

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 30 July 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interests

To receive any declarations of interest of a pecuniary or non-pecuniary nature from Members in respect of the items on this agenda (other than those recorded within the Minutes contained within the Minute Book).

2. Minutes (*Pages 7 - 32*)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 6th and 27th February, 2020.

3. Communications

To consider any communications to be submitted by the Mayor or the Chief Executive.

Substantive Items

4. Public Health - Covid Update

The Council will receive an update of the current position with regard to the Covid pandemic within Barnsley.

5. Recovery Plan - Update

The Council will receive an update providing details of the Covid Recovery Plan.

6. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2019-20 (*Pages 33 - 48*)

The Executive Director Core Services will submit the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report informing the Council of the work undertaken by the Committee during 2019/20 and seeking approval to publish the report for the public as evidence of local authority as well as partner agency decision makers being held to account.

Receipt of Minutes

Minutes of the Regulatory Boards

7. Planning Regulatory Board - 18th February, 2020 (*Pages 49 - 50*)

8. Planning Regulatory Board - 17th March, 2020 (*Pages 51 - 54*)

9. Planning Regulatory Board - 19th May, 2020 (*Pages 55 - 56*)

10. Planning Regulatory Board - 16th June, 2020 (*Pages 57 - 58*)
11. General Licensing Regulatory Board - 19th February, 2020 (*Pages 59 - 62*)
12. General Licensing Panel - Various (*Pages 63 - 66*)
13. Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board - 19th February, 2020 (*Pages 67 - 68*)
14. Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board (Special Meeting) - 3rd June, 2020 (*Pages 69 - 70*)
15. Audit and Governance Committee - 3rd June, 2020 (*Pages 71 - 88*)
16. Audit and Governance Committee - (Special Meeting) - 25th June, 2020 (*Pages 89 - 94*)
17. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various (*Pages 95 - 98*)

Minutes of the Scrutiny Committees

18. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream) - 4th February, 2020 (*Pages 99 - 104*)
19. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (People Achieving their Potential Workstream) - 10th March, 2020 (*Pages 105 - 110*)
20. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 12th May, 2020 (*Pages 111 - 116*)
21. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream) - 9th June, 2020 (*Pages 117 - 120*)
22. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (People Achieving their Potential Workstream) - 9th July, 2020 (*Pages 121 - 124*)

Minutes of the Area Councils

23. Central Area Council - 13th January, 2020 (*Pages 125 - 132*)
24. Central Area Council - 9th March, 2020 (*Pages 133 - 138*)
25. Central Area Council - 9th June, 2020 (*Pages 139 - 144*)
26. Dearne Area Council - 20th January, 2020 (*Pages 145 - 148*)
27. Dearne Area Council - 16th March, 2020 (*Pages 149 - 152*)
28. Dearne Area Council - 8th June, 2020 (*Pages 153 - 156*)
29. North Area Council - 27th January, 2020 (*Pages 157 - 164*)
30. North Area Council - 16th March, 2020 (*Pages 165 - 170*)

31. North Area Council - 5th June, 2020 (*Pages 171 - 174*)
32. North East Area Council - 30th January, 2020 (*Pages 175 - 180*)
33. North East Area Council - 4th June, 2020 (*Pages 181 - 186*)
34. Penistone Area Council - 13th February, 2020 (*Pages 187 - 194*)
35. Penistone Area Council - 4th June, 2020 (*Pages 195 - 200*)
36. South Area Council - 14th February, 2020 (*Pages 201 - 206*)
37. South Area Council - 5th June, 2020 (*Pages 207 - 212*)

