs
None i am happy were i live and have been since day one
Communal garden front and back is full off rubbish, my upstairs neighbour cleans up all the leaves but takes ages for the council to come and clear.
They call and give time for access and ask if it is convenient. They work with tenants well I have not faced any problems.
proposal 3.1 and 3.2 regarding hazardous materials appear to be contradicted by 3.8
PROPOSED 1 [Incl 1&2] I support the proposal of an annual home visit. Suggestion: To make available the option of outside office hours visit for those tenants in full time employment who may not be able to afford/get time off work.
No problem
People who are terminally ill such as my son and can not walk far without collapsing, should be given access to the house via drives so they can enter the house easily and safely at no risk to their conditions.
60 Replies at Monday 12th May
60 Replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
Anti Social Behaviour 3a you and any other person living in or visiting your home must not a do or fail to do anything which causes or is likely to cause a nuisance or annoy residents his comment is Nurses coming in the building early morning Nurse entry before 7-00a.m.
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
not happy
63 Replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don’t have
65 Replies at Thursday 29th May
65 Replies at Wednesday 18th June 25

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

SECTION 4 - USING YOUR HOME AND KEEPING YOU SAFE
You let anybody live here when it was an old people complex. Despite old people looking after the grounds, flats and paying their bills you dump the people you want out of Huddersfield. Kirklees is the only council that doesnt protect its elderly
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
In relation to 4.3. I have such a bad condensation issue in my toilet that I have bought a dehumidifier. This is because the toilet has no heating and is on an outside wall with leaky guttering. I do not have an extractor fan of any sort downstairs and I am on a waiting list to have one fitted. There is mould INSIDE the walls of my bathroom and no amount of running my dehumidifier, fan and wiping it down stops the mould from coming back. I take reasonable action and still have a massive issue. This clause could punish me. 5.1 & 5.2 I have no pets. Neighbourhood cats use my garden as a toilet. Cats are habitual and despite my best efforts to stop them, I haven't yet found an effective way. I pick up the waste when I mow, but I don't feel I should have to do a daily patrol to get rid of other people's pets waste. My garden floods, often, and if we have had a wet autumn, winter or spring I often cannot mow it until it has sufficiently dried. I love my garden and try and take the best care of it, but I cannot always do this because it's like a quagmire.
Have a homes and neighbourhood representative do unannounced property visits at least once a year. So state of property can be viewed and if anything illegal is happening.
Neighbours need to have consideration for others whom live in same building and have respect
Council need too be harder on people's that dont look after there property..
Agree
Garden area by kirklees, in flats that kirklees cut, do not cut grass as much as it should, leaving grass far too long, all so grass should be picked up, maintained of edges not done enough, no weeding, putting watching out in very long grass get or feet very wet, also grass on shoes trails in side.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Were not safe really the condition is horrendous
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
My limited moblity make things difficult to do.i have had adaptions done inside and outside. My son come home when hes not at university he has shared accommodation so not always here
Agree with rules
Suggested points for inclusion in new Tenancy Agreement. Points 5 &6 - Tenants to be prevented from digging up the grassed areas to create their own garden space - often encroaching on their neighbours' residences. Likewise, not to be removing the grass and creating 'curved' patterns round the edges and gradually the grass is disappearing. -Also, not to store unwanted junk/rubbish in their Back gardens i.e. old rugs, electric appliances etc. Piling this up, creating unsightly conditions, i.e. they should approach their local Housing Officer as needed. - Council Maintenance of Grounds Some residents have 'inherited' a small Border area (about 1 metre). This comes immediately in front of Lounge, Bedroom & Kitchen. Some of us are now reaching the stage of 'old & creaky' & can no longer keep up to this gardening. So, constructively, we are asking the Council if these 'Borders' can be cleared and restored to a 'grassed' area. However, we can see advice in the draft document to the effect that Tenants are required to (points 5 & 6) 'Look after the garden', 'keep bushes, hedges or grass at a reasonable level' etc etc Some of these bushes etc were planted years ago by previous tenants. Are they seriously our property? Proposed Service Charge & Grounds Maintenance How will these affect our area? Currently:Bushes are not trimmed, Edges & Paths not 'strimmed' - nor are spaces between flags on access paths - dangerous!! Neighbours from Private houses, i.e. on boundary lines of or residences are refusing to trim Leylandii Trees - these are at alarming heights & need lopping These is a large 'rockery' area, belonging to the Council, & this has not been tidied up or pruned for at least 3 years & is now a real eyesore.
ok

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A telephone would be desirable so that in SOS cases tenants could call the police, ambulance, fire brigade, electrician from a public telephone. Tenants need one in every apartment or at least in every entrance. For example, I don't have a ring signal for my mobile phone in my rooms and I don't use a regular phone. In difficult cases I have to go out into the street to call...
I agree
no this section is ok
Camras and door bells should be allowed but they should remain with property when they leave or uninstallment should not cause significant damage uninstaqling stuff like thiw will leave marks pretty obvious if you start putting security stuff in amd people dont in stall theybwill be at risk because of your policy
All ok
Agree
Lock doors and windows when out
Where i live , we have to suffer antisocial and nuisance ongoing, as the council cant or wont sort it.
You should impose harsher action for those keeping electric scooters and bikes as the batteries are a fire hazard, a lot of tenants keep these in communal areas despite being asked not to which is dangerous. Some residents have filthy places that they live in, some neighbours when they open the door flies come out and it smells but even after reporting to the council nothing is done other than a few visits. If you won't take enforcement action and help residents just remove this clause as it's not seriously binding even on the council since nothing gets don
Lodgers living with a tenant can impact other tenants living nearby, in a negative manner. More specifics on numbers needed, especially in small properties. Kirklees homes ideally need to be for named tenants and their family only. There is scope for abuse when lodgers can stay, including financial. (Proposals 1,2,7,8) Proposals 3,11: Would prefer a total ban on bulk flammable substances being stored in any property. I note that when these are used in a workplace, training in their handling is seen to be necessary, and the substances are stored in fireproof external building. If tenants are allowed to store such substances, there need to be inspections and written permissions at the very least. I do realise that there may be exceptions, such as during power outages where paraffin heaters may be needed. But Kirklees can fit these so they cannot be knocked-over, and only with assessments. Please, more specifics on both of the above issues.
Yearly gas checks always done. Aldo 5 tear cyclical Electric slways done
More involvement between Kirklees and the police to advise on extra door locks and community safety cameras in suspect areas where known illegal/antisocial areas are.
Carrying out regular visits and enforcement action will be taken if any concerns are raised
All good
Some very good ideas put forward.
Section 4 outlines the tenant’s responsibilities regarding how their home is used, and reinforces the Council’s right to enter the property for health, safety, or compliance checks. While the purpose of this section is to maintain safe and habitable conditions across all council properties, several elements require clarification—especially around access, enforcement, and tenants’ rights.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A key concern is the broad language around the Council's right to enter a tenant's home. While it is legally appropriate for landlords to carry out safety inspections (e.g. gas servicing, electrical checks, or fire safety work), the agreement does not clearly define:
The amount of notice required before access,
Whether tenants can reschedule an appointment, and
Under what circumstances access can be forced.

This is particularly important for tenants with mental health issues, trauma backgrounds, or neurodivergent conditions who may experience significant distress if staff enter their homes unexpectedly. Under the Equality Act 2010, Kirklees Council is legally required to make reasonable adjustments in such cases—including offering flexible access times or advance liaison with support workers.

Furthermore, the agreement should offer clear guidance on what actions tenants must or must not take to ensure their homes remain safe. For example, references to not tampering with fire safety equipment are appropriate, but vague or overly technical safety obligations could lead to confusion or unintended breaches—especially for elderly or vulnerable tenants.

The section also references the prohibition of illegal activity in the home, which is standard. However, it should be clarified that accusations alone will not lead to enforcement without investigation, and that tenants have a right to respond or defend against such claims.

Questions/Recommendations:
How much notice will tenants be given before the Council accesses their property, and will there be flexibility for rescheduling?
How will the Council ensure that vulnerable tenants (e.g. with anxiety, PTSD, or learning disabilities) are not adversely affected by enforcement of access clauses?
Will the Council provide information in plain English or accessible formats to help tenants understand their safety responsibilities?
What safeguards are in place to ensure that enforcement for alleged illegal activity is based on evidence and due process?
Can tenants nominate a representative (e.g. support worker or advocate) to be present during inspections where appropriate?

Issue: The agreement gives the Council broad powers to access tenants' homes for health and safety purposes without clearly outlining the process, notice periods, or limitations.
Potential Risk:
Tenants may feel their privacy is being breached or that access is forced without adequate justification or warning.
Vulnerable tenants (e.g. survivors of domestic abuse, people with anxiety or trauma) may experience distress or fear around unexpected visits.
Risk of Discrimination Against Vulnerable Tenants
Issue: There is no reference to making reasonable adjustments for tenants with mental health conditions, learning disabilities, or other support needs.
Potential Risk:
Tenants with neurodiverse needs may be overwhelmed by inspections or misunderstand their obligations, leading to unfair enforcement.
Lack of flexibility around access appointments could result in a breach being recorded even when non-compliance is unintentional.
Risk of Misunderstanding or Unintentional Breach

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Issue: Safety obligations (e.g. not tampering with smoke alarms, ensuring safe use of heating systems) are not explained in plain or accessible language. Potential Risk: Tenants may unknowingly breach conditions—such as moving furniture near fire doors, unplugging alarms during cooking, or using portable heaters. Lack of tenant education could result in penalties or recharges despite good intentions. Risk of Enforcement Without Due Process Issue: The clause on illegal or dangerous use of the property is not accompanied by language on investigation, presumption of innocence, or right of reply. Potential Risk: Tenants could face warnings or eviction threats based on accusations (e.g. alleged drug use or illegal activity) without sufficient evidence or a chance to respond. This poses a serious risk of unfair or discriminatory treatment, particularly for tenants who may already be marginalised or misunderstood. Lack of Clear Communication Channels Issue: There is no mention of how tenants will be informed of access appointments, their rights during visits, or how they can raise concerns. Potential Risk: Tenants may miss appointments and be marked in breach through no fault of their own (e.g. if letters are lost or not understood). There may be no opportunity to challenge or reschedule inspections, even when there are valid reasons.
1+2 What about the situation at number 30. 3 adults, a number of animals, dogs roaming free and messing in gardens, allowed to escape and attack other dogs.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
No comments because where I live is very safe.
Safe and secure
I was told on moving in i couldn't do anything structural. I only wanted to put up a small breakfast bar, which isn't structural. I asked a person in Kirklees who makes decisions i won't name. My housing officer said i needed permission. I was rushed to signing the tenancy that day i viewed the flat and didn't have a moment to know what to do. I couldn't afford to get carpets etc down before i moved in or anything else like that done in advance. I didn't. I still haven't done it. I think it's disgusting that nothing as basic as carpets are not provided when someone moves in. I couldn't afford any. I still don't have any, well over a year after i've moved in, because it would be too much hassle to move furniture now. At least carpets should be fitted fresh for new tenants, as a basic feature. I also don't see why we can't be allowed to work from home if we want to.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

I have medical issues, if i were able to work, i'd prefer to work from home, so that i can stay on my own, and not have to be among other people in a work environment. I've had too many people cause trouble for me, including the residents here, and i just want to keep to myself. I hate it here.
Agree
That needs to get better in using and keeping our home safe as i have repairs that have not been done for years and Kirklees is thinking about cutting or charging tenants you wont have many left at this rate, how can house be kept clean and tidy when advised by Kirklees that cannot do any decoration or upgrade until we have carried out necessary repairs which unfortunately takes years with Kirklees especially when you have been in property for a long time, boundaries with my property we have not been given our full boundaries due to big tree which would be in our garden and a problem to deal with.
I could do with an electric fire especially when we have cold weather
I disagree with having to get permission for having a motorised wheel chair in the property, if one is needed to move around! This feels discriminatory, some people are reliant on them. If permission is denied, they cannot mobilise/ manage in their home!
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Im on third floor my daughter is autistic and i cant leave my daughters pushchair downstairs i have too keep taking it upstairs i need help with this please
I don't see our local police officer or the housing officer, but this maybe often du to me being at work during the day It would be good to see either off them around in the evening even if its just to say hello
some council workers ar in gud in how they do ther work. an others rush job as don't hav enough time too finish a job so in end's nother day too complete. upset plan s somt time. eg mi sen
Should be cameras in lights ppl selling drugs on street
Again upstairs person who thinks she owns the block when drunk with friends in property throw whatever is at hand out of window empty beer cans sandwiches tea caddy tissues cig butts lighters ecigs thats run out recently only last night she threw water on veranda and washed a good few cig butts by communal doors and guess what still there .xxxxxor housing officer as picture of everything
Everything seems ok at the present time
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
.need new kitchen and wall cuboard to be removed its dated back from the 60s
Cupboards and windows could be mades easier to use for shorter people such as myself
Make windows and cupboards easier to reach for shorter people
I am safe enough
Knh have no interest in keeping me safe.
Shouldn't need to pay £30 for a doctor letter just to prove I have vertigo
We have asked 3 times if we can fence off the back because anyone can come and use othe tenets stuff
Maybe a problem cutting grass etc. for older/ health problems, doesn't take this into account.
Regarding the section proposed 5&6 it won’t matter how you alter the tenancy you don’t make people abide by it. This is proved by the fact my next door neighbours (both sides) have been allowed to grow the hedges to such an extent my fences are having to be replaced, they also don’t seem to have had to cut the lawns since they moved in. So why bother

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Safety is one of the biggest concerns too many tenants but a large number of tenants do not comply with the safety protocols and leave the access compromised. Windows on the ground floors communal areas need to better monitored
No issues or concerns with this section
Point 3.1 in section permits holding of gases if stored in appropriate containers however section 3.8 prohibits altogether. Appears 3.8 contradicts 3.1. Please clarify. 4.2 Please take into account people's mental health conditions that may impact their ability to do so. If possible please state the exception and help/support you would offer. 4.3 there are some property structural matters that encourage condensation and mold. Will you add your responsibility to address these eg extractor fans that are barely extracting? Windows seals with holes in them. Also a lot of points referring to tennats responsibilities but not enough points explaining or stipulating tenant's recourse where council fails to meet their repair obligations.
Section 3.7 quote: You must not let waste or other materials build up which may cause a fire or attract vermin. How should tenants maintain this? We are regularly paying towards the cleaning services which includes regular removal of trash and bin liners from the designated area. On several occasions this hadn't been done promptly which resulted in the area being unhygienic and floor area infested with maggots.
Its safe and I felt safe till whe the neighbours opposite started doing their vehicle repairs and the street has people we don't know in front of their house and in fron of no. gathering for car repairs
I have no problems on being save i live on a lovely quiet streeti
People are parting cars each day and night days on end
Communal area is cleaned once a week by a tenant Tell the new tenants they must keep their area and garden clean and tidy
Housing Officers used to attend coffee meetings and do estate inspections, i dont even know who mine is anymore. There is rats on the estate Tenants leaving car parts under the trees
We have been here 9 years in July, outside has never been painted. Police had advised the council should take the asb seriously. xxx is 1 bedroom yet there is mother, son and friend living there.
You are proposing that the tenants keep the shrubs , trees & hedges must be cut back & well maintained , however , as I live in a block of 8 flats who share a communal garden which for the last 13/14 years has been taken over by 3 tenants who were keen to enhance the garden & plant shrubs , trees & hedges , put down patios & a fish pond . It did look beautiful & they were rightly proud of what they'd done , but , I raised concerns as far back as 2015 with KNH & xxx who was at the time Housing Manager , my question was then & is still the same now . What happens when they are no longer capable of doing it anymore ? . I was never given an answer to my question . Regrettably 2 of the tenants have now passed away As there is a key on the gate to the garden & only 3 of us have keys to gain access , what happens now ? The rest of the tenants are either in ill-health themselves or have never had any interest in the garden or access . The trees & shrubs are already in need of attention , luckily after being locked out of the garden for all these & therefore didn't need to cut the grass they have been given access for the last year as the tenants who are still in charge of the garden have allowed them in to cut the grass . As I said I raised my concerns years ago & a meeting was arranged by the Housing Manager

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

for myself & 4 of the tenants to discuss what I saw as the problem coming in the future , it was dismissed as a ‘ Vendetta ‘ against the tenants who had done all the work on the garden .
Over a period of 5 years two of the ground floor tenants have been given permission to install patio doors at the rear of the properties giving them direct access to the communal garden. They then immediately set about putting down patios, digging fish ponds, planting large flower beds and small vegetable plots. They then also put a padlock on the gate which effectively stopped KNH staff access to cut what grass was left after all the planting they had done, as they declared they would be cutting the grass from now on . When I questioned how much of the garden they had taken over on their own behalf, their reply was that KNH was encouraging residents & tenants to take control of their own gardens. Which, as they had direct access to the garden they were doing with some gusto!! I have never found out if they asked permission to put down patios, however, as the garden is owned by KNH I can only assume they were granted permission by the appropriate unit in KNH. Now , I realise that the garden does look very pretty , and while the two tenants are able bodied they will manage the upkeep for now, what happens in a few years’ time when they may no longer be capable of the upkeep , does KNH step into the breach and maintain their flower beds & patios ? One of my main concerns however is that it has given the two tenants a very strong sense of ownership, they have never stopped the other tenants in the block from using the garden as they know they have no right to. I doubt I am the only tenant in my situation that has come across this problem regarding direct access to communal gardens, I have in the past had to contact xxxxx with specific concerns on the matter , which, I am glad to say he has helped me with immensely, but. As the saying goes ‘The damage has been done’ If KNH is going to carry on with this policy (direct access to communal gardens) I think you will find some very pretty gardens but some very disgruntled tenants. I have actually spoken to two Estate Agents who advised me that in the private market, the ground floor flats with direct access to the gardens would most likely command a higher rent than the 1st floor flats. My apologies for being so long-winded about the matter, however, as I said, I have watched this happen over 5 years. If KNH still think allowing tenants to install patio doors to the garden definitely has as many drawbacks as plus points. Which I think should be taken into consideration in future.
regarding proposed grass cutting charges I can understand the reasons but wonder if :- Consideration has been given to any re wilding ? There are places, even close to housing, which would possibly enhance the area with careful re wilding. Cut grass will it be removed or used as mulch around trees ? Re wilding would of course obviate this. Use of weed killer on grassed areas especially near footpaths but sometimes indiscriminate where common sense has not prevailed. Whilst understanding the reason the dead grass area is often replaced by flat leafed weeds which, in my experience, are more dangerous than grass when walked on, especially when wet. Alternatively keep the weedkiller off areas obviously tended by tenants.
Thankfully the majority do keep their area clean but there is a few that has no respect for others, especially those in blocks of flats
Yes I use my house to dwell not business

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

18.5 refers to payment for heating services by tenants. However, there is no mention of the landlord's duty to provide reliable meters and to bill regularly and promptly for utilities consumed by tenants which would allow tenants to budget properly for usage. Our experience has been that bills are not timely and often based on incorrect meter readings and are incorrectly calculated.
I work from home for employers and it is all computer-based. I need to work from home due to my disability. I have previously had permission from the housing officer to work from home, this was some years ago via email. Do I now need to get written permission from the current housing officer to continue to work from home please? I do not disturb my neighbours and my work is all computer based?
PROPOSED 5 & 6 Regarding: Securing Against Intruders: Point Raised: Door entry system in blocks of flats occasionally faulty and ajar for periods of 24 hours or more meaning outsiders have access, effectively reducing security. General Suggestion: Tenants to be given option of consultation with Local Police Crime Prevention Officer as part of Proposed Annual Home Visit. Purpose: i) expert home security advice; ii) Council, Police and tenants (as part of wider Public) working in conjunction and improving social cohesion; iii) reduction in crime. PROPOSED 13 [13.1] I support proposal of not throwing out of windows/balconies. Suggestion 1: Extend proposal to include no lowering of items via string/rope etc. Purpose: i) prevent unnecessary injury; ii) prevent damage to windows & sills; iii) reduce ASB disturbance factor. Suggestion 2: Extend CCTV to uncovered areas where behaviour has increased since original coverage installed. Purpose: Extend effective preventative elements as Suggestion 1.
No problem
There should be more policing and security implemented on the streets because of antisocial behaviour.
79 replies at Monday 12th May
Proposed 4.3 The part about wiping down the window sils and walls wouldn't be a big problem if there was extractor fans in the bathroom. Using your home and keeping safe It doesn't seem fair that people that need to use mobility scooters need permission to have one.
Section 4 Using your home. We have had considerable problems with multiple piles of black bags not removed by the collection each week. I complained for some time about the rubbish build up on behalf of my neighbours but it took months, and a great many phone calls and emails, for this to be resolved. 5/6; those of us with small plots and gardens do our best to keep them tidy and in good condition but when straying dogs destroy plants and leave faeces in them it is very annoying

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
not happy
83 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
85 replies at Thurday 29th May
85 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 5 – ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
it is pointless having a contract about anti-social behaviour when you dont enforce them
You dump drug dealers in our old peoples complex so from not seening the police here in 6 years now we see them in force and sometimes with guns weekly. We also fpget knocked out of bed in the early hours of the morning trying to get access to one of "your" drug dealers. The smell of drugs, noise and constant police presence is having an affect on our elderly peolles lives. Also when you let a flat you tell people tgey can park anywhere instead of pointing out as a community carpark most people agree spaces and vusitors bad parking is the responsibility of the flat they are coming to visit.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Antisocial behaviour is currently poorly dealt with so needs a massive improvement
More to be done to tackle anti social behaviour. Not just warnings that are not taken into account.
Absaloutey horrendous have no words at all
This should be delt with quickly people should not have too pit up with bad tenents..
Sick of loud cars driving passed been loud early hours of the morning
From time to time people think it's ok to fly tip around xxxxxx, I have reported this a few times to xxx
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
It's an estate I have lived in worse nice people getting shafted by the council
People constantly leave rubbish outside on the footpath specifically our home and I keep cleaning it but council is not punishing anyone even There are cctv on top of our street.

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Anti social behaviour is definitely on the increase . Damage to communal areas, littering, dog fouling, drug misuse . Motor vehicles, bikes, quads etc. All being ridden " off rd " frequently. This needs more policing and deterrent, urgently . Please, please.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Have had a few problems with neighbours. Seems to have calmed down at moment
Agree with rules
Refer tennant to relevent agency and how to contact regarding asb. Along with what is a clear breach of tenancy and what consequences it can lead to.
Tenants to be discouraged from throwing out 'Pigeon' Food. This is currently going on & we are fearful of getting Rats. This is unhealthy & needs stopping. There is a difference between using Bird Feeders in trees to feed garden birds - a few sparrows - and neighbours deliberately encouraging a flock of pigeons on a daily basis by throwing large amounts of bread, food waste etc on the ground. . Finally, we need positive consultation as to how the Council hopes to deal with living standards in our area- as we want to 'keep it nice'.
The bullies need to be sorted out, we dont all live like everyone else
Camera at the entrance that controls who enters Phone in apartments or houses for SOS calls(receiving the call, the responsible authority sees where the call is coming from) Silence after 11 p.m. Rules on the wall in the corridor and the imposition of fines for disturbing the peace in cases of disputes, fights, etc.
I agree with the tenancy but not everybody does, I've had numerous issues with noisy tenants but I get passed from one department to another, also it should have somewhere that can be reported anonymously as I've seen others get backlash for reporting people and their behaviour
No this section is ok.
Agree
I would like changes added to anti social behaviour from neighbours who smoke drugs which enter neighbours property. It should be made easier to deal with these tenants because unlike noise and nuisance it is a lot harder to prove because you cannot record evidence. There needs to be a different system to deal with this issue. I have been having this issue with my neighbours for over 10 years and the council still haven't been able to stop the illegal use of cannabis from them as the smell of cannabis smoke enters my home through cavities and under floor boards and by the time council come to check it has cleared. So by being able to call someone at the time so they can come and check would catch them doing it at the time.
Make a lot of noise slamming doors no need get them seen to
Council do nothing about this effectively, especially if it certain trash tenants
Too much details are required before any action is taken, would be better to install monitoring devices and take action when we tell you rather than let things escalate

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

We live in a area in Mirfield where we are all of pensionable age.
I do believe the council and its partners should use the availability of covert surveillance in a timely manner on all council managed estates. DRUG dealing and taking must be discouraged and stop turning a blind eye.
The only thing I would like to bring to attention is the part about tvs being used after 11pm. I understand that people need to keep these volumes down as to not affect neighbours but I don't think it should be written that they cannot be used. As a parent of a child that doesn't really sleep because of disability and complex needs it should be worded for them to be used quietly.
Would it be possible to specify about fire safety, i.e. any fire related incidents which could cause damage to property or surrounding area? I have been challenged by a tenant because she advised there was nothing in the tenancy agreement about not setting fires. I advised this was anti social behaviour and she disagreed.
Mentioned that we should be able to make it easier to evict tenants for ASB
this section seems to be very difficult. I think it's easy to accuse innocent people. All that is needed is for one neighbour to dislike you and you have had it. People I know who have problem neighbors are too afraid to report them
Section 5 of the proposed tenancy agreement introduces expanded and more detailed clauses around anti-social behaviour (ASB), aiming to set clear expectations for tenant conduct. While addressing ASB is vital to ensuring safe and respectful communities, the language and approach used in this section raise important concerns around fairness, proportionality, and the risk of misapplication—particularly for vulnerable tenants. One of the main issues is the broad and potentially subjective definition of ASB. The agreement includes a wide range of behaviours under this term, from noise and nuisance to more serious acts like harassment and criminal activity. While this provides flexibility for enforcement, it also risks being applied inconsistently or unfairly, especially in cases where behaviour is misunderstood, culturally different, or unintentional. Without clear thresholds or examples of what constitutes a breach, tenants may face enforcement action for minor or isolated incidents. There is also no reference to how the Council will investigate allegations of ASB before taking action. Tenants could be exposed to warnings, injunctions, or eviction based on neighbour complaints without sufficient evidence or an opportunity to respond. This is especially concerning for tenants with mental health conditions, autism, or learning disabilities, whose behaviour may be misinterpreted as disruptive. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council must ensure that enforcement decisions take account of a tenant's disability and make reasonable adjustments where appropriate. Additionally, the agreement does not outline a clear or transparent process for resolving ASB disputes. It should commit to early intervention, mediation, and support as the first step, rather than defaulting to legal or punitive action. Questions/Recommendations: Can the Council provide clearer definitions and examples of ASB, distinguishing between serious, persistent, and minor incidents? What processes are in place to ensure fair investigation and evidence-gathering before enforcement action is taken?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Will tenants be offered the opportunity to respond to complaints before any formal warnings or notices are issued? How will the Council ensure that tenants with disabilities, mental health conditions, or neurodiverse needs are not unfairly penalised under this clause? Will the agreement include reference to early-stage interventions such as mediation, tenancy support, or behavioural agreements? How will the Council determine whether behaviour qualifies as anti-social, given that perceptions of nuisance can be subjective? Will a formal appeals or dispute resolution process be available to tenants accused of ASB? How will malicious or unfounded complaints by neighbours be addressed to prevent misuse? Risk: The expanded definition of ASB, including accountability for the behaviour of visitors and household members, may lead to enforcement actions against tenants for conduct outside their direct control. Potential Consequences: •Eviction proceedings or loss of tenancy rights due to the actions of others (e.g. teenagers, guests). •Increased neighbour disputes or false allegations leading to stress and stigma. •Vulnerable tenants (e.g. those with mental health issues) being disproportionately affected.
The council needs to look at it's own policy on vetting people prior to allocation of property. A tenant arrived with nothing, has now left under a very dark cloud.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
It would be worth while knowing what the maximum amount of pets (especially dogs & cats) is for all properties.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
Where I live no problem with antisocial behaviour.
I am for help antisocial behaviour
There isn't anti social behaviour as such in terms of criminals, except for the bullies i've mentioned below. Which, in my opinion is anti social behaviour. There was a massive chunk of grass and soil taken out of the grass slope last year, i'm not sure the reason, but it was not good. It was a mess for months, like a car had been trying to hide along our road and either gone up or down the grass slope at speed, grinding up the earth. Disgusting.. rhere should be railings, with just a small gap to get a person through at a certain point if they need to go down the grass to avoid going right round. I've only lived here jyst over a year, and i've regretted it from the start. The sign saying resident only parking needs to be an official Kirklees one and more prominently placed, but more than one, also on the straight bit where people that shouldn't park. Like the man who's current vehicle ends FSY can be told he shouldn't be there. He has his own property. We don't have enough spaces for the residents, never mind anyone else. It's also too small a space, why they had to put so many flats is just stupid, when the car park area should have been larger.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Agree
Luckily where i live we don't really get any social behaviour but would like to see it being tackled by everyone and Kirklees to do more to protect their residents
any positive changes in this section are welcomed but unfortunately it seems when anti social behaviour/ disruptive neighbours is a problem nothing much gets done about it
I am very respectful to my neighbours just a shame they don't do the same
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Its not too bad, we do have bikes going up and down the street and sometimes cars going to fast
it should b be addressed an people removed. as too much ov these problems.
Children playing on street with football .teenagers being mouthy wen you ask them to watch the car or mind the plants.
Yet again person upstairs as parties with mates but 9 times out of 10 she is stoned befor it starts smoking joints stinks in communal areas should not have to put up with this then when party starts its all shouting but hang out of window shouting too or coming in through communal door at 2 am bannging on door as cant find key going whoop whoop then Bang booted door in ...its not good living here i move in December 24 but didn't sign up for all the shit we are getting from one upstairs flat when sun is out so is she in communal garden plus all her mates music playing loud outside our bedroom window so cant open any windows i had my washing on washing line and they started to light a barbecue not good at all like i say did not sign up to be like a prisoner in our own flat ...its like we can only play out when she is not playing out...not good ..
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I had issues in the past with 2 neighbours xxxx from 48 flat above 50 flat and 2nd neighbour is from 54 flat his name is xxx they give me antisocial abuse as much as i ignore them i do feel intimadated by these 2 men.They both are friends.Ive contacted the police twice bcause they threatened me. I dont feel safe anymore going out of my flat to walk.
More control over these rouge bikers please going round reving there engines
Alot needs to be done about other tenants especially in flats certain neighbours that need to learn they cant go around hitting other people also spying on the neighbours across the road with a camera thats pointing directly to the garden and door
Especially bikers that think its fun going round the estate reving the engine and no helmet
I have reported antisocial behaviour by phone and online,asked you to re house me for 6 years,no help,spoke to estate managers ,there comments Just duck and dive/we cannot do anything about it,you will have to get used to it. The problem is kirklees housing put drug addicts,jail birds prostitutes in there houses,but will not help ok people
This has been a problem from day 1 of moving in, and you are aware of this.and its getting on for 2 years. How can it be right 2 adults and four children in a 2 bed flat.... the noise is unbearable. To make it worse alot of the noise is made deliberately. No consideration for me, the tenant below..and it is every day. I understand the flat above is private rent, however their inconsiderate behaviour has caused damage to your flat with flooding and cracks to walls and ceiling.
Knh, Are totally and utterly non-existent in helping and supporting me, in the ongoing issues of anti social behaviour, they are good at writing down reports and oral, but all without substance, even when 100% evidence is provided.
about time but will you follow this up with action's not just words

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

It feels like am back living at xxxxx again
we fully agree as we are suffering with our next door neighbour his girlfriend causes trouble when she comes up she invites all her friends and their dog they home at 1 30am and 4 am making a lot of noise
I dnt have any issue yet
Not too much of a problem in our building but some tenants who have stayed in the complex make their own rules and do not allow to do anything that new tenants were to was okay to do for example having a barbeque in the complex.
Need housing officers to be more proactive in tackling some of these issues as they notice them. Eg officer seeing a messy neighbour garden but failing to raise matter with them. Everything shouldn't be a complaint before it is addressed.
The only thing worth mentioning is the use of the CCTV and the security of the main entrance door. There are occasions where vandals and people who do not live in the building forced entry and occupied the communal areas. This makes it unsafe environment and despite my complaint and reassurance from the officer this had been happening again Perhaps the security of the entrance should be revised.
It has become much better than it used to be years before the covid-19 pandemic
I have no comments on that were i live its so quiet
Gas bottles in the garden, a fire is lit in the garden near those which is a huge health and safety concern.
They does not seem to be any mention of dustbin compounds that are allowed to become a dumping ground for all sorts of rubbish. Dustbins left on the pavements for weeks and months causing a hazard to pushchairs and mobility scooters. Who is monitoring this poor behaviour within the estate?
We are suffering from asb and the tenants know they will be no consequences and certainly no chance of eviction they are feral and have full control
Could you make sure all staff knows about the rules as we've complained about excessive noise from the flat below. We have been told by xxx they can make as much noise as they want before 10pm. Surely this cant be right
whilst most grassed areas near me are fenced off from the public the area in front of my lounge window and others is not and dog walkers seem to think it is a public area and bring their dogs along which foul the area. Not very nice if one is enjoying a cup of tea and a biscuit !! Most appear to collect the mess but some decide to use the grey bins of tenants.(Our bins, incidentally, are collected by the bin men who often only need to pull out the bags , dog mess bags are thus left in the bin.) I have challenged some of these people only to receive foul mouthed abuse on some occasions, counter challenges from others and understanding from a few. Until about five years ago there was a small sign on a lamppost which said :- No Dog Fouling.Grassed Area is for tenants use only. Some time ago I asked the housing manager, I forget his name, if the sign could be replaced and offered to pay for it or contribute up to £100 towards it. I was told it could not be policed ! The most inane answer I've had from anyone, supposedly intelligent, in many years. Aged 84 and with normal age related problems, heart in particular, I'm not in the best position to argue with people. To be able, along with others nearby, to point to a sign would be of considerable help .

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Occupants of Belmont Grange are also treated to the spectacle and the difference for us living here is not that a dog acts naturally but that it is deliberately walked onto the area for all to see. Sheer bad manners in addition to being anti social. So, we have financial problems locally and I have basically no objection to contributing to grass cutting but not for the benefit of irresponsible dog walkers and I think it is incumbent upon the Council to provide signage as described above . My offer to contribute still stands.
It seems nothing gets done about these tenants, they get treated better than tenants who haven't caused the ASB. Currently we have a situation that is living hell, with no regard for others with mixed generations which is a bad move. We have different lifestyles whilst im trying to sleep they want to party and stay up late and sleep all day.
I keep my garden neat and tidy. I have problems with my next door neighbour on no 24 everyday young boys are at my door step smoking, I can't open my windows it will be smoke in my house, they stand at my door and spit at my door. Smoke cannabis and bits of cannabis at my door. I have asked them to stop but they continue doing it. They also let their dogs urinate and pupu at my door step and this is so annoying. Am tired of putting up with this undesirable behaviour.
No smoking in the communal corridors. Communal doors getting vandalised.
Currently the council cut the grass outside my bungalow as I am permanent wheelchair user, will they no longer do this and I am expected to hire someone to cut the grass please? Also, there are some very high conifers on the border of my bungalow - technically its not my front or back garden it's on a piece of land belonging to the council that my accessible path to my property runs across. I have previously reported to the council on a few occasions that these conifers need cutting. They are very high and are interfering with the phone lines. Kirklees council employees have been out to take a look at the conifers on a couple occasions over a year ago, but have not taken any action. Is it now my responsibility to get these conifers cut or is it the council please? I have previously been told the conifers are the council's responsibility but they have never been cut
PROPOSED 1 [1.1 through 1.6] I support proposal in principle but not completely in practice. Term 'Visitors' is too vague. Subject area can be more complex. Consider personal experience has shown that it is indeed 'possible' to reduce ASB and the potential for it from certain individuals/groups by removing oneself from those relevant acquaintance(s) but that this can take considerable time, patience and diplomacy and not always successfully. Consider also: a) Nobody can be held responsible for the actions of others; b) Not tolerating ASB in or immediately outside of one's home is not in itself sufficient to prevent such behaviour; c) Attempting to deter ASB which in itself may not be deemed severe enough to be criminal and thus insufficient reason to telephone police can exascerbate matters as indeed can contacting police/council in the form of retribution; d) well behaved visitors are occasionally accompanied by badly behaved visitors. Suggestion 1: Proposal must include as fully an investigation of further complexities before taking action against tenants who may have done everything reasonably possible within the wider tenancy agreement and law to reduce or eliminate ASB from in and around their home but to no avail. Suggestion 2: Increased CCTV and/or onsite management presence. [1.8] Suggestion 1: During proposed Annual Home Visit/Beginning of tenancy (secured or

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

introductory) Tenant given opportunity to demonstrate measures taken to reduce/prevent likelihood of disturbance to neighbours. Example 1: Permitted soundproofing. Example 2: Headphone facility on respective audio equipment. Example 3: Proposed/acceptable practice times/durations of acoustic musical instrument, including but not exclusively of cultural association. Suggestion 2: Introduction of minor compulsory soundproofing in flats/maisonettes. Example: Carpets; Sufficient sized Rugs; Runners
Will these proposed rules be followed? Once again everything on this list that you are NOT TO DO a certain tenant does it all and nothing gets done about it ive been neglected as a tenant of KNH they do nothing to help me with any of the mentioned in section 5 so dont write rules that people dont comply with! I would hate for anyone to be suffering the way i am its beyond words and heartbreaking!
Dont know how you intend to sort these problems out because sertan people seem to get away with everything and others you frow the book at them .
This is one of the main concerns for us as tenants and many others on our street at xxxxxx, we have lived in this property for 9 years and every year all year round we have the same problems. This consists of unlisenced trials motor bikes, scooters and quads, speeding up and down xxxx and xxx avenue pulling wheelys, riding recklessly and dangerously at a risk to pedestrians and license paying vehicles. XxxxxCrescent is used as a speed way for cars and unlicensed motorbikes on a daily basis, this is causing anxiety for a lot of law abidding people. There are no cameras or speed bumps or even chicanes for any sort of prevention, even tho after speaking to many residents who have made their concerns clear to the council have not implemented anything, when you speak to the council they say its a police matter, and the police say its a council matter and around we go, there needs to be something put in place for decent tenants that want a nice neighbourhood. This is a big issue and concern.
81 replies at Monday 12th May
Proposed 5&6 Gardening he says not my job
Proposed 5.4 Outbuildings can't be secured if the door needs replacing. If you have a padlock on the door it can let people know that you have something in it.
Section 5 Anti social behaviour The conduct of some neighbours and their visitors has been very disturbing for this small area. Elderly people are often too frightened to report the trouble not knowing how it will turn out. If the council is notified can they be sure something will be done?
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
Also in the literature i was sent it mentions nothing as far as i can see anything regarding tenants use of barbecues and the nuisance it brings as i have complained to K.h.n some weeks ago regarding this matter and a certain ****** was looking in to this matter as i suggested literature on the do s and donts and protocols of having a barbecue in the form of a letter sent to every tenant at springwood hall close i wait in anticipation and hope regarding this matter.
not happy
87 replies at Tuesday 20th May

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

None
I don’t have
89 replies at Thursday 29th May
89 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 6 – FLATS, MAISONETTES AND SHARED AREAS
We a had a nice complex but you dont repair paths you dont do the grounds and when you did they did more damage than good.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Gardens could be better
Parking is a joke can’t even park my car out side dew to people that don’t live in the area
Shared areas of xxxxxxx, who have dogs do not pick up after their dogs.
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Gardener's are a joke do half a job and rather do it myself don't pay them or change contracters
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Agree
If area gets a lot of leaves during autumn. Who is responsible for clearing them and how the council will help with disposal.
Some people just dont have the skills to look after there bit

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

✌Put up a list on each floor about floor maintenance 1st floor tenants clean the entrance corridor 2nd floor tenants clean the stairs, 1x per week each room ✌do not keep garbage at the apartment door, warn about a fine ✌Take out trash beens for collection when they are full and clean the place where they are located, Impose a fine for disorder ✌Do not put personal belongings under the stairs. ✌Allow to create a relaxation corner at the back of the house in the communal garden near the windows ✌Allow to create a small enclosed area(so that children do not run close to the neighbors' windows, for example) ✌It would be nice if, at the request of the tenants, black soil could be brought for a certain fee(if someone interested) ✌Regular Window cleaner for all tenants.
No this section is ok.
We should not be responsible for shared areas if you are in flatts towers or maisonettes the gullys should be cleaned by council and every 3 months they should come and clean the outside up charge it in service charge clean gullys yourself clean guttering systems and manholes and rain gullys yourself
agree
.I try to keep my self to myself
Our so called communal areas , are taken over by druggies ferals etc, so free loaders 1 , decent tenants 0 and pay for something we dont use!
the shared areas should be cleaned more regularly and updated. Some areas have old windows in shared areas, floors that are lifting up etc, this should all be dealt with rather than saying there is no money for this
I think more spot checks by housing staff would be a good thing
Fire safety as above. A tenant set a bed and mattress alight at the back of the 4-block of flats. Fire brigade were called by a concerned neighbour.
Policing such areas will be incredibly difficult. Can't see the changes will make any difference to the people who don't care.
Section 6 sets out rules for tenants living in flats, maisonettes, or other properties with shared or communal areas. While it is important to maintain safety, cleanliness, and access in shared environments, the current wording of this section raises concerns about clarity, proportionality, and how the rules will be applied in practice—particularly for tenants with specific needs or vulnerabilities. One of the main concerns is the blanket prohibition on storing any personal items in shared spaces such as corridors, stairwells, or landings. While this may be justified from a fire safety

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

perspective, there should be clear communication about what items are considered a risk and how these decisions are made. For example, tenants may need to temporarily place mobility scooters, prams, walking aids, or small plants in shared spaces, especially where individual property layouts are cramped or unsuitable. Without appropriate guidance and flexibility, tenants risk enforcement for practical and harmless actions. The agreement does not explain whether reasonable adjustments will be made under the Equality Act 2010 for tenants with mobility needs or disabilities. For example, tenants who rely on mobility scooters may need designated storage or charging access in communal areas. Failing to accommodate this could constitute indirect discrimination unless the Council can demonstrate it has made all reasonable efforts to meet those needs safely. There is also a concern that enforcement could be inconsistent or overzealous if there is no clear inspection and notification process. Tenants should be informed in writing before any action is taken to remove items and given time to rectify the issue voluntarily. Lastly, the section should address the Council's responsibility for maintaining communal areas—such as cleaning, lighting, and repairs. Tenants should not be held responsible for the condition of shared spaces beyond their control or usage. Questions/Recommendations: Will the Council provide a clear list of prohibited and permitted items in communal areas, including safety-based justifications? How will reasonable adjustments be made for tenants with disabilities, particularly regarding mobility aids and scooter storage? Will tenants be given written notice and a reasonable timeframe before any items are removed from shared areas? What mechanisms are in place for tenants to challenge enforcement or request exemptions? Will the Council clarify its own maintenance obligations in shared areas?
I have none at this time
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendment
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendment
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
No problem.
I might as well live in a prison with the bully neighbour nextdoor. Telling me to remove my stuff weeks after moving. Inside was priority for months. She still does it. Purposely putting her stuff against mine, when she has tons of space in an end ground floor flat. I since moved everything, even my bins, because i am sick of her bullying behaviour. She has done other things too. She gets people to be her pals, she is fake and nothing can be done. She has made my mental health worse. Her family are known to be bullies. Her neighbour friend called police on me because i stuck up for another new neighbour who was doing work on his flat during the day, not at night. She was contradicting herself many times. I got annoyed and swore, because again, she was fake and just because they've been there a long time, think they own the place. Communal areas are exactly that. I shouldn't have had to move my things, even storing them now in my car because of this. Nothing is done. I wanted to be moved. I've bid. She should be

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

or the new one upstairs she has deliberately got on her side to tell lies about me to. It's disgusting behaviour, that is like school children. I wanted peace and everyone to get on or at least speak, living here. They've made my life here miserable. I hate it. I'm paying to be made to feel miserable everyday. Agree actions in telling tenants to remove things need to happen as we have bikes tied in communal hallways
More care should be taken in shared or communal areas especially where there are vulnerable families and individuals living for inside and out, why specifically for cats I understand some can be allergic when attending the property but measures should be made to find out and either not send them or prepare then and advise cats to be moved dogs I understand can be temperamental but cats are gentle, why does permission be required for that cats not dogs.
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I don't have a shared area
ther is a lot noise people don't hav respect. so i old school brought up different way things shud be.
No im in house
Quad bike causing obstruction again upstairs never gets moved
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I have concern on the blocked guttering pipes front and back drainage ive complained many times its not dealth with it need new guttering on the roof water drainage that is damaged needs replacing above my lounge window xxxxx. Has a fawl smell.
Shared gardens needs sorting i have the front garden also the back garden is shared with my neighbours upstairs but refuse to let my daughter play in the garden its alot safer than the front with it being near the main road
Section 5 people dumping furniture fridges ect all the time by the street rubbish bins/ xxxxx they will not pay for it takeing away. Reported it 3times since march
Not acceptable to pay £1 a week for grass cutting, state pensioners have very little money as it is, and the grass is not cut on a regular basis and also spaces in in large communal garden areas should be alowed to be left as nature area's ect and please be aware that not all communal garden areas are NOT shared and enjoyed by everyone when a single tenant has sole freedom to use and do as he likes for his own benefit at the expense of the other residents.
That's people should not hog the shared back garden
Every thing fine so far
Proposed 1.5- I don't think it's fair for people in flats, etc to have to obtain written permission before owning a cat or dog. If the animal is annoying neighbours then the affected people should complain to the council.
We have many problems with the heating in the corridors as ther are certain residents who think its their rights to have the heating in the total building for 12 month of the year at the highest output and refuse to switch off the lighting . I believe we need motion sensored lighting in all communal areas and heating should be restricted in the summer months
Quote: 2. You must share responsibility with your neighbours for cleaning any shared corridors, stairs, landing or entrance halls. I'd like to understand what are the cleaning services that tenants pay for then? Surely these tasks are dedicated to the external cleaning services which tenants are being charged for. Quote 5. If there are rubbish chutes in flat, bed-sit or maisonette blocks, you must only use them for small amounts of rubbish. You should put large items of rubbish in the special are provided, in a suitable plastic sack or container. Again please clarify how do you measure 'small amounts'?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

As a normal household of 2 we have approximately 2-3 sacks of rubbish a week, there are however situation where cleaners did not remove the accumulated rubbish from the area which leads to hygiene issues and potential for maggots and smell. We are also not aware of where the are for larger items is, please provide details.
Does the council intend to cutting the grass in shared areas around communal/old people/bungalows in xxxx. If so is they going to be a charge how would this be decided or shared out fairly?
The fence at the back fell and we managed to share to cost with my neighbor and fixed it.
Regarding variations to the Tenancy agreement specifically charges for ground maintenance ect. I am against my property being charged for the above . I feel I pay enough already with my rent plus the charge for the brown bin which I have signed up for since it was first introduced. I have always kept the outside areas around my home clean and tidy ,cutting grass, hedges and having pots with flowers and shrubs. Odd occasions if not being well I pay for a gardener to do what I wasn't able . I am a pensioner and really don't need extra charges for something I don't use. Plus Council do not take away grass they cut , it looks a mess and gets on the pavements and road so those areas look a mess too.
Feels that pesticides should not be used when people are sensitive to it. Suffers with severe asthma and can not get out in the garden because of it. Also no smoking in the communal corridors. States that the lighting in the communal area is too bright. Tenants should have a choice.
PROPOSED 1 [1.5] Clarification required over number [*'a'] of dogs permitted in proposal. Consideration required over likelihood of dog(s) causing considerably greater danger and/or (continual/intermittent) disturbance than audio equipment. Dogs cannot be turned off in the evening. Suggestion 1: That resolving likelihood of nuisance via dogs is given priority ahead of likelihood of nuisance via audio equipment during proposed Annual Home Visit/beginning of tenancy. Suggestion 2: That NO NEW introductory or secured tenants of flats/maisonettes be granted permission of ownership of dogs within implementation of Revised Tenancy Agreement - the keeping of dogs in flats/maisonetters to be eventually phased out with the departure of existing permitted dog owning tenants. Suggestion 3a: That nobody a) marrying or b) identfying as a dog be granted a Council Tenancy. Suggestion 3b: That any tenant either marrying or identifying as a dog be considered to have broken the terms of their tenancy agreement.
Thats funny as the last 4 years the communal has always been obstructed by a certain tenants stuff prams, qaud bikes push bikes, door mats, kids toys,shoe racks, bags of food waste the list is endless and again nothing ever gets done about it once again KNH are a let down and have failed me as a tenant. I will also refuse to clean areas of the communal area i dont use such as the stairs area i dont live above and dont go up stairs so il only be cleaning the area i use as it will never be kept clean after its done as some people have no respect! Fire doors and security doors are always propped open in this block with bricks once again only once certain tenant does what they like and so does everybody who enters the communal

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

and their property to that certain tenant. Communal lights smashed on landing upstairs and handrail broken away from wall due to all criminals that tenant allows in no responsibility at all for nothing! Tenant is always throwing rubbish outside the communal and even leaves bags of rubbish at bottom of stairs stinking! Throws rubbish out the bedroom window into the communal yard and leaves it for days even electrical items.
Don't know what you intend to do differently because you give warings and they dont listen so keep doing stuff until they get avicted .
52 replies at Monday 12th May
Section 6 flats shared areas f F,g,h, he doesn't agree he says not my job(he lives in a retirement scheme and we have a cleaner who keeps the area clean) 6 if there is shared parking he says Disabled parking used by Nurses carers and Visitors
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
not happy
55 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
57 replies at Thursday 29th May
57 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 7 - ANIMALS
It is pointless having strictures about animals when you dont enforce breaches. You dont say what you will do if a tenant does not have consent to keep a pet nor what you will do to the pet or tenant if the breach their tenancy
Dogs run and shit where they like, they chase and attack wild life. Cats get abandoned by young people moving out.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
I keep my cat inside or my balcony but the amount of cats that wee in the building is disgusting
People that have dogs cats should clean up after the dogs poos 💩 some resedents dont clean it up at all .This is disgusting. People should look after thr properties better .
Sick of people feeding pigeons then they shitting on my car and it's bringing rats as well
It would be a good idea for a council member to walk around xxxxxxx area to take note of dog owners in this area, who are not picking up faeces,especially where children are walking/playing.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
There are dogs barking all night in our neighbourhood but council is not treating it seriously.
Fouling in communal areas can be problematic. I feel there is a need for more signage , deterrent etc.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
I have two cats at the property they have their beds in kitchen at night. They are 14 years old sleep most of time.i keep them out of the way when building services come out .
agree
I love wildlife,but neighbours dont,i dont see why i should change my outlook for a few bullies
Animals can be kept, but they must be taken care of So that cats do not walk around hungry And clean mess after animals, do not keep dogs in the corridor. Establish rules.
agree
No this section is ok.
Dogs shouldnt be allowed in flats . Unless guide dogs cats are ok dogs need plenty of room to move about
agree
I keep my small dog on lead all time Up stairs let it wander all over no lead
We were told all animals in communal areas must be on lead, doesnt happen where i live and again council do nothing
Dogs should not be allowed in communal areas or block of flats, it's not fair to the other families who live in them and they end up having to clean up after the mud. I am sacred of animals, having a resident leave theirs without a lead petrifies me and causes constant problems. The council cannot and does not enforce ASB practice. You can ask the tenant to keep the dog on the lead but you don't have to live with them so you don't care. You shouldn't let them have permission to have dogs in blocks.
“Impact of proposed changes": with keeping of pets, rules on the size and type of the property details suitable for animals needed. Say, in flats, only a cat, small dog / bird / hamster. (Section 1.14) Not good for large dogs - size and breed needs to be specified - to be kept in a flat. health hazard from extra mess, and noise (eg. barking when left alone).

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

No problems with animals . We have a small dog which we keep under control.
I think dogs cats should be limited to one per hourshold
I think on the animals side of things it needs to be made clear that service animals are not counted in the amount of pets if this is the case. A lot of people now have guide, buddy, disability, hearing and epilepsy dogs I think Kirklees could make it more clear that they are disability friendly as an organisation so to highlight these animals not being included in the “pet” group of a household is very important.
Large dogs kept in flats with communal access, shedding dog hairs in communal areas
unfair to those who are good considerate animal lovers, especially those who have animals as therapy or have indoor cats that do no damage.
Section 7 introduces updated rules around keeping pets in council properties, including a requirement to seek written permission for certain types or numbers of animals and to ensure that pets do not cause nuisance or damage. While a degree of regulation is understandable to protect neighbours and property, there are several concerns around fairness, clarity, and the potential impact on existing tenants and vulnerable individuals. Firstly, the lack of detail about permitted vs. restricted pets creates uncertainty. The agreement should clearly specify which pets are allowed without permission (e.g. small caged animals, fish), which require permission (e.g. dogs, cats), and what constitutes a prohibited pet (e.g. dangerous breeds, livestock). This would help prevent unnecessary disputes and ensure consistency in enforcement. Secondly, it is unclear how the Council will handle existing pets that may exceed the new rules. Many tenants may have responsibly kept pets for years without issue or prior written consent under the old tenancy agreement. Requiring retroactive permission or threatening enforcement could be deeply distressing, especially for tenants who see pets as part of the family or rely on them for emotional support. A compassionate and proportionate approach is essential here. There is also a risk that these rules could disproportionately affect tenants with mental health needs, learning disabilities, or social isolation, for whom pets may play a vital role in wellbeing. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council has a duty to consider reasonable adjustments, including accommodating emotional support animals where appropriate. There is no mention of this in the current draft. Furthermore, the process for requesting permission is not explained—tenants need to know how to apply, what factors will be considered, how long decisions will take, and whether they can appeal a refusal. Suggested Questions/Recommendations: Will tenants with existing pets be “grandfathered in” and not penalised under the new rules? Can the Council publish a clear policy listing what types of pets are permitted, require permission, or are prohibited? Will tenants be provided with a clear, fair process for requesting pet permission, including the right to appeal a decision? How will the Council make reasonable adjustments for tenants whose health or disability is supported by having a pet? Will tenants be notified in writing if their pet is deemed a nuisance, and given the opportunity to rectify the issue before any enforcement?

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Risk: Tenants may be required to remove animals if they breach new pet limits or cannot provide written permission—retrospective or otherwise. Potential Consequences: •Emotional distress, particularly for tenants who rely on pets for companionship or wellbeing. •Difficulty complying if a tenant has multiple animals acquired legally under previous rules. •Pet rehoming or legal disputes if permissions are revoked.
Please refer to using home.
Can a visitor bring their pet to see me if are looked after in a reasonable manner
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
It would be worthwhile knowing what the maximum amount of pets per property is - especially cats & dogs.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
Just get fed up with dogs barking ,and dog poo not picked up. Needs sorting .
I have an indoor cat. I appreciate that the windows don't open fully unless manipulated to do so. I don't think people should be moved into upstairs flats, with dogs, the noise is atrocious, especially if they don't have carpets. I hear the dog even moving slightly. The owner of the dog did work until well into after 1am. Housing Officer still hasn't spoken to him weeks later. It's a violation of tenancy. There shouldn't be procedures, it is within 1st year. He should be thrown out. I'm being bullied by these people and nothing is being done.
Yes once a dog is reported for barking or noise reported it needs dealing with straight away and the dog rehomed on the first warning
Cats are in house unless you have allergy cant be helped but dogs there is a reason why they are the way they are an rules in place, if they don't then they should for dogs I understand but cats respectfully no not needed. But cleaning up after your selves is only natural but not looking after or even neglecting is different but worded very harshly. They can be put in another room or out of way.
People don't a stick to this
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
There ate some dogs on our street which we have reported to the police that are dangerous and I myself reported them. I was going to my car one morning when the dog charged at my gate growling at me, i was lucky that I got back in my house. But one off these days one off these dogs will bit someone and cause serious harm or death to someone
Ppl with dogs make sure there is fencing all around
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Flat number 48 xxxx above 50 flat xxxx has a cat its kept locked indoors .xxxx is a drug addict and alcoholic.he abandons the cat for days and the cat is not looked after or fed properly im worried for the cat ive seen it looking through the upstairs window.the cat should be taken away and give a good home.xxxx flat is filthy and not safe for human or cats to live in.action must be taken.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Also animals that poo in the garden and the owners dont clean it up until she cuts the grass which is once a year
Lots of dogs running loose soiling open areas,people do not pick up People in section 5 to blame Dogs running loose on roads,there is going to be a bad accident soon
No issues
Animals should be kept and looked after in a proper and caring situation, not sll residents do this.
start enforceing
We should be allowed to have 2 dogs with out promision from housing officer
People walking the dogs and don't clean up after them self's
Proposed 1- It's not fair for tenants to have to seek written permission before owning a pet. The majority of people are responsible pet owners. The council DO NOT need to be involved unless neighbours complain about said pets. You're treating tenants like children!!
Unless animals are required for medical reasons no dogs and cats should be allowed as pets in flats , because we have controlled access and this leads to animal feaces in communal areas
1.8 good point but again we need council to enforce. No good mentioning it but when it comes to enforcement tenants receive no support.
People taking their animals or pets for walk must pick up their poor
I dont have any animalsi
Who will have the animals if the member dies or becomes ill and just leaves cats around the estate to breed
Most people have not asked for permission and unfortunately do not care for them, so not so friendly, it makes people feel uncomfortable
have a dog which use to escape through the back garden now he cant escape since we sort the fence
PROPOSED 1 [1.2; 1.3] With reference to my considerations in Section 5 and Section 6, I otherwise support this proposal. Further Consideration for Suggestion of no new tenants to be given permission to own, marry or become a dog: Tenants currently in or moving into full time employment in the future increase likelihood of disturbance after tenancy has begun. Personal experience has shown that such a tenant may be unaware of disturbance/nuisance caused by their dog and upon being politely informed of such can become aggressive. Conversely, tenants owning or impersonating dogs (through barking/howling) may occasionally provoke aggressive behaviour from fellow tenants and escalate Anti-Social Behavioural interaction affecting the wider neighbourhood and community relations as has actually happened on xxxxx.
In my old property me and several other reported dog fouling out side our doors and some of us only had one door so i had to remove someone's dog poo before going out and returning but it still carried on i now live up the road and come home the other day and dog poo on path just before i got to my shared path so dont know whose dog did it but even if i did you can not be present at all times .
62 replies at Monday 12th May
Shared Areas proposed 1.5 You should not be able to decide whether a tenant can have a cat or dog. Animals proposed 1.4

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Not every tenant can afford to chip and neuter their pets. It's not fair to need permission for your pets to …….. (cannot read the last part) Animals You shouldn't have the right to tell tenants how many pets they can have.
Section 7. Animals Most of my neighbours are responsible dog owners but some just allow their dogs to roam without a lead and they do not clean up after them. Apart from being unsightly this is a dangerous health hazard to all, especially small children. Can I be sure this will be addressed?
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
not happy
67 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
69 replies at Thursday 29th May
69 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 8 – VEHICLES AND PARKING
%# off you tell people to park where they like instead of pointing out people will often have a fixed space which allows for their disability or needs. And community etiquet means they must ask their visitors to park responsibility. Quoting a new tennent that moved in and had 6 ir 7 cars visiting and parked one catpe where 3 normally park. He said, "they said it is a community car park and you can park where you like!"
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
More parking is needed as more homes are now more than two cars and parking is becoming a problem. Grass area could be tarmaced and provide more parking space for residents
Have a warden come visit to check parking areas are being used properly. So that bin wagons and emergency services are not being blocked if needed to get in.
Yes we have cars that are parked on our street that dont live here .its not fair for people that luve here .I
Parking is a joke can't even park my car out side dew to people that don't live in the area Ever time I complain nowt gets done about it
You don't let people know they can't park on blocks like xxxxxxx
Parked cars around xxxxxxxx, are deliberately throwing cans ,emptying ash trays,crisp packets, paper,baby wipes etc out of their cars,we litter pick up regularly.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Your saying that under new changes we can't use the driveway if the kerb isn't lowered yet the house was advertised as having a driveway without lowered kerb when I bidded on property in 2016. I have a son with special needs to get into the car and with my bad ankle due to going over on a council road due to pothole I caught my trainers on, which led to surgery I need to park on drive as he doesn't have any awareness of danger near road. If they still insist on dropped kerbs then council should pay it's there properly which is advertised with a drive
Terrible should be permit only
There are shops, barbers and takeaway in our street which's customers are making it hard for us the tenants to find parking. Please make our street tenants parking only.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Parking is okay i think
agree
Advise not to park in areas that could block bin wagons or prevent emergency services getting through.
I dont have a car, and so glad i dont as neighbours are very possessive over there parking places ,which really anyone can park there
pay for parking
no issues
No this section is ok.
Parking if avalible outside your home or flat should be for you only i get people parking right outside my door they can litrally look into my living room parking outside flat or private property should be assigned to you not your neighbour espically if they have a paking space themself visitors can park behind them or anywhere where it does not obstruct the other neighbours
agree
Any parking goes , despite parking bays and double yellow lines
Residents should have parking slips to make sure we know the others have permission to park. People just leave the cars parked and dont live in council properties

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Proposal 1.4 Would like to see more specific guidelines and rules on the use of disabled spaces, and who to contact in problem cases. Parking is indeed at a premium in many areas, so even more of a need for help for those with mobility and pain issues.
No problems.
A limit of one vehicle per household and monitoring of commercial vehicle parking should be monitored and managed
Where you have narrow roads like xxxxx that are affected by bin wagons not able to get down when there are cars parked I think it would work out cheaper to just drop the curb on the side that everyone parks or work with highways to put full drivesways in not just single so more cars are off the road so the cars are slightly on the pavement or on drives within the law as people worry about blocking the pavements and getting tickets. Use the community common sense in these areas and work with them to make it better and safer for your workers and the public. In the long run full drives to get cars off the road then cuts down on the need for multiple collections of rubbish so cuts down on rubbish bags on streets and rats also cuts down on overtime needing to be paid because of extra runs.
There are many 2-3 car homes wanting to park right outside taking up spaces so other residents can't park 1 car, being respectful of other neighbours
Some good proposals. Still don't think it will make any difference. How will it be policed and do you expect neighbours to be whistle blowers.
Section 8 introduces stricter rules around vehicle ownership, parking, and storage within council-managed housing. While it is reasonable for the Council to manage parking to prevent obstruction or environmental damage, several aspects of this section raise concerns about fairness, clarity, and proportionality—particularly for tenants with limited alternatives or specific needs. Firstly, the section prohibits parking on grassed areas, pavements, or unapproved driveways, which may impact tenants who have historically used such spaces without issue, especially in areas with limited designated parking. Tenants may not have had access to dropped kerbs or formal hard standings, and changes to long-standing practices could lead to breaches or enforcement without proper support or notice. Secondly, the requirement to seek written permission for certain vehicle types (e.g. caravans, trailers, commercial vans) may be unclear or inconsistently applied. Tenants who rely on such vehicles for work, or who have limited financial means to store them elsewhere, could face disadvantage without clear guidance on the approval process or available alternatives. The section also prohibits keeping unroadworthy or untaxed vehicles without written permission, which is understandable for health and safety reasons—but it would be helpful for the agreement to specify what process exists for temporary exemptions (e.g. during repairs, bereavement, or short-term financial hardship). This is particularly relevant for low-income tenants who may need a grace period before taking action. Importantly, there is no reference to reasonable adjustments for tenants with disabilities. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to make adjustments that ensure equal access to parking, including consideration for mobility needs and access to designated or adapted parking spaces. Questions/Recommendations: Will the Council offer a grace period or formal application process to regularise existing informal

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

parking arrangements? Can the Council clarify the criteria for granting or refusing permission for vehicles such as vans or trailers? Will tenants be informed of accessible alternatives if permission is denied? How will the Council ensure compliance with the Equality Act for tenants who require parking-related adjustments due to disability? Will guidance be provided on how tenants can request disabled parking bays or apply for dropped kerbs? Risk: Tenants who have long-standing informal parking arrangements (e.g. on verges or communal areas) may be penalised under the new rules. Potential Consequences: •Fines or enforcement against tenants without alternatives, especially those in dense housing areas. •Reduced quality of life due to inaccessible parking or fear of enforcement
In our case can't park within boundary. 1.5 Parking is not designated, therefore people from xxxxxx park here. However parking within the estate is designated. 1.10 Red vehicle parked near number 30 has flat tyres and not now used.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
XXXXXX Close has a big difficulty with parking as on the left of the cul-de-sac the residents have parking but the turning circle is used by residents. The right hand side of the street is almost full with cars partly on the pavement. my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
I'm ok with parking I have a disabled marking .
Parking is ridiculous. It is a tiny road. Visitors come and park so there is nowhere for residents then. Disgusting. A vehicle from across the road parks on our road everyday. They have their own property and should have thought about how tiny their drive is when they bought or built it. Our road should be officially for residents only. Even visitors should be made to park along the straight bit. There just isn't space for everyone, especially when Kirklees vans rock up in threes. Deluvery vans plink in the middle of the road, driver disappears, then glares at us when we return home and can't get past their van to park. One residents daughter leaves her dog at her dads and a van that only she uses to walk dog when she comes. That red van should not be kept here, even if registered to the dad who is resident. He doesn't drive it. She does. She should take the van away, it is using up resident space. Also, she comes most evenings to see to her dad and again parker car in a resident space, not acceptable, when i know of another resident who can't always park because of visitors and people parking here that shouldn't be. xxxxxxxxis the worst place i've ever lived, for quite a lot of reasons.
Yes cars parking on the paths is illegal and it recently happen to me the neighbour got into argument with me as she didn't see anything wrong about parking fully on the path and nearly

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

running me over to the point she reported me with dash cam footage without my knowledge and then was bragging about reporting me when she was the one in the wrong she also used the excuse of having a small child that is never dressed properly and is neglected as the excuse of parking as close as she could to door on the side of the building when there was plenty of car spaces
There should be parking for vehicles ie driveways made from the council to help with people and amount of people living within a property so it prevents problems with parking ie parking wars and vehicles getting broken or broken into, and as for parking on kerb or garden is not an issue as its not illegal to park slightly on kerb as spacious and road issues but something needs to be done about this too or is all responsibility to tenants and Kirklees does nothing, not fair.
My neighbours break this all the time
I have struggled with parking as neighbours have no respect for others on tge street
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Some of our neighbors have more than one car some time I can't find parking place The fees for residents permit holders label is too expensive
No issues with parking at the moment
people just park al ovr shop. i need too b able park near mi bungalow.
Im disabled and sometimes i carnt get out of the drive .
Ive emailed council over cars been parked on pedestrianised areas xxxxx the flats xxxxx And the rest .... Cars are going over the grass to park at the front of property grass was ruined in winter with such doing but still nothing been done cars belong on roads not grass or public paths ive reported been passed to whoever but heard nothing one day a child will be seriously hurt its a completely pedestrianised area
We have 7 bungalows and 3 parking spaces and the get other cars using them which is annoying needs addressing
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Allocate parking outside houses or even turn front gardens into drive ways make more room on the road dust bin trucks
Should be allocated parking outside your own home or even turn front gardens into parking space leave more room on the road
Reported parking in front of council garages by people who do not rent them,there are signs saying no parking,you do nothing about it
Cars parked on both sides of the road
Parking is limiited. With a lot of pavement parking.
about time but who will enforce it
Vehicles need to learn to stop parking on the pavement as hard to walk around
Yes people park where they want outside my gates, speeding cars and road rage
We dnt have enough parking space in fro t of our there is empty space belongs to council kindley put that to parking space to solve alot of issue . Alot of time of you park side of the road new car get damaged . Need a parking space please.
Vehicles must leave gateway clear if it doesn't belong to them
I dont drive
Motorhome on the estate which is lived in, and smells of weed, doesnt think this has been reported

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

In the area mentioned above xxxxx we hear rumours of parking fees and permits being introduced. We already suffer from people parking here who do not live in the area and this should be considered before decisions are made
problem with parking is that some household have more than one vehicle so its hard to find parking.
Cars parked in front of your house, vehicles on pavements.
NO COMMENT
Parking is terrible round the back by garages anybody parks where they want and how they want to park on curbs, slants they block garages that people still use people park right outside the ginnels making it hard for emergency vehicles to get near by should any be ever needed
No problem
Parking is a big concern, everyone should be given a drive way when you're a tenent for safety and less conjestion on the streets, new council builds come with driveways but there is a mixture of people who have driveways and who don't yet still pay the same rent, this is unfair and should be rectified so everyone is equal.
68 replies at Monday 12th May
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
not happy
70 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
72 replies at Thursday 29th May
72 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 9 – LEAVING AND ENDING TENANCY
No i will stay here till i die or my autism leads to me killing a drug dealers by viciously beating them with a wet lettuce. Fyi that is and emotion not a threat but they government will jail me fir thinking that. Kirklees is cirrupt.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
If tennent is leaving the property if viewings are made via appointments current tennent should be within the home at the time of viewing to ensure safety of property.
Living were i do affects my mental health massively but im grateful for having roof over my head
I like my flat but people around here some are terrible tenents. I live in good block but if anybody moved you never know what tenents you may get ..drug addiction people..drug dealers.
i think if youve lived your property for many years and pass away the house should b offered to your next of kin ....

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
If I could afford I would
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
I like living here dont want to leave or end tenancy
agree
ok
But what are the rules if I want to buy it😊 Tenant's obligations 👌The house must be left clean 👌Warn KNH if you want to move out, set a time.. 👌KNH can check new tenants, warning in advance. (for example this week, but not a specific time).
No problems with what's stated
No this section is ok.
Ending tenency give notice council does inspection and tells you what you need to repair and if not they give u a price on what they will charge you if you do not have it done this must not be a estimate it must be a price
agree
All good
Need to give notice if they intend to leave the property
This was complicated to understand properly.
Section 9 of the proposed agreement sets out the tenant's responsibilities when leaving the property or ending the tenancy. While many of these expectations—such as giving notice, returning keys, and leaving the property in good condition—are standard, there are several important concerns that need clarification and consideration, particularly to protect tenants from unexpected charges or procedural unfairness. One key concern is the lack of detail around what constitutes "acceptable condition" when returning a property. Without clear standards or checklists, tenants—especially vulnerable or

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

elderly residents—may be at risk of recharges for cleaning or minor damage that could fall within fair wear and tear. The agreement should explicitly state that normal wear over time will not incur penalties and that any cleaning or repairs required must be reasonable and proportionate. There is also no mention of whether tenants will be offered a pre-termination inspection or advisory visit, which could help prevent disputes and allow tenants to correct issues before vacating. This is a best practice approach used by many housing providers and should be considered. Additionally, the clause should recognise vulnerable circumstances, such as bereavement, domestic abuse, hospitalisation, or sudden moves into care homes, where a tenant may not be able to fulfil every obligation in the standard way. In such cases, a discretionary or compassionate approach should be adopted, and this should be made explicit in the agreement or its supporting guidance. There is also the potential for confusion around responsibility when a tenant dies. The agreement should clarify who is expected to manage the end of tenancy process in such cases, and what support the Council will offer to next of kin or appointed representatives. Questions/Recommendations: Will the Council provide a detailed checklist or guide to help tenants understand what is expected when ending a tenancy? Will tenants be offered a pre-move-out inspection to avoid unnecessary recharges? How will the Council determine what constitutes fair wear and tear versus chargeable damage? Will the Council consider waiving or reducing recharges in cases of bereavement, health crisis, or other exceptional situations? Risk: Vague standards for the condition of vacated properties may lead to inconsistent recharges or disputes over damage vs. wear and tear. Potential Consequences: •Unanticipated final charges causing financial stress. •Disputes over liability and damage leading to reputational harm or withheld references.
How long does your relatives have to clear your possessions if you die I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
Why can’t decent items be offered to the next tenant to see if they want it before throwing things away. This would save future tenants money.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
I won’t be ending my tenancy I’m ok where I am.
I can't comment on this because i haven't done it yet with a council property. Although it won't be long after how i'm treated here by neighbours. I can't remember what it says on the tenancy agreement. Yes, i have read it.
Agree

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

If things continue to get worse we have no choice but leaving our home and ending tenancy shouldn't be penalised for that other issues are and should be dealt individually instead of rules and more rules you wont have any tenants left at this rate
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I dont know lived here 28 year not planning on moving
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
I am not looking to leave
I have no intenions of leaving my home unless iiits in a wooden box
I do not intend to leave my home. I live within my boundaries.
NO COMMENT
No problem
38 replies at Monday 12th May
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
39 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
41 replies at Thursday 29th May
41 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 10 – INFORMATION, CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION
Consultations are a paper exercise and the corrupt kirklees have already decided what tgey are going to do inspite of this.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Once changes to tenancy are made if any. Copies of updated tenancy should be posted and emailed to all tenants.
In May 2024 ws received a letter concerning a council member was going to walk around our area to see if any outdoor repairs/painting/ wood work,etc requiring attention!!. Over months we didn't see anyone looking around, so in Dec 2024,I sent an email stating the jobs which we required doing, but still no response!!.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Terrible you all need looking into and a reset needs to happen
I regularly supply comments to ongoing initiatives, etc. Nothing ever seems to happen , and I never receive any feedback . Is there a " live forum" where Tennant's can share ideas and complaints . Seeing fellow tennants thoughts actions, etc. Along with the Councils thoughts on this ? I always vote at council elections . I know who my ward councillors are . But see absolutely nothing on what they vote in or do , etc.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
Council housing people all give good information
agree
ok
KNH representatives can meet with all the tenants of the floor together by sending a message with a time, to discuss everything.
No this section is ok.
Every area is diffrent so consultation should be done for every street not regionally for e.g xxxx all residents yyyy all residents zzz then all section it aswell for flats with no gardens flats with gardens houses tower blocks etc etc
agree
Hard to get in touch with anyone
would be nice to see what you do with all response, if any notice is actually taken
Happy
I believe that Kirklees could use more email communication to better understand communities. Send out more frequent questionnaires regarding local issues, improvements and asking for community ideas to help increase the attraction to the Kirklees housing areas. The work with the dvsa van and the police seems to be improving some areas but maybe an initiative between Kirklees council and the police would help to look at reducing risk to tenants. In particular looking at street lighting, putting cameras up in suspect areas or areas known for antisocial/illegal activity, making sure security is maintained even as far as looking at adding

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

more door locks and window locks so it feels safer. On the whole Kirklees seem to be getting it right but to shine and go the extra mile to show the community you care makes a massive difference.
If tenancy agreements are changed we must adhere to our own policy rather than picking and choosing how we want to interpret it
You need to use more simple english. Some of the paragraphs and phrases were not easy to understand.
Section 10 outlines the Council's commitment to providing information to tenants, consulting on key changes, and supporting tenant participation. While the inclusion of this section is welcome, as it acknowledges the importance of tenant voice and transparency, it would benefit from greater specificity and stronger commitments. Currently, the section uses general terms like "may consult" or "will usually provide information," which do not establish clear obligations. Given the significant power imbalance between social landlords and tenants, there should be a stronger guarantee of timely, accessible, and meaningful consultation—particularly where policy changes directly affect tenants' rights, rent levels, or service standards. In addition, the section does not make reference to inclusive participation. Tenants with learning disabilities, mental health issues, language barriers, or limited digital access may be excluded from engagement if appropriate adjustments or formats are not proactively offered. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council has a duty to ensure that consultation and participation processes are inclusive and accessible to all tenants. Furthermore, there is no mention of how tenant feedback will be used or how outcomes of consultations will be reported back to the community. This creates a risk of tokenism, where tenants are "consulted" without meaningful influence on decisions. Questions/Recommendations: Will the Council commit to always consulting tenants on changes that materially affect their tenancy rights or conditions? How will the Council ensure that consultations are inclusive of tenants with disabilities, mental health needs, language barriers, or digital exclusion? Will the Council provide Easy Read, translated, or accessible versions of key documents for consultations? How will tenant feedback be documented and reported back following consultation exercises? Can tenant representatives or forums be more formally recognised in decision-making processes?
Nothing is given about this ?
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I think these are good ideas.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

I don't know if these comments are put somewhere public, if so please just remove my identifying comments about street and people. I've put everything i'm angry about here, because i know nothi g will ever be done. This survey is just a box ticking exercise to cover all your backs and to prove yoy're doing what you should in relation to tenants.
Agree
I would participate in any consultation as long as i have been given ample time and opportunity to do this with an agreed timeframe to suit everyone, tenants should be up to date and send regular updates to all its tenants not just some or handful.
I agree
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
never meet my housing officer, back in my days we use to do passionate about the patch and go round meeting our tenants, sometimes days, some late afternoons. Now don't think they have ever been out to my area Its almost like as long as i pay my rent you wont do anything else including up dating things like kitchens and bathrooms
Dont understand
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Tenants would appreciate feed back
I believe this is a joke. We were only consulted about the new heating increases once Kirklees had already made the decision to change supplier and increase the costs. ,The person from the council who came to discuss this with us was so under prepared and could not answere any of our questions except to tell us the new prices
Consultations must be made available to all sections of the community, and not limited to on-line consultations. By using on-line processes only discriminates and excludes those sections of the community who are not computer literate or do not have these items. Consultations need to be better advertised so residents are aware of these consultations in the first place. Consultation periods need to be extended to give residents time to access assistance if required to help do the consultation. Technology is not the only way to consult. The Council needs to improve the way it communicates with tenants.
Its good to consult tenants about any changes taking place or due to take place
Who is the housing officer for xxxx we have no idea
What was wrong with the old tenancy agreement?
Has the council got a main office now?
I agree with most of the tenancy agreement. I have lived in my house for most of my life. I have good neighbours and that is worth a lot. I want to end my days in this house
I moved here 10 years ago and had to be over 55 to live here. Then without warning, kirklees changed the policy which is still on the kirklees website. No thought went into this process regarding the tenants already here. On my sign up i was told the wash room was part of my rent. After a few years, we was told because we dont pay for this the room will be taken away which had a washer and a dryer. Also told the place would be decorated every 3 years and this has never been done. I was promised a new kitchen and windows and this never happened. The rent goes up every year and we get nothing for it. It is just empty promises. More discussions with colleagues would benefit everyone. Just putting anyone in their properties and mixing generations doesnt work. Unfortunately this is happening where i live i used to call home, now it is living hell.
I applied for permission to the new kitchen and changed my internal doors. It was approved and I did it.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

NO COMMENT
Aslong as non of my personal information or anything ive commented on is shared with any other tenant then it sounds fair
Considering I put in right to buy form on the 12/11/2024 and have still not recieved an answer as there is a back log, I would assume that my tenancy agreement would fall under the previous agreement until the process has ended. Especially as I'm unable to have any repairs once the right to buy form is handed in, then surely my tenancy will also remain the same until the process has commenced. So can I please have an update regarding where I stand regarding this new tenancy agreement. I also do not agree to being charged service charges as the ground maintenance that is done is done poorly. I would expect a reply before you proposed changes happen.
47 replies at Monday 12th May
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
wants to speak to the person who wrote it
49 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
51 replies at Thursday 29th May
51 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25
SECTION 11 – NOTICE
Kirklees council hates disabled people and hates elderly people. They bang on abouts equality but dont treat people equally. Fyi a disabled gate, door or toilet may meet needs of legislation but doesnt make it disability accessible if you dont look at access to and from and around a location. And howthe disabled perdon will use the location.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Sick of where I'm living
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Just move me please

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
ok
provide a specific phone number to contact. The number may be in the corridor. A notice board in the apartment corridors would be advisable Rules Telephone numbers Common room cleaning list Warnings News
I agree
No this section is ok.
agree
Happy
Again notices need to be much easier to understand. I know many people who have no idea what you mean to do because they have difficulty understanding what you are talking about because of the english you have used.
Section 11 of the proposed tenancy agreement sets out how notices may be served to tenants, including by hand, post, or by leaving documents at the property. While this provides the Council with flexibility, there are several concerns regarding the clarity, accessibility, and fairness of this process, particularly for vulnerable tenants. Firstly, the section makes no reference to tenants who may have learning disabilities, mental health conditions, or limited English proficiency—all of whom may struggle to understand or respond to legal notices. Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council has a legal duty to make reasonable adjustments for tenants with protected characteristics, which should include providing notices in accessible formats, using plain language, and ensuring information is communicated in a way the tenant can understand. There is also no detail on how the Council will verify that a notice has been meaningfully received and understood—particularly in cases where it is “left at the property.” This creates a risk that vulnerable tenants could miss important legal information, leading to avoidable enforcement action or even eviction. For example, a tenant in hospital, in mental health crisis, or with cognitive impairments may not engage with written correspondence at all without support. Additionally, the section does not clarify whether digital methods (such as email or a tenant portal) may be used and whether tenants can opt into a preferred method of communication that suits their needs and capabilities. Questions/Recommendations: How will the Council ensure that notices are issued in accessible formats for tenants with learning disabilities, mental health conditions, or limited literacy/language skills? Will the Council provide plain English or Easy Read versions of legal notices where

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

appropriate? How will the Council comply with its Equality Act duties when issuing notices to tenants who require reasonable adjustments? Can tenants opt for communication via a support worker, advocate, or next of kin where appropriate? Will the agreement be amended to reflect the Council's responsibility to take proactive steps to ensure vulnerable tenants are not disadvantaged in the notice process?
Nothing is given about this ?
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
I don't really know what this section refers to. It isn't at all clear. If it is physical notices on land unforming of parking for residents only only fir example, then there should be more, they need to be more prominent and have Kirklees on them, not just a simple sign flung up under trees that no one can see.
Agree
Any notice that is given should be clear instructions with no room for doubt from Kirklees especially Kirklees, should be hand delivered and if posted secure post options not first and second class every time
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
My house is two bed rooms one of them too small We are five person my kids ages are 4&5&8 the 8 is girl my band on choose and move is C I will take long time to getting suitable house for our family
Notices are another joke as the changes in Kirklees staff who make new decisions willy nilly and the old notices are never removed so many times there at least 3 fire procedure notices on our boards, If changes are made all old notices should be removed before the new ones are displayed
Ot would be nice to be kept informed
any notice should bemposted in property
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
No comment
No comment
No problem
30 replies at Monday 12th May
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
31 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
33 replies at Thursday 29th May
33 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

SECTION 12 – TENANCY FRAUD
There is fraud and people get masses of benefits but make money from selling drugs. But i guess drug dealers need to live somewhere and putting them in old people complexes makes sense. Oh and we can ignore the bit in the rent agreement that says you are not allowed to run a buisness or criminal venture from a council property are this breeches the agreement and you can be evicted. I deal with kirklees as little as possible because you are not worth it. You have some good people wirking for you but that is undermined by a corrupt councillors and council leaders.
Do not understand any of it due to my learning disability
Too much emphasis on the Tenant. (You) Is used significantly more than (We). You as a Council service should make Tenants feel welcome. Not like prisoners. It's evidently clear that there is an internal financial struggle and you are trying to recover that from Tenants. Do most Tenants give you trouble? Because that's how it comes across in your new proposals. I'd urge the Council to value Tenants more. To provide modern properties. To provide safety and security. To provide furniture for new Tenants. To provide necessary living components so that Tenants feel welcomed. Moving into a home can be daunting. If I were to read your new proposals, as a new Tenant. My first question would be "Are you guys okay?". Because you sound angry. The new proposals don't sound like they are supporting Tenants. They sound like you are looking for angles for financial gain. Good Luck.
Ha jokers U could catch half the estate if U tried but U don't really care
I presume this is a growing issue ? What is the focus from the council on rectifying this.
Illegal changes to tenancy agreement by law it cannot be changed without written agreement of each indivedual tenant in relation to that property only if the tenant does not agree it cannot be changed period you cannot impose it or enforce it If you try it you will incur legal costs and compensation claims from all tenants running into many millons
I dont know what tenancy fraud is but i would never not inform council about changes .i am here by myself and xxxx when around for work he got shared accomation as hes at uni .
agree
I dont do fraud
Rules should be drawn up for 👌 how long people can stay with tenant 👌If someone wants to live with the tenant, 👌the tenant must notify the KNH and 👌A rent increase can be agreed upon..
I agree
Section 12 is ok, but section 13 I think it should be ok to throw spiders out of the bathroom window.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

agree
If deliberate overcrowding is tenancy fraud, perhaps you need to check X, Y and Z areas !!!!
The council needs to be proactive and encourage anonymous intelligence gathering.
Unoccupied properties, claiming housing benefit but not living in the property
very good idea but how do you expect to find out what's happening in the property.
I understand and support the Council's need to prevent tenancy fraud, including unlawful subletting, false housing applications, and misrepresentation of circumstances. However, Section 12 would benefit from clearer definitions and safeguards to ensure that tenants acting in good faith are not wrongly accused or penalised. Firstly, the section does not sufficiently distinguish between deliberate fraud and unintentional breaches, such as misunderstandings around lodgers, family support arrangements, or changes in household composition. Many tenants, particularly those from multi-generational or culturally diverse households, may allow extended family members to live with them temporarily without realising this could be considered a breach. Secondly, the clause does not detail what steps the Council will take to investigate alleged tenancy fraud fairly. There should be a commitment to: Clearly communicate the allegations and give tenants the opportunity to respond. Consider whether there has been an innocent error or misunderstanding before proceeding with enforcement. Provide an appeals or dispute resolution mechanism. Finally, it is important to ensure that efforts to address fraud do not deter vulnerable tenants from reporting changes in household circumstances out of fear of enforcement. The agreement should be accompanied by accessible guidance on what constitutes tenancy fraud, how to stay compliant, and how to report changes safely. Questions/Recommendations: Will the Council provide a clear definition of what is and is not considered tenancy fraud? Will there be an opportunity for tenants to explain or correct a situation before legal action is taken? Can the Council confirm that support will be provided to tenants who may have unintentionally breached rules due to language barriers, mental health, or lack of understanding? OTHER CONSIDERATIONS TO ADDRESS - General and Implementation Concerns •Will there be a grace period before enforcement of the new agreement begins, especially for existing tenants? •Will tenants receive a "side-by-side" version comparing old vs. new clauses for easier understanding? Or a what this means for you guidance. •Will the Council provide translated versions and accessible support (e.g. drop-in sessions) for tenants who may have difficulty understanding legal language? - Will vulnerable tenants or those with learning difficulties receive additional support or advocacy to understand the new agreement? •Will council staff receive training to apply the new rules fairly and consistently? •Will tenants have access to a formal appeals process for any decision related to permissions, enforcement, or disputes? (e.g., denial of a pet, permission for improvements, etc.)? •What is the average response time expected for decisions requiring written permission under the new terms? Legally based questions and considerations:

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

•Has the council assessed the proposed agreement against current housing law and upcoming reforms to ensure legal consistency? •Will tenants be protected from retrospective enforcement where previous agreements did not clearly require consent? •What legal safeguards are in place to ensure enforcement actions (e.g. for ASB, pets, or alterations) are proportionate, evidence-based, and challengeable? •How will the council ensure the agreement does not indirectly discriminate against vulnerable tenants or those with protected characteristics? Risks: •Disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups: older tenants, those with disabilities, mental health conditions, or lower literacy. •Communication gaps if tenants do not fully understand the new rules or cannot access support. •Reduced tenant engagement if changes are seen as punitive or one-sided
Nothing to say
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments.
I am writing to inform you that I am in full agreement of the proposed tenancy agreement amendments
It is good that the council are hoping to stop tenancy fraud.
my flat/property has no insulation inbetween the floors so its hell on earth to live in and you wont do anything about it, so much for a right to a peaceful living...
Fraud is everywhere.
Again. It's simple. I have no experience or knowledge of this but i imagine it goes on a lot. If it happens, why do you give people chances in the first place? The clue is in the title....fraud. It is illegal ablnd should therefore be immediately dealt with as such. Eviction. No exceptions. It takes too long as it is when someone who genuinely deserves to be evicted is. All the proceedings should be quickened up and the offending tenant evicted within 2 mo ths. No exceptions. Tenants know what they're doing when they commit things like this. It's quite simple.
Agree
Never done that I would never think of it shouldn’t be an issue and should be taken seriously by all.
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Thay should get sent to prison
I have no comments or concerns about the proposed changes in this section.
Everyone should be made aware of this
Everyone should be made aware of this

APPENDIX 2

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Have told estate managers about people living in houses with tenents on benefis,having friends and relatives,mates,comments from them cannot do anything about it,we are not allowed to go in there houses to check
about time
Well anyone participanting in fraudulent activities must face the law
Yes it shouldnt be aloud some people just dont care as long as they getting something out of it they shouldnt be doing it
No tenant fraud
NO COMMENT
No problem
39 replies at Monday 12th May
I agree with the Tenancy Agreement. It has been laid out in Black and White and everything is their plain to see. I cannot see anyone Disagreeing with it. As it is all written down in front of them and there is no argument.
40 replies at Tuesday 20th May
None
I don't have
42 replies at Thursday 29th May
42 replies at Wednesday 18th June 25

Kirklees Council Draft Revised Tenancy Agreement

Your rights and responsibilities as a tenant and our rights as your landlord

Updated 19/05/2025

This document sets out the rights and responsibilities you have as a Kirklees Council tenant. By signing the tenancy agreement you are legally bound to certain responsibilities in order for you to keep your tenancy.

It also means that Kirklees Council, Homes and Neighbourhoods, is legally bound by its responsibilities under the tenancy contract.

There are two main types of tenancy:

- An INTRODUCTORY tenancy
- A SECURE tenancy

Young people under the age of 18 will be set up on an **equitable tenancy agreement**, whether they are introductory or secure tenants.

Please read the information in this document carefully and make sure you understand it. If you have any questions, please ask your Housing Management Officer.

If you are an *Introductory or Secure Tenant*, call 01484 414886 when you want to contact Homes and Neighbourhoods

If you are on an *Equitable Tenancy* Agreement, when you need to contact Homes and Neighbourhoods you should **call 01484 414886.**

You can get this document in other formats, such as braille, large print or audio. A summary of the essential rights and responsibilities is also available in other formats or languages. Please ask your Housing Management Officer if you need a different format.

Contents

1 Equitable Tenancy Agreement (under 18s)..... 3
2 Introductory tenancies..... 3
3 Rights of Introductory Tenants..... 4
4 Right of review..... 5
5 The role of the courts..... 5
6 Getting a secure tenancy..... 5
7 About your Tenancy Agreement..... 5
8 Tenancy Agreement..... 7
1. Rent..... 7
2. Repairs..... 9
3. Access..... 11
4. Using your home and keeping you safe..... 12
5. Anti-social behaviour..... 15
6. Flats, maisonettes and shared areas..... 16
7. Animals..... 18
8. Vehicles and Parking..... 19
9. Leaving your home and ending the tenancy..... 21
10. Information, consultation and participation..... 23
11. Notices..... 25
12. Tenancy Fraud..... 25
13. Special conditions..... 26

1 EQUITABLE TENANCY AGREEMENT (UNDER 18S)

1.1 If you are aged sixteen or seventeen years old (i.e. a minor) you will be set up on an Equitable Tenancy Agreement, whether your tenancy is **"INTRODUCTORY"** or **"SECURE".**

1.2 In law, you cannot hold a tenancy in your own name until your 18th Birthday so any tenancy that is set up, is held on trust by a responsible adult who acts as the "trustee".

1.3 When an Equitable Tenancy is set up, the trustee has to sign the Tenancy Agreement. The trustee has to be an adult who is able to act in your best interest. They will also be responsible for accepting any Notices or demands for payment served under this agreement.

1.4 On your 18th birthday the tenancy automatically stops being an Equitable Tenancy and is either classed as an Introductory or Secure Tenancy depending on how long you have been the tenant and whether you have broken any conditions of your tenancy agreement. At this point, you no longer need a trustee and will hold the full legal title to your tenancy.

2 INTRODUCTORY TENANCIES

2.1 We want everyone to enjoy the benefits of their tenancy and to live in peace in their homes. We know that the majority of our current tenants want this too. We are determined to do all we can to protect our tenants and the wider community from the distress and anxiety that anti-social behaviour and harassment can cause.

2.2 In order to do this, we give all new tenants a trial period of 12 months to show that they can keep to their tenancy agreement, look after their homes and garden areas, and do not cause a nuisance in their neighbourhoods. If you are transferring from another Kirklees Council property as a secure tenant, or if you are transferring as an assured tenant of a registered social landlord, such as a Housing Association, your tenancy will be secure straight away.

2.3 **During the introductory tenancy you must show us that you are responsible enough to keep the property.** To do this you must:

- Pay your rent on time, weekly, by the close of business on Friday.
- Look after the property.
- Not behave anti-socially, cause a nuisance or harass other people.

2.4 Our housing management teams will closely monitor your introductory tenancy in its early stages. If minor nuisance or breaches of your tenancy come to our attention, we will offer you advice and give you the opportunity to change your behaviour.

2.5 Such minor nuisances or breaches might include:

- occasional noise
- failure to look after your gardens to a satisfactory standard
- minor damage to your home
- nuisance caused by pets

2.6 However, if we come across serious breaches of your tenancy or if you will not work with us to find a solution, we will take legal action to re-possess your home.

2.7 Serious breaches that will cause us to take such action include:

- harassment that has a major impact on victims or members of their family
- violence or threats of violence
- using the property for illegal or immoral purposes, for example drug dealing
- escalating rent arrears with little or no intention of paying
- continuation of a substantial number of minor incidents, despite warnings.

2.8 **It is important to remember that you are not just responsible for your own behaviour.**

2.9 We will take action against you if the person causing anti-social behaviour is someone living with you or is a visitor to your home. It does not matter where the nuisance happens - in your home, outside or anywhere in the neighbourhood.

2.10 If you keep to your tenancy agreement and we have not taken any action to end your introductory tenancy, you will automatically become a secure tenant on the date written on the front of the agreement contract. However, if you do not keep to your tenancy agreement, as an introductory tenant you can be evicted much more quickly and more easily than a secure tenant. Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods, on behalf of the Council, must tell you why it is evicting you and give you a right to a review of the decision to evict, but we do not need to prove in court that it is reasonable to evict you.

3 RIGHTS OF INTRODUCTORY TENANTS

3.1 You do **not** have some of the **rights** set out in this agreement during your introductory tenancy. As an introductory tenant you will have the following restricted rights:

- right to be consulted
- right to have repairs carried out
- right to succession.

3.2 **You will get these rights if you become a secure tenant**:

- buy your home
- assign or transfer your tenancy to someone else
- take in lodgers or sublet your home
- carry out improvements
- mutually exchange your home with another tenant
- transfer to another property (unless a serious housing need exists)

3.3 If you become a secure tenant, you must still behave responsibly and keep to the rules of this agreement – but if we wanted to take possession of the property you would have the right to put your case at a court hearing. A judge would then decide if we could evict you. We would have to show that we have a valid reason to evict you.

3.4 These are called ‘grounds’ and are defined by law. Before going to court we would have to serve you with a Notice of Seeking Possession, setting out which ground is being used and our reasons for serving the Notice.

4 RIGHT OF REVIEW

4.1 If notice is served on you for repossession of your home, you will be able to ask for a review of the decision. The review will be carried out by a manager or managers who have had no involvement in your case.

5 THE ROLE OF THE COURTS

5.1 Unless an introductory tenant has successfully appealed against the decision to repossess, the application will then proceed to Court. Provided that the Court is satisfied that the notice and review procedures have been followed correctly, possession must be granted to the landlord. Eviction from your home will follow.

Make sure you have read and understood the information about introductory or equitable tenancies that came with your offer letter. It describes the procedure we have to go through if we want to evict you.

Call 01484 414886 or contact your housing management officer if you have not seen a copy or if you have any questions.

6 GETTING A SECURE TENANCY

6.1 Once you have completed your introductory tenancy without any serious breaches, your tenancy will automatically change to a secure one with full statutory rights.

7 ABOUT YOUR TENANCY AGREEMENT

7.1 Some of the Council's rights and responsibilities described in the following pages may be carried out by other agencies on its behalf, including enforcement of this agreement and recovery of any payments due.