Minutes of the Cabinet Meetings

38. Cabinet Meeting - 22nd January, 2020 (*Pages 213 - 214*)
39. Cabinet Meeting - 5th February, 2020 (*Pages 215 - 222*)
40. Cabinet Meeting - 19th February, 2020 (*Pages 223 - 226*)
41. Cabinet Meeting - 18th March, 2020 (*Pages 227 - 236*)
42. Cabinet Meeting - 15th April, 2020 (*Pages 237 - 240*)
43. Cabinet Meeting - 29th April, 2020 (*Pages 241 - 242*)
44. Cabinet Meeting - 13th May, 2020 (*Pages 243 - 244*)
45. Cabinet Meeting - 27th May, 2020 (*Pages 245 - 246*)
46. Cabinet Meeting - 10th June, 2020 (*Pages 247 - 252*)
47. Cabinet Meeting - 24th June, 2020 (*Pages 253 - 254*)
48. Cabinet Meeting - 8th July, 2020 (*Pages 255 - 258*)

(NB. No Cabinet decisions have been called in from these meetings)

49. Questions relating to Joint Authority, Police and Crime Panel and Combined Authority Business

Minutes of the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Sheffield City Region Combined Authority, and Police and Crime Panel

Any Member of the Council shall have the opportunity to comment on any matters referred to in the following minutes.

The relevant representatives shall then be given the opportunity to respond to any comments made by Members on those minutes.

50. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 25th November, 2019 (*Pages 259 - 268*)
51. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 13th January, 2020 (*Pages 269 - 280*)
52. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 10th February, 2020 (*Pages 281 - 294*)
53. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Annual Meeting) (Draft) - 22nd June, 2020 (*Pages 295 - 302*)
54. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Ordinary Meeting) (Draft) - 22nd June, 2020 (*Pages 303 - 320*)
55. Police and Crime Panel - 2nd December, 2019 (*Pages 321 - 334*)
56. Police and Crime Panel - 6th February, 2020 (*Pages 335 - 346*)
57. Police and Crime Panel (Annual Meeting) (Draft) - 8th June, 2020 (*Pages 347 - 362*)
58. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 23rd January, 2020 (*Pages 363 - 374*)
59. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 19th March, 2020 (*Pages 375 - 384*)
60. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (Annual Meeting) - 11th June, 2020 (*Pages 385 - 386*)
61. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (Ordinary Meeting) - 11th June, 2020 (*Pages 387 - 394*)
62. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Board - 27th January, 2020 (*Pages 395 - 404*)
63. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Board - 15th April, 2020 (*Pages 405 - 410*)
64. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Board - 1st June, 2020 (*Pages 411 - 418*)
65. Questions by Elected Members

To consider any questions which may have been received from Elected Members and which are asked pursuant to Standing Order No. 11.

1 Councillor Ennis

'How many Berneslai Homes Tenants are in receipt of Universal Credit Payments and how many of those are in rent arrears? In providing this response could you please indicate the number and percentage of claimants and for those in rent

arrears?’

2 Councillor Hunt

‘As of mid-July the rates of Covid-19 in Barnsley are falling but are still above the national average. The Council’s Public Health Department should be congratulated for the role that they have played during the crisis. In other parts of the country, including Leicester, local authorities have criticised Government for the lack of availability of key data to be able to effectively tackle local outbreaks. Is Barnsley Council getting the data it needs from the Government?’

3 Councillor Wright

Could the Cabinet member for Place please advise on the following:

- *How many trees have been lifted or felled in Penny Pie Park?*
- *How many have been transplanted?*
- *Why have those that have been discarded not been transplanted?*
- *How many new trees are to be planted in the Park?*
- *What will be the net gain or net loss of trees in Penny Pie Park?*

4 Councillor Hunt

‘The Leader must be aware of the national campaign by Excluded UK, seeking to secure financial support from the Government for the millions of self-employed individuals in the UK who have fallen through the gaps of support and found themselves with zero income during the Covid crisis. What is the authority doing to identify and support those individuals, from a vast range of backgrounds and professions, who live in Barnsley borough and have found themselves in this dire situation?’

5 Councillor Greenhough

‘The Leader has announced, in a letter to all residents, the challenging financial position that the Council finds itself in as a result of the Covid 19 crisis.

What action is the Council taking to balance this year’s budget, and how will that be approved?’

6 Councillor Kitching

‘The theatre industry and the arts in general are likely to be one of the last to recover from the Covid crisis, and some theatres may not recover at all. We are rightly proud of our theatres in Barnsley and our thriving arts scene will no doubt form an essential part of the town’s recover and regeneration.

What level of support is the Council offering to local theatres to ensure they survive? For example, will there be help with rent and leases?’

7 Councillor Kitching

‘Leisure centres and swimming pools are receiving very little support from the government. Given the importance of exercise on both physical and mental health and well-being, what are the Council’s plans to keep leisure centres open in this time of huge financial uncertainty?’

Questions by Members of the Public - for Information Only

To note the following question received from a Member of the public together with the response provided by the Cabinet Spokesperson:

1 Mr J R – Staincross

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'S. Norman', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sarah Norman
Chief Executive

Wednesday, 22 July 2020

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 6 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

- The Mayor (Councillor Markham)
- Central Ward - Councillors D. Birkinshaw and Bruff
 - Cudworth Ward - Councillors Hayward, Houghton CBE and Wraith MBE
 - Darfield Ward - Councillors Saunders and Smith
 - Darton East Ward - Councillors Hunt and Spence
 - Darton West Ward - Councillors A. Cave, T. Cave and Howard
 - Dearne North Ward - Councillors Gollick and Phillips
 - Dearne South Ward - Councillors Danforth, C. Johnson and Noble
 - Dodworth Ward - Councillors P. Birkinshaw, Fielding and Wright
 - Hoyland Milton Ward - Councillors Franklin, Shepherd and Stowe
 - Kingstone Ward - Councillors Mitchell and Williams
 - Monk Bretton Ward - Councillors Felton, Green and Richardson
 - North East Ward - Councillors Cherryholme, Ennis OBE and Higginbottom
 - Old Town Ward - Councillors Newing and Pickering
 - Penistone East Ward - Councillors Barnard, Hand-Davis and Wilson
 - Penistone West Ward - Councillors Kitching
 - Rockingham Ward - Councillors Andrews BEM, Lamb and Sumner
 - Royston Ward - Councillors
 - St. Helen's Ward - Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall
 - Stairfoot Ward - Councillors Bowler, Gillis and W. Johnson
 - Wombwell Ward - Councillors Frost
 - Worsbrough Ward - Councillors Carr, Clarke and Lodge

181. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items relating to Berneslai Homes in view of family and friends being Berneslai Homes tenants.

182. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on the 28th November and 19th December, 2019 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

183. Communications

Shared Lives in the Prevention of Homelessness

The Chief Executive informed Members of the Council that in April 2019 a new pilot scheme had been launched under the Shared Lives offer to work collaboratively with the Council's Housing Options Team (the Team who supported people who were, or at risk of becoming homeless). The pilot aimed to offer an alternative to out of area bed and breakfast and instead offer up to twelve weeks support in the Shared Lives Service in Barnsley, a more personalised, family based approach. This was the first time nationally that Shared Lives had been developed to support homelessness.

The Service now supported adults to rebuild their lives by offering housing-related support which included applications to landlords, bidding on properties and preparing to move on. It also gave support with ongoing health issues, budgeting and social isolation. So far, 8 people had been supported by the scheme to get their lives back on track.

This innovative approach had received some fabulous recognition at the Shared Lives Plus Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony recently when it had received the Scheme Innovation Award for 2019.

The following staff from the Shared Lives and Housing Options Team were in the Council Chamber this morning:

- Lee Hardman (Senior Shared Lives Officer)
- Angela Beaumont (Shared Lives Officer)
- Steven Ellis (Shared Lives Officer)
- Rachel Burgon (Housing Advisor)

The Chief Executive thanked all members of the Team for the fabulous work they had done.