- Your tenancy agreement is a binding contract between you and us (the Council).
- It contains your rights and obligations as a tenant and our rights and obligations as your landlord.
- Most Council tenancies are legally known as secure tenancies unless you are an introductory tenant. This means that we can only end the tenancy if we get a court order. There are strict rules in the Housing Acts that control the circumstances in which the court will grant this type of order.
- Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003, we can apply to the courts to demote a secure tenancy to a less secure one for up to a year. We can do this when the behaviour of a tenant, family member or visitor is causing or threatening to cause nuisance or annoyance to someone who isn't a member of the household.
- If your tenancy is demoted, you will lose important rights enjoyed by secure tenants:
    - right to buy or acquire
    - right to exchange
    - right to sublet, take in lodgers or improve the property

7.2 **Any repetition of anti-social behaviour or rent arrears during the demoted tenancy can result in you losing your home.**

- As long as you pay your rent and you and your household follow the other terms of your tenancy agreement, we will not ask the court to make an order for possession, unless, for example, we need to move you to redevelop your home.
- **However, to be a secure tenant, you must live in the property as your only or principal (main) home.** If you do not, we will be entitled to serve a 'notice to quit' on you and get possession of the property.
- Both you and the Council also have a number of legal rights and obligations which are set out by Acts of Parliament. For example, **as a secure tenant**, you have the right to:

  - pass on your tenancy when you die
  - exchange your tenancy with another secure tenant
  - buy your home, under the Right to Buy
  - repair your home, if we fail to do so
  - improve your home
  - receive compensation for some improvements when you leave
  - be consulted
  - take in lodgers; and
  - sublet part of your home, as long as you have permission in writing

7.3 The agreement is in 13 parts, each one dealing with a particular topic, plus a schedule giving the names of the tenants.

7.4 We have tried to write this document in plain language. We have also written some notes which will give you more guidance on what the agreement means, as well as other useful information (these notes are not part of the agreement). If you have any questions about your tenancy, or if you would like more information about the rights and obligations of secure tenants and their landlords, please ask your Housing Management Officer.

7.5 You can also get information from solicitors or advice centres such as the Citizens' Advice Bureau or Fusion Housing. Your Housing Management Officer can also give you information about the services you can expect from us, as well as a copy of the Tenant Voice Strategy, which shows how we engage and consult our tenants.

Complaints

7.6 Kirklees Council follows the **Complaint Handling Code** from the Housing Ombudsman to ensure complaints are responded to effectively and fairly.

7.7 If you have a complaint the Customer Experience Team handle all complaints received by Homes and Neighbourhoods in relation to services provided to Council tenants and leaseholders. We treat all complaints equally and fairly, listen carefully to make sure we are doing the best for our residents and take steps to put things right quickly and efficiently. If you want to complain please complete the form on this link or telephone 01484 414886:

https://my.kirklees.gov.uk/en/service/Council_tenants___Contact_us?contactUsAbout=Making%20a%20complaint

Contacting the Housing Ombudsman Service

7.8 You can contact the Housing Ombudsman Service at any point during the complaints process. It cannot investigate your complaint while it is going through our internal complaints process. However, the Ombudsman may be able to help you and Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods reach a resolution.

Housing Ombudsman Service, PO Box 1484, Unit D, Preston, PR2 0ET

info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk
0300 111 3000

8 TENANCY AGREEMENT

8.1 This is a tenancy agreement between us (Kirklees Council) and you (the Tenant), relating to the property described in the Schedule at the back. The main parts of this agreement are as follows.

8.1.1 **Section 1: Rent**

1. Your tenancy is weekly tenancy which runs from Monday to Sunday. Your tenancy starts on the date shown in the Schedule. The first complete weekly period starts on the date shown in the Schedule. The weekly rent is due on each Monday in advance. You owe rent from the first day of your tenancy. This means that if you started your tenancy on any day other than a Monday, your first rent payment will be due on that first day of your tenancy and is worked out in proportion to the number of days in that week that you will hold your tenancy. The amount of rent for the first week or part week of your tenancy is shown in the Schedule. The amount of weekly rent after the first week or part week is also shown in the Schedule. You must pay all rent including any service charges by Direct Debit unless an alternative arrangement has been made with Kirklees Council. The Council has the right to increase or decrease the rent from time to time, usually in April. You will be told in writing at least four weeks before any change.

2. You may need to pay for additional services provided. These are called Service Charges and will be an extra charge that you will need to pay with your rent. A breakdown of the service charges will be provided on your tenancy agreement if this applies to your tenancy.

   - The Council has the right to add to, reduce or withdraw the additional services, and we will tell you in writing what these are, and the cost of the Service Charge you will need to pay. You will be given at least four weeks' notice in writing of any changes.

   - The service charges may be increased or decreased at any time, and you will be given at least four weeks' notice in writing of any changes.

3. If you claim any benefits, including but not limited to housing benefit or Council tax benefit you must notify Kirklees Council or if you claim universal credit or other benefits the Department of Work and Pensions immediately, if your circumstances change, as any change may affect your benefit entitlement.

   - This includes any changes that have been made to any of your household members if they move in or move out. You must also notify Kirklees Council of these changes.

4. If you are joint tenants, you are all responsible, individually and together for keeping all conditions of this agreement. This includes paying your rent.

5. You must not withhold rent for any reason or offset the cost of outstanding repairs which are our responsibility against your obligation to pay rent.

Explanatory Notes Rent

8.1.2 **What does this mean?**

These conditions explain the rules on paying your rent, changing your rent and dealing with rent arrears.

If you are joint tenants, you are each responsible for paying all rent due.

An individual joint tenant can set up a Direct Debit to ensure that future rent payments are made on time.

- If you have rent arrears, any individual joint tenant must pay the money that is owed. You are both responsible for ensuring that rent is paid, even if one of you has left your home.
- You may lose your tenancy if you do not pay your rent when it is due. If legal action is taken that leads to you being evicted, you may not be able to get another Council tenancy in future.
- If you are having difficulties paying your rent it is important that you contact us as soon as possible.

8.1.3 **How we can help.**

- We can arrange with you to pay off the rent arrears.
- Give you help and advice on any benefits you can claim.
- Give you help and advice on budgeting and debts.
- Refer you to specialist money advice services.

8.1.4 **How to pay?**

- Direct Debit is the easiest way to pay your rent.
- Setting up a Direct Debit is simple and there are choices about when you pay.
- Contact us if you are unable to pay by Direct Debit or would like to discuss alternative payment methods.

8.1.5 **How will I know if the amount of my rent changes, or if I need to pay for service charges?**

- At the start of each year, we will review your rent for the coming financial year, this runs from April to the following March.
- We will tell you, in writing, at least four weeks before we do this.
- If you are required to pay service charges, you will be consulted before the charges are introduced.
- Service charges can be introduced at any time of the year to recover the costs of the serviced delivered. We will tell you, in writing, at least four weeks before we do this.

8.2 **Section 2: Repairs**

1. We (the Council) are responsible for repairing the following:

- Repairing the structure, exterior and communal part(s) of your home including drains, gutters and external pipes.
- Keeping in repair and proper working order installations for the supply of water, gas electricity; bathroom, kitchen and toilet fittings (excluding shower curtains); and waste pipes.
- Keeping in repair and proper working order installations for room heating and hot water (where provided by the Kirklees Council).

Please refer to the Council's Repairs and Maintenance Policy for further information.

2. You as tenant are responsible for the following**:**

- Any repairs not listed in condition 1.
- Taking reasonable steps to avoid damage (this includes but is not limited to) applying Artex or polystyrene tiles, to any walls or ceilings.
- You must use your home properly and responsibly. You are responsible for any damage to your home caused by you, your family or your visitors. You must pay us for any damage.
- You must keep all grates, grids, drains and gullies (not including gutters that catch water from the roof) clean and clear, and you must take care not to block toilets and sinks. You must ensure that shower heads are kept clean.
- You are responsible for the safe keeping of the keys and fobs we have provided for the property, including door, window and communal access locks.
- You must keep your home and any outbuilding safe and secure.
- You are responsible for the installation and maintenance of doorbells and cameras. Any damage caused to Kirklees Council's property during installation will be recharged to the tenant.
- Doorbells and/or cameras are not permitted to be installed on fire doors or any walls where compartmentalisation work has been undertaken to prevent the spread of fire.
- Doorbells and/or cameras cannot be fixed to Kirklees Council's, Composite or PVC External Doors without permission from the Council.
- No Doorbells and/or cameras are allowed in blocks of flats, maisonettes or residential/sheltered homes where Kirklees Council have installed CCTV.

Please see Kirklees Councils guidance on Domestic Recording Systems which include CCTV and Smart Doorbells.

- If you lose your keys, you are responsible for arranging a lock change at your own cost.
- Decoration and cleanliness to the inside of your home.
- If we need you to leave your home temporarily so that we can do work safely, you must leave for as long as necessary so we can do the work.
- We may charge you if you do not comply with any terms of this condition.
- It is advised that tenants obtain their own home contents insurance.
- Please refer to the Council's repairs and maintenance policy for further information.

3. You must report repairs that we are responsible for as soon as possible.

4. When you ask for a repair and we agree to do it, we will contact you by text message or by

your preferred method of contact to confirm the repair and to tell you when we will carry it out.

5. You must not alter or improve your home unless we have given you written permission.

6. You must not remove any items we own from your home, or from any other property we own, without our written permission.

7. We will paint the outside of your home and communal areas in line with the Council's repairs and maintenance policy.

8. Following a mutual exchange with another tenant, you will be responsible for the decoration that the previous tenant has left. We will repair any damage caused by the previous tenant and charge them for it. **You will also be responsible for any improvements or alterations that the previous tenant did, unless we agree to be responsible for them. Introductory tenants do not have the right for a mutual exchange. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.**

9. Any officers or contractors who call at your home in relation to repairs or other housing matters must carry identity cards.

10. During repair work, we will try to cause as little damage as possible to your decorations. However, if we do cause any damage during repair work (if that repair work was not your fault), you may be entitled to an allowance to redecorate.

11. We will make sure we have removed our rubbish, building materials and equipment from your home after we have finished the repair work.

12. We will repair all entrances, halls, stairways, lifts, rubbish chutes, lighting and other common parts of all blocks of flats and maisonettes.

13. Under Section 96 of the Housing Act 1985 we will pay compensation for certain repairs if we do not do them within a certain time, depending on certain conditions. Your Housing Management Officer can give you more details.

14. Under Section 97 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a right to carry out your own alterations or improvements, but you must get written permission from Homes and Neighborhoods (see clause 5 above). You may also get compensation for this work when you end your tenancy. **Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.**

Explanatory Notes: Repairs

- You are responsible for decorating the inside of your home. This includes repairing minor cracks in plaster work and preparing surfaces so they can be painted or papered.
- You are also responsible for: changing locks if you lose your keys; replacing lost or broken keys; keeping grates, grids, drains, gullies, toilets, baths, sinks, shower heads, and waste outlets clean; taking care not to cause blockages.
- You are also responsible for; buying curtain rails and light bulbs; taking reasonable care to make sure that your pipes do not freeze; providing your own tv aerial, unless there is a shared aerial; replacing missing plugs in sinks and wash basins, and toilet seats.
- You must report any vandalism or criminal damage caused by other people to your home to your housing office otherwise we may charge you for any repair work.
- You are responsible for taking out your own insurance to cover damage to your

belongings and decorations and any third-party liability if there is a fire, flood or other accident. We can help you arrange home insurance cover. For more details about our approved insurance scheme, please contact your Housing Management Officer.

- We will insure the structure of the building as well as our fixtures and fittings.
- We will not insure for deliberate or accidental damage that you or your family cause.
- If we damage your belongings while we are carrying out repairs, please get advice from your Housing Management Officer.

8.3 **Section 3: Access**

1. You will allow our staff, our agents or contractors access to your home where there are repair issues and any potential health and safety concerns. You will allow access for an annual home visit to be undertaken. We will in all circumstances (except in an emergency) give reasonable notice of our requirement for access. Reasonable notice will be a minimum of 24 hours' notice.

2. This includes where we wish to inspect the property or any installations including but not limited to smoke alarms, sprinkler systems, gas servicing, electrical safety checks, carbon monoxide alarms, Legionella tests, damp, mould and condensation or other matters as prescribed by the landlord and carry out any required servicing and associated works.

3. Notice of our requirement to access the property can be through a range of media via a text message, voice mail, e-mail, social media notification or a letter. If you have notified us of your preferred media, we will use this. Otherwise, it will be at the landlord's discretion. We will use the contact details you have provided us with, and it is important that you keep us updated with any changes.

4. In emergencies if access is needed it means that notice may not be given, and your home may be entered even if you are not there.

5. If access is unreasonably denied, the Council may use reasonable force to gain entry to your home without giving you any notice.

6. You may be recharged for any damage resulting from forced entry.

7. You are responsible to allow access for works and we will require access to the property to inspect and then carry out any works to discharge our repair and improvement obligations including but not exclusively:

   - The Housing Regulator's Consumer Standards including the decent homes standards and requirements under the Housing Health and Safety rating system.
   - The Health and Housing section 11 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985.
   - Any improvement works to your home and/or other repair, or improvement works as required over time.

Explanatory Notes – Access

a. We need to check your gas, electric appliances regularly, we also need to check any fire safety equipment to make sure they are safe. We may be prosecuted if we do not do this. You could put lives at risk if you do not let us into your home.
b. We may need to force entry without giving you notice if, for example, there is a water burst, a gas leak or an electrical fault which may put people in danger, or which would

cause more damage to the property, if we did not repair it. In these circumstances, we will try to contact you or your relatives, if possible, before we force entry.

c. We have a right to move you from your home, either temporarily or permanently, if this is necessary because the property needs major repair work, demolishing or redeveloping. Under these circumstances, we will usually offer you other accommodation, compensation and help with moving costs.

8.4 **Section 4. Using your home and keeping you safe**

1. You must use the property as your only or principal (main) home and use it in a responsible way.

2. You must only use the property to live in and not for any business or other purpose, unless we, as your landlord, have given you permission in writing.

3. The Council does not support tenants in taking in lodgers or sub-letting part of your home however under Section 93 of the Housing Act 1985, if you are a secure tenant, you have a right to take in lodgers, but you must not allow your home to become overcrowded (**Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant):**

- If you are a secure tenant and want to sub-let part of your home, you must get prior written permission from the Council.
- You must not sub-let the whole of your home.
- The Council will not give permission for more than the permitted number of persons to live there as allowed under the Council's Allocations Policy for the type and size of your home.
- You must not advertise the whole of your home as available to occupy or rent.
- The Council will prosecute any tenant who parts with the possession of or sub-lets the whole of their home under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013. The Council may also seek an unlawful profit order in such cases.
- The Council will seek possession of your home if you have sublet the whole of your home.
- You must notify any relevant authority that administers any welfare benefits you are claiming.
- You are responsible for making a lodger leave if you want to end the arrangement.
- You must not assign (or sign over) your tenancy without our permission, in writing.

4. You must not keep any moped, motorbike or similar vehicle, or any other machine driven by an internal combustion engine, inside your home.

5. You or any member of your household or visitors are only permitted to keep bottled gas, paraffin, petrol, LPG, acid or any other hazardous material in safe and secure storage and in suitable storage containers. You can only keep a limited amount of such material which is reasonable for domestic use.

6. You must not use any bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bed-sits or maisonettes with three or more storeys.

7. You must not keep such materials in any common areas.

8. If you or any member of your household wish to keep mobility aid such as a mobility scooter or motorised wheelchair you must get prior written permission from the Council. If

you do not get written permission for the mobility aid you may be required to remove it. Please see the Council's mobility scooter policy for more information.

9. You must take adequate care and precautions when storing, charging or using E scooters, E bikes, mobility scooters or other mobility aids to ensure that damage does not occur to your home. This includes removing batteries when charging.

10. You must not keep or charge mobility aids such as mobility scooters or motorised wheelchairs in any common area.

11. You must not let waste or other materials build up which may cause a fire or attract vermin.

12. You must not store explosive substances in your home or on any land nearby.

13. You must keep your home clean, free from pests and in reasonable condition.

14. You must not allow an accumulation of personal property or rubbish or other items to prevent access, cause structural damage or deterioration to the property or any common areas or to pose an environmental health risk or a health and safety risk to any person lawfully at your home or to cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents.

15. You or any member of your household or visitor to your home must not dump rubbish, waste items, or fly tip.

16. You must wipe down any water that has formed on windows, sills, walls and doors to help prevent condensation, damp and mould from forming in the property.

17. You must make sure your garden is kept cultivated, neat, tidy, and free from rubbish, pests, weeds and animal waste or faeces. For example: lawns must be cut and trees, shrubs and hedges kept trimmed.

18. Trees, shrubs and hedges must be kept from overgrowing or overhanging into neighbouring properties or into public areas to cause a nuisance.

19. You must make sure that you keep any outbuilding, yard or garden clear and free from rubbish.

20. You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders.

21. You must not change the boundary of your home without our written permission.

22. You must not put up, change or demolish a garage or any other structure within the boundary of the property without our written permission.

23. If you undertake work without written permission, you may need to reinstate boundaries or structures to the original condition.

24. Legal action may be taken if you do not adhere to these conditions, and you could be at risk of losing your home. You must remove any structure at the end of the tenancy, unless we agree, in writing, that it can stay.

25. You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your home or communal area.

26. You or any member of your household or visitor must not interfere with security or safety equipment in any Council property or communal areas.

27. This includes (but is not limited to) fire-fighting equipment, fire alarms, smoke detector, security systems or similar safety or security device.

28. You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open.

29. You must not damage any walls that have been compartmentalised to prevent the spread of fire.

30. Any devices that have been installed to remove condensation from your home such as ventilation bricks or extractor fans, must not be removed or blocked up.

31. **District Heating** - If your home is connected to our District Heating System then:

- We will supply heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms for the supply of heat and/or hot water (as varied or changed from time to time).
- You will accept this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time).
- Your Housing Management Officer will provide you with information about the District Heating scheme and charges.
- You agree that you will pay for this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on those standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time).
- You must not tamper with any part of a District Heating system (including any meters, pre-payment controllers or cards).
- If you do you will be charged for any repairs to reinstate the equipment, and legal action could be taken against your tenancy. If there is criminal damage a report will also be made to the police.
- If the property is individually metered, you must pay for all the heat which is supplied to your home along with the weekly standing charges.

Explanatory Notes – Using your home and keeping you safe

a. You must use the property as your only or principal (main) home. For security and maintenance reasons, you should tell your housing office, preferably in writing, if you will be away from your home for more than a month.

b. You must only use the property to live in and not for any business or other purpose, unless we have given you permission in writing.

c. Under Section 93 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a right to take in lodgers, but you must not allow your home to become overcrowded. A lodger is someone who lives with you, but is not one of your family, and who pays you for his or her keep. Information about the number of people allowed to live in your home can be found in Kirklees Council's, Allocations Policy.

d. You must not keep any moped, motorbike or similar vehicle, inside your home or communal area.

e. You must keep your home clean and tidy and make sure the inside your home is in a good condition.

f. You must make sure that you keep any outbuilding, yard or garden clean and free from rubbish. You must cultivate and look after the garden and keep any trees, bushes, hedges or grass at a reasonable size or height.

g. You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders.

h. You must not allow any of the boundaries of the property, or any land that is let with it, to be changed.

i. You must not put any structure (shed, garage, greenhouse or something similar) on any land that is let with your home without our permission, in writing. You must remove any structure at the end of the tenancy, unless we agree, in writing, that it can stay.

j. You must make sure that nothing is thrown, dropped or allowed to fall from any window or balcony or any part of the outside of the building.

k. You must not allow any fire-fighting equipment, any compartmentation of the property that prevents the spread of fire, fire alarms, smoke detector, security system or similar safety or security device we have installed to be interfered with or removed at any time. You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open.

l. You must not tamper with or remove any specialist adaptations that have been installed to support you, or a member of your household.

8.5 **Section 5 - Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

1. Please refer to the Council's ASB policy incorporating noise nuisance and hate crime.

2. You, your household and visitors must not do anything which is illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people.

3. This condition applies within the boundary of and in the locality of your home.

4. You, your household and visitors must not cause nuisance or annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress towards any person employed in connection with the exercise of our housing management functions.

5. You, your household and visitors must make sure that no-one entering or leaving your home makes a noise which might cause a disturbance.

6. You, your household and visitors must make sure that you do not use any musical or audio equipment, TV, washing machine, power tool or other domestic appliance in a way that might disturb the neighbours.

7. The Council will investigate both statutory and non-statutory noise nuisance in line with line with relevant legislation.

8. If there is evidence or the likelihood that you, your household and visitors are involved in anything illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people or the community. Kirklees Council will utilise its tools and powers to tackle anti-social behaviour, and you could lose your home.

9. If we are aware of Domestic Abuse against you or a member of your family, we will notify the Police and any relevant Council services.

10. We will consider action against the perpetrator in every case reported, to protect the household and the wider community.

11. If you experience anti-social behaviour, you must report it to us, and we will decide if we are able to investigate. Support and advice will be provided to you.

Explanatory Notes – Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

a. You are expected to be considerate and respectful towards your neighbours, your community and to our staff.
b. You are also responsible for the behaviour of people who live with or visit you (this includes your partner, children, friends and family).
c. You must not commit criminal offences in or around your home. Examples of behaviour which would breach this condition: excessive noise, verbal abuse, threatening or violent behaviour, harassment/hate crime, drug use, supply or cultivation, storing stolen property in your home. If you breach these conditions, you could face legal action including eviction.
d. You should contact us if you are experiencing problems with your neighbours or suffering anti-social behaviour in your area.
e. If you are the victim of or witness to a crime you should report this to the Police on 101 (or 999 in an emergency).
f. Absolute ground for possession. We can evict you with the court's permission if anti-social behaviour or criminality has been proved by another court, for example by a conviction, breach of injunction, or closure order.
g. We must give you notice that we intend to apply to court, and you will have the right to request a review of our decision. The court does not have to be satisfied that it is reasonable, only that the conviction or other court order is proved.

8.6 **Section 6: Flats, maisonettes and shared areas**

1. As the tenant of a flat or maisonette you must use the rubbish chute, or refuse bins provided for normal household refuse only. Do not try to force large items down the rubbish chutes or leave them in the communal areas or outside the block.

2. You must make proper arrangements to dispose of special medical waste such as needles, syringes or sanitary items. Any such items must not be disposed of in rubbish chutes or normal refuse bins.

3. Do not throw any dangerous items down a rubbish chute or into refuse bins.

4. You must not use bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bed-sits, or maisonettes.

5. You must not keep a dog or cats if you live in a flat or maisonette without first obtaining the Council's written consent. You should refer to the Council's Pet Policy on the Council's website before you ask for permission.

6. You must keep all communal areas, balconies and alleyways free from items and clutter. Such items include (but not limited to) animal faeces, debris, mobility scooters, e-scooters/bikes, plants and other items as referred to in Kirklees Council's Clear and Safe Policy.

7. You must share responsibility with your neighbours for cleaning any shared corridors, stairs, landings or entrance halls.

8. If when asked, you fail to remove items you own from the communal areas they will be removed, and you will be re-charged for any costs associated with this.

9. You must take all reasonable steps to ensure that you, your visitors and those residing with you do not cause any health and safety hazard.

10. You, your household or visitors must not interfere or damage anything in the communal areas and or, anything provided for health or safety purposes, this includes (but is not limited to) smoke detectors, fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, dry or wet risers, fire doors or door closers, emergency lighting, CCTV, door entry or sprinkler systems. You must ensure fire doors are not wedged open.

11. You must not place items on your balcony that are dangerous or could cause nuisance to others.

12. You must not chain or tether your pet on balconies or in communal areas.

13. You must not allow your pet to deposit faeces on your balcony or in communal areas.

14. You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your home or a communal area.

15. You must not smoke in enclosed communal areas e.g. enclosed corridors, stairwells, lifts and enclosed entrance areas.

16. You must not park vehicles where they will prevent access for emergency services vehicles or obstruct hatched areas marked 'keep clear' communal areas or access to driveways.

Explanatory Notes - Flats, maisonettes and shared areas

a. You must not allow any shared area (including any stairway, passageway, corridor, lift, drive, path, or road) to be obstructed at any time.
b. You must not store anything in any communal area.
c. You must not prop fire doors and security doors open.
d. At your sign up you will have been given information about our 'Clear and Safe' Communal Area Policy, please ensure that you read this and if you have any questions contact your Housing Management Officer on 01484 414886.
e. If there are rubbish chutes in flats, bed-sit or maisonette blocks, you must only use these for small amounts of rubbish.
f. You must not use bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bedsits, or maisonettes with three or more storeys.
g. We expect residents within a block to work together to ensure that the communal areas are clean and kept to an acceptable standard.
h. Your Housing Management Officer will be able to provide you with further information about the cleaning of communal areas.

8.7 **Section 7: Animals**

1. You or any member of your household or visitor(s) must not keep or allow any animal in your home unless this is permitted by the Council's Pet Policy, and you have prior written permission from the Council. Permission will not be given to keep or allow certain types of animals.

2. Any animal at your home must not cause or be likely to cause a nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to neighbours or others lawfully in the locality of your home as set out in the Pet Policy. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, fouling in common areas, straying, barking or causing other noise, creating an offensive smell, harming people or other animals, or animal waste not being cleared.

3. You must keep the number of pets at or below the permitted number of cats and/or dogs allowed by the Pet Policy or the reasonable number of other pets agreed in writing by the Council.

4. Where permission is given, this is on condition (as set out in the Pet Policy) that pets are neutered and micro-chipped, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Council.

5. You or any member of your household or visitors are not permitted to allow the breeding of any animals in your home, running a business breeding animals, advertising, or selling animals in or from your home.

6. You or any member of your household are not permitted to use any animals for fighting or other unlawful purposes.

7. Dogs and other pets are not permitted to enter, visit or live in blocks above 6 storey and above accommodation other than an animal recognised as an official support companion or dog and where written permission has been given by the Council.

8. Dogs listed under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (as amended) will not be permitted at your home unless the dog has a valid Certificate of Exemption.

9. Dogs must be accompanied by you or a responsible adult and kept on a lead when in common areas.

10. You must not tether or chain any animal while leaving them unattended or allow them to be chained or tethered in communal areas.

11. You must not allow dogs to stray and you must abide by any Dog Control Orders and/or Public Space Protection Orders (or equivalent) relating to dogs that may be in force.

12. You, members of your household or visitors must ensure that any animal kept at your home does not prevent an employee, contractor or agent of the Council or other lawful visitor to your home, gaining access to your home and that all animals are kept under control to allow such access.

13. In cases of cruelty to animals or where there is a breach of this tenancy agreement or the Council's Pets Policy, the Council may revoke your permission to keep a pet and give you written notice requiring you to remove any animals from your home. This will include requiring proof that you have rehomed your animal responsibly. The Council may also

share information with animal welfare charities, the Police and/or the Dog Warden service for example where concerns are raised about animal welfare, neglect or abuse.

14. You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your home without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare when you are away from your home. You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your home when you move out of your home.

15. You also agree that in cases where it appears that an animal has been left in the property without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare, or when it appears that you have left an animal in the property once you have moved out, then the Council may gain entry to your home using the Council's emergency access provisions.

16. You must not keep or tether horses on any Council owned land or on any land in the locality of your home without the express written permission of the landowners.

Explanatory Notes – Animals

a. We do not want to stop you keeping animals, but you must make sure that they do not cause a nuisance.
b. You must ensure that your pets are looked after, and you must clean up after them.
c. If we are aware that an animal in your care is being mistreated this will be reported to the RSPCA, or Police.
d. If new tenants want to have a pet in their property, permission must be obtained in line with the Council's Pet Policy. Please ask your Housing Management Officer for a copy of this.

8.8 **Section 8: Vehicles and Parking**

1. You or any member of your household or visitors must park motor vehicles within the boundary of your home on a Council approved hardstanding (a driveway or paved area intended for parking) or if appropriate using on-street parking.

2. Prior written permission must be sought from the Council before parking a trailer, caravan or boat on a hardstanding.

3. Caravans, motor homes, trailers or boats must not be parked on the garden, driveway, paved area around your home or any communal areas without the Council's prior agreement in writing.

4. If the property has a designated resident's parking space, only you or any member of your household or visitors can park there. You must not rent or sell the parking space to anyone else. Where a property has a disabled space you and your legitimate visitors must only park there if you or your legitimate visitor hold a blue badge parking permit.

5. Parking spaces that are not designated, should be prioritised for residents and any members of their household.

6. You or any member of your household or visitors must not cause or allow an obstruction to any driveway, garage, rights of way, roads, footpaths or access routes across your home, in common areas, shared areas or in the locality of your home.

7. You or any member of your household must share the use of any driveway that gives access to both your home and an adjoining property with the occupants of that adjoining property. The driveway must not be blocked in any way, for example, with bins or other items, by parking a vehicle, or by fencing off part of it.

8. You or any member of your household or visitors must not drive across a kerb to access the property unless it has been lowered with prior written permission and in accordance with the Council's regulations.

9. You or any member of your household or visitors must not park a vehicle or drive across grassed areas in or around the locality and you must pay the cost incurred by the Council for any works required to repair any damage to the kerb or drains, soil replacement and re-sowing of grass.

10. If there are shared parking facilities for residents and their visitors, you must not park any untaxed or unroadworthy vehicles.

11. You must not park any lorry or large commercial vehicle(s), caravan, boat or trailer, in any parking spaces or any area that prevents other residents from parking near their home unless you have our permission, in writing.

12. You do not have the right to use one parking space as your own unless this has been designated for you by the Council.

Explanatory Notes – Vehicles and Parking

a. We know that vehicles can cause many problems, and we hope the conditions above will reduce these problems as far as possible.
b. If you have any difficulties involving vehicles that you are unable to sort out, you should discuss the situation with your Housing Management Officer to see if we can work out an acceptable solution.
c. Please behave in a reasonable and neighbourly way if there are a limited number of parking spaces.
d. You must ensure that your vehicle does not cause damage to grassed areas or is parked inconsiderately.
e. Large commercial vehicles must not be parked outside or near your home.
f. You need our permission, in writing, if you want to create a parking area in your garden.

8.9 Section 9: Leaving your home and ending the tenancy

1. You must give four weeks' notice, in writing, to end the tenancy. The notice must end on a Monday.

2. You must allow the Council to complete an inspection of your home before you leave and, by appointment, permit the Council to show prospective tenants around your home.

3. At the end of the tenancy, if there is any damage to your home or if you have removed any item we own, you will have to pay for any repair or replacement and any other loss incurred.

4. You must leave the property, including any garden and outbuildings, in a clean and tidy condition, clear of all personal property, furniture and rubbish.

5. Any personal property left (including animals) will be removed and cleared by the Council and you must pay the costs incurred by the Council in clearing the property.

6. The council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal.

7. You agree that the Council can enter the property (whether you have been away from home for 28 days or more) where it reasonably appears that you have abandoned the property.

8. You also agree that if, following inspection of the property, it still appears to the Council that you have abandoned the property, the council may change the locks and take any other appropriate steps to protect the property we dispose of all personal property found in the property.

9. The Council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal.

10. We can end a secure tenancy with a court order, but if a secure tenancy no longer exists because, for example, you have stopped using the property as your only or principal (main) home, we may end the tenancy by giving you 28 days' notice to quit.

11. If one of two joint tenants dies, the tenancy automatically passes to the survivor. This is a succession.

12. This provision only applies where the deceased tenant was not a successor.

13. **Introductory Tenants -** If you are an Introductory Tenant your succession rights are limited to those allowed by sections 131 to 133 of the Housing Act 1996. In general, this means that if you die whilst your tenancy is an introductory tenancy, your tenancy will pass to:

    - Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death.
    - If you do not have a husband, wife or civil partner the tenancy can pass on to a member of your family who occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death if they also resided with you throughout the 12 months immediately before your death.

14. **Sole Secure Tenants where tenancy started before 1 April 2012** - If you are a secure tenant and your tenancy started before 1 April 2012 then the succession rights are that on your death your tenancy may pass to: Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied

the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death.

If there is no such occupier, a family member if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death and resided with you throughout the period of twelve months ending with your death.

14a. **Tenancies starting on or after 1 April 2012** – the right to succeed to the tenancy is limited to your spouse or civil partner, if they have lived with you for at least 12 months, it is their only or principal home, and you have not succeeded to the tenancy.

14b. **Joint tenants – Introductory and Secure -** If you are a joint tenant then your tenancy will pass to the other joint tenant upon your death, and this will count as a succession. In all cases of succession, the definition of family member is that set out in the Housing Act 1985.

- In all cases there can only be one succession, and succession is limited to where there has been no previous succession or assignment.
- In all cases of succession, when the tenancy passes to a member of your family (other than your spouse, civil partner or person living with you as spouse or civil partner) and the home is larger than they need the Council may apply for possession of the property.
- We will usually offer them a suitable alternative property. If they do not accept that offer, we have the right to ask the Court to give us possession of the property.
- Where there is more than one person living in the property at the time of your death who may be entitled to succeed under the criteria in the Housing Act 1985, or under the express terms of this tenancy agreement, your spouse, civil partner (or person living with you as if you were spouse or civil partner) will have priority over other family members as set out in the Housing Act 1985.
- Where more than one family member is entitled to succeed then they should agree who will succeed and if they do not agree then the Council will decide who will succeed.
- Where the right of succession has been used up then the Council may agree to grant a new tenancy to the remaining occupant; however, this is not an automatic right and will be considered on a case-by-case basis under the Council's policies applicable at the time.

15. **Assignment -** Introductory and secure tenants have the right to pass their tenancy to another person (called an assignment). Certain conditions apply to this right. Generally, you can only pass your tenancy in this way to someone who would have the right to take over your tenancy under succession if you died. You cannot assign the tenancy in this way if there has already been a succession or an assignment.

16. **Mutual exchange -** If you are a secure tenant, you may have the right to swap your home (called a Mutual Exchange) with another tenant of the Council, a housing association or another local Council, but you must get the Council's written permission first and the written permission of any other landlord authority.

- The Council can only refuse permission or impose conditions on an exchange for the reasons set out in the Housing Act 1985.
- If you exchange your home without the Council's written permission, we may take legal action to evict you. You may not be able to return to your original property and may not be offered alternative housing.

18. **Right to Buy -** In certain circumstances, you have the right to buy your home. You should contact the Council if you want to know more about your right to buy.

Explanatory Notes - Leaving your home and ending the tenancy

a. If you give us notice, you should do so on a Notice of Termination form, which you can get from your housing office, or complete online on Kirklees Council's website.
b. If you hand in your notice and then change your mind, we do not have to give you the tenancy back.
c. If a tenancy is in joint names, both tenants should sign the Notice of Termination when they decide to leave. However, one joint tenant can give notice which binds the other, even without his or her permission. The law says that ending a tenancy in this way is valid against the other tenant if it is done properly. If you give us notice in this way, we do not have to re house either of the joint tenants, although we may do so in special circumstances.
d. We will need to inspect your home before you leave. This will be arranged during the notice period. This may include bringing possible new tenants to look at your home.
e. If we cannot get into your home after your notice has ended, either because you have not returned the keys or have not left the property empty, we may claim compensation for any loss we suffer.
f. If you have difficulty moving items of furniture or rubbish when you leave, please contact your Housing Management Officer for advice. The Council has a scheme for removing bulky household items.
g. When you end your tenancy, you must not leave anything behind, including rubbish, unless you have agreed to with your housing office. If you leave anything inside or outside your home we will charge you for removing and the disposal of this.
h. When you end your tenancy, you must pay for repairing any damage which you, or anyone in your household, has caused deliberately or by neglect. You will not have to pay for normal wear and tear.
i. If we have to carry out work which we can charge you for and which we must do before we can re-let the property, we may charge you for the lost rent while we are doing this work.
j. If someone, other than your husband or wife, takes over a tenancy when you die and the home is bigger than they need, we may have the right to move them to more suitable accommodation. This also applies if the property was specially adapted for a disabled person who no longer lives there.

8.10 **Section 10: Information, consultation and participation**

1. Kirklees Council, collects, holds and processes a considerable amount of information, including personal information about the tenants and residents it serves, to allow it to provide services effectively the Council recognises that this information is important to tenants and residents and that it is responsible to tenants and residents for the information it holds about them. As such, it takes seriously its responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.

2. Kirklees Council is the processor for the information which it collects holds and processes. This means that the Council must look after all the personal information which it collects and uses and make sure that this is done so proportionately correctly and safely.

3. Kirklees Council collects and processes personal information to allow it to allocate homes and to manage and improve its services. This may involve sharing your personal data with

other organisations that are contracted to carry out services on its behalf. This includes services to you such as repairs but also services to the Council such as fraud detection provided by credit reference agencies and the police. It also includes other services provided by organisations such as the police and the fire.

4. These organisations are obliged to keep your personal information safe and secure. The Council may pass on certain personal information to other organisations (such as local authorities, the courts, or the police) where this is requested or the Council has a legal requirement to do so such as during a criminal investigation, a court case or to report on benefit fraud.

5. We do not have to consult you individually about changes in the rent or service charge, but we will tell you in writing at least four weeks before we make any change.

6. The Council will consult you on important matters to do with managing and maintaining your home before changing any part of this Tenancy Agreement (other than for rent). The Council will ask for your opinions and take them into account before deciding to make any changes.

7. If the Council decides to go ahead with changes to your Tenancy Agreement, you will be given four weeks' notice in writing.

8. The Council will use whatever platform of consultation it considers appropriate, so you can provide feedback on any proposed changes.

9. We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, or any proposed changes to those services.

10. We will also share our performance with you. It is important that your voice is heard, and tenants are encouraged to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or our Tenant Led Panel (TLP), get in touch to see if you can get involved in another way.

11. To find out about our 'Tenant Voice Strategy' it can be found on the Kirklees Council's website.

12. We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, any proposed changes to those services and our performance, so we encourage you to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or get involved in another way to get your voice heard.

13. We will carry out a customer satisfaction survey twice a year and feedback to you on the results of these surveys.

14. Under Sections 102 and 103 of the Housing Act 1985, we may change the terms of your Tenancy Agreement.

15. Apart from changes in rent or service charges, we will always consult you before we take any action to make such changes.

16. Consultation may take place across a range of platforms including, social media, in writing, or face to face.

8.11 **Section 11: Notices**

1. Any notice will be properly served on us (the Council) by first-class post to:

   Homes and Neighbourhoods,
   Kirklees Council
   PO Box 1720
   HUDDERSFIELD
   HD1 9EL

2. Any notice will be properly served on you (the Tenant) if we deliver it or send it by first-class post to your home.

8.12 Section 12: Tenancy Fraud

1. Tenancy fraud is when people are living in our homes without the right to do so. It is against the law and a breach of your tenancy agreement. It also denies homes to those most in need. The different types of tenancy fraud are:

   - Obtaining housing by deception - where a person gets a home by giving false information on their housing application.
   - Unlawful subletting - where a tenant rents out their home without our knowledge or permission.
   - Wrongly claimed succession - where a resident dies and someone without entitlement tries to take over or succeed the tenancy.
   - False Right to Buy - where a tenant gives false information in a Right to Buy application.
   - Key selling - where a resident is paid to pass on their keys in return for a one-off payment.
   - Unlawful assignment - where a resident stops using their tenancy as their main home and allows another person to live there without our permission.

2. We carry out regular tenancy checks to make sure that the right people are living in our properties, this could be with or without notice.

3. We work with other social landlords and statutory agencies to detect fraud.

4. If there is evidence that you have committed any type of Tenancy Fraud, Legal action will be taken, and you could lose your tenancy.

5. You may also be subject to criminal proceedings.

Reporting Fraud

6. If you suspect a property is being used fraudulently ie: you think someone in your area may be subletting their home or living elsewhere, please report this to us. Any information you give us will be treated in confidence and your identity will be protected.

8.13 Section 13: Special conditions – to be completed where applicable

The following conditions also apply to this tenancy:

 There are no extra conditions on the date of this agreement.

or

 You and we agree that a condition of this tenancy agreement is that:

.....

If you have any questions about your tenancy, or if you would like more information about the rights and obligations of secure/introductory tenants and their landlords, please ask your Housing Management Officer.

You can also get information from solicitors or advice centers such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau or Fusion Housing.

Kirklees Council
PO Box 1720
Huddersfield
HD1 9EL

Date:

To: *(Col C)*
(Col D)
(Col E)
(Col F)
(Col H)

Our Ref: (Col A)

Important information for all Kirklees Council tenants: Changes to the terms and conditions of your tenancy agreement

I wrote to you on xx February 2025 to tell you about proposed changes to your tenancy agreement (TA) which meant that there would be several changes to your tenancy agreement.

In my previous letter, I explained the nature of the changes and the Council's reasons for wanting to make the changes. I also invited you to comment on the proposed changes by 5.00pm Friday 9th May 2025 – this being the consultation period.

Consultation

We received responses from 798 tenants. The responses can be summarised as follows.

Rent

The TA variation provides clarity on how service charges will be applied and what tenants must pay. It allows the council to introduce service charge payments at any point in the year for service charges not already claimed from tenants, to cover reasonable block and estate costs, such as communal cleaning, communal grounds maintenance and communal lighting etc.

The most common response was that tenants did not agree with the proposal to pay a service charge for communal grounds maintenance. Concerns were raised around the quality of the current service and it was states that if a service charge is levied then the quality of the workmanship should improve. Tenants also raised concerns around what the service charges would cover, and that these additional charges could be open ended. Several concerns also referred to the rent and service charge increases resulting in affordability concerns for tenants resulting in hardship. Tenants also felt that they have a right to be formally consulted if any new service charges are introduced.

Repairs

The TA variation clarifies what repairs the council is responsible for and what each tenant is responsible for, a list of these will be published. The TA also directs the tenant to read the Councils Repair and Maintenance Policy for more information, including information on how often the Council will paint the exterior of properties.

Of the responses received, several felt the repair service was of a good standard, some referenced damp, mould and condensation concerns. Tenants commented about delays with repairs taking too long to complete, remaining incomplete, or still waiting to be undertaken.

There were also concerns around the condition of fixtures and fittings that need replacement and were out of date. Several tenants commented about how often planned maintenance programmes should take place with a lack of painting highlighted several times. Suggestions included providing an online option to upload photos/videos of repairs needed, and that the Council should provide a list of what the council and the tenant is responsible for. There was also a comment about the Council checking property conditions annually and offering items to be sold to tenants with a pre-payment agreement.

Access

The TA variation strengthens the Councils ability to access a tenants home where there are repair issues and any potential health and safety concerns. Tenants must also allow access for an annual home visit to be undertaken. In either case, failure to allow access may result in legal action being taken.

Feedback from tenants was generally positive in relation to allowing access to undertake repairs etc. Although, one tenant felt the council made it difficult for tenants when arranging access for repairs as the appointments are too vague and should take more account of tenant commitments.

Tenants commented that the Council should consider tenant vulnerabilities and make reasonable adjustments when access is required. Concerns were raised by tenants around the increased use of CCTV/ring doorbells and the need for permission to be granted to use them given privacy issues.

Using your home and keeping you safe

The TA variation provides more clarification on a range of tenant responsibilities and how the council will address significant safety concerns, around the storage of items, accumulation of refuse, neglect and damage to property including tampering of electric meters, smoke detection equipment etc. It outlines in more detail what prescribed items tenants can keep in the property and that permission must be sought for certain items such as a mobility scooter/ motorised wheelchair. If the safety rules are compromised then residents are placed at risk and legal proceedings will be taken. This means that the tenant could be at risk of losing their home or subject to criminal proceedings.

There is a general agreement on the proposed changes from the tenants, in relation to the storage of items such as e-scooters, flammable substances etc, the unauthorised use of communal grassed areas and storage of junk and litter.

Some tenants made reference to tenants leaving bags of rubbish outside of their properties, and that some tenants allow their pets to foul in communal areas and fail to clear it up. A number of tenants stated that unannounced visits should be undertaken to check property conditions etc.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

The TA variation strengthens the Councils approach when dealing with ASB and refers directly to the ASB policy. Tenants must adhere to the requirements failing which legal action may be taken to end their tenancy. The impact on tenants who may suffer, or be a perpetrator of Domestic Abuse, is that if reports are made, these will be escalated to the Police and other agencies that can offer support and advice. If Domestic Abuse causes anti-social behaviour within the community, action will be taken to remove the perpetrator.

Many tenants who responded to this section feel that ASB, litter, fly tipping, drug taking and dealing, criminal activity and damage does not appear to be dealt with and needs improvement with better and swifter enforcement.

Flats, maisonettes and shared areas

The TA variation states that tenants must adhere to the provisions requiring communal areas, balconies and alleyways to be kept clear of rubbish failing which legal action may be taken. Tenants will be expected to dispose of rubbish using chutes or refuse bins.

Tenants generally agree with the proposals. Tenants raised dog fouling, the quality of the maintenance of communal areas and car parking concerns.

Animals

This proposed change outlines the need for tenants to be responsible for their pets. They must ensure that pets are well cared for and not left to stray or tied up in communal areas, in gardens, or on balconies. The impact on tenants is that if they have pets, they are responsible to clean away faeces and any mess left by them and ensure that they do not cause a nuisance. Tenants will be required to seek permission from the council for keeping a dog or cat(s). Breeding of animals will not be permitted.

Many tenants who responded to this section feel that nuisance pets, mainly dogs, are not dealt with and that the Pet policy needs to be better enforced. Tenants suggested that dogs should not be allowed in flats and that there should be a limit to the number of pets in a household. Two responses have referred to tenants feeding pigeons which results in excess bird droppings and the risk of rodent infestation.

Vehicles and parking

This change will impact tenants as it could restrict the type of vehicles parked within the boundary of their property. The proposal will impact tenants who have not requested permission for dropped kerbs so they can park vehicles in their garden.

Many tenants raised concerns about the lack of car parking and that people park anywhere. A tenant suggested introducing permit parking and/or for the council to provide more parking.

Leaving your home and ending the tenancy

This proposed change will affect tenants who fail to make contact when it is suspected their tenancy has been abandoned. The TA variation also provides clarity on a tenants' succession rights and will only entitle certain people to succeed to the tenancy provided they have lived with the deceased tenant for set times prior to the death of the tenant. Tenants who succeed may be required to move to suitable alternative accommodation if the property is too large for the remaining occupier(s) following a death of either tenant.

Tenants stated that they needed more clarity on what to do if a tenant passes away. Some tenants said that they liked living where they did and didn't want to end their tenancy. Other tenants stated that they may wish to purchase their property through Right to Buy.

Information, consultation and participation

The TA variation updates how tenants' personal data will be stored and used by the council to assist with the effective management of its properties.

Tenants raised no issues relating to this section.

Notices

Updated with a new PO Box address.

No issues were raised with this section.

Fraud

This section has been added to outline how the council will deal with cases of suspected tenancy fraud.

No issues were raised with this section and tenants are supportive of the inclusion in the tenancy agreement.

Consultation outcome

The feedback provided at this stage of the consultation period does not highlight any specific concerns about the proposed variations to the TA.

After careful consideration of the outcome of the consultation we have decided to change your tenancy agreement and introduce the proposed TA variations for all Kirklees Council properties.

This means that the terms of your tenancy agreement will be changed so that from XX XXXX 2025 the proposed variations will take effect.

What this change means for you

Your TA will change to introduce the proposed changes and will take the form of the attached agreement.

The Council is required to formally notify you of the change to your tenancy agreement by issuing a ‘Notice of Variation’. The notice is enclosed along with documents titled ‘New tenancy agreement’ and ‘Frequently asked Questions.’

Yours sincerely

HEAD OF HOUSING SERVICES
KIRKLEES COUNCIL

.

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Kirklees Council
PO Box 1720
Huddersfield
HD1 9EL

(Col B)
(Col C)
(Col D)
(Col E)
(Col F)
(Col G)

Date: XX XXXXX 2025

Our Ref: (Col A)

To: *(Col B)*

SECTION 103 HOUSING ACT 1985 - LANDLORD'S NOTICE OF VARIATION

Variation To Your Tenancy Agreement

Your Landlord, Kirklees Council, has now carefully considered all the comments it has received following the service of its Preliminary Notice on XX XXXXXX 2025 under section 103 of the Housing Act 1985, including any comments you have made, and has decided to vary the terms of your tenancy agreement as per that proposal.