Councillor Platts (Cabinet Spokesperson for Adults and Communities) also asked to add her thanks to the Shared Lives Team. In addition she also thanked the Shared Lives Carers across the borough all of whom did a some fantastic work with vulnerable and homeless people. The Mayor also offered her own congratulations to the staff from the Shared Lives Team.

The Mayor and Members of the Council expressed their thanks and congratulations to all concerned in the usual manner.

184. Housing Revenue Account - Draft 2020/21 Budget and Investment Proposals 2020-24 (Cab.11.12.2019/6)

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), as set out in Section 3 of the report now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that approval be given to the proposed variations to the existing Housing Growth Investment schemes, as outlined in paragraph 3.8 and Table 2 of the report;
- (iii) that approval be given to the Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget for 2020/21, as outlined in Section 6, including the proposed revenue investments and savings, as outlined in Section 5, with any final amendments/additions being delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Regeneration and Culture) and the Executive Director Place in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services and the Service Director – Finance (Section 151);
- (iv) that a rent increase in line with the Government’s rent policy be approved;
- (v) that it be noted that there is no proposed change to non-dwelling rents, service charges and heating charges for 2020/21;
- (vi) that approval be given to the 2020/21 Berneslai Homes Management Fee at paragraph 6.7, with any final amendments/additions delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Regeneration and Culture) and the Service Director Regeneration and Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services and the Service Director – Finance (Section 151);
- (vii) that the 2020/21 Berneslai Homes Management Fee for Gypsy and Traveller Sites, charged to the Authority’s General Fund, detailed in paragraph 6.8 of the report, be approved;
- (viii) that approval be given, in principle, to the proposed emerging capital priority schemes as detailed in Section 7, subject to individual reports, as appropriate, in line with the Council’s governance arrangements;
- (ix) that the Council Housing Capital Investment programme for 2020/21 be approved and that the indicative programme for 2021/22 through 2024-25, as outlined in Section 8 be noted; and
- (x) that the Council be approved to set aside resources for both remedial works at the 26 properties affected by the floods in November 2019 and to undertake a further wider flood risk assessment of all Council dwellings in the Borough (as referred to in paragraph 7.2).

185. Corporate Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policies (Cab.8.1.2020/8)

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and

RESOLVED that suite of Corporate Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policies and Strategies appended to the report now submitted as detailed below be approved and that continued support and endorsement be given to the corporate approach to minimise the risk of fraud, corruption and bribery within the Authority's overall ethical framework:

- Corporate Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Corporate Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy
- Corporate Anti-Bribery Strategy
- Corporate Prosecutions Policy
- Corporate Fraud Response Plan
- Confidential Reporting Policy (formerly the Whistleblowing Policy)
- Corporate Anti-Money Laundering Policy

186. Adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working Definition of Anti-Semitism

The report of the Executive Director Core Services requesting the Council to consider the adoption by the Council of the Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of Anti-Semitism was:

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of Anti-Semitism be adopted as follows:

'Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred towards Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of Anti-Semitism are directed towards Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious families'.

187. Representation on Committees and Outside Bodies

Moved by Councillor Howard – Seconded by Councillor Franklin; and

RESOLVED that the following changes be made to the bodies indicated for the remainder of the Municipal Year:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To note the appointment of Ms G Carter as Primary School Parent Governor

Berneslai Homes

To note that

- (i) following an independent review of the Board of Berneslai Homes, Mr P Hayes has been re-appointed as Chair for a further term of three years; and

(ii) following an interview process, Councillor Green has been appointed as a Board Member

Police and Crime Panel

Delete Councillor Tattersall (Substitute Member)
Add Councillor Cherryholme (Full Member) and Councillor Williams (Substitute Member)

188. Appointment Panel - Executive Director Children's Services - 19th November, 5th December and 18th December, 2019

Moved by Councillor Bruff – Seconded by Councillor Saunders; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Appointment Panel (Executive Director Children's Services) held on the 19th November, 5th and 18th December, 2019 be received.