In accordance with Sections 102 and 103 Housing Act 1985 Kirklees Council gives you notice of variation of the terms of your tenancy agreement. The variations will take effect on XX XXXX 2025. The old and new replacement terms are set out below:

Old clause	New term
(1) Rent **2**. If it is a condition of the tenancy that you have to pay a service charge for the property; that service charge is part of the rent. This service charge will also be charged on a weekly basis. **3.** You must tell us if you expect any changes to the date when we receive your payment. This includes any changes to your Direct Debit, benefits, or being moved onto Universal Credit. **4.** If you are joint tenants, you are both responsible for paying by direct debit all the rent and any arrears (rent you owe). If you have rent arrears, we can require any individual joint tenant to pay the money that is owed; we can also require any individual joint tenant to set up a direct debit to ensure that future rent payments are made on time.	**2.** You may need to pay for additional services provided. These are called Service Charges and will be an extra charge that you will need to pay with your rent. A breakdown of the charges will be provided on your tenancy agreement if this applies to your tenancy. The council has the right to introduce additional services, and we will tell you in writing what these are, and the cost of the Service Charge you will need to pay. The charges may be increased or decreased, and you will be given at least four weeks' notice in writing of any changes. **3.** If you claim any benefits, including but not limited to housing benefit or council tax benefit you must notify Kirklees Council or if you claim universal credit or other benefits the Department of Work and

You are both responsible for ensuring that rent is paid by direct debit, even if one of you has left your home.	Pensions immediately, if your circumstances change, as any change may affect your benefit entitlement. This includes any changes that have been made to any of your household members if they move in or move out. You must also notify Kirklees Council of these changes. **4.** If you are joint tenants, you are responsible, individually and together for keeping all conditions of this agreement. This includes paying your rent. **5.** You must not withhold rent for any reason or offset the cost of outstanding repairs which are our responsibility against your obligation to pay rent.
(2) Repairs 1. We (the council) are responsible for repairing the structure and the outside of your home and also for any systems that supply water, gas and electricity within your home. 2. We are also responsible for repairing any of our systems for heating your home or for providing hot water or sanitation (baths, sinks and toilets). 3. You are responsible for decorating the inside of your home, anything that we are not responsible for and also for items which you own or have put in. 6. You are responsible for any damage to your home caused by you, your family or your visitors. You must pay us for any damage. 7. You must use your home properly and responsibly. You must keep all grates, grids, drains and gullies (not including gutters that catch water from the roof) clean and clear, and you must take care not to block toilets and sinks. 4. You must report any repairs that are needed that we are responsible for as soon as you notice them.	1 (Incorporating 1&2) We (the council) are responsible for repairing the following: 1.1 The structure and outside of the building, including shared parts, (roof, outside walls, external doors, windows, chimneys and chimney stacks, drains, gutters and outside pipes) 1.2 Inside walls, skirting boards, doors, door frames, floors and ceilings 1.3 Electric wiring, sockets, light fittings and gas and water pipes 1.4 Heating equipment (such as fires, radiators and storage radiators) and water heating equipment (boilers and immersion heaters) 1.5 Kitchen and bathroom fixtures (sinks, basins, baths, showers and toilets (excluding the replacement of toilet seats or shower curtains) 1.6 Pathways and steps which are the main means of getting to your home 1.7 Shared television aerial or shared satellite dish we have provided 1.8 Supporting or retaining walls, and boundary walls and metal railings to the property 1.9 Trees in the boundary of your tenancy if they are a danger 1.10 Decoration of the outside and any shared parts of the building 1.11 If repairs cannot be undertaken safely when the property is occupied. You will

5. We will send you a series of texts (or a written receipt upon request) to confirm the details of the repair. If the repair cannot be authorised by the contractor, they will arrange for an inspection by a KNH surveyor. 8. You must not alter your home without our written permission. 13. The Housing Act 1985 gives secure tenants the right to be consulted on a number of matters including managing, maintaining and improving their homes. We have set out a framework for consulting our tenants in our current Tenants Participation Charter. You can get a copy of this from your housing office. 14. We will regularly paint the outside of your home and shared areas. 17. Under Section 96 of the Housing Act 1985 we will pay compensation for certain repairs if we do not do them within a certain time, depending on certain conditions. Your housing office can give you more details. 18. Under Section 97 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a right to carry out your own alterations or improvements, but you must get permission, in writing, from your housing office. You may also get compensation for this work when you end your tenancy. Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.	need to leave your home temporarily, and for as long as necessary so we can do the work. 1.12 Please refer to the councils repairs and maintenance policy for further information 2 (Incorporating 3,6,&7). You as tenant are responsible for the following: 2.1 Any repairs not listed in condition 1. 2.2 Taking reasonable steps to avoid damage (this includes but is not limited to) applying artex or polystyrene tiles, to any walls or ceilings. 2.3 You must use your home properly and responsibly. You are responsible for any damage to your home caused by you, your family or your visitors. You must pay us for any damage. 2.4 You must keep all grates, grids, drains and gullies (not including gutters that catch water from the roof) clean and clear, and you must take care not to block toilets and sinks. You must ensure that shower heads are kept clean. 2.5 You are responsible for the safe keeping of the keys and fobs we have provided for the property, including door, window and communal access locks. 2.6 You must keep your home and any outbuilding safe and secure. 2.7 You are responsible for the installation of doorbells and cameras, but you must not cause damage to the property, to doors/fire doors or windows. Please see council guidance on domestic recording systems which include CCTV and smart doorbells. 2.8 If you lose your keys, you are responsible for arranging a lock change at your own cost. 2.9 Decoration and cleanliness to the inside of your home. 2.10 If we need you to leave your home temporarily so that we can do work safely, you must leave for as long as necessary so we can do the work. 2.11 We may charge you if you do not comply with any terms of this condition. 2.12 It is advised that tenants obtain their own home contents insurance.

	2.13 Please refer to the councils repairs and maintenance policy for further information. 3. You must report repairs that we are responsible for as soon as possible. 4. When you ask for a repair and we agree to do it, we will contact you by text message or by your preferred method of contact to confirm the repair and to tell you when we will carry it out. 5. You must not alter or improve your property unless we have given you written permission. 7. We will paint the outside of your home and communal areas in line with the councils repairs and maintenance policy.
(3) Access 1. You must give our officers, agents and contractors access to inspect your home or do work on it if we have given you at least 24 hours' notice, in writing. 2. If we have asked to come into your home to inspect it or to do work but you do not let us in, we may ask you to pay us if we lose any money because we cannot get in. 3. If there is an emergency and we need to get into your home immediately, we have the right to force entry without giving you notice. 4. If we have asked to come into your home but you have not let us and we may have to pay a penalty if we cannot get in, we have the right to force entry without giving you further notice. 5. – This has been added into Section (2) Repairs, in paragraphs 3, 6, & 7	3 (Incorporating 1&2) 1. You will allow our staff, our agents or contractors access to your home where there are repair issues and any potential health and safety concerns. You will allow access for an annual home visit to be undertaken. We will in all circumstances (except in an emergency) give reasonable notice of our requirement for access. Reasonable notice will be a minimum of 24 hours' notice. 2. This includes where we wish to inspect the property or any installations (including but not limited to) smoke alarms, sprinkler systems, gas servicing, electrical safety checks, carbon monoxide alarms, Legionella tests, damp, mould and condensation or other as prescribed by the landlord and carry out any required servicing and associated works. 3. Notice of our requirement to access the property can be through a range of media via a text message, voice mail, e-mail, social media notification or a letter. If you have notified us of your preferred media, we will use this. Otherwise, it will be at the landlord's

	discretion. We will use the contact details you have provided us with, and it is important that you keep us updated with any changes. Emergency Access 4 In emergencies if access is needed it means that notice may not be given, and your property may be entered even if you are not there. 5 If access is unreasonably denied, the council may use reasonable force to gain entry to your home without giving you any notice. 6 You may be recharged for any damage resulting from forced entry. 7. You are responsible to allow access for works and we will require access to the property to inspect and then carry out any works to discharge our repair and improvement obligations including but not exclusively: 7.1 The Housing Regulators Consumer Standards including the decent homes standards and requirements under the Housing Health & Safety rating system. 7.2 The Health and Housing section 11 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 7.3 Any improvement works to your home and/or other repair, or improvement works as required over time.
(4) Using your home add 'keeping you safe' 1. You must use the property as your only or principal (main) home in a responsible way 2. You must only use the property to live in and not for any business or other purpose, unless we, as your landlord, have given you permission in writing. 3. You must not keep any moped, motorbike or similar vehicle, or any other machine driven by an internal combustion engine, inside your home.	1,2,7,8. 3 The council does not support tenants in taking in lodgers or sub-letting part of your home however under Section 93 of the Housing Act 1985, if you are a secure tenant, you have a right to take in lodgers, but you must not allow your home to become over crowded 3.1 You have a right to sublet part of your home, but you must get our permission, in writing, first. 3.7 You must not sublet your entire home. You must notify any relevant authority that administers any welfare benefits you are claiming.

4. You must keep your home clean and tidy and make sure the decoration inside your home is in a good condition. 5. You must cultivate and look after the garden and keep any trees, bushes, hedges or grass at a reasonable size or height. 6. You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders. 8. You must not assign (or sign over) your tenancy without our permission, in writing. 9. You must not allow any of the boundaries of the property, or any land that is let with it, to be changed. 10. You must not put any structure (shed, garage, greenhouse or something similar) on any land that is let with your home without our permission, in writing. You must remove any structure at the end of the tenancy, unless we agree, in writing, that it can stay. 13. If any part of your home is above the ground floor, you must make sure that nothing is thrown, dropped or allowed to fall from any window or balcony or any part of the outside of the building. 14. After 10pm and up to 7am the following morning, you must make sure that no-one entering or leaving your home makes a noise which might disturb the neighbours. 15. Also, after 10pm and up to 7am the following morning, you must make sure that you do not use any musical or audio equipment, TV, washing machine, power tool or other domestic appliance in a way that might disturb the neighbours. 16. You must not apply any material to any surface, wall or ceiling in your home which is difficult to remove (for example, a textured wall finish) or highly flammable (for example, polystyrene tiles), unless you get our permission, in writing.	3.8 You are responsible for making a lodger leave if you want to end the arrangement. (Introductory tenants do not have this right.) 5 You or any member of your household or visitors are only permitted to keep bottled gas, paraffin, petrol, LPG, acid or any other hazardous material in safe and secure storage and in suitable storage containers. You can only keep a limited amount of such material which is reasonable for domestic use. 7 You must not keep such materials in any common areas. 8 If you or any member of your household wish to keep mobility aid such as a mobility scooter or motorised wheelchair you must get prior written permission from the council. If you do not get written permission for the mobility aid you may be required to remove it. Please see the council's mobility scooter policy for more information. 9 You must take adequate care and precautions when storing, charging or using E scooters, mobility scooters or other mobility aids to ensure that damage does not occur to your home. This includes removing batteries when charging. 10 You must not keep or charge mobility aids such as mobility scooters or motorised wheelchairs in any common area. 11 You must not let waste or other materials build up which may cause a fire or attract vermin. 12 You must not store bottled gas, petrol, paraffin or other flammable or explosive substances in your home or on any land nearby. 13 You must keep your home clean, free from pests and in reasonable condition. 14 You must not allow an accumulation of personal property or rubbish or other items to prevent access, cause structural damage or deterioration to the property or any common areas or to pose an environmental health risk, or a health and safety risk to any person lawfully at your

17. You must not allow any fire-fighting equipment, fire alarm, smoke detector, security system or similar safety or security device we have put in to be interfered with or removed at any time. You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open. 18. Your Housing Officer will provide you with a copy of our heat sale agreement, together with an introductory pack, which you should sign and return to your housing officer as soon as possible. notify the benefits service or DWP about your change in circumstances.	property, or to cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents. 15 You must wipe down any water that has formed on windows, sills, walls and doors to help prevent condensation, damp and mould from forming in the property. 16 You must make sure your garden is kept cultivated, neat, tidy, and free from rubbish, pests, weeds and animal waste or faeces. For example: lawns must be cut and trees, shrubs and hedges kept trimmed. 17 Trees, shrubs and hedges must be kept from overgrowing or overhanging into neighbouring properties or into public areas to cause a nuisance. 18 You must make sure that you keep any outbuilding, yard or garden clear and free from rubbish. 19 You must make sure that you keep your home and outbuildings secure from intruders. 3.1 If you are a secure tenant and want to sub-let part of your home, you must get prior written permission from the council. 3.3 The council will not give permission for more than the permitted number of persons to live there as allowed under the council's Allocations Policy for the type and size of your property. 3.2 You must not sub-let the whole of your home. 3.4 You must not advertise the whole of your property as available to occupy or rent. 3.5 The council will prosecute any tenant who parts with the possession of or sub-lets the whole of their home under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013. The council may also seek an unlawful profit order in such cases. 3.6 The council will seek possession of your home if you have sublet the whole of your home. 20 You must not change the boundary of your property without our written permission.

	21 You must not put up, change or demolish a garage or any other structure within the boundary of the property without our written permission. 22 If you undertake work without written permission, you may need to reinstate boundaries or structures to the original condition. 23 Legal action may be taken if you do not adhere to these conditions, and you could be at risk of losing your home. 23 You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your property or communal area. 13 You must keep your home clean, free from pests and in reasonable condition. 14 You must not allow an accumulation of personal property or rubbish or other items to prevent access, cause structural damage or deterioration to the property or any common areas or to pose an environmental health risk, or a health and safety risk to any person lawfully at your property, or to cause a nuisance to neighbouring residents. 15 You must wipe down any water that has formed on windows, sills, walls and doors to help prevent condensation, damp and mould from forming in the property. 24 You or any member of your household or visitor must not interfere with security or safety equipment in any council property or communal areas. 25 This includes (but is not limited to) fire-fighting equipment, fire alarms, smoke detector, security systems or similar safety or security device. 26 You must not allow any fire door or security door to be propped open. 28 Any devices that have been installed to remove condensation from your property such as ventilation bricks or extractor fans, must not be removed or blocked up. 29. District Heating - If your home is connected to our District Heating System then:

	29.1 We will supply heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms for the supply of heat and/or hot water (as varied or changed from time to time). 29.2 You will accept this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on our standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time). 29.3 Your Housing Management Officer will provide you with information about the District Heating scheme and charges. 29.4 You agree that you will pay for this supply of heat and/or hot water to your home on those standard terms (as varied or changed from time to time). 29.5 You must not tamper with any part of a District Heating system (including any meters, pre-payment controllers or cards). 29.6 If you do you will be charged for any repairs to reinstate the equipment, and legal action could be taken against your tenancy. If there is criminal damage a report will also be made to the police. 29.7 If the property is individually metered, you must pay for all the heat which is supplied to your home along with the weekly standing charges.
(5) Anti-social Behaviour 1. You will make sure that no-one (whether an adult or a child), either living in your home or visiting your home, does anything which is likely to cause nuisance to, or harass, annoy, distress or worry any person who either lives in or has lawful business in the Borough of Kirklees, for any reason. 2.You will make sure that no-one (whether an adult or a child), either living in your home or visiting your home, does anything which is likely to harass anyone because of their colour, race, creed, religious belief, legal occupation, sex, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability or any other particular thing about them. 3. You, and any other person living in or visiting your home, must not: a. do or fail to do anything which causes, or is likely to cause, a nuisance or annoy	5. (Incorporating 1,2,3,4) 5.1 Please refer to the council ASB policy incorporating noise nuisance and hate crime. 5.2 You, your household and visitors must not do anything which is illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people. 5.3 This condition applies within the boundary of and in the locality of your property. 5.4 You, your household and visitors must not cause nuisance or annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress towards any person employed in connection with the exercise of our housing management functions. 5.5 You, your household and visitors must make sure that no-one entering or leaving your home makes a noise which might cause a disturbance.

residents, visitors or other people in the Borough of Kirklees; b. harass anyone; c. physically or verbally abuse anyone, including inflicting domestic violence or threatening violence against your partner, ex-partner or another member of your family. We will notify the Police and the Council's Domestic Violence Unit of any instances reported to us and we will consider action against the perpetrator in every case; d. use your home for illegal or immoral purposes; e. take, sell, supply or possess illegal substances; or f. damage or interfere with any property that belongs to us. 4. If you tell us you are the victim of anti-social behaviour, we will investigate your complaint and take whatever action we think is practical to sort out any problems. T his may include taking legal action to evict tenants and their families who are behaving in an antisocial way. We may also take other legal action to prevent antisocial behaviour.	5.6 You, your household and visitors must make sure that you do not use any musical or audio equipment, TV, washing machine, power tool or other domestic appliance in a way that might disturb the neighbours. 5.7 The council will investigate both statutory and non-statutory noise nuisance in line with line with relevant legislation. 5.8 If there is evidence or the likelihood that you, your household and visitors are involved in anything illegal, dangerous or which would cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm or distress to other people or the community. Kirklees Council will utilise its tools and powers to tackle anti-social behaviour, and you could lose your home. 5.9 If we are aware of Domestic Abuse against you or a member of your family, we will notify the Police and any relevant council services. 5.10 We will consider action against the perpetrator in every case reported, to protect the household and the wider community. 5.11 If you experience anti-social behaviour, you must report it to us, and we will decide if we are able to investigate. Support and advice will be provided to you.
(6) Flats, maisonettes and shared areas 1. You must not allow any shared area (including any stairway, passageway, corridor, lift, drive, path, lane or road) to be obstructed at any time. You must not allow any shared area to be used in a way which may cause a nuisance. 2. You must share responsibility with your neighbours for cleaning any shared corridors, stairs, landings or entrance halls. 3. You must not store anything in any shared area without our permission, in writing. 4. If you live in a flat, bed-sit or maisonette, you must only allow people to enter or leave your home through the doors and make sure they use any door-entry system	6 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5) 6.1 As the tenant of a flat or maisonette you must use the rubbish chute, or refuse bins provided for normal household refuse only. Do not try to force large items down the rubbish chutes or leave them in the communal areas or outside the block. 6.2 You must make proper arrangements to dispose of special medical waste such as needles, syringes or sanitary items. 6.3 Do not throw any dangerous items down a rubbish chute or into refuse bins. 6.4 You must not use bottled gas or paraffin heaters if you live in a block of flats, bed-sits, or maisonettes

or security system properly. You must not prop fire doors and security doors open. 5. If there are rubbish chutes in flat, bed-sit or maisonette blocks, you must only use them for small amounts of rubbish. You should put large items of rubbish in the special area provided, in a suitable plastic sack or container. 6. If there are shared parking facilities for residents and their visitors, you must not park any untaxed or unroadworthy vehicle, or any lorry or large commercial vehicle, caravan, boat or trailer, in any of the parking spaces unless you have our permission, in writing. You do not have the right to use one particular parking space, unless you have a special arrangement with your housing office.	1.5 You must not keep a dog or cats if you live in a flat or maisonette without first obtaining the Council's written consent. You should refer to the councils Pet Policy on the council's website before you ask for permission. 1.6 You must keep all communal areas, balconies and alleyways free from items and clutter. Such items include (but not limited to) animal faeces, debris, mobility scooters, e-scooters bikes, plants and other items as referred to in Kirklees Council's Clear & Safe Policy. 1.8 If when asked, you fail to remove items you own from the communal areas they will be removed, and you will be re-charged for any costs associated with this. 1.8 You must take all reasonable steps to ensure that you, your visitors and those residing with you do not cause any health and safety hazard. 1.10 You, your household or visitors must not interfere or damage anything in the communal areas and or, anything provided for health or safety purposes, this includes (but is not limited to) smoke detectors, fire alarm systems, fire extinguishers, dry or wet risers, fire doors or door closers, emergency lighting, CCTV, door entry or sprinkler systems. You must ensure fire doors are not wedged open. 1.11 You must not place items on your balcony that are dangerous or could cause nuisance to others. 1.12 You must not chain or tether your pet on balconies or in communal areas. 1.13 You must not allow your pet to deposit faeces on your balcony or in communal areas. 1.14 You must not throw anything out of the windows or from balconies of either your property or a communal area. 1.15 You must not smoke in enclosed communal areas e.g. enclosed corridors, stairwells, lifts and enclosed entrance areas. 1.16 You must not park vehicles where they will prevent access for emergency services vehicles or obstruct hatched areas marked 'keep clear' communal areas or access to driveways.

(7) Animals 1. You must make sure that no animal, bird, insect or reptile that you keep at, or which is brought to, your home, causes any nuisance or annoys or frightens anyone. 2. You must take and pay for, all reasonable steps that we consider to be necessary to prevent any animal, bird, insect or reptile you keep at or which is brought to, your home from causing a nuisance or annoying or frightening anyone. This includes providing suitable fencing. 3. If you want to keep a cat or a dog in a maisonette, flat or bed-sit that does not have its own direct, separate entrance to the outside, you will need our permission, in writing. 4. You cannot keep any animal, bird, insect or reptile at your home after it has caused any nuisance or annoyed or frightened anyone, unless you have our permission, in writing. 5. You cannot keep more than two animals at your home without our permission, in writing. You must not keep a lot of birds if they are likely to cause any nuisance to your neighbours.	7 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5) 1.1 You or any member of your household or visitors must not keep or allow any animal in or near the property unless this is permitted by the council's Pets Policy and you have prior written permission from the council. Permission will not be given to keep or allow certain types of animals. 1.2 Any animal at your home must not cause or be likely to cause a nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to neighbours or others lawfully in the locality of your home. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, fouling in common areas, straying, barking or causing other noise, creating an offensive smell, harming people or other animals, or animal waste not being cleared. 1.3 You must keep the number of pets at or below the permitted number of cats and/or dogs allowed by the policy or the reasonable number of other pets agreed in writing by the council. 1.4 Where permission is given, this is on condition that pets are neutered and micro-chipped, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the council. 1.5 You or any member of your household or visitors are not permitted to allow the breeding of any animals in your home, running a business breeding animals, advertising, or selling animals in or from your home. 1.6 You or any member of your household are not permitted to use any animals for fighting or other unlawful purposes. 1.7 Dogs and other pets are not permitted to enter, visit or live in blocks above 6 storey and above accommodation other than an animal recognised as an official support companion or dog and where written permission has been given by the council. 1.8 Dogs listed under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (as amended) will not be permitted at your home. 1.9 Dogs must be accompanied by you or a responsible adult and kept on a lead when in common areas.

	1.10 You must not tether or chain any animal while leaving them unattended or allow them to be chained or tethered in communal areas. 1.11 You must not allow dogs to stray and you must abide by any Dog Control Orders and/or Public Space Protection Orders (or equivalent) relating to dogs that may be in force. 1.12 You, members of your household or visitors must ensure that any animal kept at your home does not prevent an employee, contractor or agent of the council or other lawful visitor to your property, gaining access to your home and that all animals are kept under control to allow such access. 1.13 In cases of cruelty to animals or where there is a breach of this tenancy agreement or the council's Pets Policy, the council may revoke your permission to keep a pet and give you written notice requiring you to remove any animals from your home. This will include requiring proof that you have rehomed your animal responsibly. The council may also share information with animal welfare charities, the Police and/or the Dog Warden service for example where concerns are raised about animal welfare, neglect or abuse. 1.14 You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your home without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare when you are away from your home. You or any member of your household must not leave any animal in your property when you move out of your property. 1.15 You also agree that in cases where it appears that an animal has been left in the property without proper arrangements being made for its care or welfare, or when it appears that you have left an animal in the property once you have moved out, then the council may gain entry to your property using the council's emergency access provisions. 1.16 You must not keep or tether horses on any council owned land or on any land in the locality of your property without the express written permission of the landowners.

(8) Vehicles and 'Parking' 1. You must not park any motor vehicle in the open air either at your home or on any housing land unless it is in a roadworthy condition and fully taxed, unless you have our permission in writing, or it is an emergency. 2. You should not allow any motor vehicle to be repaired, serviced or worked on after 10pm until 7am the following morning at your home or on any housing land or on any road outside your home, unless it is an emergency. 3. You must not allow any motor vehicle to be repaired, serviced or worked on at your home, or on any housing land or on any road outside your home, that is not registered in your name or a member of your current household's name, unless you have our permission, in writing, or it is an emergency. 4. You should not park any motor vehicle in the open air at your home, or on any housing land, unless it is on an authorised area of paving. You must not allow a vehicle to enter any land that is let with your home, except across a proper crossing. 5. You must not allow any motor vehicle, trailer, caravan or other wheeled vehicle to obstruct any road, lane, path or access way or to block the route of emergency vehicles 6. You must get our permission, in writing, before you park a caravan, trailer, lorry or large commercial vehicle, boat or similar vehicle at your home or on land that Housing Services own or controls.	7 (Incorporating 1,2,3,4,5,6) 1.1 You or any member of your household or visitors must park motor vehicles within the boundary of your property on a council approved hardstanding (a driveway or paved area intended for parking) or if appropriate using on-street parking. 1.2 Prior written permission must be sought from the council before parking a trailer, caravan or boat on a hardstanding. 1.3 Caravans, motor homes, trailers or boats must not be parked on the garden, driveway, paved area around your home or any communal areas without the council's prior agreement in writing. 1.4 If the property has a designated resident's parking space, only you or any member of your household or visitors can park there. You must not rent or sell the parking space to anyone else. Where a property has a disabled space you and your legitimate visitors must only park there if you or your legitimate visitor hold a blue badge parking permit. 1.5 Parking spaces that are not designated, should be prioritised for residents and any members of their household. 1.6 You or any member of your household or visitors must not cause or allow an obstruction to any driveway, garage, rights of way, roads, footpaths or access routes across your home, in common areas, shared areas or in the locality of your property. 1.7 You or any member of your household must share the use of any driveway that gives access to both your home and an adjoining property with the occupants of that adjoining property. The driveway must not be blocked in any way, for example, with bins or other items, by parking a vehicle, or by fencing off part of it. 1.8 You or any member of your household or visitors must not drive across a kerb

	to access the property unless it has been lowered with prior written permission and in accordance with the council's regulations. 1.9 You or any member of your household or visitors must not park a vehicle or drive across grassed areas in or around the locality and you must pay the cost incurred by the council for any works required to repair any damage to the kerb or drains, soil replacement and re-sowing of grass. 1.10 If there are shared parking facilities for residents and their visitors, you must not park any untaxed or unroadworthy vehicles. 1.11 You must not park any lorry or large commercial vehicle(s), caravan, boat or trailer, in any parking spaces or any area that prevents other residents from parking near their home unless you have our permission, in writing. 1.12 You do not have the right to use one parking space as your own unless this has been designated for you by the council.
(9) Leaving your home and ending the tenancy **2.** At the end of the tenancy, if there is any damage to your home or if you have removed any item we own, you will have to pay for any repair or replacement and any other loss we suffer. **4**. Once the tenancy has ended, we will remove any item we find in the property and get rid of it. We will charge you for doing this. **3.** If you abandon your home without telling us, we can assume that you have given up your tenancy. **7.** Tenancies starting before 1 April 2012 Unless you took over the secure tenancy after someone had died, Section 87 of the Housing Act says that your tenancy will automatically pass to your husband or wife or civil partner who is living with you when you die. If you have no husband or wife or civil partner living with you when you die, the secure tenancy could pass to your relative, if that person had been living with	8 (Incorporating 2,4) 2. You must allow the Council to complete an inspection of your home before you leave and, by appointment, permit the Council to show prospective tenants around your home. 3 At the end of the tenancy, if there is any damage to your home or if you have removed any item we own, you will have to pay for any repair or replacement and any other loss incurred. 4. You must leave the property, including any garden and outbuildings, in a clean and tidy condition, clear of all personal property, furniture and rubbish. 5. Any personal property left (including animals) will be removed and cleared by the council and you must pay the costs incurred by the council in clearing the property. 6. The council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts

you continuously for the 12 months immediately before your death. Introductory tenants have this right under Section 131 of the Housing Act 1992 Tenancies starting on or after 1 April 2012 Unless you took over the secure tenancy after a previous tenant had died, section 86(A) of the Housing Act 1985 as amended says that your tenancy will automatically pass to your husband or wife or civil partner living with you at the time of death. Housing Authorities may extend succession rights provided there is an express term in the tenancy agreement to that effect. The Council's policy is that where there is no surviving spouse or partner, and another person has lived with the tenant as their sole or principal home they will succeed to the tenancy if: They have lived at the property as their sole or principal home for a minimum of one year prior to the tenant's death. And the property does not provide specialist services (such as being fully adapted for a wheelchair user); And The accommodation meets their housing needs, in accordance with the Allocations Policy e.g. is not too big for their needs as defined in Kirklees Council Housing Allocations Policy. Sections 118 to 188 of the Housing Act 1985 give secure tenants the 'Right to Buy' their homes. You can get more details about this from your housing office. Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant. Under Section 92 of the Housing Act 1985, you have a 'Right to Exchange' your home with another secure tenant. You must get our permission in writing, before you move and we may refuse permission if you do not meet certain conditions. If you do move without our permission, in writing, you will have to return to your original home. Introductory tenants do not have this right. You get this right if you become a secure tenant.	(Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal. 7 You agree that the council can enter the property (whether you have been away from home for 28 days or more) where it reasonably appears that you have abandoned the property. 8 You also agree that if, following inspection of the property, it still appears to the council that you have abandoned the property, the council may change the locks and take any other appropriate steps to protect the property we dispose of all personal property found in the property. 9 The council may dispose of the goods in accordance with the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977 or the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and you may be charged for the reasonable cost of disposal. 13 If you are an Introductory Tenant your succession rights are limited to those allowed by sections 131 to 133 of the Housing Act 1996. In general, this means that if you die whilst your tenancy is an introductory tenancy, your tenancy will pass to: 13.1 Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death. 13.2 If you do not have a husband, wife or civil partner the tenancy can pass on to a member of your family who occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death if they also resided with you throughout the 12 months immediately before your death. 14. Sole Secure Tenants where tenancy started before 1 April 2012 - If you are a secure tenant and your tenancy started before 1 April 2012 then succession rights are those allowed by s.87 of the Housing Act 1985. In general, this means that on your death your tenancy may pass to: Your husband, wife or civil partner if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or

	principal home at the time of your death. 14.1 If there is no such occupier, a family member if s/he occupied the property as his/her only or principal home at the time of your death and resided with you throughout the period of twelve months ending with your death. 15. Joint tenants – Introductory and Secure - If you are a joint tenant then your tenancy will pass to the other joint tenant upon your death, and this will count as a succession. In all cases of succession the definition of family member is that set out in the Housing Act 1985. 15.1 In all cases there can only be one succession, and succession is limited to where there has been no previous succession or assignment. 15.2 In all cases of succession when the tenancy passes to a member of your family (other than your spouse, civil partner or person living with you as spouse or civil partner) and the home is larger than they need the council may apply for possession of the property. 15.3 We will usually offer them a suitable alternative property. If they do not accept that offer, we have the right to ask the Court to give us possession of the property. 15.4 Where there is more than one person living in the property at the time of your death who may be entitled to succeed under the criteria in the Housing Act 1985, or under the express terms of this tenancy agreement, your spouse, civil partner (or person living with you as if you were spouse or civil partner) will have priority over other family members as set out in the Housing Act 1985. 15.5 Where more than one family member is entitled to succeed then they should agree who will succeed and if they do not agree then the council will decide who will succeed. 15.6 Where the right of succession has been used up then the council may agree to grant a new tenancy to the remaining occupant; however, this is not an automatic right and will be considered on a

	case by case basis under the council's policies applicable at the time. 10. Assignment - Introductory and secure tenants have the right to pass their tenancy to another person (called an assignment). Certain conditions apply to this right. Generally, you can only pass your tenancy in this way to someone who would have the right to take over your tenancy under succession if you died. B) You cannot assign the tenancy in this way if there has already been a succession or an assignment. 17. Mutual exchange - If you are a secure tenant, you may have the right to swap your property (called a Mutual Exchange) with another tenant of the council, a housing association or another local council, but you must get the council's written permission first and the written permission of any other landlord authority. 17.1 The council can only refuse permission or impose conditions on an exchange for the reasons set out in the Housing Act 1985. 17.2 If you exchange your property without the council's written permission, we may take legal action to evict you. You may not be able to return to your original property and may not be offered alternative housing. 18. Right to Buy - In certain circumstances, you have the right to buy your property. You should contact the council if you want to know more about your right to buy.
(10) Information, Consultation & Participation 1.Under the Data Protection Act 1998, you have a right to ask to see parts of your tenancy file. Your housing office can give you more information about this. 2. We will keep you up to date with changes to our services, or the introduction of new services, through our newsletter Door to Door. 4. We will support you to get involved in the decisions that affect your home and	10 1.1 Kirklees Council, collects, holds and processes a considerable amount of information, including personal information about the tenants and residents it serves, to allow it to provide services effectively the council recognises that this information is important to tenants and residents and that it is responsible to tenants and

community by offering a range of opportunities for you to work with us. 5. We will send you a copy of our Tenant Participation Charter, if you ask us, or you can see it on our website. 6. We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, or any proposed changes to those services. We will also share our performance with you. It is important that your voice is heard, and our tenants are encouraged to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or our Tenant Led Panel (TPL), or to get in touch to see if you can get involved in another way. To find out more our 'Customer Voice Strategy' can be found on Kirklees Councils website 9. We will involve tenant and resident representatives when we select and recruit to a wide range of housing posts. 10. Under Sections 102 and 103 of the Housing Act 1985, we may change the terms of your tenancy agreement. Apart from changes in rent or service charges, we will always consult you before we take any action to make such changes. Consultation may be by writing to all tenants individually or through our Door to Door newsletter.	residents for the information it holds about them. As such, it takes seriously its responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. 1.2 Kirklees Council is the processor for the information which it collects holds and processes. This means that the Council must look after all the personal information which it collects and uses and make sure that this is done so proportionately correctly and safely. 1.3 Kirklees Council collects and processes personal information to allow it to allocate homes and to manage and improve its services. This may involve sharing your personal data with other organisations that are contracted to carry out services on its behalf. This includes services to you such as repairs but also services to the Council such as fraud detection provided by credit reference agencies and the police. It also includes other services provided by organisations such as the police and the fire. 1.4 These organisations are obliged to keep your personal information safe and secure. The Council may pass on certain personal information to other organisations (such as local authorities, the courts, or the police) where this is requested or the Council has a legal requirement to do so such as during a criminal investigation, a court case or to report on benefit fraud. 6: The Council will consult you on important matters to do with managing and maintaining your property before changing any part of this Tenancy Agreement (other than for rent). The Council will ask for your opinions and take them into account before deciding to make any changes. 7 If the Council decides to go ahead with changes to your Tenancy Agreement, you will be given four weeks' notice in writing. 8 The Council will use whatever platform of consultation it considers appropriate, so you can provide feedback on any proposed changes

	9 We will consult tenant and resident representatives about our services, or any proposed changes to those services. 10 We will also share our performance with you. It is important that your voice is heard, and our tenants are encouraged to join a recognised tenants' and residents' association (TRA) or our Tenant Led Panel (TLP), or to get in touch to see if you can get involved in another way. 11 To find out about our 'Tenant Voice Strategy' it can be found on the Kirklees Councils website. 14 Under Sections 102 and 103 of the Housing Act 1985, we may change the terms of your Tenancy Agreement. 15 Apart from changes in rent or service charges, we will always consult you before we take any action to make such changes. 16 Consultation may take place across a range of platforms including, social media, in writing, or face to face.
(11) Notices Any notice will be properly served on us (the Council) if you deliver it or send it by first-class post to Homes & Neighbourhoods, Kirklees Council PO Box 1720 HUDDERSFIELD HD1 9EL Any notice will be properly served on you (the Tenant) if we deliver it or send it by first-class post to the property.	11. Updated to reflect the new PO Box address
12) New section – Fraud	12 12.1 Tenancy fraud is when people are living in our homes without the right to do so. It's against the law and a breach of your tenancy agreement. It also denies homes to those most in need. The different types of tenancy fraud are: 12.2 Obtaining housing by deception - where a person gets a home by giving false information on their housing application.

	12.3 Unlawful subletting - where a tenant rents out their home without our knowledge or permission. 12.4 Wrongly claimed succession - where a resident dies and someone without entitlement tries to take over or succeed the tenancy. 12.5 False Right to Buy - where a tenant gives false information in a Right to Buy application. 12.6 Key selling - where a resident is paid to pass on their keys in return for a one-off payment. 12.7 Unlawful assignment - where a resident stops using their tenancy as their main home and allows another person to live there without our permission. 12.8 We carry out regular tenancy checks to make sure that the right people are living in our properties, this could be with or without notice. 12.9 We work with other social landlords and statutory agencies to detect fraud. 12.10 If there is evidence that you have committed any type of Tenancy Fraud. Legal action will be taken, and you could lose your tenancy. 12.11 You may also be subject to criminal proceedings.

A copy of the new tenancy agreement is attached which sets out the terms and conditions which both the Council and you are required to comply with.

Yours sincerely,

XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX
HOMES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

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Kirklees COUNCIL

WHITE ROSE FOREST STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2050

Meeting	**Cabinet**
Date	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr Turner, Cabinet Member for Finance and Regeneration**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report

As a member of the White Rose Forest (WRF) Partnership, Kirklees Cabinet, along with all members of the partnership, is being asked to consider and adopt the White Rose Forest (WRF) Strategic Plan 2025-50 (see Appendix 1).

Recommendations

- Kirklees Council's Cabinet notes the contents of the report and adopts the White Rose Forest (WRF) Strategic Plan 2025-50.set out at Appendix 1 to this report
- Cabinet is requested to note the contents of the Integrated Impact Assessment at paragraph 3.5.

Reasons for Recommendations

- The WRF is made up of 11 partner organisations across North and West Yorkshire, in which Kirklees has played a leading role as Accountable Body.
- The WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) has been produced after an extensive engagement with constituent members and wider stakeholders over the last eighteen months. The plan has been overseen by the WRF Strategic Board which Kirklees chairs.
- The WRF Strategic Board is now seeking adoption the WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050 from all members of the partnership.
- The previous full WRF strategy was launched in 2000. As part of the national Trees for Climate Programme, Community Forests including the White Rose Forest are expected to refresh or re write their existing Community Forest Plan in light of the declarations of climate emergencies and need for continued economic growth with nature recovery.
- The need for a WRF Strategic Plan with targets to 2050 was referenced in the June 2020 Kirklees Cabinet WRF report.
- The WRF Strategic Plan will provide the framework to secure future DEFRA (Department of the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs) funding.

Resource Implication: There are no direct financial implications for adoption of the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50). There is no obligation on any WRF partner to make an annual financial contribution, although voluntary contributions can be made. All capital and revenue funding is fully funded from external DEFRA grant. The WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050 aligns with the Government's statutory target for increasing tree cover to 16.5% by 2050 and therefore effectively provides the strategic case to secure further resources from Government and other funders This includes the anticipated Trees for Climate 2 programme, which is currently part of the Government Spending Review process.	
Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name	David Shepherd, Executive Director, Place **25.6.25**
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Kevin Mulvaney (Service Director, Finance) **26.6.25**
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?	Samantha Lawton (Service Director Legal, Governance and Commissioning) **26.6.25**

Electoral wards affected: List details

All wards (The WRF Agreement covers North and West Yorkshire)

Ward councillors consulted:

No not formally -All WRF partners including the Local Authorities were involved in a formal stakeholder consultation process which included use of social media. Given the nature of the WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050 and the area it covers full 1-1 consultation with all Ward councillors across North and West Yorkshire not deemed appropriate

Public or private:

Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Executive Summary

The White Rose Forest (WRF) is the community forest for North and West Yorkshire. Its core partners are the local authorities, combined authorities and national park authorities of that geography. Kirklees Council is the accountable body. As part of DEFRA's Trees for Climate programme, each of the 15 community forests in England are required to write or renew their respective community forest plans to 2050.

In line with this national approach, the White Rose Forest has, through a process of stakeholder engagement, community consultation and data analysis over the last 18 months, written a WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050. The White Rose Forest Strategic Board, operating under a new WRF Agreement, finalised the Plan in March 2025 and are now asking each of the 11 core WRF partners to adopt this Plan.

The Plan in summary represents the overriding forestry strategy and vision for the North and West Yorkshire with 5 strategic objectives:

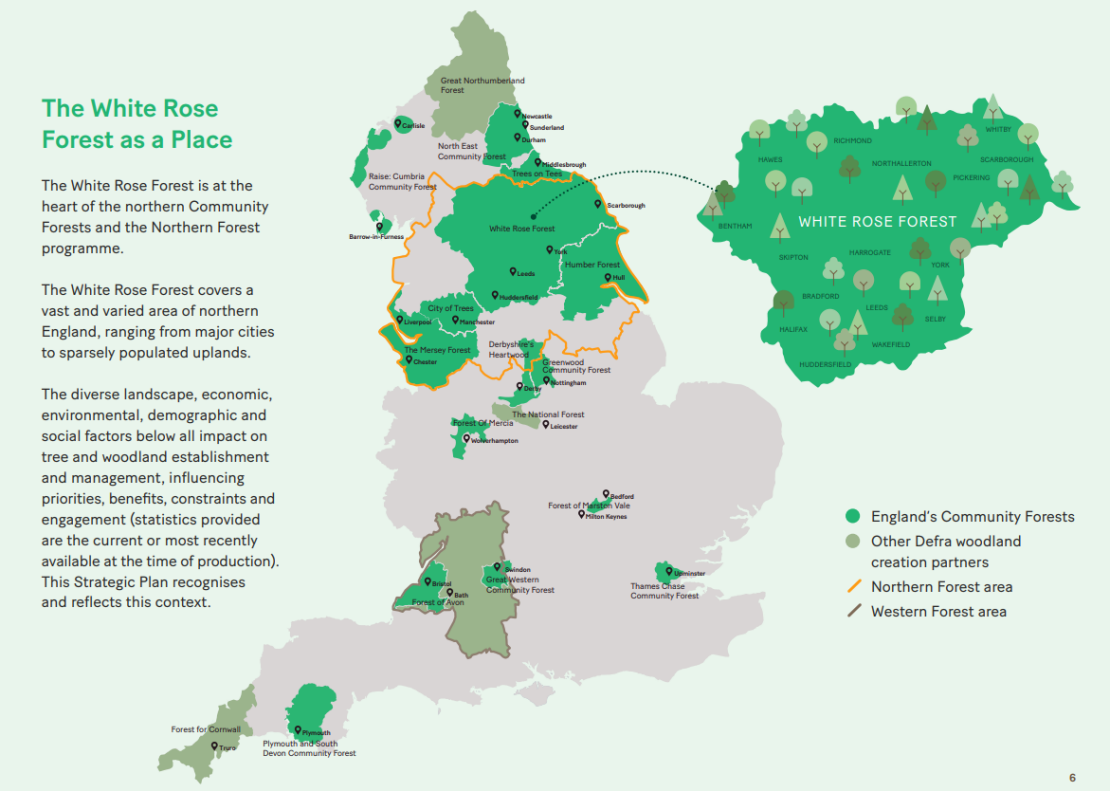
- Increase tree canopy cover in line with government statutory targets
- Protect and restore more trees and woodlands
- Engage more people, communities and businesses in the planting, management and contact with trees and woodlands
- Promote the transformational benefit of trees and woodlands
- Grow the impact and sustainability of the White Rose Forest

The Plan will help shape and prioritise investment into North and West Yorkshire for the benefit of the economy people and nature. Each local authority has played a key role in writing this Strategic Plan, setting local targets to optimise local impact.

The Strategic Plan will frame a 5-year WRF Action Plan 2025-2030 that will lay out in more detail specific projects and programmes with identified resources and funding for the WRF core partners to work towards achieving the strategic objectives. Any new funding programme such as Trees for Climate 2 and the 5 yearly WRF Action Plan 2025-2030 will be subject to separate decision making at the time.

In broad terms, the Strategic Plan will provide the greater tree and woodlands resource that, by targeting public benefit, will contribute to the Kirklees Flood Risk Strategy by providing better natural flood management, landscape scale nature restoration, cleaner air, urban cooling, better farm productivity, better accessibility to nature and associated health benefits and increase the region's attractiveness and retention of investment over the next 25 years.

The WRF Strategic Plan along with the other 14 Community Forest Plans will provide a nationally significant portfolio covering 20% of England's land area and provide Government and national bodies with a rationale for investment.



The WRF Trees for Climate programme has a very strong track record of achievement over the last five years. The programme was extended by DEFRA to 6 years. The original contracted target for new woodland in North and West Yorkshire was 1,955 hectares. By March 2025 (Year 5 of the programme), 2006 hectares have been planted with a total of £23m being invested to date. During year 6, an estimated 500 hectares of additional planting will take place making a total of 2,500 hectares, comfortably exceeding the 1,955-hectare target. The WRF has contributed approximately 35% of the total England's Community Forests programme. The WRF delivery pathway is recognised nationally as a leading methodology for delivering landscape change to industry standards. In 2024, the WRF was awarded 'Community Forest of the Year.'

2. Information required to take a decision

The White Rose Forest is the Community Forest for North and West Yorkshire. A partnership of local and combined authorities, national park authorities and national landscape organisations. WRF Members are:

- Leeds City Council
- City of Bradford Council
- Kirklees Council (Accountable Body)
- Wakefield Council
- Calderdale Council
- North Yorkshire Council
- City of York Council
- West Yorkshire Combined Authority
- York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
- North York Moors National Park Authority

The White Rose Forest is not a single ‘forest’, but the network of all trees, woods and forests across North and West Yorkshire, including trees in gardens and on residential streets, in town and city centres, along transport routes, in parks and green spaces, by rivers, canals and lakes, on farmland and in the countryside.

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50), see Appendix 1, is the long-term strategic document governing development of the White Rose Forest, setting out the partnership’s vision, aspirations and targets for tree and woodland establishment and management in North and West Yorkshire.

Its purpose is influencing/advocating, profile raising and securing commitment, plus being used as the basis for bidding for and directing the use of resources. Its principal audience is therefore local political and business leaders, funders (including government) and partners.

The partnership has progressed the development of a new Strategic Plan over the last 18 months, with the process now completed with the approval of the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) by the partnership’s Strategic Board on 26 March 2025.

The previous year (2023/24) was a record year for tree planting in the White Rose Forest (WRF) and England’s Community Forests (ECF).

- 802 hectares of trees and woodland planted across the White Rose Forest
- Of this total, 777 hectares were planted as part of our flagship Trees for Climate programme. This equates to 119% of our White Rose Forest target for 2023-24 and 39% of all 1,976 hectares planted across England’s Community Forests
- England’s Community Forests collectively delivered more than 38% of all Defra funded trees and woodland despite covering only 20% of England, making our network the most successful Defra partner
- The WRF dealt with 316 new woodland creation enquiries from local landowners
- Achievements helped the White Rose Forest become ‘Community Forest of the Year 2024’ and England’s Community Forests to be offered a place on the Government’s national Tree Planting Taskforce

By improving natural capital in North and West Yorkshire between 2020 and 2024, data calculated by Liverpool John Moores University found that the WRF Trees for Climate programme 2020-24 WRF directly supported:

- 49,433 households with increased access to nature
- Ecological networks extended by 2,609 hectares
- 1,119 more hectares of land with high natural flood management potential

During the 2023/24 financial year, WRF investment in North and West Yorkshire amounted to £7,063,691 awarded to over 45 grant recipients, covering 74 sites from the Trees for Climate programme and £909,826 awarded over 14 grant agreements, covering 113 sites via the Northern Forest Grow Back Greener programme.

White Rose Forest District	Total Capital Funds invested 2021 – March 2024
Bradford	£224,332
Calderdale	£358,707
Kirklees	£2,066,994
Leeds	£2,690,756
North Yorkshire	£9,897,588
Wakefield	£995,421
York	£101,010
Total	**£16,334,808**

3. Implications for the Council

Trees and woodland are one of the most effective nature-based solutions for adapting to climate change and providing habitat to protect and enhance biodiversity. Due to this and the societal benefits, there is also strong public support for more trees and woodland.

Successful delivery of the Strategic Plan will provide a wide range of direct and indirect (and often multiple) benefits for: business; the environment; nature; and communities.

As accountable body for England's largest community forest, Kirklees is able to demonstrate continued leadership across the region.

3.1 Council Plan

The WRF Strategic Plan 2025-50 and its 5 objectives provide a strong underpinning for delivery of element of the Council Plan, particularly where the natural environment can impact directly on communities, adaptation to climate change and supporting economic growth.

The Council Plan is ambitious about sustainability and inclusion, ensuring everyone in this generation and future generations can benefit from economic growth. As set out in the Environment Strategy, we continue to aim for a greener, net zero, and climate-ready Kirklees by 2038 – that means mitigating and reducing emissions as well as adapting to the social, economic, and environmental impacts of climate change.

The Council Plan sets out how thriving people and communities, now and over the long term, will see the Council work with businesses and community groups in local places to support efforts to build safe, clean, and green places where people want to live, work, and visit.

One of the 4 themes in the Council's Environment Strategy is nurturing nature. We want to protect and expand existing natural habitats and create new spaces for wildlife. We want to ensure that everyone has access greenspace and can benefit from the natural environment. This strongly resonates with the WRF Plan's objectives for expanding tree cover as part of nature recover and the objective of engaging more people by for example expanding household access to local woodlands.

The White Rose Forest is one of the Kirklees Environment Plan case studies and states that "Kirklees Council is a key partner and the accountable body of the White Rose Forest, which has the aim of establishing 2,500ha of new tree canopy cover in our river catchments and 1000ha of new tree canopy in our urban areas and along our major transport routes by 2025. Since declaring a Climate Emergency in 2019, Kirklees Council has created 59ha of new tree canopy cover across the district."

3.2 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications of endorsing the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50). The White Rose Forest Agreement, of which Kirklees Council is a signatory, is clear that there will be no obligation on any signatory to make an annual financial contribution, although voluntary contributions can be made.

All capital and revenue funding for WRF delivery and costs of the core team is 100% externally grant funded. Development of the WRF Strategic Plan itself has been paid from the Trees For Climate programme and the development of the WRF Action Plan 2025-2030 will likewise be funded through that programme. These documents will be used to underpin future bidding for additional capital and revenue programme funding.

Kirklees Council is not only one of the constituent members of the White Rose Forest but is also the Accountable Body for the whole of the partnership. This means that Kirklees Council is legally responsible for administering the external funding, employing the majority of the staff and holding numerous individual contracts with specific landowners. All of the Council's costs are met exclusively from external funding.

The Council maintains a risk register for its role as Accountable Body, including any potential redundancy costs should funding come to an end and resourcing all future monitoring and reporting obligations. This risk register is reviewed on an annual basis alongside colleagues from the Council's Risk and Audit team and sufficient project funds are held to adequately cover the worst-case position should no further funding be forthcoming (felt unlikely at this stage), thereby protecting the Council from any costs associated with its role as Accountable Body. Finally, the WRF team also holds a Trees for Climate programme risk register which is reviewed every two months by WRF partners on the WRF Programme Management Group to ensure the programme's financial obligations and targets are met and operational issues addressed, summaries of which are reported to the WRF Strategic Board chaired by Kirklees Council 3 times a year.

3.3 Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications of endorsing the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) as it is not a statutory or legally binding document.

Kirklees Council is a signatory to the White Rose Forest Agreement, and as such is a member of the Strategic Board which has made the recommendation that the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50), is adopted by Partners' respective governance.

The WRF Plan aims to support the Government's statutory target of achieving 16.5% tree cover by 2050

The White Rose Forest is debated by the Council's Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

The Trees for Climate programme is in part driven by the need to provide both a mitigation and adaptation response to the climate emergency declared across the WRF area.

Mitigation is the absorption of CO2 in the trees and the soil planted by the programme. Each scheme is registered on to the Woodland Carbon Code to give the landowner the opportunities to verify and validate the expected carbon sequestration rates for use on the carbon market or to have their carbon units for insetting to drive their respective organisations to net zero.

Each WRF Local Authority District has in part set its local tree planting target to 2050 to support the net zero and emissions pathway targets. The Plan demonstrates that it has an overall positive contribution to Net Zero.

Climate change adaptation is a measurable benefit of woodland creation particularly regarding biodiversity, natural flood management and urban cooling. Trees and woodland significantly impact the rate of water flow and, at a catchment scale, can overtime, reduce the risk of flooding downstream

The WRF Strategic Plan has been aligned to and fed into the Local Nature Recovery Strategies to ensure that species can connect to wider habitats as the climate changes using industry standard principles of landscape improvement and connectivity.

Trees and woodland play a significant role in improving air quality. The local uplift of the Trees for Climate programme has calculated using recognised Natural Capital benefits assessments. This is of particular benefit in Green Streets where encouraging trees and woodlands along major transport corridors will provide an overall benefit to air quality.

3.5 Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

The WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050 Integrated Impact Assessment has been approved and is published on the Kirklees webpage for Integrated Impact Assessments | Kirklees Council

In summary the impact of the WRF will be largely positive across the range of people with protected characteristics.

The WRF Strategic Plan 2025 -2050 is a high-level plan with 5 objectives over a 25-year timeframe. The broad thrust for example of objective 3 is to "Engage more people,

communities and businesses in the planting, management and contact with trees and woodlands”

It is recognised that during the local delivery phase, the WRF Core Team will work closely with each Local Authority to ensure that each project is shaped to respond to each authority’s priorities both for people, communities and businesses. It is at this stage extra work will be required to ensure the impact is positive for people with certain protected characteristics.

4 Consultation

The engagement of stakeholders, which has taken place throughout the Strategic Plan development process, has broadened the range of place and thematic input, including from:

- District White Rose Forest Groups including Kirklees, Leeds, Calderdale, Bradford, Wakefield, North Yorkshire and York
- Catchment Partnership workshops
- Green Streets workshop
- WRF Ancient Woodland Working Group
- Local Nature Recovery Strategies (both North and West Yorkshire)
- Community Engagement project
- Data and Mapping workshops with wide group of stakeholders

A formal Stakeholder Engagement survey ran from 4 December to 17 January 2025, with responses received from a good range of stakeholders. Considerable support for the consultation document was expressed, with it aligning well the stakeholder policies, strategies and plans.

Stakeholders raised many useful suggestions for how the strategic plan could be further developed / enhanced, which have all been considered in finalising the Strategic Plan. All respondents confirmed they felt a degree of alignment between the consultation document and their policies, strategies and plans, with almost half indicating full alignment

All respondents confirmed support for the long-term direction and level of ambition, as articulated in the vision and targets, with over 70% indicating full support. A copy of the Stakeholder Engagement Survey Report is in Appendix 2.

5 Engagement

Public Engagement survey ran from 6 to 28 January 2025, comprising a number of multiple choice or rating / ranking type questions, with just over 300 responses received.

This has helped raise the profile of the White Rose Forest and confirmed public support for the proposed long-term direction, level of ambition and approach outlined in the consultation document. In addition, it has provided some useful input on the value the public place on trees and woodland and what they would like to see prioritised in the future.

Some key findings in the Public Engagement report were:

- Respondents overwhelmingly agreed (93% Strongly agree or agree) that we need more trees and woodland in North and West Yorkshire.

- Many more respondents thought that trees and woodland close to where they live had declined (40%) rather than improved (25%) in the last 5 years.
- Respondents overwhelmingly supported the long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the consultation document (91% Strongly support or Support)

A copy of the Public Engagement Survey Report is in Appendix 3

6 Options

The WRF Agreement Partners and Kirklees, as accountable body, have previously agreed to produce a WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050. The need for a WRF Strategic Plan with targets to 2050 was referenced in the June 2020 Kirklees Cabinet WRF report. The resources had been secured to undertake the work

7 Next steps and timelines

Once all the WRF partners including Kirklees Council have formally considered and adopted the Plan, it will be published on the WRF website. The Strategic Plan will then be launched by the Mayor of North Yorkshire and the Mayor of West Yorkshire.

The WRF Plan, alongside the other 14 Community Forest Plans and their shared metrics in England, will then be merged into a single “England’s Community Forest’s Plan of Plans”. This document will be the national statement and vision covering 20% of England land area for trees and woodlands and nearly 50% of England’s population.

8 Contact officer

Guy Thompson (WRF Programme Director) guy.thompson@kirklees.gov.uk
07535659649

9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Kirklees Cabinet, 13th July 2020. *White Rose Forest Plan and the Trees for Climate programme*

WRFFinalCabinetReportJuly2020internalkirklees24.06.20 002 - 02.07.20.pdf

10 Appendices

1) WRF Strategic Plan 2025-2050 recommended for adoption

2) WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) Stakeholder Engagement Survey Report v FINAL

3) WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) Public Engagement Survey Report v FINAL

11 Service Director responsible

David Wildman, Interim Service Director for Skills and Regeneration



White Rose Forest

Strategic Plan

(2025-50)

Creating a Resilient Landscape for Growth

Proud to be part of England's Community Forests

Approved by the White Rose Forest Strategic Board (26 March 2025)

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) is the long-term strategic document governing development of the White Rose Forest, setting out the vision, aspirations and targets for tree and woodland establishment and management in North and West Yorkshire. As such, it provides the overarching tree and woodland strategy for North and West Yorkshire. It will be delivered through a series of five-year Action Plans, which will provide more detail on funding, delivery programmes, actions and interim targets for that period of the Strategic Plan.





Contents

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-2050) 4

Context
The White Rose Forest 5
- Introduction 5
- Place 6
- Partnership 8

Policy Context 9
Why Trees and Woodland? 10

Ambition
Vision 11
Strategic Objectives and Targets 12
District Priorities and Targets 14

Delivery
Approach 17
Principles 18
Programmes 19
Collective Action 20
Funding and Financing 22
Monitoring and Evaluation 23

Final words 24

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-2050)

White Rose Forest

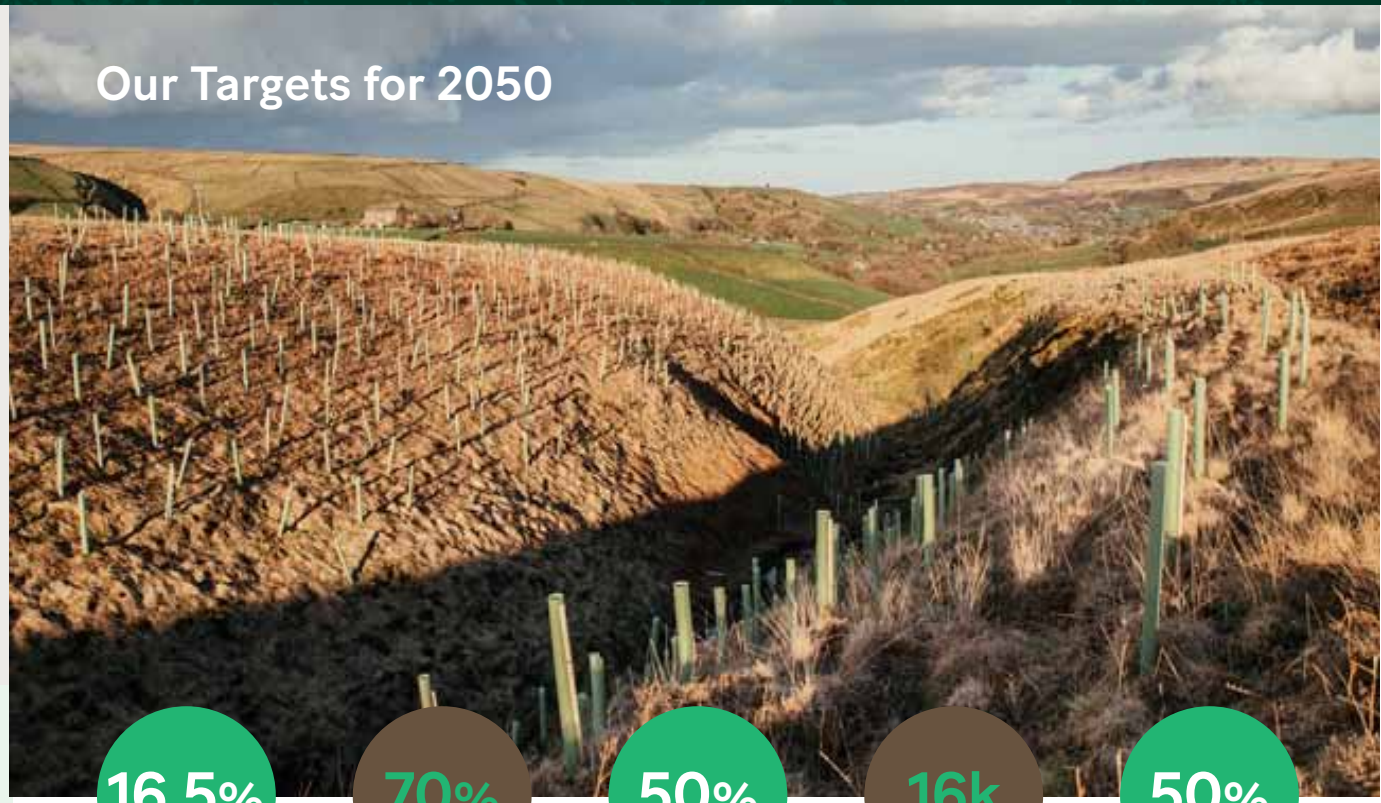
Our Vision for 2050

The White Rose Forest partnership is leading landscape transformation in North and West Yorkshire, creating a vast and varied treescape that connects and permeates our towns/cities and countryside. Our work has made our region more prosperous and resilient to a changing climate, improved health & wellbeing and supported nature recovery.

Our Partnership

The White Rose Forest is the Community Forest for North and West Yorkshire. A partnership of local and combined authorities, national park authorities and national landscape organisations, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) organisations, alongside national, regional and local charities, businesses and community enterprises.

Our Targets for 2050



16.5% Tree and woodland cover

70% Of woodland sustainably managed

50% Of households living close to accessible woodland

16k People engaged in the work of the White Rose Forest per year

50% Of total funding from non-public sector sources

www.whiteroseforest.org

The White Rose Forest

The White Rose Forest is the Community Forest for North and West Yorkshire and is the largest of England's Community Forests.

The White Rose Forest is not a single 'forest', but the network of all trees, woods and forests across North and West Yorkshire, including trees in gardens and on residential streets, in town and city centres, along transport routes, in parks and green spaces, by rivers, canals and lakes, on farmland and in the countryside.

The White Rose Forest partnership was established on 1st August 2000. Over the first 25 years, the partnership has continued to innovate, adapting to help meet the challenges and concerns of the time. Interest and support for tree planting and woodland creation has gained significant momentum across the country since 2020. The White Rose Forest partnership has been at the forefront of this programme with over 2.5 million trees being planted across over 2,000 hectares of land (about 2,800 football pitches) from 2020/21 to 2024/25.

This Strategic Plan builds on that foundation and momentum and sets out the partnership's direction for the next 25 years.

England's Community Forests

England's Community Forests is the leading woodland creation force in the country. A diverse and growing network of 15 unique Community Forests working to help nature recover and regenerate the landscapes in and around our largest towns and cities, we are ensuring that trees and woodlands are at the very heart of communities up and down the country, unlocking countless benefits for people and planet. We work together to support each other and amplify our voice nationally.



Place

The network of all trees, woods and forests across North and West Yorkshire.



Partnership

The collective of public, private and voluntary sector organisations working with local communities to deliver this Strategic Plan.



Core team

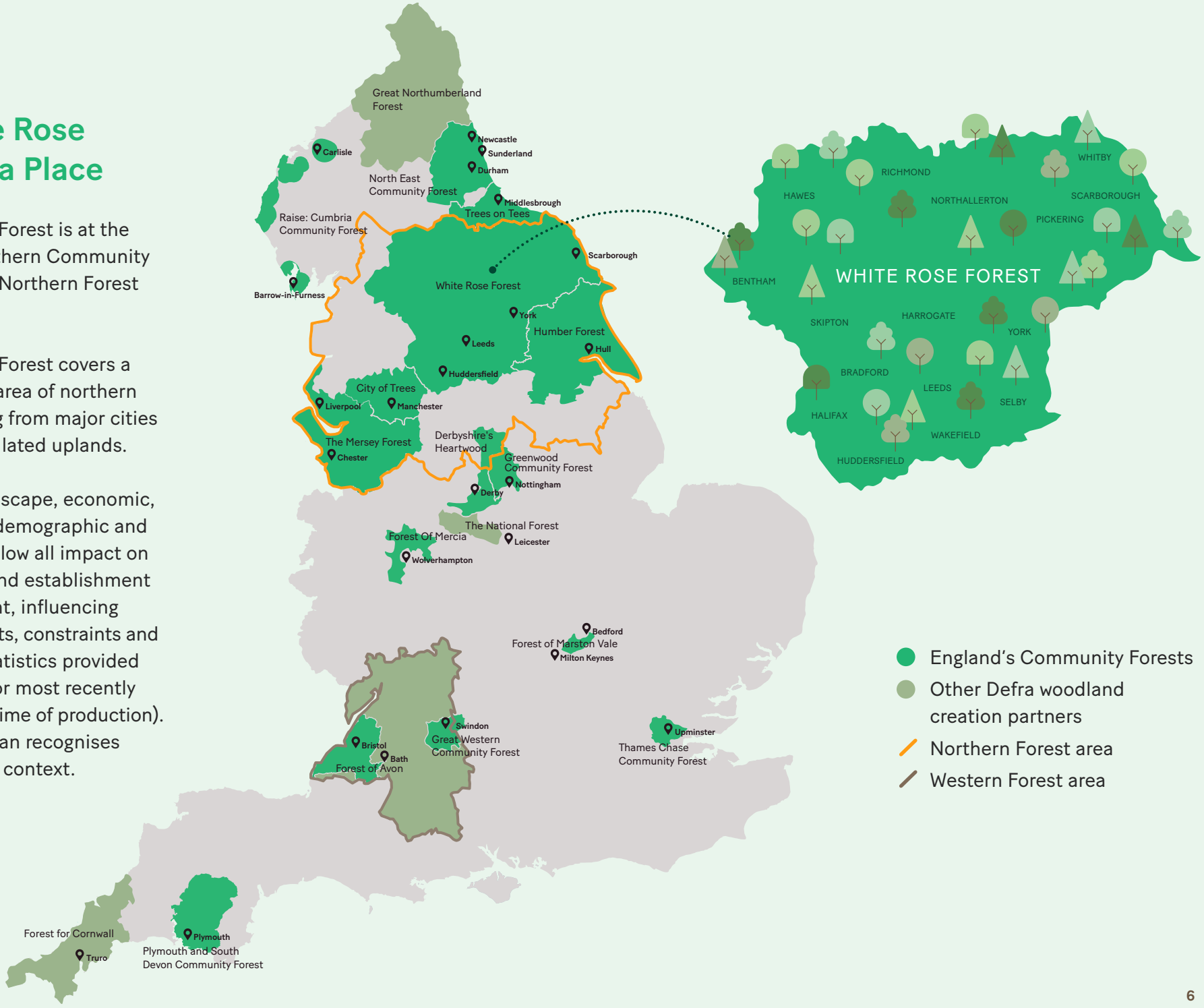
The central project delivery and specialist capacity and expertise.

The White Rose Forest as a Place

The White Rose Forest is at the heart of the northern Community Forests and the Northern Forest programme.

The White Rose Forest covers a vast and varied area of northern England, ranging from major cities to sparsely populated uplands.

The diverse landscape, economic, environmental, demographic and social factors below all impact on tree and woodland establishment and management, influencing priorities, benefits, constraints and engagement (statistics provided are the current or most recently available at the time of production). This Strategic Plan recognises and reflects this context.



Land

10,300 Sq km

White Rose Forest area.
(Approx **8%** of England)

88% of this land area is classified as Rural and **12%** as Urban.

72% of this land area is agricultural land.

37% of this land area is covered by Protected Landscapes (All or part of 3 National Parks and 4 National Landscapes).

Nature

24%

Yorkshire Species of Concern favour woodland habitats.

The State of Yorkshire's Nature (2024) report confirmed that Yorkshire's wildlife is under threat, with species continuing to decline and biodiversity diminishing.

Trees and Woodland

12%

Current tree and woodland cover.
(England = **14.9%**)

This is made up of 8.6% Woodland and 3.4% Trees Outside Woodland.

The Forestry Commission Sensitivity Maps for Woodland Creation indicate that approximately 14% of the White Rose Forest area (England = 22%) has low sensitivity to new woodland creation (i.e. does not have any clear constraints to address on the basis of national datasets, and it should be easier to agree creating new woodland here than in other areas).

The Forestry Commission has assessed that almost 62% of all woodland in the White Rose Forest area (England = 57%) is sustainably managed.

Natural Capital analysis undertaken by Liverpool John Moores University for England's Community Forests has assessed that 25% of households in the White Rose Forest area have an area of accessible woodland over 0.1ha in size within 500m.

Population

3.2 Million residents

The White Rose Forest area population.

This is a population density of 310 per square kilometre (England = 434 residents per square kilometre).

However, population density varies considerably across the local authority areas in the White Rose Forest, from 77 residents per square kilometre in North Yorkshire to 1,500 residents per square kilometre in Bradford.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation measures relative levels of deprivation in small areas (with an average population of 1,500), called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs), in England.

314 (17%) LSOAs in the White Rose Forest area fall into the 10% most deprived areas of England.

However, levels of deprivation vary considerably across the Local Authority areas in the White Rose Forest, from 1 (1%) LSOA in York to 104 (34%) LSOAs in Bradford falling into the 10% most deprived areas of England.

Economy

124,000

Number of active businesses in the White Rose Forest Area.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the White Rose Forest area was worth an estimated £103 billion, approximately £32,000 per head.

Partnership

At the heart of delivery of this Strategic Plan is the collaborative commitment and power of the White Rose Forest partnership, made up of Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) organisations, local and combined authorities, national park authorities and national landscape organisations, alongside national, regional and local charities, businesses and community enterprises.

Strategic Board

The White Rose Forest Strategic Board provides strategic ownership and direction to the ongoing establishment of the White Rose Forest across North and West Yorkshire through the development and delivery of this Strategic Plan and associated 5 yearly Action Plans.

The White Rose Forest Strategic Board will work closely with the regulatory authorities and be advised by organisations, including the Forestry Commission, Natural England, Environment Agency and the Woodland Trust.



Strategic Board members

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Calderdale Council

Kirklees Council

Leeds City Council

North York Moors National Park

North Yorkshire Council

Wakefield Council

West Yorkshire Combined Authority

City of York Council

York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

United by a shared vision and common aims at the strategic level, while encouraging and enabling bespoke plans at the local level, the partnership combines influencing at scale with delivery flexibility locally and works alongside other environmental and conservation programmes and partnerships.

As the overarching tree and woodland strategy for North and West Yorkshire, the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) seeks to inform and influence how partners work with their respective local landowners, communities and environments.

To be effective the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) needs to be informed by and integrated into regional and local place, planning, economic, environmental, climate resilience and nature recovery policies, strategies and plans, particularly those of White Rose Forest partners.

The White Rose Forest is one of a number of northern community forests working together with the Community Forest Trust and the Woodland Trust to deliver the **Northern Forest** programme between Liverpool and the Yorkshire coast.

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) will be the framework for the development of the White Rose Forest and its contribution to the network of England's Community Forests. The White Rose Forest partnership recognises the founding Community Forest principle of a long-term aspirational goal of 30% tree cover and will strive to achieve this in core forest areas within the White Rose Forest, where these are identified and supported by partners.

Policy Context

National, regional and local policy influences the direction and ambition of this Strategic Plan, which has been developed within the context of the existing policy framework at the time of production. For example:

The Environmental Improvement Plan (2023) was the first revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan. It sets out the target to "Increase tree canopy and woodland cover from 14.5% to 16.5% of total land area in England by 2050".

The **Net Zero Strategy (2021)** sets out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet the net zero target by 2050. A key commitment is to treble woodland creation rates in England, contributing to the UK's overall target of increasing planting rates to 30,000 hectares per year by 2025.

The **National Planning Policy Framework** sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It states that "an approved Community Forest Plan may be a material consideration in preparing development plans and in deciding planning applications". This Strategic Plan is the approved Community Forest Plan for the White Rose Forest.

Regional and local Climate, Environment and Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Management Plans and Local Plans include targets and priorities for tree planting and woodland creation and other habitats, and support protection and enhancement of existing trees and woodland in their areas.

The White Rose Forest partnership will seek to further the statutory purposes of the Protected Landscapes in its area by ensuring that its activities contribute to the conservation and enhancement of their natural beauty and special qualities, and to the achievement of the objectives in their Management Plans.









Why trees and woodland?

Trees and woodland are one of the most effective nature-based solutions for adapting to climate change and providing habitat to protect and enhance biodiversity. Due to this and the societal benefits, there is also strong public support for more trees and woodland. Trees and woodland provide a wide range of direct and indirect (and often multiple) benefits for: business; the environment; nature; and communities.

Business

- Attracting and retaining investment
- Decarbonising supply chains
- Improving farm productivity
- Producing and selling timber and wood products

Environment

- Reducing the risk of flooding (water storage and slowing the flow)
- Reducing soil erosion, nutrient losses and pollution
- Improving air quality, providing urban cooling/shading and absorbing sound
- Capturing and storing carbon

Nature

- Providing unique and diverse habitats for wildlife
- Creating wildlife corridors and connecting habitats
- Shading and cooling watercourses for fish and other aquatic life
- Supporting pollinators with refuge and sources of food

Community

- Creating attractive places to live
- Providing accessible spaces for leisure and recreation
- Improving physical wellbeing and mental health
- Strengthening a sense of place and cultural heritage

Our Vision for 2050

The White Rose Forest partnership is leading landscape transformation in North and West Yorkshire, creating a vast and varied treescape that connects and permeates our towns/cities and countryside. Our work has made our region more prosperous and resilient to a changing climate, improved health & wellbeing and supported nature recovery.

Tree and woodland cover is significantly greater, interconnecting with other habitats and land uses. Urban trees, trees in hedgerows, verges and along riverbanks, fruit trees and orchards, agroforestry, and conventional woodland, connect as an extensive network of wooded habitats.

Ancient woodlands and long-established woodland and ancient and veteran trees are recognised, valued, protected and restored as irreplaceable assets. These precious resources and the soils from which they grow form the foundations of this network of wooded habitats, facilitating nature recovery and supporting the wider ecosystem which depends on trees and woodland. Tree planting, woodland creation and natural regeneration has buffered, extended and connected fragmented habitats to grow this extensive network.

Communities have widespread and equitable access to high quality trees and woodland, as part of wider blue and green infrastructure, improving public health and reducing health inequalities. There is increased public involvement with the planning, designing, planting and management of trees and woodland, increasing connection to nature.

Tree-lined streets, leafy active travel routes and green transport corridors link our rural and urban communities to places of education, work and leisure, providing more attractive and healthier places to visit, live and invest in. Trees are recognised and cared for as a vital part of urban infrastructure.

Trees are an integral part of catchment management, helping to restore the condition of rivers and aquatic habitats and 'slow the flow', protecting the communities and businesses downstream.

Existing wooded habitats are increasingly sustainably managed, improving ecological condition and becoming more diverse in age, structure and species, and more resilient to pests, disease and the impacts of climate change.

The White Rose Forest is a place of innovation and learning, with a strong and financially sustainable partnership at its heart, driving its development and delivery. The forestry sector in the region has grown and strengthened, creating and securing green jobs.



Strategic Objectives and Targets for 2050

To bring about the vision, the White Rose Forest partnership will focus on five broad strategic objectives over the period of this 25 year Strategic Plan.

1. Expand the area of trees and woodland and improve connectivity

Encourage and support the appropriate establishment (right tree, right place, right reason) of a range of new trees and woodland types in priority areas (e.g. more deprived areas, priority catchments and ancient woodland buffers) to extend the network of wooded habitats, recognising where sensitivities exist and integrating with other land uses (e.g. farming).

A base target, to increase tree and woodland cover from 12% to 16.5% by 2050, to match the statutory national target. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by about 46,000 hectares, or about 92,000,000 trees.

With a stretch target, to increase tree and woodland cover from 12% to 18.5% by 2050, if the ambition in all local authority areas is met.

This will increase the area of trees and woodland by about 67,000 hectares, or about 134,000,000 trees.



2. Protect and restore more trees and woodland

Safeguard the future of ancient and long-established woodland and ancient and veteran trees. Encourage and support the sensitive and sustainable management of under-managed woodlands, improving ecological condition and resilience to the threats of pests and disease and a changing climate; extending and maximising the multiple benefits provided by existing trees and woodland.

Increase the percentage of sustainably managed woodland from 62% to 70% by 2050.

Increase the percentage of sustainably managed ancient woodland from 72% to 90% by 2050.

This will bring a total of 7,250 hectares of additional woodland into sustainable management.



3. Engage more people, communities and businesses in the planning, designing, planting, management and use of trees and woodland

Create opportunities for people to get involved in the work of the White Rose Forest partnership and improve equitable access to high quality trees and woodland increasing their use (for play, learning, recreation and leisure), deepening people's relationship with the natural environment and improving health and wellbeing.

Increase the number of people directly engaged in the core work of the White Rose Forest partnership in a substantive way (tree planting, woodland management and other activities) from 8,000 to 16,000 per year by 2050.

Increase the percentage of households with an area of accessible woodland over 0.1ha in size within 500m from 25% to 50% by 2050.

This will increase the number of households living close to accessible woodland by about 300,000.



4. Promote the transformative role of trees and woodland

Champion trees and woodland (and the White Rose Forest) locally, regionally and nationally, for the role they can play in achieving a prosperous economy, sustainable environment and thriving communities, to ensure they are supported and resourced at the required level.

Each Local Authority area has a current, resourced and effective trees and woodland strategy (in line with the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan) by 2050.

Local Planning policies support the White Rose Forest and are securing meaningful developer investment into the delivery of the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan by 2050.



5. Grow the impact and sustainability of the White Rose Forest partnership

Lead research, innovation, knowledge sharing, skills and capacity development and delivery across the forestry sector in North and West Yorkshire through a strong and effective White Rose Forest partnership. Increase private sector engagement and investment in the White Rose Forest.

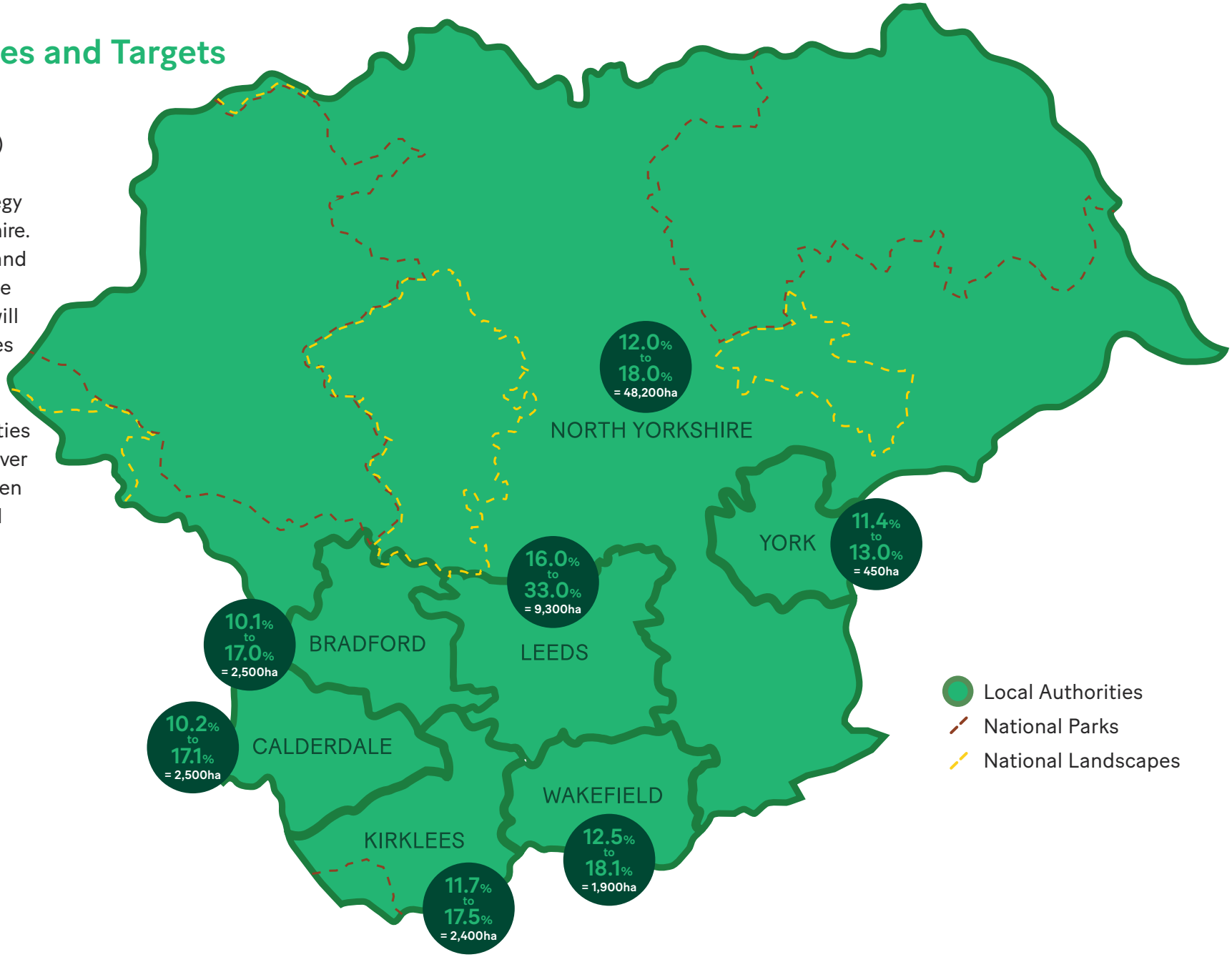
Increase the percentage of the total funding for the White Rose Forest each year coming from non-public sector sources to 50% by 2050.



District Priorities and Targets

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025–50) provides the overarching tree and woodland strategy for North and West Yorkshire. However, given the vast and varied nature of the White Rose Forest area, there will be differences in priorities across the area.

The following local priorities and tree and woodland cover targets for 2050 have been developed for each Local Authority area.





City of BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Increase tree and woodland cover from 10.1% to 17% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 2,500 hectares.

Urban forest planting such as street trees and pocket parks will connect people and nature providing long term benefits to communities and the natural environment.

Wood pasture planting will benefit our rural areas and connect landscapes. With a focus on grazing land, targeted low density planting will enhance and preserve productive land.

Aire catchment planting will provide additional woodland creation benefits such as natural flood management. Catchment tree planting assists with slowing the flow of water to reduce flooding in affected communities.

Calderdale Council

Increase tree and woodland cover from 10.2% to 17.1% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 2,500 hectares.

Significantly increase street and urban tree planting, particularly in deprived areas and areas of low tree cover where appropriate and the need is greatest.

Greatly improve the connectivity of trees and woodland in the landscape and townscape to help promote biodiversity, address the ecological emergency and help to reduce flooding through promoting a joined-up mosaic of habitats.

Commit to build links between people and organisations to improve the quantity and quality of tree and woodland planting and management in the borough through increased partnership and sense of ownership.

Kirklees COUNCIL

Increase tree and woodland cover from 11.7% to 17.5% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 2,400 hectares.

Mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change. By contributing to long-term carbon storage and flood alleviation and increasing resilience to climate impacts. Through targeted planting schemes and woodland restoration.

Contribute to nature recovery, through habitat creation and restoration, to reverse biodiversity decline.

Provide communities access to quality green spaces and contribute to all people in Kirklees having access to high quality green space within 5-10 mins / 500m walk.

Increase tree and woodland cover from 16% to 33% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 9,300 hectares.

Strengthen our emphasis on habitat creation and improvement to support and boost biodiversity gain.

Build in stronger emphasis on Natural Flood Management and 'Naturalised' Flood Management.

Strengthen our commitment to Green Streets® and ways of bringing nature into our hard built landscapes.

Using the above in a strategic way to fully connect our Green Blue Infrastructure.

Increase tree and woodland cover from 12% to 18% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 48,200 hectares.

North Yorkshire Council will harmonise and promote good practice through the development and adoption of a Tree and Woodland Policy – thereby protecting biodiversity, landscape character and heritage tree stock.

A Tree and Woodland Strategy will be developed to co-ordinate, support and influence significantly increased woodland and tree planting across North Yorkshire, aligning directly with partners including White Rose Forest to increase tree canopy cover, contributing to both climate change mitigation and adaption.

Through policy, strategy and service planning the Council will ensure a consistent and co-ordinated approach is taken within North Yorkshire Council plans e.g. land use planning, Local Nature Recovery Strategy and water management.

Increase tree and woodland cover from 12.5% to 18.1% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 1,900 hectares.

Increase efforts to support and sustain biodiversity across the district through the development and maintenance of new and existing habitats across our portfolio of green spaces – supported by Biodiversity Net Gain.

We will work with communities, groups and residents to ensure good quality, well maintained leisure, recreation and open space facilities which are safe and welcoming places to visit for all local people, with a wide leisure offer. We will support biodiversity in our greenspaces, parkland and wider countryside and protect wildlife and their natural habitats.

We will continue to seek out and develop opportunities to bring nature into our urban and village centres – in terms of soft landscaping, flood alleviation and other means.

Increase tree and woodland cover from 11.4% to 13% by 2050. This will increase the area of trees and woodland by approximately 450 hectares.

Expansion of York's woodland, urban forest and hedgerows with a focus on nature recovery, climate resilience and access to green space.

Protect and restore York's hedgerows, trees and woodland through active management and community engagement with a focus on key risks including ageing stock, climate resilience and disease.

Enhance York's flood resilience through nature-based solutions and natural flood management, particularly in the Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse (SUNO) catchments to 'slow the flow'.

Note: Tree and woodland cover baseline and target figures are based on the Forest Research National Forestry Inventory Woodland and Trees Outside Woodland datasets, as this is how the national baseline and statutory target for England are measured. Other datasets may be used at a local level, giving differing figures, but with the same overall level of aspiration.

Approach

The White Rose Forest partnership will work collectively to deliver against the strategic objectives in this Strategic Plan.
We will support a multi-disciplinary design-led approach to tree and woodland establishment and management through the adoption of the White Rose Forest Delivery Pathway, to produce a range of benefits for the landscape, wildlife and communities.

Landowners and managers across North and West Yorkshire will be offered guidance, support and professional expertise to help them navigate the planning, design, approval, funding, planting and management of trees and woodland. The start point for any engagement will be understanding landowner or manager objectives, with the approach aiming to empower informed decision making.

To support landowner engagement the White Rose Forest partnership will identify broad thematic priority areas (initially Green Streets®, Landscapes for Water and Nature Recovery) across North and West Yorkshire where trees and woodland could provide the most benefit and maximise the overall return on investment, but will remain open to proposals from all areas. We will also recognise more detailed local opportunity mapping undertaken by partners. This approach will target landowner engagement and design tree and woodland establishment to protect important species and habitats and support continued agricultural productivity.



Principles

The White Rose Forest partnership will employ these principles to underpin its approach to delivering this Strategic Plan.

They are intended to provide high-level guidance to the individuals and organisations working across the partnership.



Prioritisation

Act with urgency, but considering a long-term horizon, maximising the benefits of trees and woodland for future generations.

Focus tree and woodland establishment and management in areas of greatest need and benefit, making best use of resources.

Collaboration

Share data and research to build knowledge across the partnership, enabling an evidence-based approach to shape and develop future priorities and plans.

Focus on the collective aims and utilise the skills, experience and resources of the partnership optimally, ensuring the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

Engagement

Involve the public, communities, businesses etc in the work of the partnership, building the network of stakeholders and increasing their connection with trees and woodland.

Seek input from stakeholders on design and delivery of schemes and development of the partnership, integrating concerns and aspirations into decision making.

Innovation

Be landowner led, engaging early and tailoring schemes and support to their circumstances, needs and land, retaining flexibility within an overall approach.

Embrace new approaches and seek opportunities for continued improvement, providing leadership within the sector and across the community forest network.

Professionalism

Respect the historical significance of trees and woodland and their place in the local landscape, recognising where sensitivities exist with other habitats and where opportunities exist to integrate with other land uses.

Ensure tree and woodland establishment and management is undertaken in line with best practice principles (UK Forestry Standard), adopting sustainable forest management.

Programmes

The work of the White Rose Forest partnership will be structured around a number of strategic programmes. The partnership will work with stakeholders to design and deliver these programmes in the context of the long-term vision and strategic objectives.



Current Programme - Landscapes for Water

The Landscapes for Water programme provides a strategic approach to natural flood management in North and West Yorkshire and focuses on the creation of new woodland in river valleys or catchments to help reduce flood risk for communities and businesses further downstream.

Planting trees along our river corridors also enhances biodiversity, improves water quality and helps to protect riverbanks.
The programme focusses on larger scale woodland creation within priority river valleys or catchments in North and West Yorkshire, as part of landscape scale change.

Current Programme - Green Streets®

The Green Streets® programme focusses on urban tree planting and management and aims to improve air quality, make our urban spaces more attractive for businesses and investment, and encourage the uptake of active travel, linking areas of deprivation to education/employment sites.

The programme looks to integrate more natural and semi-natural areas, such as water bodies and green wooded spaces (blue and green infrastructure), into transportation and urban design in North and West Yorkshire, with a focus on areas of development, more deprived areas and creating more equitable access, for communities to enjoy.

Developing Programme - Restore

The Restore programme will build on the recent successful delivery of tree planting and woodland creation in the White Rose Forest, by taking a similar approach to woodland management. The programme will, encourage and support sustainable management of under-managed trees and woodlands, with a focus on Ancient Woodland (including Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites), Ancient and Veteran trees and trees and woodlands near to where people live.

This will provide direct benefits through increased biodiversity, increased resilience and providing better access to woodland.
It will also demonstrate to landowners the value of their woodland estates and the benefits of management, and enhance and expand skills, strengthening the forestry sector.

Collective Action

To achieve the ambition of this Strategic Plan, collective action will be required by the full range of stakeholders, as each have different and complementary roles to play.

Local Authorities

- Champion the White Rose Forest, establishing local priorities
- Produce, maintain and resource a tree and woodland strategy, aligned with this Strategic Plan
- Embed this Strategic Plan into all relevant policies/strategies/plans
- Integrate trees and woodland into transport / infrastructure / regeneration projects
- Ensure plans are in place for the sustainable management of your existing woodland
- Enforce National Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning statements
- Work with the White Rose Forest core team on engagement with other landowners and managers
- Support collaborative working through the White Rose Forest partnership by sharing best practice and developing common guidance and policies

National Park Authorities and National Landscape Organisations

- Champion the White Rose Forest locally
- Produce, maintain and resource a tree and woodland strategy, aligned with this Strategic Plan
- Embed this Strategic Plan into all relevant policies/strategies/plans
- Work with the White Rose Forest core team on engagement with other landowners and managers
- Support collaborative working through the White Rose Forest partnership by sharing best practice and developing common guidance and policies

Combined Authorities

- Champion the White Rose Forest
- Embed this Strategic Plan into all relevant policies/strategies/plans
- Work with the White Rose Forest partnership to identify opportunities for additional funding
- Influence central government policy and funding to support the White Rose Forest

Central Government

- Provide a consistent long-term funding programme(s)
- Champion the benefits and contribution of trees and woodland across government
- Recognise and support Community Forests as national delivery partners
- Support the delivery of this Strategic Plan through the work of arms-length bodies (e.g. Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Natural England)

Landowners and Managers

- Consider opportunities to introduce more trees and woodland on your land
- Ensure plans are in place for the sustainable management of your existing woodland
- Contact the White Rose Forest partnership for guidance, support and professional expertise to help you navigate the design, planning, planting and management of trees and woodland

Environmental Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs)

- Champion the White Rose Forest
- Consider opportunities to introduce more trees and woodland on your land and work with the White Rose Forest core team on engagement with other landowners and managers
- Ensure plans are in place for the sustainable management of your existing woodland and promote this to other landowners and managers
- Support collaborative working through the White Rose Forest partnership by sharing best practice and developing common guidance and policies

Developers

- Integrate existing trees into new developments, wherever possible, and protect these during works on site
- Contribute to the expansion of the White Rose Forest by incorporating additional tree planting / woodland creation and associated landscaping within scheme designs

Academics and Researchers

- Engage with the White Rose Forest partnership on research projects, dissertations and placements
- Support collaborative working through the White Rose Forest partnership by undertaking research into issues or opportunities in the White Rose Forest and sharing research findings



Contractors and Suppliers

- Develop capacity, skills etc to grow the forestry sector in North and West Yorkshire and support the delivery of this Strategic Plan
- Support collaborative working through the White Rose Forest partnership by sharing experiences and best practice

Investors and Investment Advisers

- Create new green finance mechanisms, tailored to tree and woodland establishment and management, to meet different investor objectives
- Engage with the White Rose Forest partnership to design and pilot innovative approaches
- Scale up successful pilots into significant schemes / programmes

Businesses

- Promote opportunities for your staff to get involved in volunteering
- Donate to the White Rose Forest to support local tree and woodland projects
- Investigate opportunities to incorporate tree planting where you operate



Public and Third Sector Organisations

- Promote opportunities for your staff to get involved in volunteering
- Investigate opportunities to incorporate tree planting where you operate
- Explore opportunities to connect trees and woodland with your aims and objectives (e.g. health & wellbeing, conservation, climate, place, engagement etc)

Local People

- Express support for the White Rose Forest to local business and political leaders
- Seek opportunities to volunteer and promote a tree and woodland culture
- Engage in plans for local tree planting, woodland creation and management
- Consider planting a tree, if you have an appropriate space
- Explore and enjoy your local woods more often

Funding and Financing

The delivery of this Strategic Plan will require significant funding, to deliver the benefits for business, the environment, nature and communities. The availability of different sources of funding and financing will also influence landowner and manager decisions regarding the establishment and management of trees and woodland.

Defra's Trees for Climate programme has provided significant funding for all Community Forests since its launch in 2020 and has been the predominant source of capital and revenue funding for the White Rose Forest over the last five years.



This has enabled the establishment of significant amounts of new trees and woodland and the development of a core team, at the heart of the partnership, providing significant project delivery and specialist capacity and expertise.

In recognition of the continued pressures on central government funding and the expansion of new funding schemes and financing opportunities, funding the delivery of this Strategic Plan will necessarily become more blended and complex over time, drawing on public, private and charitable sources, with a growing proportion from non-public sector sources.

Some of the main options are:

- Dedicated trees and woodland planning, establishment or management grants
- Broader land management schemes, making payments for environmental goods and services
- Other grant funding, such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Private investment through green finance mechanisms
- Funding through the planning system, as part of development
- Natural capital / Ecosystem services payments
- Devolved government investment funding to Combined Authorities
- Productive forestry
- Corporate sponsorship, donations etc
- Personal and charitable donations

Looking forward, the partnership will take a proactive approach to securing funding, exploring and developing a broad range of options and will do so in a co-ordinated manner to optimise outcomes.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) will be delivered through a series of five-year Action Plans, which will provide more detail on funding, delivery programmes, actions and interim targets for that period of the Strategic Plan. These Action Plans will be developed by the White Rose Forest partnership and approved by the White Rose Forest Strategic Board.



It is envisaged that these Action Plans will be subject to light-touch review annually (with the potential addition, removal and refinement of individual actions) and re-approval by the White Rose Forest Strategic Board if needed, and more significant review after year 3 or 4 leading to the production of a new Action Plan.

Monitoring and evaluation will be essential to understand delivery against the aims, objectives and targets in the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) and five-year Action Plans and demonstrate the difference that the White Rose Forest makes. It also supports future planning, development and directing of resources and provides evidence for advocacy and funding bids.

The White Rose Forest core team will maintain a Geographical Information System (GIS) platform to map all White Rose Forest related tree and woodland establishment and management activity across North and West Yorkshire and systems to monitor and report on progress in delivering the current Action Plan. Partners will need to be open with the sharing of data and progress to enable a holistic collective picture across the White Rose Forest to be established.

The White Rose Forest partnership will report on progress in delivering the current Action Plan to its Programme Management Group and Strategic Board, and report through the England's Community Forests network to the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs. An annual progress and impact report, highlighting what has been achieved, will be published.

Final words

Over the last 25 years the White Rose Forest has successfully delivered a range of significant, and in some case groundbreaking, projects and programmes across North and West Yorkshire. With each year that passes the trees that have been planted grow and increase their positive impact on the local landscape, communities and wildlife. With a strong record of achievement and growing confidence in our approach, the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-2050) lays out the path for further transformation to 2050, creating a resilient landscape for growth.

Guy Thompson
White Rose Forest Programme Director

White Rose Forest

With thanks to our Defra partners

Supported by
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
Forestry Commission
NATURAL ENGLAND
Environment Agency

The White Rose Forest partnership would like to thank the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) and its arms-length bodies for their support over the last 25 years and looks forward to working together to deliver this Strategic Plan over the next 25 years.

www.whiteroseforest.org
whiteroseforest@kirklees.gov.uk

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Berglind Karsdottir, Carl Milner Photography, City of York Council, National Trust, The Grammar School at Leeds, Woodland Trust.

WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50)

Stakeholder Engagement Survey Report

26 February 2025

1. Introduction

The White Rose Forest (WRF) is the Community Forest for North & West Yorkshire. Established in 2000, the WRF partnership is approaching its 25th anniversary, and is developing a strategic plan setting out its ambition and direction for the next 25 years.

A Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) was developed by the partnership to provide the key points from the emerging strategic plan to facilitate engagement with stakeholders and enable feedback to shape the development of the final strategic plan.

This report summarises responses to the stakeholder engagement survey undertaken.

2. Process

The WRF Shadow Strategic Board approved the proposed approach to formal stakeholder and public engagement at their meeting on 3 December. The formal stakeholder engagement process was launched on 4 December 2024, with a deadline for response of 17 January 2025.

A copy of the summary strategic plan document was emailed directly to a named contact(s) in each of the stakeholder organisations (see Appendix 1), with an explanation of the process underway, and a link to a survey (see Appendix 2), comprising a small number of open prompt questions to provide a high-level structure for their free text feedback.

A reminder email was sent to all stakeholders on 7 January 2025.

3. Responses

By the 17 January deadline 22 responses had been received via the survey link and a further 3 responses had been received direct via email, making a total of 25 responses. Two stakeholders (a Local Authority and National Partner) requested an extension to complete their response.

An extension was subsequently provided to the National Partner and the three Local Authority Partners who had not responded, as they had also been asked to: confirm the ambition for the local tree and woodland cover target for the local authority area; and provide a few long-term priorities for the local authority area (and these were critical for the finalisation of the strategic plan). This final report is based on responses from 29 stakeholders, received via the survey link or directly via email.

Responses were received from a good spread of stakeholders (see Appendix 1), covering WRF Strategic Board members, national partners, specialist organisations and local/community groups.

4. Summary

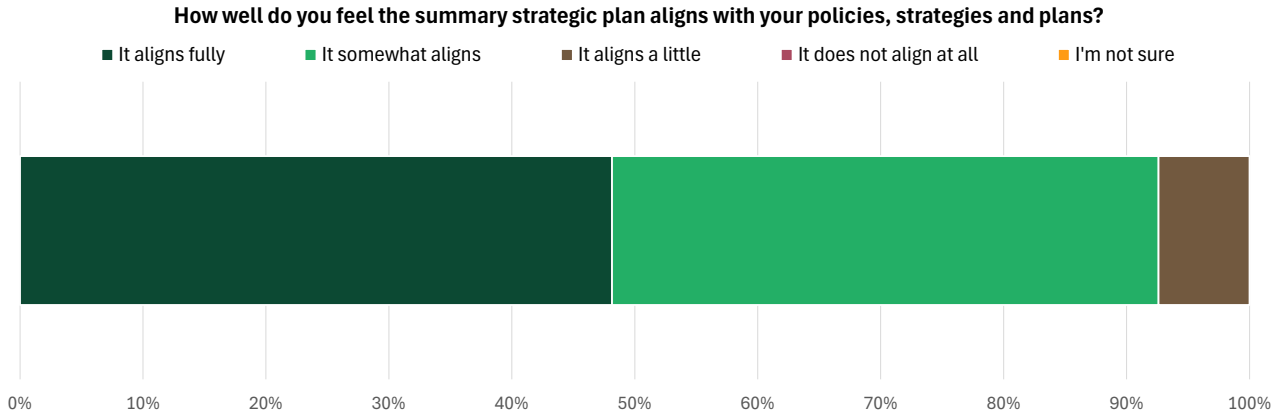
The responses to individual questions are summarised on the following pages. In general, considerable support for the WRF Strategic Plan was expressed, with it aligning well the stakeholder policies, strategies and plans. Stakeholders raised many useful suggestions for how the strategic plan could be further developed / enhanced before it is finalised, which can now be assessed.

5. Results

5.1 Alignment with stakeholder policies, strategies and plans

5.1.1 How well do you feel the summary strategic plan aligns with your policies, strategies and plans?

Stakeholders were asked a simple multiple-choice question to gauge the overall alignment between the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) and their policies, strategies and plans. As shown below, **all respondents confirmed they felt a degree of alignment between the summary strategic plan and their policies, strategies and plans, with almost half indicating full alignment**.



Overall responses indicated a strong degree of alignment with stakeholder policies, strategies and plans, with no overall tensions raised. The broadening / balancing of the WRF aims/objectives, elevating woodland management, community engagement and stressing partnership working alongside the existing tree and woodland planting aim, was very welcomed and provided stronger links with stakeholder policies, strategies and plans.

A range of specific points were raised by respondents, both in terms of what aligns particularly well and areas of difference. A number of these related to policies, strategies and plans specifically, but many also provided wider feedback in this part of the survey.

5.1.2 Please tell us about what aligns particularly well and if there are any areas of difference you would like to highlight

What aligns particularly well with your policies, strategies and plans:

- A number of stakeholders mentioned alignment with specific strategic objectives (the focus of later questions), with many highlighting public engagement as key (“WRF is their forest”)
- Where stakeholders were in the process of developing policies, strategies and plans (e.g. WY LNRS, WYCA’s Climate and Environment Plan) they confirmed there was good alignment with their emerging priorities and ambitions
- The explicit focus on trees and woodland was welcomed and aligned well for urban stakeholders and those consider other environments (e.g. farms), as well as the focus on wooded habitats more generally (rather than just woodland) and connectivity of these into a network

- Landscapes for Water and riparian planting were highlighted by a number of stakeholders as aligning particularly well
- The emerging woodland management progress (Restore) was well supported (with the inclusion of ancient and veteran trees suggested), with comment made that it seems that the management of woodland creation schemes has been less of a priority resulting in diminished outcomes
- Respondents generally were pleased to see and commented on the range of benefits provided by tree and woodland establishment and management, and given this range this helped with the alignment with policies, strategies and plans
- Several respondents commented that they were pleased to see sensitivities highlighted

Are there any areas of difference with your policies, strategies and plans:

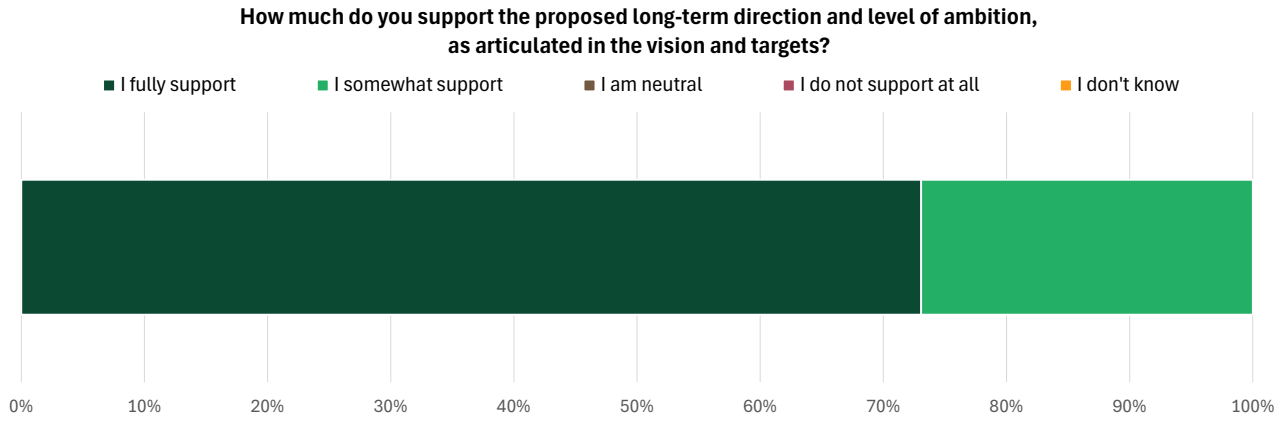
- There were a number of specific areas where one or more respondents requested more information to be included:
  - More factual information on the achievements of the WRF to date (and any lessons learned), plus more detail on the challenges going forward
  - More information on other specific policies (national and local)
  - Monitoring and Evaluation of the plan, leading to learning and potentially evolving / adapting the plan in the future
- A number of stakeholders emphasised biodiversity and soil health, highlighting the reliance of the wider ecosystem of fungi, mosses, lichens, invertebrates etc which depend on trees and woodland, and suggesting recognition of the potential tensions of managing for biodiversity
- The need to balance access objectives with protecting habitats / biodiversity was highlighted several times
- The importance of climate change, resilience and adaptation to the impacts of change climate was felt to need more prominence by several respondents
- Biosecurity was mentioned as lacking by several respondents, with stopping pest and diseases needing to be added alongside increasing resilience to pests and diseases
- Strengthening referencing to other habitats and the importance of woodland's interface with other habitats including grassland and water and wetland (and habitat mosaics not being mentioned)
- More emphasis on the priority areas was requested, but with clarity that these were not exclusive and all opportunities will be considered
- Concern was raised regarding the tree and woodland cover target now being based on the Forest Research NFI Woodland + Trees Outside Woodland datasets, rather than BlueSky data (given differences in the baseline figures), by several local authority stakeholders and the issue this presented when targets had been approved locally previously based on BlueSky data
- A protected landscape highlighted the ambitious nature of the expansion of tree and woodland cover target (and that the average across the WRF as a whole 7% would be higher than they could commit to for their area, which was likely to be around a 4.3% increase) and a desire to see a split geographically

- There were a number of specific areas where more emphasis was requested (generally by stakeholders with a particular interest in these areas):
  - Rewilding / natural regeneration
  - Hedges
  - Fruit trees / orchards
  - Ancient Woodland and Ancient / Veteran Trees
  - Farmers / farming
- A number of specific suggestions around rephrasing, enhancing and de-risking wording were also received

5.2 Support for the proposed long-term direction and level of ambition

5.2.1 How much do you support the proposed long-term direction and level of ambition, as articulated in the vision and targets?

Stakeholders were asked a simple multiple-choice question to gauge their overall support for the direction and ambition of the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50). As shown below, **all respondents confirmed support for the long-term direction and level of ambition, as articulated in the vision and targets, with over 70% indicating full support**.



5.2.2 Please highlight elements of the vision which particularly resonate with your organisation

Overall responses indicated a strong support for the long-term direction and level of ambition, as articulated in the vision and targets. Many stakeholders picked out specific words/phrases from the vision which particularly resonated with them. There was some repetition with feedback to the previous question (which isn't repeated below), but a range of specific points were raised by respondents.

- Community engagement resonated with many respondents, with particular mentions of connecting people with trees, empowering people to help, co-creation, and increasing access for people and communities

- The partnership approach was highlighted ("pooling and sharing resources/funding and working together to achieve more") and the opportunity to work with large organisations and land owners to develop a more comprehensive and consistent approach to increased planting was mentioned
- The focus on wooded habitats more generally (rather than just woodland) was supported, with support for integrating trees across the landscape and the need for consideration of associated habitats and connectivity highlighted by a number of respondents
- The contribution of tree planting/nature restoration as part of catchment management (natural flood management, water quality etc) was widely supported
- The opportunity for an initiative the scale of the WRF to help grow the capacity of the forestry supply chain was stressed
- There was support for collaboration generally and more specifically the WRF as a place of innovation, learning and demonstrating impact
- A number of specific points seeking more clarity or proposing rephrasing of wording were also received

5.2.3 Please tell us about anything you feel is missing or should be strengthened within the vision and targets

Understandably the points raised by respondents tended to be more specific when responding to this question. There was some repetition with feedback to previous questions (which isn't repeated below), but a range of further specific points were raised by respondents.

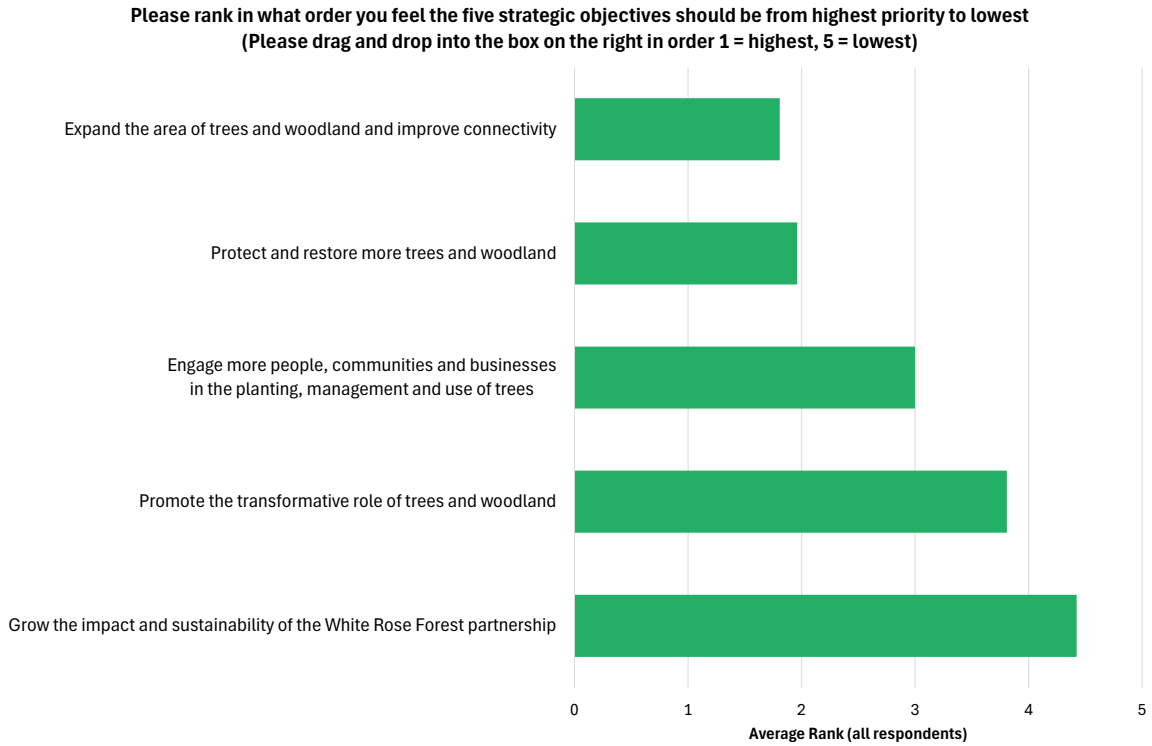
- Increasing businesses/corporate involvement was stressed by several respondents, and other large public sector organisations by another
- Further details on the economic value of trees and woodland was suggested by a respondent, with one highlight climate resilience protecting and boosting the economy and leading to jobs and investment and another highlighting sustainable timber for construction and creating green jobs
- Several respondents raised broadening to talk more about: trees and woodland as part of green infrastructure; related habitat creation and restoration (including tying in with wider government policies / targets); and Landscape Recovery Schemes
- Reference to Landscape character, as one of West and North Yorkshire's key attributes and a great selling point, was requested by a respondent
- Reinforcing the benefits of trees to farm systems/livestock, by adding into the vision / strategic objectives was requested by a respondent
- The inclusion of orchards in urban green spaces and the creation and protection/restoration of orchards was requested by a respondent
- Further detail on education programmes (schools, apprenticeships etc) was requested by a respondent
- Involving people in deign/co-design to create connection and improve accessibility was highlighted by a respondent
- The need for more focus on alternatives to plastic and retrieving/recycling plastic was raised by several respondents

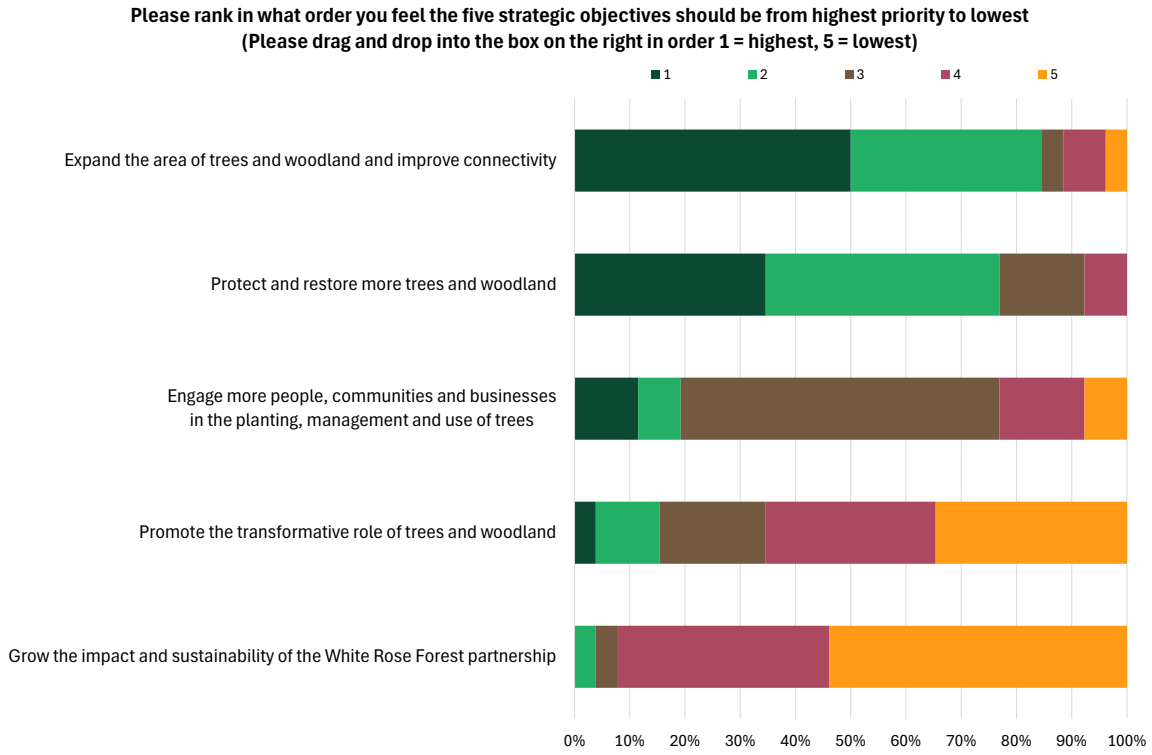
- It was suggested that it should be explicitly stated that WRF will engage/collaborate/work in partnership with key organisations in achieving their aims
- A number of specific suggestions around rephrasing, enhancing and de-risking wording were also received

5.3 Ranking the five strategic objectives

5.3.1 Please rank in what order you feel the five strategic objectives should be from highest priority to lowest

Stakeholders were asked to provide a simple ranking of the five strategic objectives from highest to lowest to gauge their relative prioritisation of these. As shown below, **respondents provided a fairly clear distinction in their ranking of the five strategic objectives, but there was some differentiation in individual responses**.





5.3.2 Please tell us a bit about the reasons for your order of priorities above

Respondents were asked to rank the strategic objectives to make them think about whether they saw any as more important than others, and thereby help understand any need to refine, combine or remove objectives. The strategic objectives were listed as 1 – 5 in the document, but this wasn't meant to imply a ranking, although some may have interpreted this as the case. Understandably many respondents stressed that all five strategic objectives were important or that they found it hard to rank/differentiate. Several respondents highlighted dependencies / linkages between objectives or that their relative importance may ebb and flow over time (especially with such a long-term strategic plan).

A range of views were expressed in respondents' specific decisions on ranking of the strategic objectives.

- A fairly common view was that as objectives 1 & 2 were more action/delivery focussed and the others were more driving/supporting, the first two objectives should be ranked more highly, plus one respondent highlighted the urgency of action and hence need to prioritise objectives 1 & 2 and another highlight the alignment of these with the ambitions of the LNRS and Lawtonian principles
- Some respondents felt that protecting and restoring was more important than expanding and improving connectivity, because: you should look after what you have first; the time to restore PAWS is diminishing; and land availability will slow
- Several respondents felt promotion should rank higher than engagement, as the former led to increasing the latter, plus one respondent felt this could support the need to stimulate the economy and create good jobs in the environment sector
- However, several other respondents felt engagement was really important as it led to people valuing and protecting trees and woodland, and also highlighted that this should be ranked highly for WRF as a Community Forest
- Several respondents saw objectives 4 & 5 as positive and complementary, but less directly relevant, with one respondent suggesting that others were doing work in the promotion area and hence should be less of a priority

5.3.3 Please highlight elements of the proposed strategic objectives and programmes which particularly resonate with your organisation

A number of respondents indicated they had already covered this question in their response to the previous question, and as such there were less responses and responses tended to be less detailed and echo points previously captured (and hence these aren't repeated below) but a range of further specific points were raised by respondents.

- Many respondents indicated that a number of the objectives resonated with their organisation, with some highlighting specific wording within objectives
- Several respondents highlighted partnership working, with the importance of working with landowners/managers and farmers, offering guidance and professional expertise stressed and working with local organisations such as nurseries

- Several respondents commented on the engagement aspect being important ("people help to protect trees"), with a particular mention of the importance of involving those that are disengaged or distant from nature and deprived communities
- Protecting and restoring trees and woodland was highlighted by a number of respondents, with specific mention being made about the impact of stretched Local Authority budgets and the importance of ancient trees and woodland
- A respondent highlighted that three core programmes will enable a holistic approach to delivering change at scale in a way that will resonate with communities, deliver visible change, enhance connectivity/access, and support partnership work
- A respondent stated that strategic objective 5 fits well with their evidence-based approach and a wish to innovate and catalyse actions
- A respondent noted that they were pleased to see "establishment" being used rather than "planting" and wanted to see WRF emphasise the important role of woodland maintenance in the early years following planting

5.3.4 Please tell us about anything you feel is missing or should be strengthened within the proposed strategic objectives and programmes

A few respondents indicated they had already covered this question in their response to the previous questions and there were less responses overall to this question, plus some responses echoed points previously captured (and hence these aren't repeated below). However, a range of further specific points were raised by respondents (some of which provided quite detailed responses and a level of detail which probably can't be included in a strategic level plan spanning 25 years).

- Several respondents highlighted growing the forestry sector as needing more emphasis, in different ways: training, apprenticeships, jobs; attracting more young people / career changers; supporting nurseries to ensure a consistent supply of trees; knowledge sharing through activities such as learning walks, seed collection, hedge planting training etc
- Several respondents said they would like to see more granular metrics and / or interim targets
- A respondent felt more detail on funding mechanisms should be included, and another suggested highlighting corporate social responsibility
- A number of points were raised by individual respondents, where they felt this should be added or strengthened:
  - more recognition of the ability of existing and new planted trees to support habitats and assemblages of species
  - more reference to the range of organisations involved in WRF (a strength) and the aims to broaden the range of corporate and community partners of all sizes
  - more emphasis on the role of the WRF in shared learning, as it could be a real key component for the partnership moving forward (topics such as reducing plastics, natural regeneration, establishing own work force, dealing with contractors, replacement species for ash)
  - emphasising the valuable role WRF can play through its advice, guidance and funding to support businesses seeking to integrate trees into farmed landscapes alongside food production
  - the need for more ecological knowledge in the WRF (team), understanding the full range of habitats and helping to develop an improved understanding of the area

  - enhancing cultural connections (e.g. maps, trails, guides etc)
  - considering how trade-offs will be avoided or managed
  - the need to engage/work in partnership with key stakeholders in early design / planning stages
  - the role of technology in enhancing tree planting, monitoring and management
- A few specific points seeking more clarity or proposing rephrasing of wording were also received

5.4 Any other comments

Approximately two thirds of respondents provided additional comments in response to this question. Some of the comments were more general, expressing support for the strategic plan or providing congratulations on the good balance between getting across the ambition, but restricting too much detail, and some reiterating/summarising points already made (hence these aren't repeated below). However, a range of further specific points were raised by respondents covering a full range of topics and at differing levels of detail – most of these were from individual respondents.

- More emphasis on connectivity of trees in the landscape and townscape (linking fragmented woodland)
- More emphasis on building links between people and organisations: community engagement; corporate involvement; awareness raising
- Support for the expansion in the WRF approach, to include scrub, hedgerows and scattered trees
- More emphasis on increasing people's connection/relationship with nature, and this leading to pro-environmental behaviour
- Include reference to the WRF's Ancient Woodland Plan
- Refine the wording around ancient woodland restoration, clarifying that it should be undertaken sensitively as well as sustainably
- Consider how WRF view itself in terms of driving national level ambition and policy – an exemplar (higher targets, delivery and standards?)
- Make more reference to wider WRF partnership, recognising existing partners (logos etc) and possibly the One Team Approach
- Recognise other partnerships and conservation efforts in W&NY which are just as important (e.g. rephrase the first sentence of the vision)
- Reference other organisations delivering woodland creation/management e.g. Forestry Commission (EXCO), Woodland Trust (GBG)
- Highlight collaboration with planning authorities and role of planning policy in supporting tree planting and protection
- The need for flexibility of approach over time
- Hope that there will be a White Rose Forest visitor centre sometime before 2050
- The potential for woodlands to be sites for reintroductions (with sufficient research and trials)

- An idea for creating a Northern Forest walk/trail (coast to coast) – a green Hadrian's Wall / nature corridor – to promote, access funding, attract tourism, increase engagement
- There is some confusion regarding the WRF as a geography vs partnership vs team – seek to clarify this further
- Reference National Park and National Landscape management plans in the policy section, given their significance across the WRF
- The Programmes section feels quite short-term and doesn't cover all areas - potentially remove from this long-terms strategic plan?
- The concept of 'Core forest areas' targeting 30% tree and woodland cover is raised – need to reflect that these are not currently defined
- A suggestion that images should be more illustrative of the vision of what the WRF will be, rather than of it being established (planting/tree tubes)
- A few specific points seeking more clarity or proposing rephrasing of wording were also received

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Engagement – Stakeholder Contacts and Respondents

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
Local Authorities			
1. Bradford Council	Richard Hollinson Saira Ali	richard.hollinson@bradford.gov.uk saira.ali@bradford.gov.uk	✓
2. Calderdale Council	Andrew Pitts Moy Cash Dan Docker	andrew.pitts@calderdale.gov.uk moy.cash@calderdale.gov.uk daniel.docker@calderdale.gov.uk	✓
3. Kirklees Council	Graham West (Katherine Armitage) Will Acornley Joe Robertson	graham.west@kirklees.gov.uk (katherine.armitage@kirklees.gov.uk) will.acornley@kirklees.gov.uk joe.robertson@kirklees.gov.uk	✓
4. Leeds City Council	Polly Cook Tony Stringwell Glenn Gorner	Polly.cook@leeds.gov.uk Tony.Stringwell@leeds.gov.uk Glen.Gorner@leeds.gov.uk	✓*
5. North Yorkshire Council	Karl Battersby Michael Leah Shaun Berry Hugh Clear Hill Jonathan Clubb Tim Johns Ann Stewart	Karl.Battersby@northyorks.gov.uk Michael.Leah@northyorks.gov.uk Shaun.Berry@northyorks.gov.uk Hugh.ClearHill@northyorks.gov.uk jonathan.clubb@northyorks.gov.uk timothy.johns@northyorks.gov.uk ann.stewart@northyorks.gov.uk	✓*
6. Wakefield Council	Gary Blenkinsop Charlie Tindill	gblenkinsop@wakefield.gov.uk ctindill@wakefield.gov.uk	✓
7. City of York Council	Claire Foale Shaun Gibbons Paul McCabe	Claire.Foale@york.gov.uk shaun.gibbons@york.gov.uk paul.mccabe@york.gov.uk	✓

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
Combined Authorities			
8. West Yorkshire Combined Authority	Liz Hunter Alison Gillespie Justin Wilson Erin Wheeler Tamsin Constable	liz.hunter@westyorks-ca.gov.uk alison.gillespie@westyorks-ca.gov.uk Justin.Wilson@westyorks-ca.gov.uk Erin.Wheeler@westyorks-ca.gov.uk tamsin.constable@westyorks-ca.gov.uk	✓
9. York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority	Andrew Leeming Katie Thomas	andrew.leeming@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk katie.thomas@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk	
Protected Landscapes			
10. North York Moors National Park Authority	Briony Fox	b.fox@northyorkmoors.org.uk	✓
11. Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Gary Smith	Gary.Smith@yorkshiredales.org.uk	
12. Peak District National Park Authority	Rhodri Thomas	Rhodri.Thomas@peakdistrict.gov.uk	
13. Forest of Bowland National Landscape	Tony Lund	tony.lund@lancashire.gov.uk	
14. Howardian Hills National Landscape	Ellie Hook	estelle.hook@northyorks.gov.uk	
15. Nidderdale National Landscape	Iain Mann	iain.mann@northyorks.gov.uk	✓*
National Partners			
16. Forestry Commission	William Worsley Crispin Thorn Sam Cooper Jim Smith	william.worsley@forestrycommission.gov.uk crispin.thorn@forestrycommission.gov.uk sam.cooper@forestrycommission.gov.uk jim.smith@forestrycommission.gov.uk	✓
17. Forestry England	Tom Andre	tom.andre@forestryengland.uk	✓
18. Natural England	Paul Duncan Kathryn Godfrey	paul.duncan@naturalengland.org.uk kathryn.godfrey@naturalengland.org.uk	
19. Environment Agency	Helen Batt Richard Hartley Keith Davie Sally Parker	Helen.Batt@environment-agency.gov.uk richard.hartley@environment-agency.gov.uk keith.davie@environment-agency.gov.uk sally.parker@environment-agency.gov.uk	✓

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
20. Woodland Trust	Alistair Crosby Nick Sellwood Sian Atkinson	alistaircrosby@woodlandtrust.org.uk nicksellwood@woodlandtrust.org.uk sianatkinson@woodlandtrust.org.uk	✓
21. National Trust	Daniela D'Andreta Rosie Holdsworth	daniela.dandreta@nationaltrust.org.uk Rosie.Holdsworth@nationaltrust.org.uk	✓
Water / River / NFM			
22. Yorkshire Water	Hazel Earnshaw	Hazel.Earnshaw@yorkshirewater.co.uk	
23. Aire Catchment Partnership	Billy Coburn Rachel Forsyth	billy.coburn@aireriverstrust.org.uk rachel.forsyth@aireriverstrust.org.uk	
24. Aire Resilience Company	Geoff Roberts	geoff.roberts@aireriverstrust.org.uk	
25. Calder Catchment Partnership	Andy Gray Rachel Kipling	andy.bray@calderandcolneriverstrust.org rachel.kipling@calderandcolneriverstrust.org	
26. Dales to Vales Catchment Partnership	Charlotte Simons	charlotte.simons@ydrt.co.uk	
27. Derwent Catchment Partnership	Brian Lavelle	brian.lavelle@ywt.org.uk	
28. Esk Catchment Partnership	Alexandra Cripps	a.cripps@northyorkmoors.org.uk	
29. iCASP		icasp@leeds.ac.uk	
30. Slow the Flow	Amanda McDermott	amanda@slowtheflow.net	✓
Nature			
31. North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Partnership	Matt Millington	Matthew.Millington@northyorks.gov.uk	✓*
32. Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership	Chris Woodley-Stewart	chris@northpenninesaonb.org.uk	
33. West Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership	Sally Parker	sally.parker@environment-agency.gov.uk	
34. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	Rachael Bice Sharne McMillan	rachael.bice@ywt.org.uk sharne.mcmillan@ywt.org.uk	✓
35. North & East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre	Simon Pickles	simon.pickles@neyedc.co.uk	
36. West Yorkshire Joint Services (Ecology)	Robert Masheder	robert.masheder@wyjs.org.uk	✓

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
37. Nature North	Colm Bowe Steph Hepworth	colmb@naturenorth.org.uk stephh@naturenorth.org.uk	
38. Nature Finance	Dan Hird	dan.hird@naturefinance.co.uk	
Universities / Colleges			
39. University of Leeds / United Bank of Carbon	Catt Scott Tom Sloan	c.e.scott@leeds.ac.uk T.J.Sloan@leeds.ac.uk	✓
40. Leeds Beckett University	Alan Simson	alan.simson@btinternet.com	
41. University of York	Gordon Eastham	gordon.eastham@york.ac.uk	
42. Huddersfield University	Rob Norreys	R.Norreys@hud.ac.uk	
43. Yorkshire & Humber Climate Commission	Rosa Foster Sam Herbert	R.Foster1@leeds.ac.uk s.herbert@leeds.ac.uk	✓
44. Askham Bryan College		enquiries@askham-bryan.ac.uk	
45. Bishop Burton College		enquiries@bishopburton.ac.uk	
Business			
46. West and North Yorkshire Chambers of Commerce		info@wnychamber.co.uk mark.casci@wnychamber.co.uk	
47. Northern Gas Networks	Neil Whalley	nwhalley@northerngas.co.uk	
48. Businesses (who have donated)	ExcelGB UK Greetings Splitpixel Kent Introl Harrogate Spring water Cardale Asset Management	venice.gent@excelgb.com chris.shaw@ukgreetings.co.uk charlie@splitpixel.co.uk paul.glew@kentintrol.com charlotte.holmes@harrogatespring.com isabelle.clough@cardale-am.co.uk	
Farming / Land / Forestry			
49. National Farmers Union	James Copeland	james.copeland@nfu.org.uk	
50. Country Land and Business Association (CLA)	Henk Geertsema	henk.geertsema@cla.org.uk	✓

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
51. Royal Forestry Society (Yorkshire Division)	Ben Scotting (Divisional Representative) Ed Johnson (Honorary Secretary)	rfshq@rfs.org.uk	
52. Institute of Chartered Foresters (North England)	Tom Coates (Chair) Billie-Jo Blackett (Secretary)	icf@charteredforesters.org	
53. Small Woods Association		office@smallwoods.org.uk	
54. Tree Council		info@treecouncil.org.uk	
55. Forest of Knaresborough	David Rhodes	rhodesdt@yahoo.co.uk	
56. Northwoods		northwoods@reheat.uk.com	
57. Tilhill Forestry	Simon Marrington	simon.marrington@tilhill.com	
58. Forest Carbon		enquiries@forestcarbon.co.uk	
59. Forestry / farming / land consultants or agents	Wayne Scurrah Matt Taylor Simon Rochester Will Richardson	wayne@forestryconsultants.co.uk forestandland@gmail.com simon.rochester@savills.com will.richardson@ruraldevelopment.org.uk	
60. Contractors (including nurseries etc)	Thorpe Trees - Caroline Taylor and Richard Padgett Ashtrees Nursery	caroline@thorpetrees.com richard@thorpetrees.com ashley@ashtreesltd.co.uk	✓

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
Health (Directors of Public Health)			
61. Directors of Public Health	Bradford (Rose Dunlop) Calderdale (Deborah Harkins) Kirklees (Rachel Spencer-Henshall) Leeds(Victoria Eaton) North Yorkshire (Louise Wallace) Wakefield (Steve Turnbull) York (Peter Roderick)	Rose.Dunlop@Bradford.gov.uk Deborah.Harkins@calderdale.gov.uk rachel.spencer-henshall@kirklees.gov.uk Victoria.eaton@leeds.gov.uk louise.wallace@northyorks.gov.uk sturnbull@wakefield.gov.uk peter.roderick@york.gov.uk	
62. NHS Forest		info@nhsforest.org	
63. York and Scarborough NHS Foundation Trust	Graham Titchener	graham.titchener@nhs.net	✓
MPs			

64. MPs	Leeds Central and Headingley Bradford West Leeds North East York Central Leeds West and Pudsey Huddersfield Calder Valley Pontefract, Castleford and Knottingley Bradford South Wakefield and Rothwell Bradford East Leeds South West and Morley Leeds South Normanton and Hemsworth Halifax Leeds East Colne Valley Shipley Ossett and Denby Dale Leeds North West Selby York Outer Dewsbury and Batley Spen Valley Scarborough and Whitby Skipton and Ripon Keighley and Ilkley Richmond and Northallerton Wetherby and Easingwold Thirsk and Malton	alex.sobel.mp@parliament.uk naz.shah.mp@parliament.uk fabian.hamilton.mp@parliament.uk rachael.maskell.mp@parliament.uk rachel.reeves.mp@parliament.uk harpreet.uppal.mp@parliament.uk josh.fentonglynn.mp@parliament.uk coopery@parliament.uk judith.cummins.mp@parliament.uk simon.lightwood.mp@parliament.uk imran.hussain.mp@parliament.uk mark.sewards.mp@parliament.uk hilary.benn.mp@parliament.uk trickettj@parliament.uk kate.dearden.mp@parliament.uk richard@richardburgon.com paul.davies.mp@parliament.uk anna.dixon.mp@parliament.uk jade.botterill.mp@parliament.uk katie.white.mp@parliament.uk Keir.Mather.MP@parliament.uk luke.charters.mp@parliament.uk iqbal.mohamed.mp@parliament.uk kim.leadbeater.mp@parliament.uk alison.hume.mp@parliament.uk julian.smith@parliament.uk robbie.moore.mp@parliament.uk rishi.sunak.mp@parliament.uk alec.shelbrooke.mp@parliament.uk kevin.hollinrake.mp@parliament.uk tom.gordon.mp@parliament.uk	

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
	Harrogate and Knaresborough		
Neighbouring Community Forests / Woodland Partnerships			
65. City of Trees	Jess Thompson Bryan Cosgrove	jessicat@cityoftrees.org.uk bryan@cityoftrees.org.uk	
66. Raise: Cumbria Community Forest	James Cobbold Zoe Pearson	james@raisecumbria.co.uk zoe@raisecumbria.co.uk	✓
67. Humber Forest	Leah Cave Julie Wass	leah.cave@eastriding.gov.uk julie.wass@eastriding.gov.uk	
68. Trees on Tees	Claire Ross	clare.ross@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk	
69. South Yorkshire Woodland Partnership	Matt North	m.north@wildsheffield.com	
70. Community Forest Trust	Charles Vivian Clare Olver	charles@cf-trust.org clare@cf-trust.org	
DEFRA			
71. DEFRA	Tim Hughes	Tim.Hughes@defra.gov.uk	
Community/Local Groups (as contacted/surveyed in community engagement project & not already included above)			
72. Baildon Tree Partnership		baildontrees@gmail.com	
73. Colne Valley Tree Society	Simon Lyes	info@colnevalleytreesociety.org	
74. Forus Tree	Mischa	info@forustree.org	
75. Groundwork Yorkshire	Adrian Curtis	acurtis@groundwork.org.uk	
76. Kindle Woods	Katie Rees	katie@kindlewoods.com	
77. River Holme Connections	Simon Hirst Cllr Susan Lee-Richards	riversteward@riverholmeconnections.org sue.leerichards1@gmail.com	✓
78. TCV - The Conservation Volunteers	Ian Jakulis Joanna Brehaut	i.jakulis@tcv.org.uk joanna.brehaut@tcv.org.uk	

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
79. Trees for Cities	Mel Francis Roddy Shaw	Mel@treesforcities.org roderick@treesforcities.org	
80. Westwood Landscape		bruce@westwoodlandscape.co.uk	
81. YORgreen CIC	Ian Butterfield	hello@yorgreencic.org.uk	
82. Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust	Michael Devlin Carol Douglas Mike Appleton	michael.devlin@ydmt.org carol.douglas@ydmt.org mike.appleton@ydmt.org	
83. Zero Carbon Harrogate	Ian Fraser	ianfraser3@me.com	✓
84. Fruitworks		hello@fruitworks.org.uk	✓
85. Open Country		info@opencountry.org.uk wakefield@opencountry.org.uk	
86. Treemendous		treemendousinfo@gmail.com	
87. Wakefield Tree wardens	Roger Parkinson	parkinson78@gmail.com	
88. Raincliffe Woods - Scarborough Community Woodlands		enquiries@raincliffewoods.co.uk	
89. Just the Job/Rufus Wood		info@just-the-job.org.uk	
90. Hedgrow conservation		Hedgerow.Oakwell@gmail.com	
91. Urban Treehuggers - Kirklees Tree Planting Group		urbantreehuggers100@gmail.com	
92. Leeds Coppice Workers		leedscoppiceworkers@gmail.com	
93. Get Out More CiC		annie@getoutmorecic.co.uk	
94. Menston Area Nature Trust		info@mant.org.uk	
95. Otley Nature Network (ONN)		hello@otley2030.com	
96. Wildlife Friendly Otley - Friends of Weston Woods		wildlifefriendlyotley@gmail.com	
97. Climate Action Ilkley		info@climateactionilkley.org.uk	
98. Holmdale Nature Network		holmedalenaturenetwork@gmail.com	

Organisation	Contact	Email Address	Response?
99. Sustainable Swaledale		info@sustainableswaledale.org	
100. St Nick's (York)		info@stnicks.org.uk	
101. Grow to School		grow@growtoschool.co.uk	
102. Malhamdale Environment Group		malhamdalevolunteers@gmail.com	
103. Coast and Vale Community Action		admin@cavca.org.uk	
104. Community First Yorkshire		info@communityfirstyorkshire.org.uk	
105. Addingham Environmental Group		aeg@addingham.info	✓
106. North Yorkshire Climate Coalition		nyclimatecoalition@gmail.com	
107. Longlands Common		info@longlandscommon.org ianfraser3@me.com	
108. Woodland Dwelling	Russell Horsey Sarah Shorley	russell.horsey@gmail.com sarah@woodlanddwelling.co.uk	
109. Upper Calderdale Wildlife Network	Philip Marshall Penny Price	pjatod@googlemail.com penny@pblandscape.co.uk	✓*

* response provided by email, not via survey

Appendix 2: Stakeholder Engagement Survey

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) - Stakeholder Engagement

The Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) document has been designed to provide the key points from the emerging strategic plan.

At this stage, we are seeking your input to help shape the development of the final strategic
plan and understand how well it aligns with your organisation/groups own strategies/plans.

1. Please tell us your organisation/group name?

2. What is your name?

3. What is your role?

4. What is your e-mail address? *a copy of your responses will be sent using this.*

5. Have you read the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) document?
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No

Please read the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) document before continuing this survey

Policies, strategies and plans

6. How well do you feel the summary strategic plan aligns with your policies, strategies and plans?

- ☐ It aligns fully
- ☐ It somewhat aligns
- ☐ It aligns a little
- ☐ It does not align at all
- ☐ I'm not sure

7. Please use this box to tell us about what aligns particularly well and if there are any areas of difference you would like to highlight.

Vision and targets

8. How much do you support the proposed long-term direction and level of ambition, as articulated in the vision and targets?

- ☐ I fully support
- ☐ I somewhat support
- ☐ I am neutral
- ☐ I do not support at all
- ☐ I don't know

9. Please use this box to highlight elements of the vision which particularly resonate with your organisation.

10. Please use this box to tell us about anything you feel is missing or should be strengthened within the vision and targets.

Strategic objectives and programmes

Please rank in what order you feel the five strategic objectives should be from highest priority to lowest (Please drag and drop into the box on the right in order 1 = highest, 5 = lowest)

Expand the area of trees and woodland and improve connectivity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Protect and **restore** more trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Engage more people, communities and businesses in the planting, management and use of trees	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Promote the transformative role of trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Grow the impact and sustainability of the White Rose Forest partnership	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

11. Please use this box to tell us a bit about the reasons for your order of priorities above.

12. Please use this box to highlight elements of the proposed strategic objectives and programmes which particularly resonate with your organisation.

13. Please use this box to tell us about anything you feel is missing or should be strengthened within the proposed strategic objectives and programmes.

Overall feedback

14. Please use this box to tell us any other comments you have on the summary WRF Strategic Plan that have not been covered in the questions in this survey.

Thank you for your feedback

Please now press submit for your responses to be received - you will then be directed to the White Rose Forest webpage.

WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50)

Public Engagement Survey Report

13 February 2025

1. Introduction

The White Rose Forest (WRF) is the Community Forest for North & West Yorkshire. Established in 2000, the WRF partnership is approaching its 25th anniversary, and is developing a strategic plan setting out its ambition and direction for the next 25 years.

A Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50) was developed by the partnership to provide the key points from the emerging strategic plan to facilitate engagement with stakeholders and enable feedback to shape the development of the final strategic plan.

This report summarises responses to the public engagement survey undertaken.

2. Process

The WRF Shadow Strategic Board approved the proposed approach to formal stakeholder and public engagement at their meeting on 3 December. The formal public engagement process was launched on 6 January 2025, with a deadline for response of 28 January 2025.

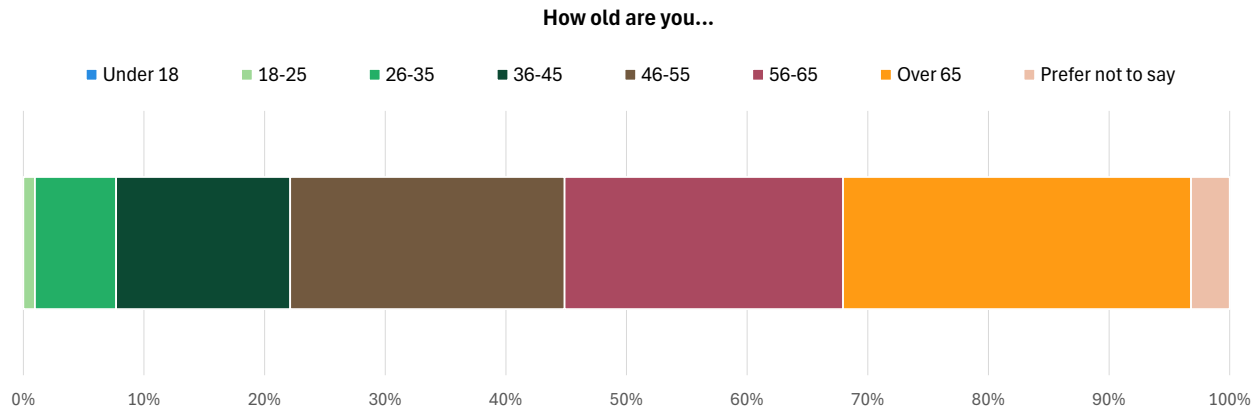
A copy of the summary strategic plan document (and an explanation of the process underway) was hosted online with a survey (see Appendix 1), comprising a number of multiple choice, rating / ranking type questions. A news article was published on the WRF website to promote the survey and social media posts (X/Twitter and LinkedIn) were used to raise awareness. Local Authority partners were asked to promote in their area through their external communications/social media and stakeholder organisations were also encouraged to do so.

3. Responses

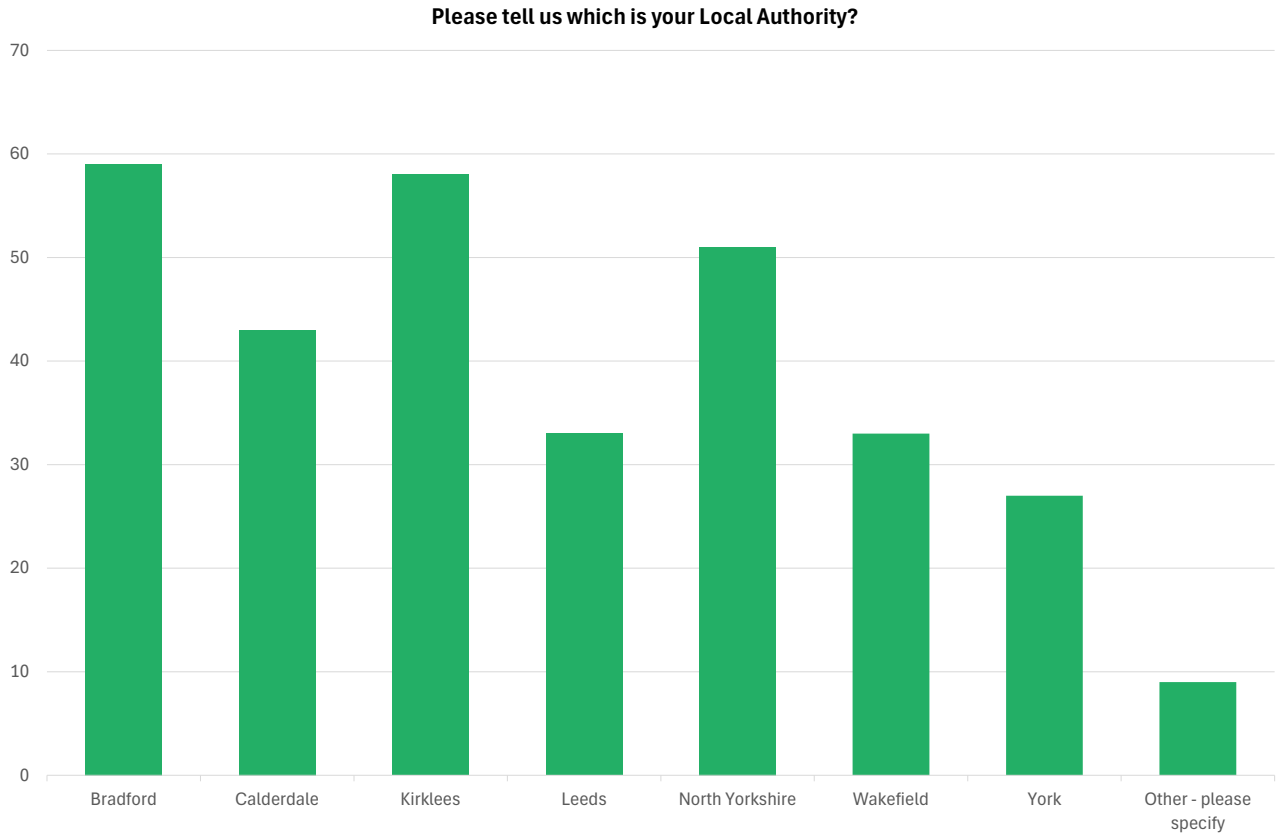
By the 28 January deadline 313 responses had been received via the survey.

When interpreting the survey findings, it should be borne in mind that the survey was only provided online and its promotion was predominantly via social media, plus it is likely that those responding already have an interest in this subject area.

The public were asked a range of 'About You' questions, principally to provide monitoring information on who surveys are/are not reaching. As shown below, **responses were received from almost all age groups, but they were predominantly from older members of the public**.

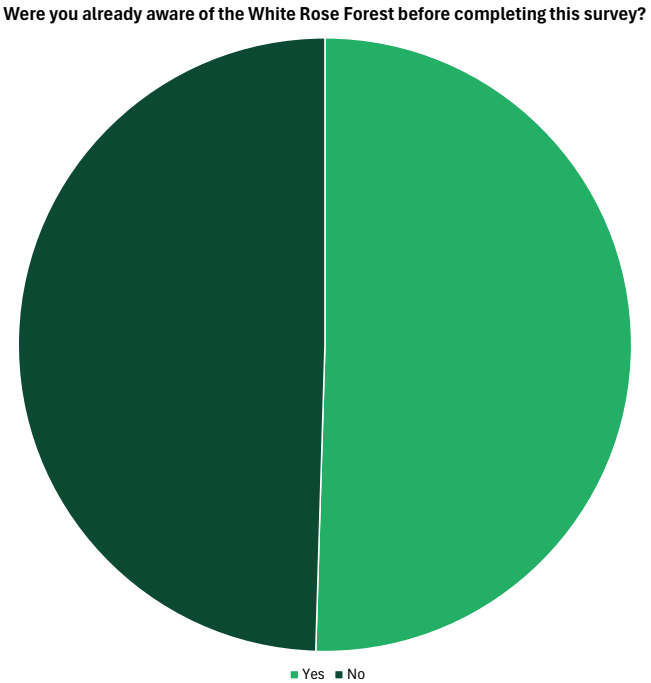


The public were asked for their Local Authority to understand the geographic spread of respondents. As shown below, **responses were received from all areas, but there was a significant variation in the response rate by Local Authority area**.



3.1 Were you already aware of the White Rose Forest before completing this survey?

The public were asked whether they were already aware of the WRF before completing the survey to gauge their level of awareness. As shown below, **just over half of respondents were aware of the WRF before completing the survey.**



4. Summary

The results of responses to individual questions are outlined on the following pages. A summary of the key findings from each question are listed below:

- Over 70% of respondents strongly agreed that trees and woodland help tackle climate change, prevent flooding, and benefit nature. While only 30% of respondents strongly agreed that trees and woodland support business and jobs.
- Many more respondents thought that trees and woodland close to where they live had declined (40%) rather than improved (25%) in the last 5 years.
- Respondents overwhelmingly agreed (93% Strongly agree or Agree) that we need more trees and woodland in North and West Yorkshire.
- Parks and green spaces and By rivers/canals/lakes scored most highly as the place it was most important to have more trees and woodland, with all other options scoring fairly similarly.
- Just under half of respondents had been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months
  - The most popular way in which respondents had been involved in supporting trees and woodland was having planted a tree themselves (nearly 70%), followed by being involved in an organised tree planting event or other voluntary work connected to trees and woodland (around 40%), with just over a third making a donation, and a quarter having been involved in or consulted on plans for establishing/managing trees and woodland in their area.
  - The most frequent reason why respondents had not been involved in supporting trees and woodland was that they were unaware of opportunities (over 60%), followed by being too busy with other commitments (nearly 40%) and then a variety of other reasons (each between 3% and 17%).
- All objectives were seen to be important (80% to 96% Very important or Important) to include within the WRF Strategic Plan, with the planting and woodland management objectives rated higher than the access and engagement objectives. Interestingly, improving the management of existing trees and woodland was rated slightly higher than planting more trees and woodland (which has been the focus of the WRF to date).
- Respondents overwhelmingly supported the long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (91% Strongly support or Support), with very few respondents against (3% Strongly against or Against).
- Just under half of respondents indicated they would like to be contacted regarding the work of the WRF and the opportunities to get involved in the future.

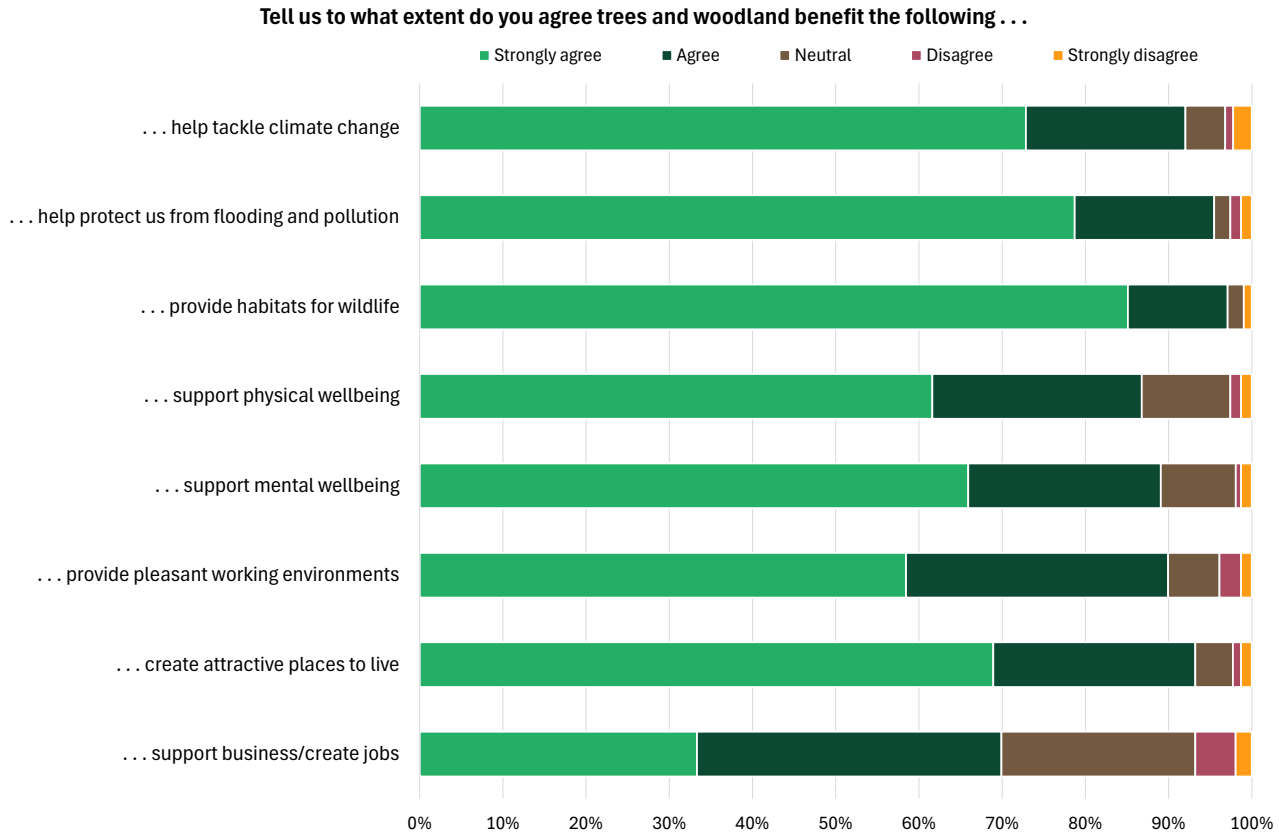
In conclusion, the public engagement survey has helped raised the profile of the WRF and confirmed public support for the proposed long-term direction, level of ambition and approach outlined in the Summary WRF Strategic Plan. In addition, it has provided some useful input on the value the public place on trees and woodland and what they would like to see prioritised in the future. Finally, contact details have been provided by 153 respondents who would like to be contacted regarding the work of the WRF and the opportunities to get involved in the future, supporting ongoing community engagement.

5. Results

All of the questions posed were multiple choice or rating / ranking type questions, to make the survey as easy to complete as possible. Therefore, the analysis of the results is all quantitative in nature. Given the number of respondents, it wasn't deemed appropriate to undertake any segmentation analysis (e.g. by Local Authority area or age group etc).

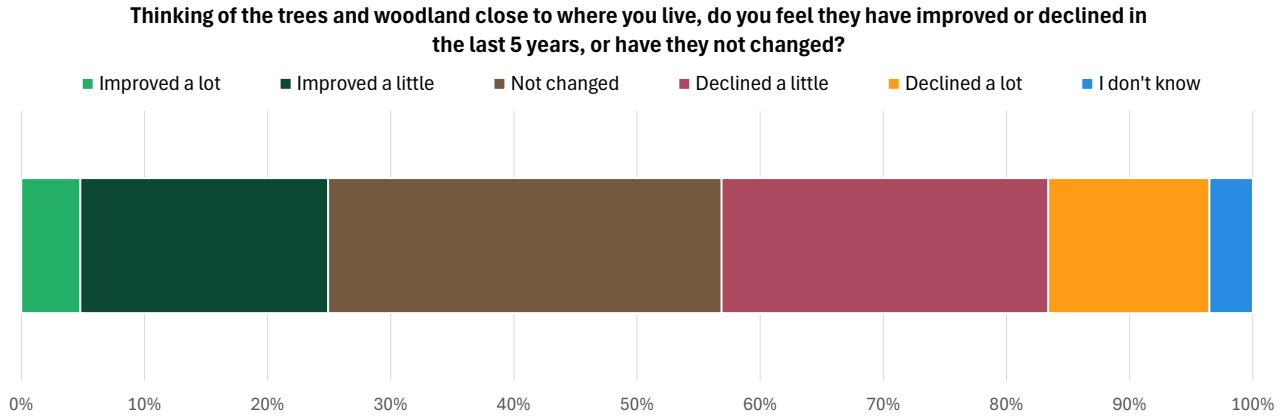
5.1 Tell us to what extent do you agree trees and woodland benefit the following . . .

The public were asked to rate how strongly they agreed (or disagreed) with a range of different benefits provided by trees and woodland to gauge which they understood and valued the most. As shown below, **over 70% of respondents strongly agreed (90% Strongly agree or Agree) that trees and woodland help tackle climate change, prevent flooding, and benefit nature. While only 30% of respondents strongly agreed that trees and woodland support business and jobs (70% Strongly agree or Agree)**.



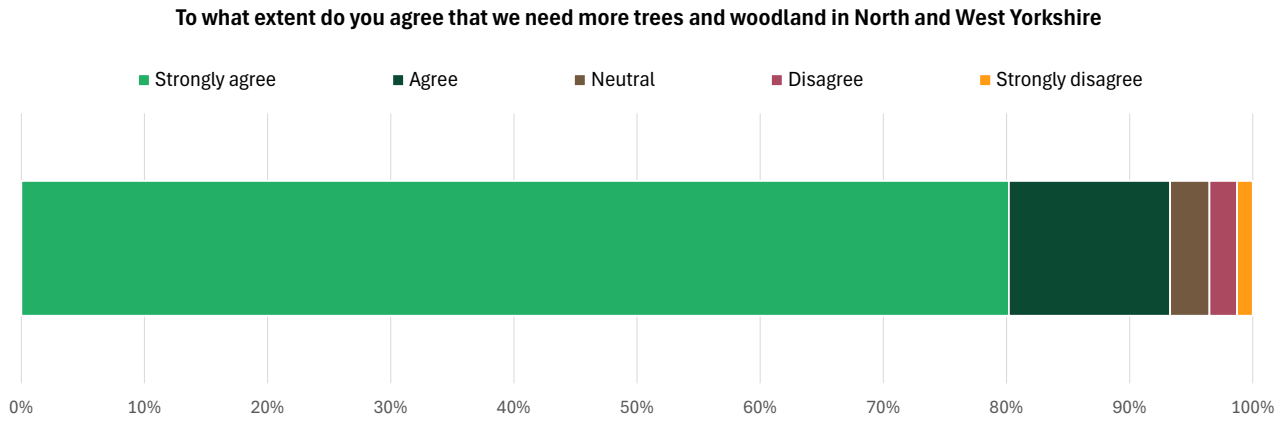
5.2 Thinking of the trees and woodland close to where you live, do you feel they have improved or declined in the last 5 years, or have they not changed?

The public were asked to consider the trees and woodland where they live to gauge their assessment of whether trees and woodland close to where they live had improved or declined in the last 5 years. As shown below, **many more respondents thought that trees and woodland close to where they live had declined (40%) rather than improved (25%) in the last 5 years**.



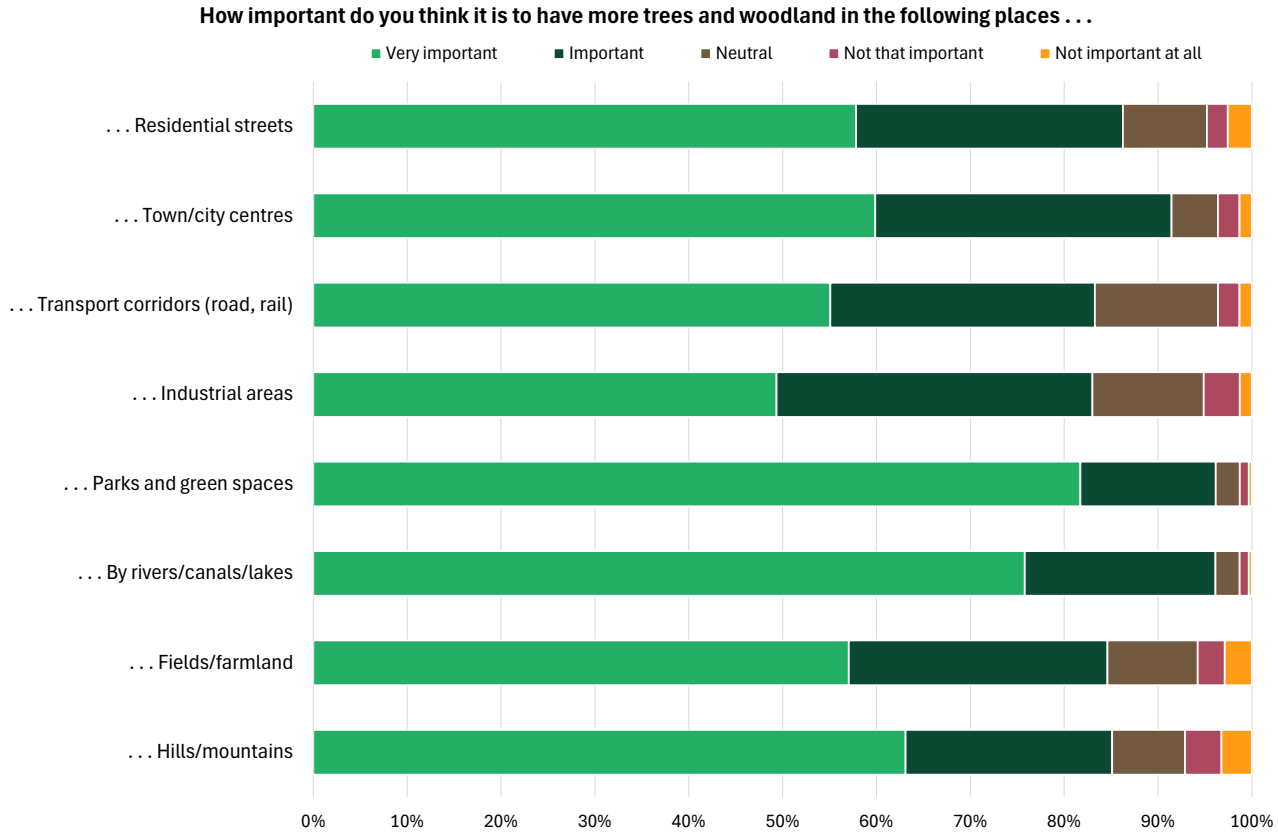
5.3 To what extent do you agree that we need more trees and woodland in North and West Yorkshire

The public were asked a simple question to rate how strongly they agreed (or disagreed) that more trees are needed in North and West Yorkshire to gauge their overall level of support. As shown below, **respondents overwhelmingly agreed (93% Strongly agree or Agree) that we need more trees and woodland in North and West Yorkshire**.



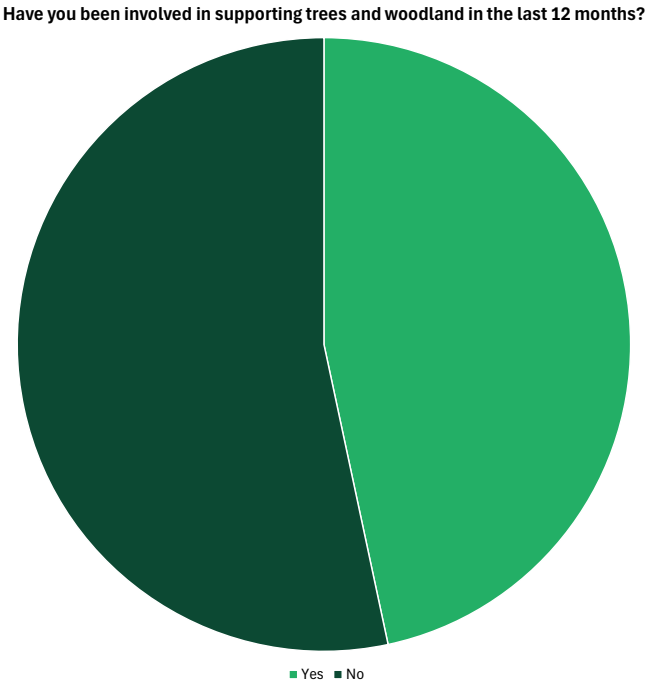
5.4 How important do you think it is to have more trees and woodland in the following places . . .

The public were asked to rate how important (or not important) it is to have more trees in a range of different environments to gauge which they valued the most. As shown below, **Parks and green spaces and By rivers/canals/lakes scored most highly as the place it was most important to have more trees and woodland, with all other options scoring fairly similarly**.



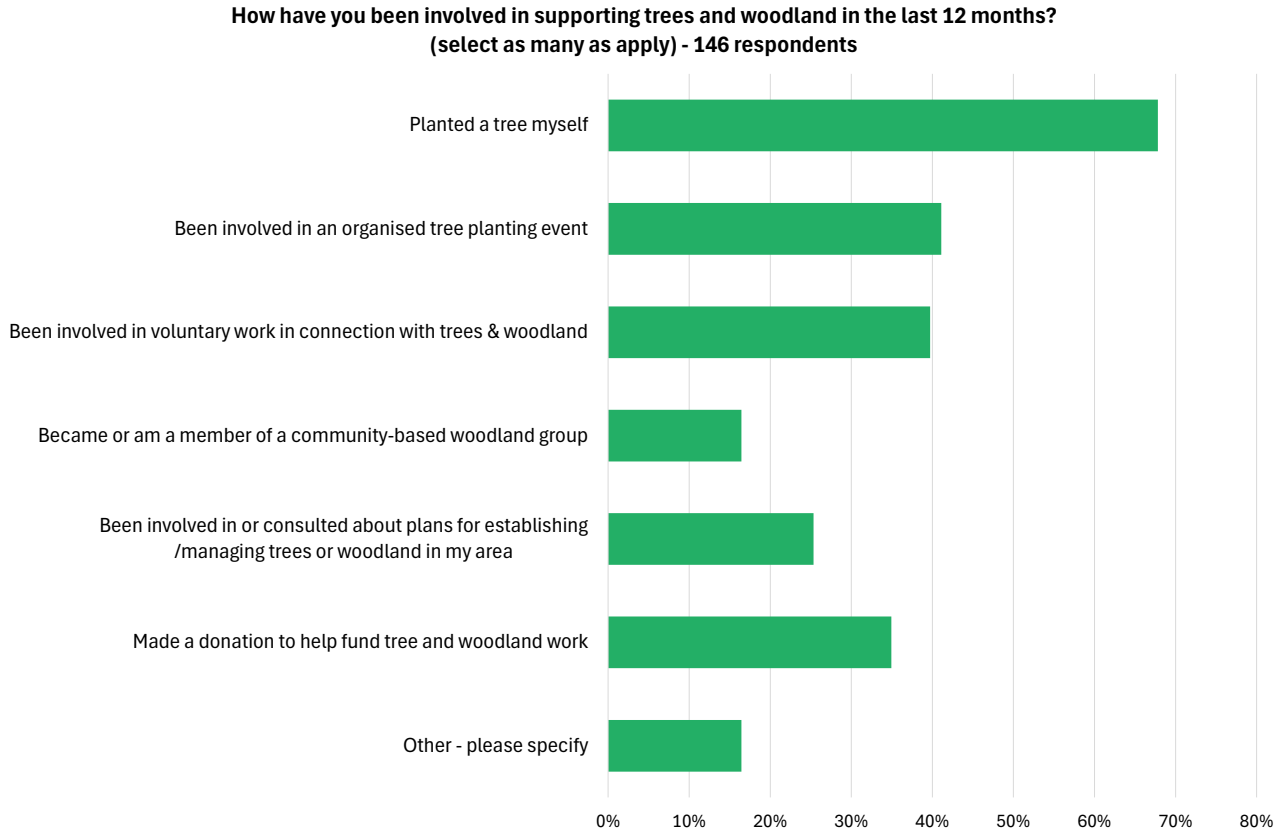
5.5 Have you been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months?

The public were asked whether they had been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months to gauge their engagement and were then routed to a follow-up question based on their response. As shown below, **just under half of respondents had been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months.**



5.5.1 How have you been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months?

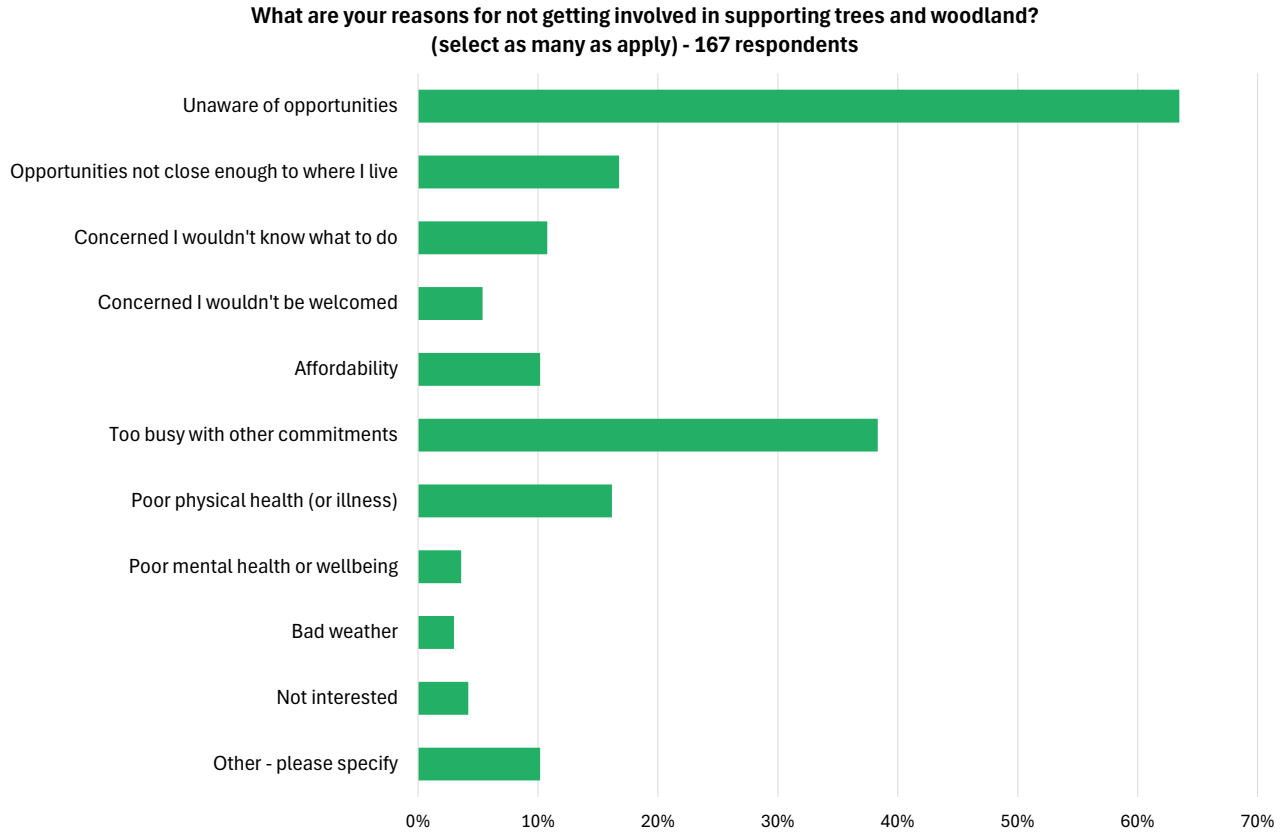
The (146) respondents who indicated that they had been involved in supporting trees and woodland were asked a follow-up question to understand how they had been involved. As shown below, **the most popular way in which respondents had been involved in supporting trees and woodland was having planted a tree themselves (nearly 70%), followed by being involved in an organised tree planting event or other voluntary work connected to trees and woodland (around 40%), with just over a third making a donation, and a quarter having been involved in or consulted on plans for establishing/managing trees and woodland in their area**.



The post popular responses specified by those selecting 'Other – please specify' were: people who had been involved through their work (e.g. as an arboriculturist or gardener etc); people who had a woodland themselves; a number of people who were members of the Woodland Trust (and perhaps felt that didn't fit the options available); and a range of more specific responses.

5.5.2 What are your reasons for not getting involved in supporting trees and woodland?

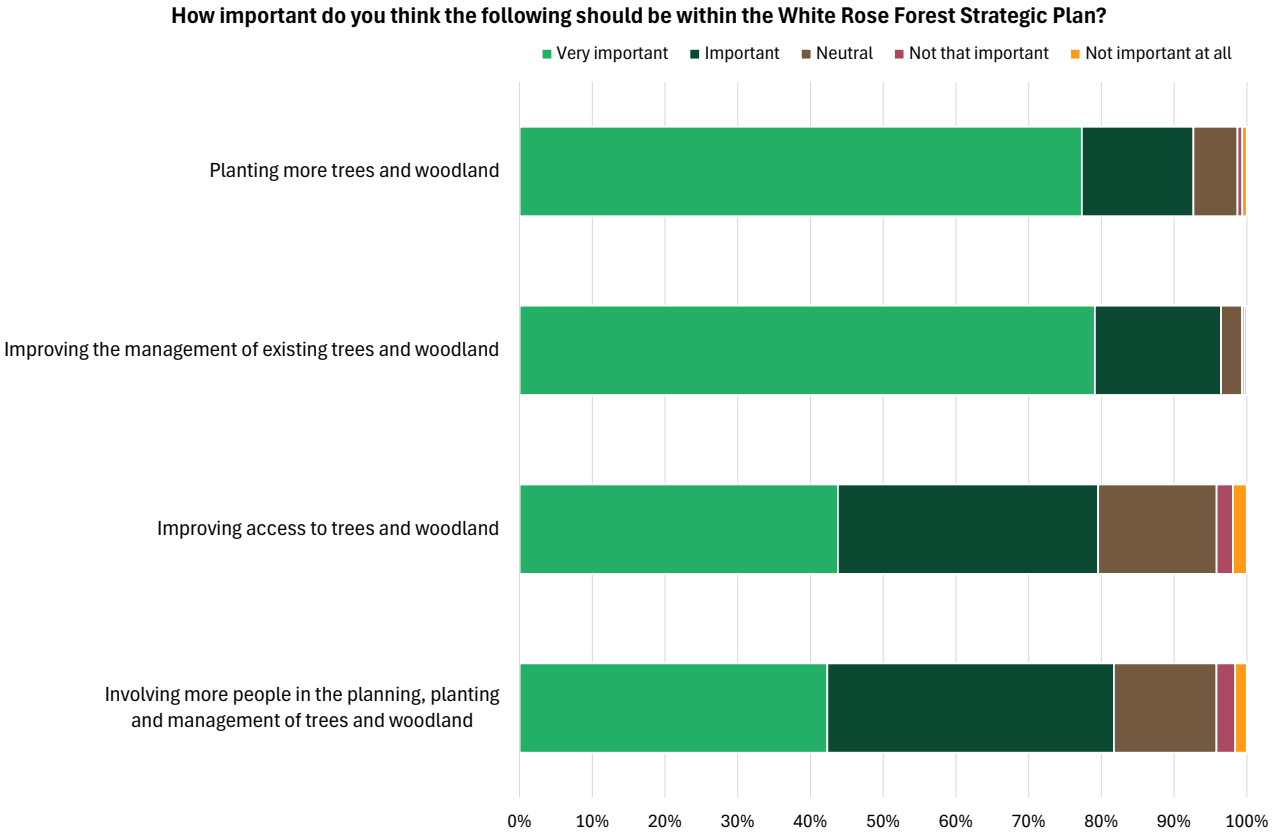
The (167) respondents who indicated that they had not been involved in supporting trees and woodland were asked a follow-up question to understand their reasons for not having been involved. As shown below, **the most frequent reason why respondents had not been involved in supporting trees and woodland was that they were unaware of opportunities (over 60%), followed by being too busy with other commitments (nearly 40%) and then a variety of other reasons (each between 3% and 17%)**.



The responses specified by those selecting 'Other – please specify' were generally from people providing a bit more detail, with this tending to be related to: people being too busy; or people not feeling physically able, with a few people taking the opportunity to make other specific points.

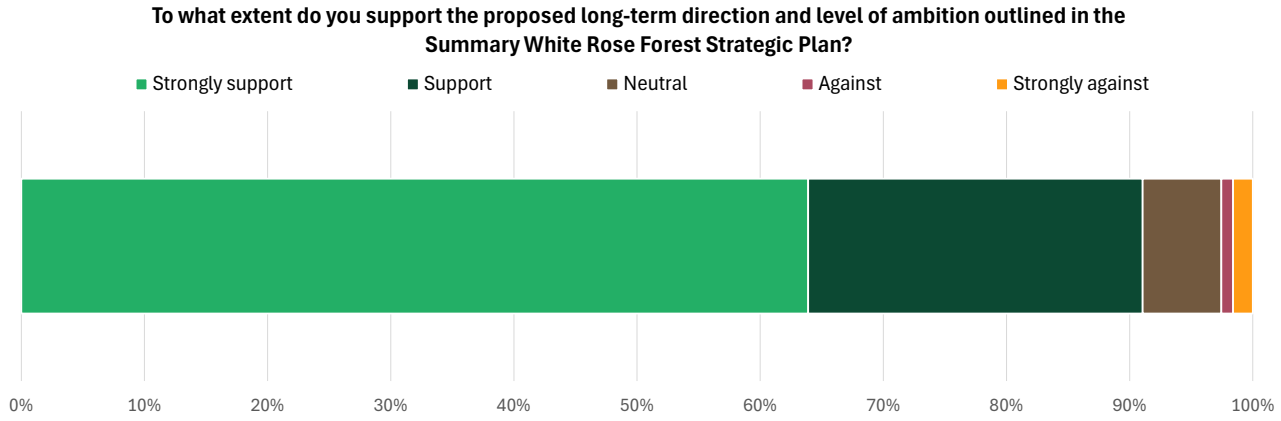
5.6 How important do you think the following should be within the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan?

Turning more specifically to the WRF Strategic Plan, the public were asked to rate how important (or not important) they felt it was for a number of different objectives to be included to gauge which they valued the most. As shown below, **all objectives were seen to be important (80% to 96% Very important or Important) to include within the WRF Strategic Plan, with the planting and woodland management objectives rated higher than the access and engagement objectives. Interestingly, improving the management of existing trees and woodland was rated slightly higher than planting more trees and woodland (which has been the focus of the WRF to date)**.



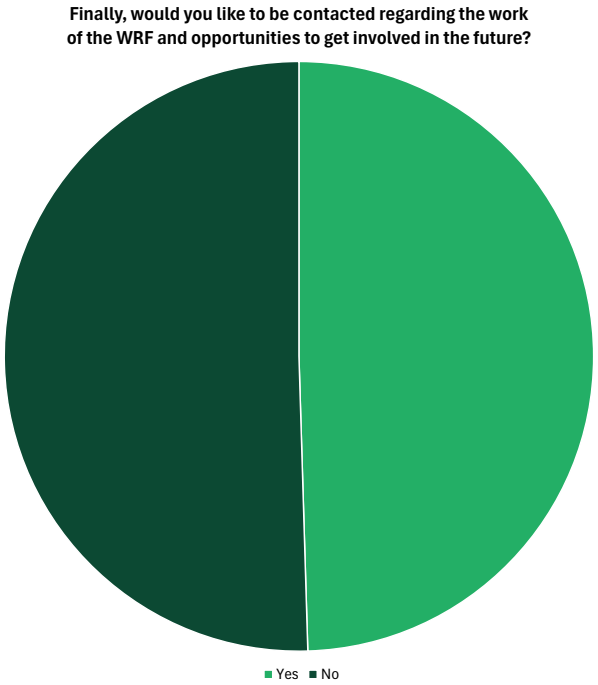
5.7 To what extent do you support the proposed long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the Summary White Rose Forest Strategic Plan?

The public were asked a simple question to gauge their overall support for the long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (2025-50). As shown below, **respondents overwhelmingly supported the long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the Summary WRF Strategic Plan (91% Strongly support or Support), with very few respondents against (3% Strongly against or Against)**.



5.8 Finally, would you like to be contacted regarding the work of the WRF and opportunities to get involved in the future?

The public were asked whether they would like to be contacted in the future, to provide an opportunity for them to stay involved after completing the survey (and those who responded positively were asked to provide their email address to enable this). As shown below, **just under half of respondents indicated they would like to be contacted regarding the work of the WRF and the opportunities to get involved in the future**.



Appendix 1: Public Engagement Survey

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) Public Engagement

The White Rose Forest (WRF) is the Community Forest for North and West Yorkshire, a partnership organisation supported by all local authorities as well as many tree and woodland charities, businesses and community groups.

The WRF is not a single 'forest', but the network of all trees, woods and forests across North and West Yorkshire.

This survey is being carried out to capture your views on the importance of trees and woodland and what you think of the proposed direction and ambition within the Summary WRF Strategic Plan for the next 25 years.

Please take a quick read through the Summary White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50) before commencing this survey

1. Please can you confirm you have read the Summary White Rose Forest Strategic Plan (2025-50)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please read this document before continuing with this survey

2. Please tell us which is your Local Authority?

- ☐ Bradford
- ☐ Calderdale
- ☐ Kirklees
- ☐ Leeds
- ☐ North Yorkshire
- ☐ Wakefield
- ☐ York
- ☐ Other - please specify

- please specify

3. Please tell us the first part of the postcode where you live leaving no spaces e.g WF12 (this will be 3 or 4 characters) You cannot be identified from this information.

Benefits of trees and woodland

4. Tell us to what extent do you agree trees and woodland benefit the following...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
... help tackle climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...help protect us from flooding and pollution	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...provide habitats for wildlife	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...support physical wellbeing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...support mental wellbeing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...provide pleasant working environments	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...create attractive places to live	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...support business/creates jobs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Trees and woodland in the surrounding areas

5. Thinking of the trees and woodland close to where you live, do you feel they have improved or declined in the last 5 years, or have they not changed?

- ☐ Improved a lot
- ☐ Improved a little
- ☐ Not changed
- ☐ Declined a little
- ☐ Declined a lot
- ☐ I don't know

6. To what extent do you agree that we need more trees and woodland in North and West Yorkshire

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

7. How important do you think it is to have more trees and woodland in the following places...

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Not that important	Not important at all
...Residential streets	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Town/city centres	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Transport corridors (road,rail)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Industrial areas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Parks and green spaces	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...By rivers/canals/lakes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Fields/farmland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...Hills/mountains	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Involvement in supporting trees and woodland

8. Have you been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

9. How have you been involved in supporting trees and woodland in the last 12 months? (select as many as apply)

- [ ] Planted a tree myself
- [ ] Been involved in an organised tree planting event
- [ ] Been involved in voluntary work in connection with trees & woodland
- [ ] Became or am a member of a community-based woodland group
- [ ] Been involved in or consulted about plans for establishing/managing trees or woodland in my area
- [ ] Made a donation to help fund tree and woodland work
- [ ] Other - please specify

- please specify

10. What are your reasons for not getting involved in supporting trees and woodland? (select as many as apply)

- [ ] Unaware of opportunities
- [ ] Opportunities not close enough to where I live
- [ ] Concerned I wouldn't know what to do
- [ ] Concerned I wouldn't be welcomed
- [ ] Affordability
- [ ] Too busy with other commitments
- [ ] Poor physical health (or illness)
- [ ] Poor mental health or wellbeing
- [ ] Bad weather
- [ ] Not interested
- [ ] Other - please specify

- please specify

The White Rose Forest Strategic Plan

11. How important do you think the following should be within the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan?

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Not that important	Not important at all
Planting more trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improving the management of existing trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improving access to trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Involving more people in the planning, planting and management of trees and woodland	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

12. To what extent do you support the proposed long-term direction and level of ambition outlined in the Summary White Rose Forest Strategic Plan?

- ☐ Strongly Support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Against
- ☐ Strongly Against

13. Were you already aware of the White Rose Forest before completing this survey?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

About You

We want to make sure as many people as possible have a chance to give us feedback. We are collecting some monitoring information. This helps us to find out if there are any people or groups we are not hearing from. We can then work to find more ways to reach out to them.

As per our Privacy Notice, the information you provide will be kept confidential. It will only be used by our departments and services within the Council. If you don't want to answer a question, you can skip it or choose "Prefer not to say".

14. How old are you...

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-25
- ☐ 26-35
- ☐ 36-45
- ☐ 46-55
- ☐ 56-65
- ☐ Over 65
- ☐ Prefer not to say

15. Are you...

- ☐ Non Binary/Intersex/Gender Fluid/Agender
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Not specified
- ☐ Prefer not to say

16. Is your gender the same as the sex you were registered at birth?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

17. What is your sexuality?

- ☐ Asexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Heterosexual
- ☐ Homosexual
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

18. What is your ethnic group?

- ☐ **Asian or Asian British** Includes any Asian background, for example, Bangladeshi, Chinese, Indian, Pakistani
- ☐ **Black, African, Black British or Caribbean** Includes any Black background
- ☐ **Mixed or multiple ethnic groups** Includes any mixed background
- ☐ **White British**
- ☐ **White Other**
- ☐ **Another ethnic group** Includes any other ethnic background, for example, Arab
- ☐ Prefer not to say

19. What is your religion?

- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ No religion
- ☐ Any other religion
- ☐ Prefer not to say

20. Would you describe yourself as disabled?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

21. Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

22. Finally, would you like to be contacted regarding the work of the WRF and opportunities to get involved in the future?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. Please provide your e-mail - this will only be used for registering your interest in the White Rose Forest work.

Thank you for completing this survey.

Please now press submit and your responses will be received - you will then be directed to the White Rose Forest webpage.

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Report title: Air Quality Management Areas for Revocation or Amendment 2025
(add key words to assist with searches on the website)

Meeting	**Cabinet**
Date	**8th July 2025**
Cabinet Member (if applicable)	**Cllr. Beverley Addy**
Key Decision **Eligible for Call In**	**Yes** **Yes**

Purpose of Report: To inform Cabinet of progress with improvements in the Borough's outdoor air quality and seek approval to proceed with the removal (revocation) and/or amendment of several of Kirklees' Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) due to improved air quality in these areas, which now meet the national standards for air quality. This includes consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Recommendations

- Cabinet to consider this report and consultation (as detailed in section 4) that has been undertaken when considering whether to revoke or amend AQMAs, published in previous Annual Status Reports (ASRs) as detailed in the report at paragraph 9.

- Cabinet to approve the removal (revocation) of the following Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995
  - AQMA1 – Cooper Bridge and Bradley (revoke)
  - AQMA2 – Scouthill (revoke)
  - AQMA4 – Birkenshaw (revoke)

- Cabinet to approve the amendment of the following Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995
  - AQMA3 – Ainley Top (amend)
  - AQMA7 – Liversedge (amend)
  - AQMA10 – Thornton Lodge (amend)

- Cabinet to delegate authority to the Head of Public Protection to carry out all necessary steps to execute the removal (revocation) and amendment of the following Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995:
  - AQMA1 – Cooper Bridge and Bradley (revoke)
  - AQMA2 – Scouthill (revoke)
  - AQMA3 – Ainley Top (amend)
  - AQMA4 – Birkenshaw (revoke)
  - AQMA7 – Liversedge (amend)
  - AQMA10 – Thornton Lodge (amend)

- Cabinet delegate authority to the Service Director, Legal, Governance and Commissioning to enter into and execute any documents necessary to revoke or amend the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

Reasons for Recommendations

- Kirklees Council undertakes air quality monitoring across the Borough on a continuous programme. The results of monitoring over the preceding calendar year are required to be reported to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on an annual basis, as part of the 'Annual Status Report' (ASR). Data reported within our 2024 ASR (which reports on air quality monitoring undertaken in 2023) indicates a continued reduction in roadside air pollution concentrations since 2017, the only exception being 2021 when roadside pollution concentrations increased following relaxation of the pandemic lockdown restrictions, and subsequent increase in traffic. This has resulted in sustained improvement in air quality in some locations which had been previously designated as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).
- AQMAs are required to be designated where the air quality fails to meet the prescribed standards for certain pollutants. This is done through an order, made under the Environment Act 1995. Since the AQMAs were designated, the air quality has improved and the improvements have been sustained, in several locations, such that the air quality now complies with the required standards. For this reason, these locations no longer need to be designated as AQMAs and the revocation of the orders is being recommended, in line with Government guidance.
- In some other AQMA locations, the air quality has improved in part of the wider AQMA, such that it now meets the prescribed standards in portion of the AQMA. For this reason, the amendment of the AQMA is being recommended, to more accurately reflect the location(s) within the AQMA where air quality continues to exceed the prescribed standards.
- DEFRA guidance confirms that where air quality standards are being met following a sustained period of improvement (generally 3 years), an AQMA should be revoked.
- Following the submission of the 2024 ASR, DEFRA advised that Kirklees Council should consider to revoking or amending AQMAs where the air quality has improved. Therefore, this report is being brought forward to comply with this requirement in accordance with national Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) principles.
- Although AQMAs will be revoked and/or amended, air quality will continue to be monitored across the borough, not just within AQMAs. Should future monitoring indicate exceedances of air quality standards, AQMAs would be reinstated and/or amended (as appropriate).

Resource Implication: No additional resources beyond existing budget for Air Quality.

Date signed off by <u>Executive Director</u> & name	**Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports** David Shepherd, Executive Director for Place 27th June 2025
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	**Give name and date for Cabinet reports** Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director Finance 25th June 2025
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer)?	**Give name and date for Cabinet reports** Samantha Lawton, Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning (Monitoring Officer) 27th June 2025

Electoral wards affected:

Revocation: Ashbrow/Liversedge & Gomersal Wards; Dewsbury West; Birstall & Birkenshaw ward.
Amendment: Lindley Ward; Heckmondwike Ward; Crosland Moor & Netherton/Newsome Wards

Ward councillors will be advised of the proposals, prior to Cabinet.

Ward councillors consulted: The ward councillors for the above wards have been consulted.

Public or private: This report is public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes, no personal data is included in this report or required for the decision to be made.

1. Executive Summary

- Under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended), the Council is required to monitor the air in its Borough for certain pollutants and periodically review and assess this air quality and compare against legally binding, health-based air quality standards (referred to as Air Quality [AQ] Objectives). Where air pollution concentrations exceed the AQ objectives, the Council is required to designate that locality as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). This process has been ongoing for over twenty years and resulted in the previous declaration of ten AQMAs within Kirklees, due to breaches (exceedances) of air quality objectives in those specific localities. This process is referred to as Local Air Quality Management (LAQM).
- Following declaration of AQMAs, the Council is required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out measures to reduce polluting emissions and subsequently improve air quality within our AQMAs and the wider Kirklees district.
- The success of the measures within previous plans, combined with national actions to improve air quality (e.g., replacement of older more polluting vehicles nationally with newer less polluting ones) has now resulted in air pollution concentrations improving, such that they have fallen below the air quality objectives in several of the AQMAs.
- LAQM is overseen by the Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The Council submits an Annual Status Report (ASR) detailing progress with the measures within the AQAP, along with the latest monitoring data. Where AQ monitoring data shows continued compliance, DEFRA require those AQMAs complying with the objectives, to be revoked. This was confirmed by DEFRA in response to Kirklees' Council's ASR 2024. The Council is therefore responding to DEFRA instruction in revoking or amending six of the ten AQMAs.
- Out of the Kirklees Council's ten AQMAs, it is proposed to fully revoke three. A further three AQMAs will have their areas reduced in size (amendment) to reflect compliance within parts of the AQMA where air pollution concentrations have declined and now meet the AQ objectives. Of the remainder, the Council will continue to monitor AQ and wait until compliance has been achieved for a minimum of 3 consecutive years, before considering revocation. Details (including location) of these AQMAs is discussed below.
- The improvements in AQ will result in a public health benefit from residents and visitors within the AQMAs breathing air with lower pollution concentrations than in the past.

- Prior to revocation /amendment of the Orders designating the AQMAs, a consultation exercise has been undertaken with local ward members, neighbouring local authorities, internal stakeholders, and DEFRA, in accordance with DEFRA guidance. No objections have been received in relation to the proposals. It is therefore recommended that a decision to adopt the proposals is made by Cabinet. The Council's Legal Services will then formally make the order to revoke / amend where appropriate.
- A revised AQAP will then be written containing additional measures and initiatives, designed to achieve compliance with AQ objectives in the remaining AQMAs.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 Background

- Under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended), the Council is required to monitor the air in its Borough for certain pollutants and periodically review and assess this air quality and compare against legally binding, health-based air quality standards (referred to as Air Quality [AQ] Objectives). Where AQ exceeds the pollutant levels, the Council is required to designate that locality as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). This process has been ongoing for over twenty years and resulted in the previous declaration of ten AQMAs within Kirklees, due to breaches (exceedances) of air quality objectives in those specific localities. This process is referred to as Local Air Quality Management (LAQM).
- Following declaration of AQMAs, the Council is required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out measures to reduce polluting emissions and subsequently improve air quality within our AQMAs, and the wider Kirklees district.
- The success of the measures within previous plans, combined with national actions to improve air quality (e.g., replacement of older more polluting vehicles nationally with newer less polluting ones) has now resulted in air pollution concentrations improving such that they have fallen below the air quality objectives in several of the AQMAs.
- Nine AQMAs were originally declared due to the exceedance of the annual average objective for the polluting gas nitrogen dioxide (NO_2). NO_2 is strongly associated with traffic emissions in urban areas, and the vast majority of the AQMAs within the UK's towns and cities were declared due to raised concentrations of this gas. The other AQMA was declared due to the exceedance of the 24-hour mean (average) objective for fine inhalable particles (referred to as PM_{10} particles). There are many sources of PM_{10}, including transport, industrial and domestic. The AQMA associated with PM_{10}, was declared due to historic raised concentrations within a specific location of Kirklees.
- Some of our AQMAs consist of several small areas (e.g. AQMA 1 consists of two separate areas along the A62 Leeds Road at Cooper Bridge and Bradley, including the A6107 Bradley Road junction) where the annual mean objective was previously exceeded. Details of the six AQMAs to be revoked or amended can be found within Appendix A, including location maps, and recent annual mean NO_2 concentrations. However, summary details are found in the below table that also include DEFRA recommendations in response to the 2024 Air Quality Annual Status Report.

Table to show the location of all Air Quality Management Areas within Kirklees, the reason air quality objectives were exceeded at those locations, and the proposed actions.

AQMA no.	Location Description	Air Quality Objective Originally Exceeded	Proposal (and agreed by DEFRA)
1	Cooper Bridge and Bradley	NO_2 annual mean	Revoke entire AQMA
2	Scouthill, Ravensthorpe	PM_{10} 24-hour mean	Revoke entire AQMA
3	Ainley Top	NO_2 annual mean	Amendment (revocation of Lindley Moor Road section). Retention of Halifax Road section – further monitoring required
4	Birkenshaw	NO_2 annual mean	Revoke entire AQMA
5	Eastborough	NO_2 annual mean	AQMA retained
6	Edgerton	NO_2 annual mean	AQMA retained
7	Liversedge	NO_2 annual mean	Amendment (revocation of Halifax Road / Leeds Road junction section, revocation of Frost Hill, Wakefield Road section). Retention of Wormald Street – Wakefield Road section.
8	Outlane	NO_2 annual mean	AQMA retained
9	Huddersfield town centre	NO_2 annual mean	AQMA retained
10	Thornton Lodge	NO_2 annual mean	Amendment (revocation of Longroyd Bridge section). Retention of Thornton Lodge section

- DEFRA guidance requires three consecutive years' data showing compliance with the objectives before revocation or amendment can be considered. The annual mean objective is expressed as 40 microgrammes per cubic metre ($\mu g/m^3$), that is 40 microgrammes of polluting NO_2 gas within every cubic metre of outdoor air we breathe. For each AQMA we provide the highest (worst-case) annual mean concentration for comparison with the objective.

- For AQMA 2, the exceedances of the AQ objectives were for particulate matter (PM_{10}). There has not been any monitoring of PM_{10} undertaken in recent years, due to a focus being placed on NO_2 monitoring. However, based on historic PM_{10} data and actions to reduce PM_{10} concentrations within this AQMA, DEFRA originally recommended revocation of AQMA 2 in 2016. Since that time, there has been further review of the historical data and consultation with DEFRA during the submission of the ASR 2024. DEFRA has agreed with the approach of revoking the AQMA. To provide greater confidence in this approach and in relation to particulate air pollution, particulate monitoring has been established since 2024 across the Borough and further work is being undertaken to explore whether this can be further extended. Where this is viable, consideration shall be given to siting monitoring equipment in the location of AQMA 2.

2.2. Cost breakdown

There are no financial implications on the amendments and revocations of AQMAs.

All costs are met from the existing operational budget for Air Quality to undertake the consultation and revocation process. There will be no additional cost to the Council as the processes of consultation and subsequent revocation and amendment will be met within existing individual service budgets, particularly Environmental Health (Public Protection). This will not affect any savings in Public Protection or other area. Furthermore, this process will not impact financially on people living or working in Kirklees, as it is an administrative task.

The following financial detail is provided for informational purposes only.

Breakdown of AQ Budget

Staffing costs (1.6 FTE)	£93,380
Supplies & Services: (Costs of AQ monitoring equipment and laboratory analysis costs)	£11,871
Total AQ Budget:	£105,251

2.3 Timescale

Following the amendments to the Environment Act 1995 (through the Environment Act 2021), and implementation of the Government's "Air Quality Strategy, Framework for Local Authority Delivery" in 2023, DEFRA now requires revocation / amendment of AQMAs (showing compliance with the AQ objectives) in the shortest possible time. Consequently, it is anticipated that subject to Cabinet approval, Environmental Health will complete the revocation/amendment process by the end of August 2025.

Once complete, Air Quality staffing resources can be allocated to development of the revised AQAP, including initiatives to improve air quality. This will assist in ensuring that compliance with AQ objectives can be achieved in the remaining AQMAs, in the shortest possible time.

2.4 Expected impact/ outcomes, benefits & risks (how they will be managed)

The impacts of the revocation/amendment of the AQMAs will be positive and beneficial as the improved air quality within these AQMAs will have had the public health benefit of breathing cleaner air for residents and visitors to these AQMAs. There are no envisaged risks associated with the proposed course of action. However, there is reputational risk associated with not proceeding, as DEFRA will expect the revocation/amendment of our AQMAs to be completed promptly. Failure to do so without undue delay, could result in ministerial action/instruction being issued to Kirklees Council to complete these actions urgently.

2.5 Evaluation

This Service undertakes extensive monitoring of NO_2 within AQMAs 1 and 3 to 10, and each year reports on the latest data from this monitoring to DEFRA within the statutory Air Quality Annual Status Report. This monitoring will be the most effective way of evaluating future NO_2 concentrations in all Kirklees AQMAs, including those subject to revocation and amendment. Furthermore, NO_2 monitoring is undertaken in other areas of the Borough that are not necessarily within a designated AQMA. It is anticipated that this monitoring will continue to highlight expected improvements to air quality because of measures that will be proposed in the forthcoming, revised AQAP. Improvements are also likely to be supported by implementation of national measures that will contribute to improved AQ in Kirklees. Ongoing monitoring, Borough-wide, will indicate any exceedances of the AQ objectives. This will ensure that air quality does not decline in those areas where AQMAs have been revoked/amended and will highlight any new locations of concern.

2.6 Sustainability

This proposal aligns with the Council's Sustainability aspirations. Actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Kirklees (as detailed within the Council's Climate Change Action Plan) are consistent with those to reduce air pollution emissions, particularly associated with vehicle emissions. The forthcoming revised AQAP will therefore be an important mechanism to enable delivery of the Council's Environment Strategy 2024.

2.7 Services & agencies involved

Revocation and amendment of AQMAs will involve Environmental Health (within Public Protection) liaising with some key Council services, namely, Legal Services and Public Health. Consultation has been undertaken with DEFRA; the ward members of those wards affected by this change; and other local authorities that border any AQMAs within Kirklees. Following Cabinet approval, legal services will be engaged to draft the legal orders formally enabling the revocations and amendments. Environmental Health will manage the overall process.

3 Implications for the Council

Improved air quality is of benefit to all. Poor air quality is associated with several health conditions, such as respiratory and cardiovascular disease. Any improvement in outdoor air quality will have positive impact on our health. Revocation of AQMAs reflects this improvement in local air quality and the meeting of the Government's health-based standards. Furthermore, the completion of the revocation or amendment of six out of ten of Kirklees' AQMAs will ensure Kirklees Council meets its statutory obligations relating to Air Quality, under the Environment Act 1995.

3.1 Council Plan

Improved air quality contributes to the Council meeting its key priority of "Thriving People and Communities" as detailed within the Council's Plan for 2025-26. Specifically, improved air quality links closely with "Clean, Safe and Healthy Places" under this key priority. Alignment with the Environment Strategy has been noted earlier in this report.

Of equal importance is the contribution of improved air quality to the aims of the Councils' Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Revocation of AQMAs demonstrates improved air quality and subsequent public health benefit. Revocation and/or amendment of AQMAs both reduces the number of AQMAs and the geographical area that AQMAs cover within Kirklees. This allows resources to be focused on actions/initiatives to improve air quality in the remaining AQMAs, through the development of an updated Air Quality Action Plan (as previously mentioned).

3.2 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with revocation and amendment of AQMAs, other than existing budgets (as detailed in section 2.2 above). There is no additional cost to the Council as the processes of consultation and subsequent revocation and amendment will be met within existing individual service budgets, particularly Environmental Health (Public Protection). This will not affect any savings in Public Protection or other area. Furthermore, this process will not impact financially on people living or working in Kirklees, as it is an administrative task.

3.3 Legal Implications

Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) is a regulatory function of the Council and is governed by provisions within the Environment Act (EA)1995 (as amended).

Councils have a legal responsibility to carry out various duties, such as making, amending, and revoking AQMAs as directed by DEFRA where our own monitoring and reporting recommends it. The Council has a statutory duty under section 82 EA 1995 to regularly review and assess local air quality in their area against national air quality targets. The Council can designate by order, an AQMA where there is evidence that national air quality standards are not met.

Under section 83 (1) (b) of the EA 1995 following a review of any designated area, it appears that air quality standards are being met, and compliance is likely to be maintained, the Council is able to revoke the designation order. Procedural steps are set out in the latest Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance PG22 August 2022 (Revised May 2025).the council must have the confidence that air quality improvements will be sustained (typically after 3 years of compliance).

Failure to comply with the directions from DEFRA may result in 'enforcement' action by DEFRA which ultimately result in a Ministerial Directive under the Environment Act 1995 if we do not comply.

The decision within this report to amend and revoke the AQMAs listed is in full compliance with our current obligations under LAQM and our current reporting requirements.

The revocation and/or amendment of legal orders relating to the designation of AQMAs is a " Local choice " function under the Constitution and is the responsibility of Cabinet.

Subject to approval of the decision by Cabinet, the Head of Public Protection shall be delegated to carry out the necessary steps to revoke or amend the AQMAs. The resultant legal orders shall be formally executed under the Council Seal and uploaded to the LAQM portal and the Council website on behalf of Defra and the Council website.

It is a stipulation of the Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance that the Director of Public Health is involved in the monitoring of air quality.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

Revocation and amendment of AQMAs demonstrate that emissions of some air pollutants (namely NO_2) have reduced sufficiently for this course of action to be proposed. This has been achieved due to measures to improve air quality contained within previous Council AQAPs, along with the success of national measures to improve air quality. Whilst actual revocation and amendment of AQMAs does not by itself reduce emissions, it highlights the success of previous and ongoing measures and strategies to reduce emissions.

Reductions in emissions of NO_2 are, in part, a result of the replacement of older more polluting vehicles nationally with newer less polluting ones. This will also have a positive impact on emissions of greenhouse gases associated with vehicles.

3.5 Other (e.g. Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

There is no risk associated with the proposed action. LAQM requires local authorities to undertake detailed air pollution monitoring in the affected areas to provide the evidence base for subsequent decision to revoke or amend an AQMA. The evidence base (air pollution monitoring data) is appraised by DEFRA. Subsequently, DEFRA have agreed to revoke / amend those AQMAs identified as consistently complying with the air quality objectives.

There is potential, greater risk associated in not undertaking the above-described course of action. As discussed earlier in this report, DEFRA now require revocation / amendment of AQMAs showing compliance with the objectives in the shortest possible time. Failure to do this may put the Council in breach of the overall requirements of Local Air Quality Management. The consequences could be that DEFRA considers issuing a ministerial direction for the Council to revoke / amend where appropriate anyway. This could also have significant reputational damage.

There is no impact on the armed forces community in terms of healthcare, housing, and/or education (as required under the Armed Forces Covenant), except that improved air quality will benefit members of this community, within AQMAs, as well as the wider Kirklees population.

The overall proposal is a positive impact for the residents/visitors to the wards where AQMAs are being revoked or amended. An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been completed IIA-710886206: https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/integrated-impact-assessments/home/details/IIA-710886206/

Improved air quality benefits all, particularly those sectors of the population more susceptible to the impact of air pollution. This includes the very young and old, along with those with pre-existing conditions (e.g., asthma) more vulnerable to poor air quality. The IIA concludes there are no adverse discriminatory or environmental impacts to the Kirklees public, including protected characteristic groups as defined under the Public Safety Equality Duty of the Equality Acti 2010. There is likely to be a positive impact to some persons with a protected characteristic. Potential beneficial links with carbon reduction and local air quality management are discussed elsewhere in this report.

4 Consultation

DEFRA have provided guidance for local authorities to consult prior to revoking or amending AQMAs (Technical Guidance LAQM.TG22). Local authorities are therefore encouraged to consult on the decision to revoke or amend.

There is no statutory requirement for a public consultation, however, relevant ward members have been consulted on the proposals. Information on the proposals are being made public through the publishing of Cabinet papers and on the Council's website on the Air Quality pages. As per DEFRA guidance, consultation is directly required with:

- DEFRA
- Adjoining local authorities
- Other Council services that need to have awareness of any changes to AQMAs, e.g. Planning – including Local Plan work; Transport policy/Highways, Public Health etc.

As part of the required consultation, information has been provided to the above stakeholders with details of the proposals and the areas to which they relate. This was accompanied with a request for any relevant feedback on the proposals to be submitted within the four-week consultation process. This ended on Friday 13th June 2025. There has been a limited response to the consultation, with only one stakeholder responding, in support of the proposals. The limited response was anticipated, due to the nature of the required consultation being more informing consultees of the proposed actions. The proposals reflect a good outcome for local air quality and the proposed actions are in accordance with DEFRA instruction and are largely procedural. Local residents will continue to experience improved air quality in these AQMAs, regardless of revocation/amendment. DEFRA will be satisfied that due process has been correctly followed and national LAQM guidance has been followed.

5 Engagement

Engagement has not taken place as the proposals within this report are statutory requirements upon local authorities in relation to LAQM. Actions relating to ongoing AQ monitoring, review, and the proposed revocation/amendment of AQMAs follows national guidance and is being taken in response to instruction issued by DEFRA.

Ward members will be informed of revocation and amendments of AQMAs within their wards, as this is a statutory process required by law – the engagement will be on a for-information basis.

6 Options

6.1 Options Considered

There are two options, these being:

1. To revoke / amend AQMAs where appropriate and in accordance with DEFRA guidance/legislative provisions under the Environment Act 1995; or
2. Not revoke / amend AQMAs and be in breach of the above.

6.2 Reasons for recommended Option

As explained earlier in this report, failure to do revoke / amend the relevant AQMAs shall result in Kirklees Council being in breach of the overall requirements of Local Air Quality Management, and subsequently DEFRA may then consider a future ministerial direction for the Council to revoke / amend where appropriate.

Revocation and amendment of AQMAs are an essential step in delivering LAQM, a statutory duty as designated under the Environment Act 1995 (as amended). The proposal should be welcomed as recognition of the Council showing progress in meeting its environmental targets and obligations. The reduced number of AQMAs and the reduction in geographical area of Kirklees within an AQMA will allow resources within Environmental Health (wider Public Protection) to focus on the remaining AQMAs, where air quality continues not to meet national standards and to seek to improve the AQ in those localities.

7 Next steps and timelines

This Service has undertaken a four-week period of consultation, due to the limited scope for consultee comment on the proposal. Following completion of the consultation and consideration of received comments, this Service has proceeded to bring this report to Cabinet. Subject to Cabinet approval, the drafting and amendment of the relevant orders, in consultation with Legal Services shall be undertaken. It is anticipated that this process will be completed by the end of August 2025. Importantly, this will then enable Environmental Health to focus on the revision of the existing AQAP, taking account of changing roadside nitrogen dioxide gas concentrations for the remaining AQMAs, the most appropriate actions to further reduce these actions, and tackle particulates (in particular, fine inhalable particle - $PM_{2.5}$ particles).

8 Contact officer

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9 Background Papers and History of Decisions

When producing your report, you must list all the previous decisions in connection to this matter under this section and list all background papers (for public reports only).

Declaration dates for Kirklees AQMAs

AQMA No.	Location description	Date declared
1	Cooper Bridge and Bradley	17/10/2008
2	Scouthill, Ravensthorpe	27/02/2009
3	Ainley Top	01/11/2017
4	Birkenshaw	01/11/2017
5	Eastborough	01/11/2017
6	Edgerton	01/11/2017
7	Liversedge	01/11/2017
8	Outlane	01/11/2017
9	Huddersfield town centre	01/11/2017
10	Thornton Lodge	06/06/2019

- Local Air Quality Management Policy and Technical Guidance LAQM.PG22 & TG22. August 2022. (Published by DEFRA).
- Air Quality Strategy – Framework for Local Authority Delivery. August 2023. Published by DEFRA.
- Kirklees Council, Air Quality Action Plan, 2019-24, Kirklees Air Quality Action Plan
- Kirklees Council, Air Quality Annual Status Report, 2024, 2024 Air Quality Annual Report

10 Appendices

Appendix A: Summary of Kirklees Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) proposed for revocation or amendment

11 Service Director responsible

Katherine Armitage, Service Director Environmental Strategy and Climate Change

Appendix A: Summary of Kirklees Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) proposed for revocation or amendment

Background

Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) is overseen by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), to ensure that local authorities (LAs) fulfil their statutory obligations. In relation to Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and their revocation or amendment, paragraph 4.10 of LAQM Policy Guidance (PG22), states:

"Authorities wishing to revoke or reduce an AQMA can do so following review. For revocation this should demonstrate that air quality objectives are being met and will continue to do so. In other words, they should have confidence that the improvements will be sustained. Further information is provided in the Technical Guidance, but typically this is after three years or more compliance. It is not advisable for the revocation of an AQMA to be based solely upon compliance in a year not representative of long-term trends. For example, compliance being reached in 2020 may not be representative of long-term trends in pollutant concentrations due to the change in activity observed across the UK because of COVID-19. Where 2020 is one of many consecutive years of compliance, this may be considered for revocation. If authorities wish to make any changes to AQMAs, whether declaration, amendment, or revocation, based upon 2020 data, please contact the LAQM helpdesk to discuss your approach."

Where an AQMA is revoked, the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) shall be updated to reflect its removal from the AQAP. In circumstances where revocation results in the LA no longer having any AQMAs, AQ shall be considered as part of a wider AQ Strategy (which will need to be developed in place of the AQAP).

When an AQMA has been amended, it is necessary to continue monitoring to evaluate compliance in future years, with data being reported in future Annual Status Reports (ASRs) to DEFRA, with a view to revocation.

The following information provides a summary of the six AQMAs within Kirklees that are proposed for revocation or amendment.

The below AQMA summary text has included detail from the Council's 2024 Annual Status Report (ASR). All air quality monitoring data undertaken in 2023 (for which the ASR 2024 reports on), is provided within the report: 2024 Air Quality Annual Report.

The locations of the AQMAs subject to revocation/amendment are provided at the end of this appendix.

AQMA 1 – Bradley

This AQMA was declared in 2008 for exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO_2., that being 40 µg/m^3 objective. Within the five-year reporting period of the 2024 ASR (2018-2023), there has been continued compliance with this objective.

Following the submission of the 2023 ASR, discussions were held with the LAQM Helpdesk, (and subsequently DEFRA), regarding AQMA 1 about potential revocation within an area where a major road scheme is proposed. The conclusions of these discussions were:

> "**AQMA 1 -** With 5 years' full compliance and no likely exceedance identified, we recommend that AQMA 1 is revoked. Kirklees should have a local air quality strategy in place to manage the risk of the future road scheme and ensure air quality remains a high-profile issue, thereby enabling a quick response should there be any deterioration in condition. See LAQM Policy Guidance for more information."

This supports the proposed revocation. Monitoring will continue to evaluate compliance in future years, with data being reported in future ASRs.

AQMA 2 – Ravensthorpe / Scouthill

This AQMA was declared in 2009 due to exceedance of the annual mean objective for particulate matter (PM_{10}), rather than NO_2. This was discussed in Section 2.1 above.

There has not been any monitoring of PM_{10} undertaken in recent years, due to a focus being placed on NO_2 monitoring. However, based on historic PM_{10} data and actions to reduce PM_{10} concentrations within this AQMA, DEFRA originally recommended revocation of AQMA 2 in 2016. Although this was not undertaken at that time, further review of the historical data and consultation with DEFRA took place during the submission of the ASR 2024. DEFRA has agreed with the approach of revoking the AQMA.

To further support the revocation, in the absence of data on particulate matter, it is of note, that a further NO_2 diffusion tube was added within AQMA 2 in 2023. NO_2 diffusion tube data within AQMA 2 showed that the annual mean (after annualisation and bias adjustment) was 38.2 µg/m^{3}and therefore compliant with the 40 µg/m^3 objective. The position of the diffusion tube on an uphill gradient where road traffic emissions are greater, provided a worse-case assessment of AQ in the locality.

With respect to particulates and to provide greater confidence in revocation of AQMA 2 (and in relation to concerns about particulate air pollution generally), particulate monitoring was established in 2024, at some locations in the Borough and further work is being undertaken to explore whether this can be further extended. Where this is viable, consideration shall be given to siting monitoring equipment in the location of AQMA 2 to determine longer term trends and respond to any exceedances.

AQMA 3 – Ainley Top

AQMA 3 was declared in 2017 due to exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO_2. This AQMA is split into two separate areas, as detailed in the Map D2 below, these being the areas either side of the Ainley Top roundabout encompassing a section of the A629 Halifax Road to the south-east of the roundabout and the A643 Lindley Moor Road to the west. Data for the five years 2019-2023, shows **roadside** annual mean concentrations all less than 36 µg/m^3. At residential properties, concentrations will be even lower due to greater distance from the kerb. It is intended to formally revoke the Lindley Moor Road section of the AQMA following DEFRA's appraisal of the ASR 2024. **This is to amend the legal AQMA 3 order**.

The A629 Halifax Road section of the AQMA is more complex. Halifax Road leading to the Ainley Top roundabout has a downhill and uphill carriageway. Traffic on the uphill carriageway comes from the direction of Huddersfield town centre.

All residential receptors within this AQMA are located adjacent to the downhill carriageway. This is because receptors on the uphill carriageway were considered to be sufficiently distant from the roadside, for receptor façade concentrations, to exceed the annual mean at declaration of the AQMA in 2017. (This was based on the detailed assessment undertaken in 2016 prior to declaring this an AQMA).

Between 2019 and 2023 there have been no diffusion tubes on the downhill carriageway. Diffusion tube data at the boundary with the AQMA provides an indicator of roadside NO_2 on the uphill carriageway. The data confirmed roadside concentrations at this location were below the objective for the period 2019-2023.

It is therefore concluded that there is insufficient evidence to revoke the Halifax Road section of the AQMA until we have undertaken further monitoring using diffusion tubes along the downhill carriageway of Halifax Road. Monitoring to assess this commenced at two roadside locations in 2024, and the results from these locations will be reported in the 2025 ASR and guidance sought from DEFRA regarding the required monitoring period, prior to consideration of revocation of this AQMA.

To summarise, it is intended to revoke the Lindley Moor section of the AQMA following appraisal of the ASR 2024, by amending the AQMA order but retaining the Halifax Road section until sufficient monitoring data have been obtained (as identified on Map D2).
In accordance with DEFRA guidance, the Lindley Moor section of the AQMA will not be considered in the future, revised AQAP. However, monitoring to evaluate compliance with AQ objectives, will continue, with data being reported in future ASRs.

AQMA 4 – Birkenshaw

This AQMA was declared in 2017 due to exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO_2. As with AQMA 3, AQMA 4 is split into two separate areas, as detailed in the Map D3 below: these being the area adjacent to the A651 Bradford Road / A58 Whitehall Road East roundabout, with the second area being adjacent to the M62 motorway and either side of the A651 Bradford Road carriageways.

Roadside concentrations for the five-year period 2019-2023 all show compliance with the 40 µg/m^3 objective and all below 36 µg/m^3. All monitoring locations are considered representative of the highest concentrations within both areas of the AQMA.
On this basis therefore, this AQMA shall be revoked.

AQMA 7 – Liversedge

Map D6 below outlines the geographical extent of this AQMA in Liversedge. This AQMA was declared in 2017 due to exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO_2. This AQMA is split into three separate areas, and each of the three areas has a diffusion tube located within it (see map for locations). These being the areas:

- A638 Wakefield Road at Flush, Liversedge, at the junction of Wormald Street and Wakefield Road (diffusion tube K48).
- A638 Wakefield Road at Frost Hill, Liversedge, approaching the junction with the A62 Leeds Road (diffusion tube K34)
- Junction of A649 Halifax Road and A62 Leeds Road, Mill Bridge, Liversedge (diffusion tube K33)

The above three diffusion tube locations are considered to be representative in worse case locations. Tube K48 is at receptor façade, whilst tubes K33 and K34 are at roadside.
K33 roadside concentrations have been below both the annual mean objective of 40 µg/m^3 and the 36 µg/m^3 annual mean value (within 10% of the objective) for the past five years.

Considering DEFRA guidance, the AQMA order shall be amended to revoke this section of the AQMA.

K34 roadside concentrations have been below both the annual mean objective of 40 µg/m^3 and the 36 µg/m^3 annual mean value (within 10% of the objective) for the past five years.

The AQMA order shall be amended to revoke this section of the AQMA

There has continued to be an exceedance at receptor façade within the area of the AQMA at the junction of Wormald Street and Wakefield Road (Flush) in 2021 and 2022 (diffusion tube K48). To understand this small area of exceedance, an additional five diffusion tubes were installed in 2024 to better determine the localised impact of traffic emissions within this section of the AQMA. These data, along with data from our existing diffusion tube locations will therefore be reported within our 2025 ASR.

On this basis it is not proposed to revoke this section of the AQMA, and actions to reduce emissions and concentrations within this section of the AQMA will be proposed in our forthcoming revision of our Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP).
The proposed areas for revocation and/or retention within AQMA 7 are detailed in Map D6 below.

AQMA 10 – Thornton Lodge

This AQMA was declared in 2019 due to exceedance of the annual mean objective for NO_2. This AQMA is split into two separate areas, as detailed in the Map D9 below. NO_2 monitoring tubes are located within these areas:

- Adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, north-east of the signalised junction with Longroyd Lane (diffusion tube K49).
- Adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, south-west of the signalised junction with the B6432 St Thomas Road (diffusion tubes K50, K76 and K77)

K49 roadside concentrations for the five-year period 2019 – 2024 are below annual mean objective (of 40 µg/m^3), with highest annual mean concentration being 36.4 µg/m^3 in 2021. This tube is located 3.5 metres from receptor façade, so concentrations will be lower at nearby residential properties within this section of the AQMA.

It is concluded that there is sufficient evidence to the amend the AQMA order to revoke the section of the AQMA located adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, north-east of the signalised junction with Longroyd Lane.

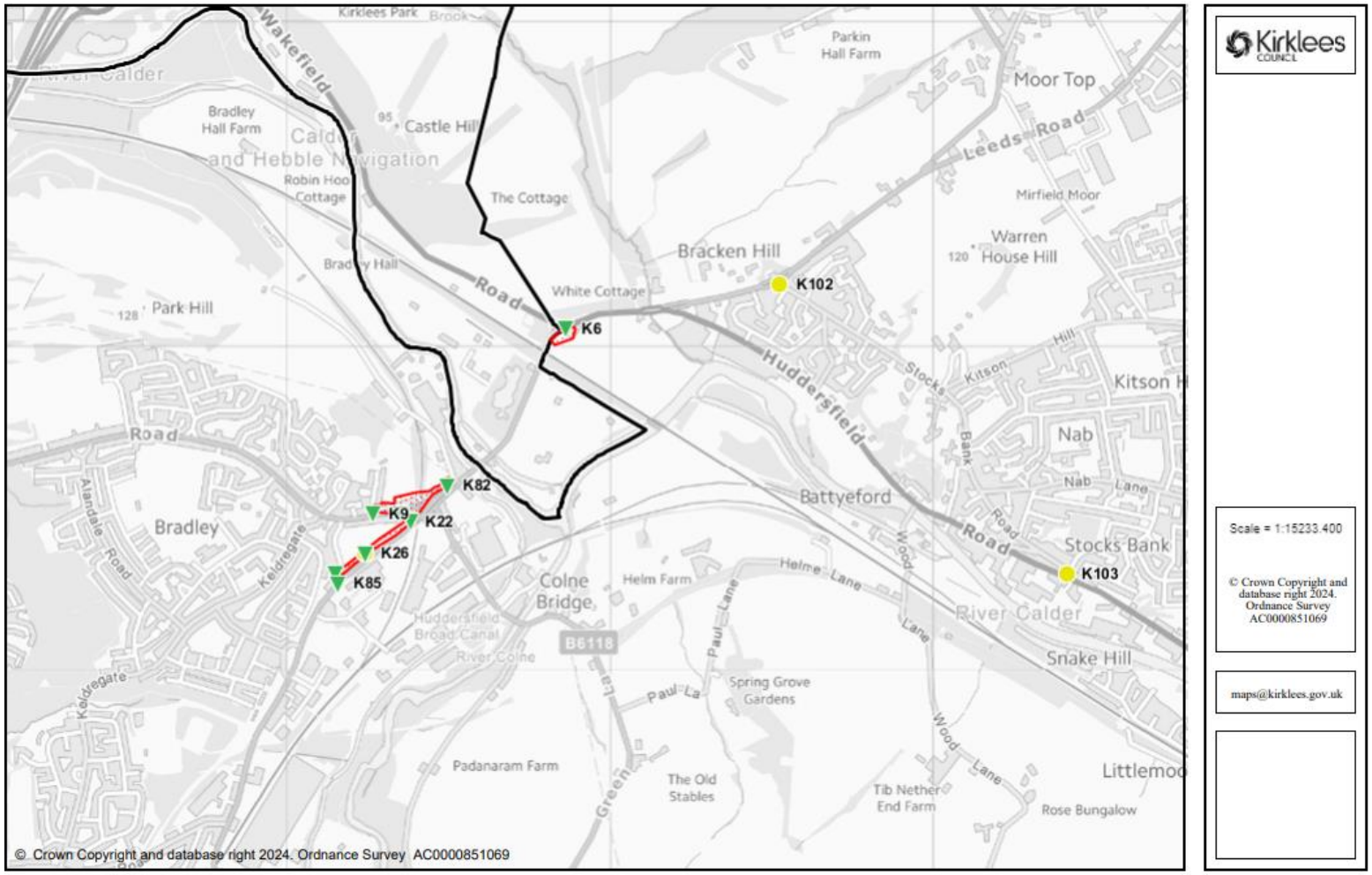
Concentrations of NO_2 within the section of the AQMA adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, south-west of the signalised junction with the B6432 St Thomas Road continue to be nearer the objective. Annual mean concentrations at receptor façade showed compliance with the annual mean objective for the five-year period 2019 – 2024. Concentrations in 2021 and 2022 however, were very close to the 40 µg/m^3 objective (39.8 µg/m^3 and 39.4 µg/m^3 in 2021 and 2022 respectively).

Due to the marginal compliance in 2021 and 2022, and with reference to DEFRA guidance, consideration was given to whether this section of the AQMA should also be revoked or continue monitoring and include within our forthcoming revision the AQAP.

It has been determined that the AQMA order shall be amended to revoke the section of the AQMA located adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, north-east of the signalised junction with Longroyd Lane, whilst retaining the section of the AQMA adjacent to the A62 Manchester Road, south-west of the signalised junction with the B6432 St Thomas Road. This allows for further monitoring, before revoking the AQMA completely.
Map D9 identifies the areas to be revoked or retained.

AQMA 1 – to be revoked

Map D.1 Air Quality Management Area 1 Bradley



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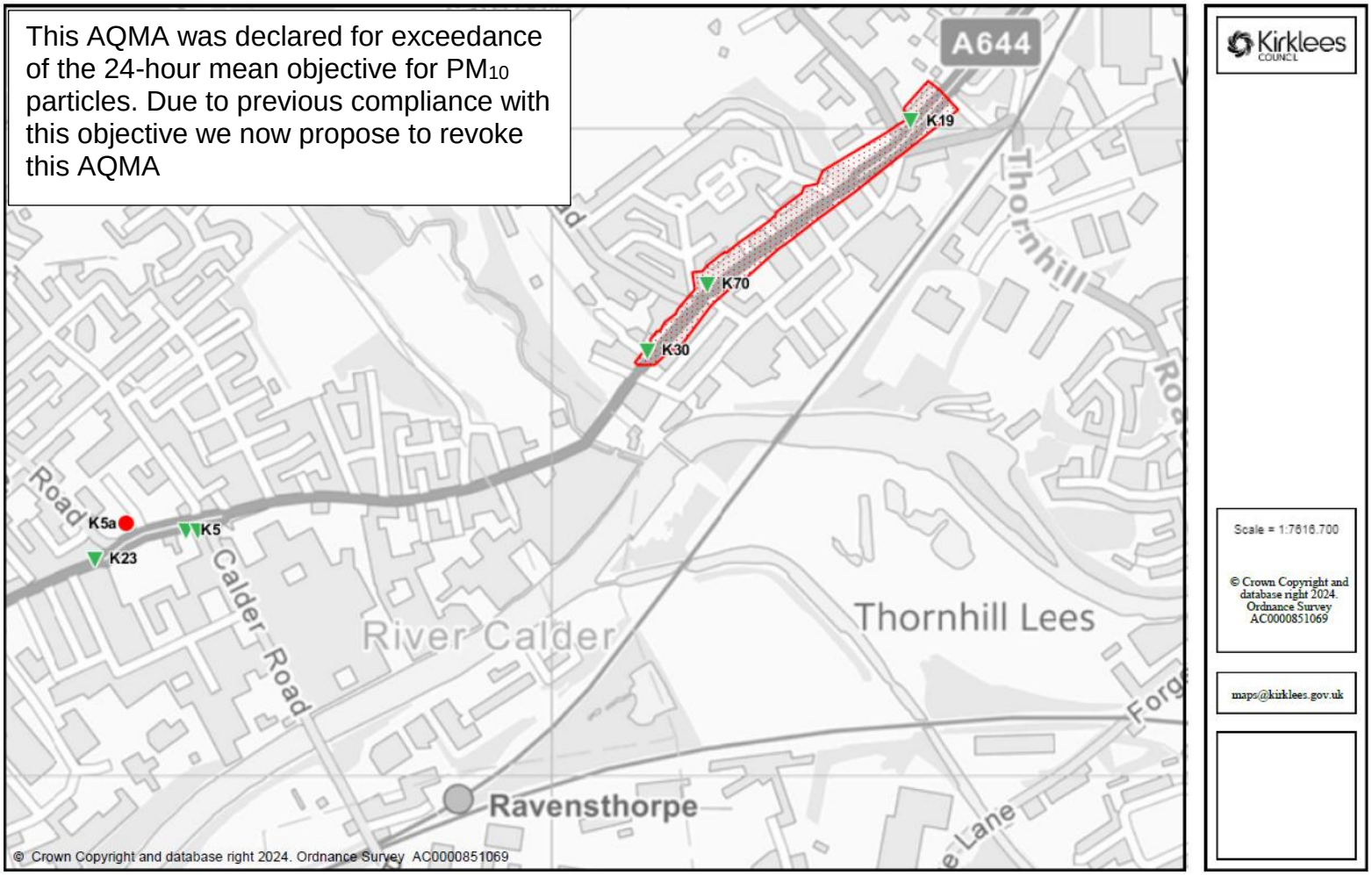
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AQMA 2 - to be revoked

Map D.11 Air Quality Monitoring in Ravensthorpe / Scouthill (AQMA 2)

This AQMA was declared for exceedance of the 24-hour mean objective for PM_{10} particles. Due to previous compliance with this objective we now propose to revoke this AQMA



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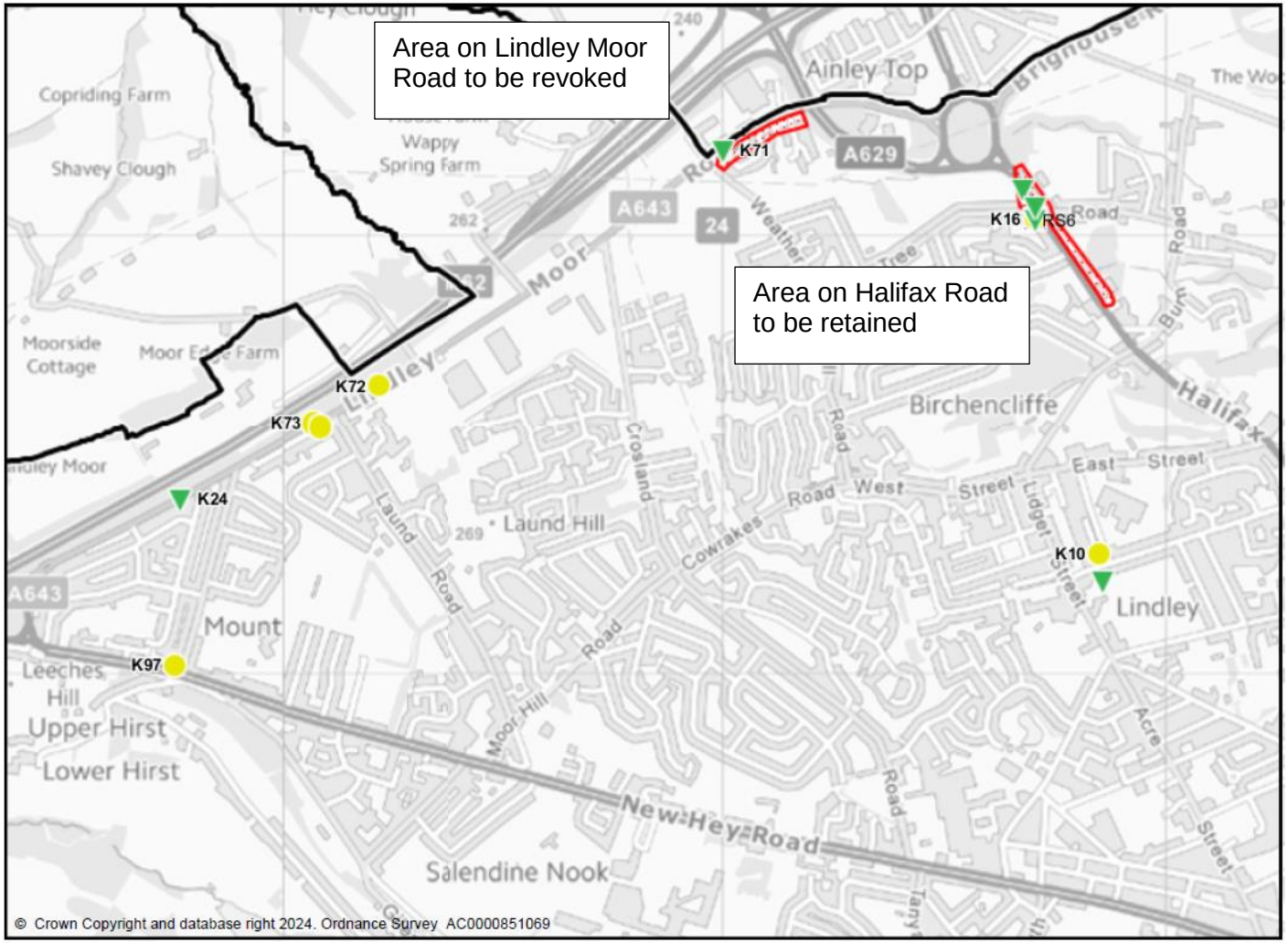
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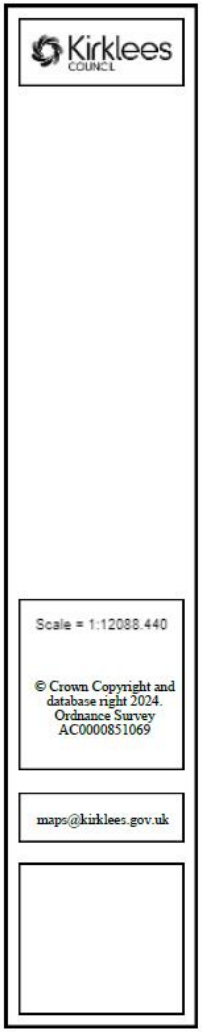
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AQMA 3 - to be amended

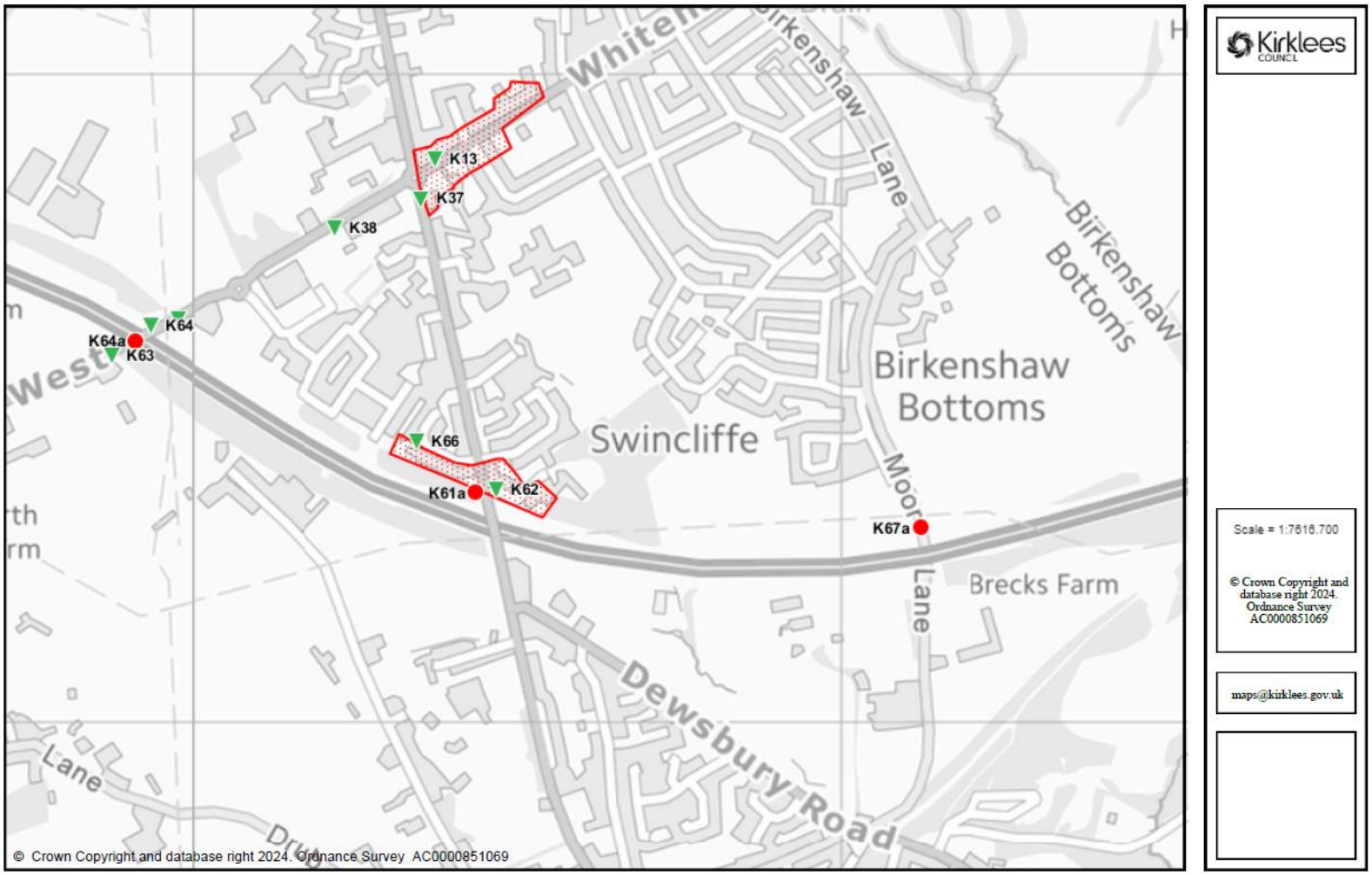
Map D.2 Air Quality Management Area 3 Ainley Top





AQMA 4 - to be revoked

Map D.3 Air Quality Management Area 4 Birkenshaw



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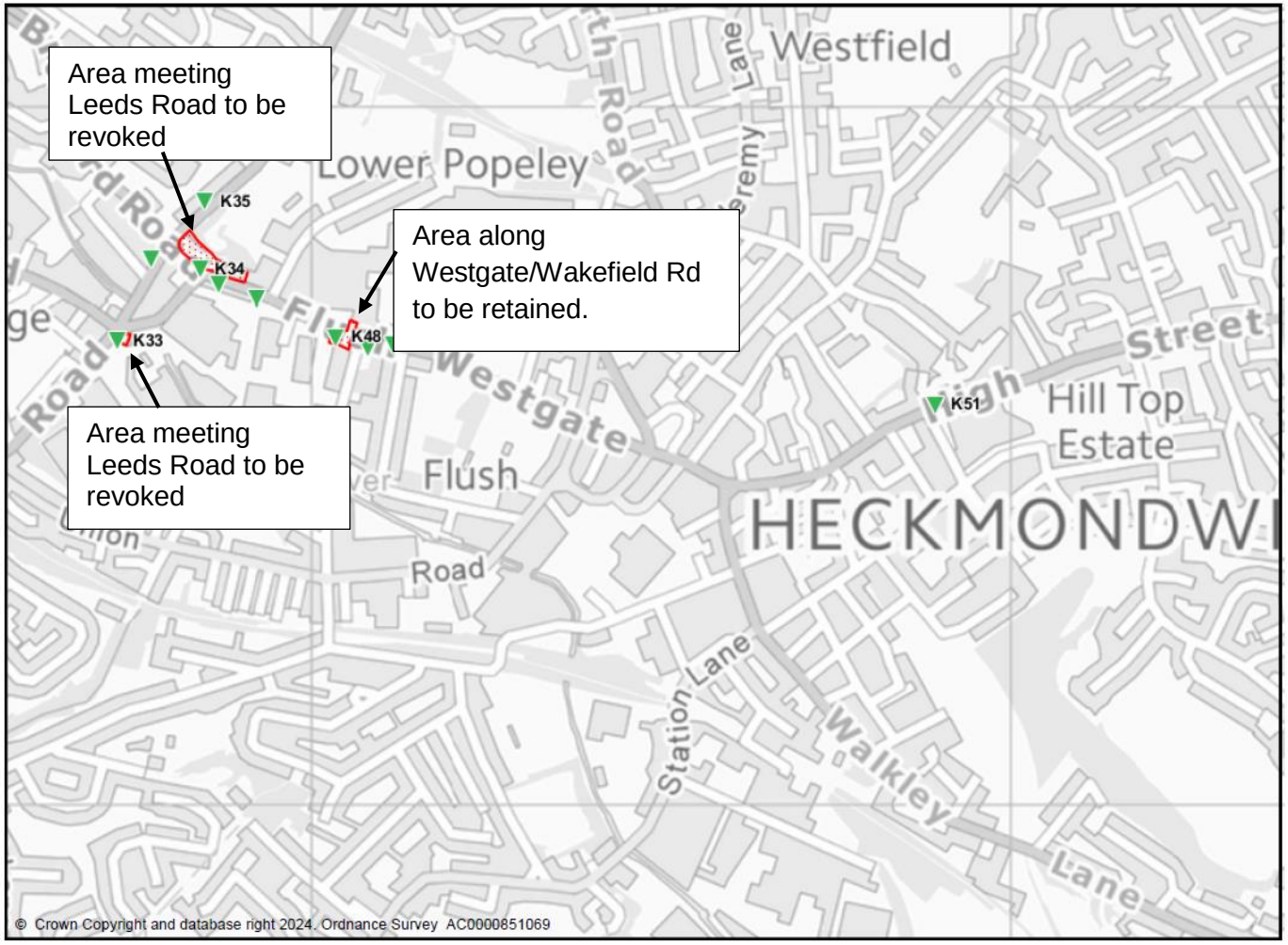
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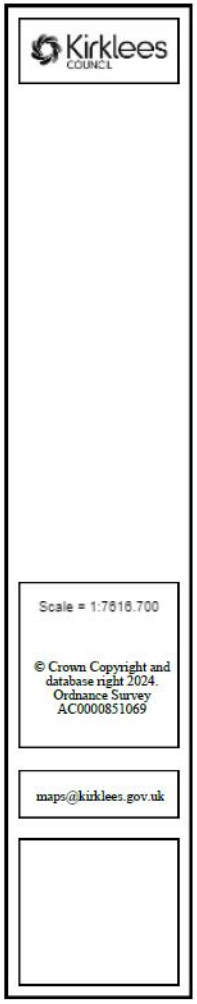
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AQMA 7 - to be amended

Map D.6 Air Quality Management Area 7 Liversedge





AQMA 10 - to be amended

Map D.9 Air Quality Management Area 10 Thornton Lodge