189. Appointment Panel - Executive Director Core Services - 20th November, 5th December, 2019 and 14th January, 2020

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Appointment Panel (Executive Director Core Services) held on the 20th November and 5th December, 2019 and 14th January, 2020 be received.

190. Planning Regulatory Board - 19th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor D. Birkinshaw - Seconded by Councillor Richardson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on the 19th November, 2019 be received.

191. Planning Regulatory Board - 17th December, 2019

Moved by Councillor D. Birkinshaw - Seconded by Councillor Richardson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on the 17th December, 2019 be received.

192. Planning Regulatory Board - 21st January, 2020

Moved by Councillor D. Birkinshaw - Seconded by Councillor Richardson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on the 21st January, 2020 be received.

193. Audit Committee - 4th December, 2019

Moved by Councillor Richardson - Seconded by Councillor Barnard; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on the 4th December, 2019 be received.

194. Audit Committee - 22nd January, 2020

Moved by Councillor Richardson - Seconded by Councillor Barnard; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on the 22nd January, 2020 be received.

195. General Licensing Panel - Various

Moved by Councillor C. Wraith, MBE – Seconded by Councillor W Johnson; and

RESOLVED that the details of the various General Licensing Regulatory Board Panels held in the last cycle of meetings together with their decisions be received.

196. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various

Moved by Councillor Shepherd – Seconded by Councillor Cherryholme; and

RESOLVED that the details of the various Appeals, Awards and Standards Regulatory Board Panels held in the last cycle of meetings together with their decisions be received.

197. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Strong and Resilient Communities) - 3rd December, 2019

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by Councillor W Johnson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Strong and Resilient Communities Work Stream) held on the 3rd December, 2019 be received.

198. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 7th January, 2020

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by Councillor W Johnson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 7th January, 2020 be received.

199. Central Area Council - 4th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor W Johnson - Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Central Area Council held on the 4th November, 2019 be received.

200. Dearne Area Council - 18th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor Noble – Seconded by Councillor Gollick; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Dearne Area Council held on 18th November, 2019 be received.

201. North Area Council - 18th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor Leech – Seconded by Councillor Platts; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North Area Council held on the 18th November, 2019 be received.

202. North East Area Council - 28th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor Hayward – Seconded by Councillor C Wraith MBE; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North East Area Council held on the 28th November, 2019 be received.

203. Penistone Area Council - 5th December, 2019

Moved by Councillor Barnard – Seconded by Councillor Wilson; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Penistone Area Council held on the 5th December, 2019 be received.

204. South Area Council - 17th January, 2020

Moved by Councillor Stowe - Seconded by Councillor Shepherd; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the South Area Council held on the 17th January, 2020 be received.

205. Cabinet Meeting - 27th November, 2019

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton, CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the Cabinet Meeting held on the 27th November, 2019 be received.

206. Cabinet Meeting - 11th December, 2019

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton, CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the Cabinet Meeting held on the 11th December, 2019 be received.

207. Cabinet Meeting - 8th January, 2020

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton, CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the Cabinet Meeting held on the 8th January, 2020 be received.

208. Questions relating to Joint Authority, Police and Crime Panel and Combined Authority Business

The Chief Executive reported that she had received no questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 12.

209. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 14th October, 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

210. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Board (Draft) - 18th November, 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

211. Questions by Elected Members

The Chief Executive reported that she had received a number of questions from Elected Members in accordance with Standing Order No. 11.

Note: a maximum of 30 minutes was allocated for this item in accordance with Standing Order No 11(2)(d)

(a) Councillor Carr

'How many applications for aids and adaptations are being received weekly? How many are for adaptations for residents to be able to leave health locations, who I understand are a priority? How many for low level showers and ramps for the residents in need of modifications to be able to live independently and access the outside world? What is the timeframe for these adaptations? What are the pressures in this department?'

Councillor Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson for Adults and Communities responded by thanking Councillor Carr for her question and she stated that the response was rather lengthy.

The Service did not collect the data on a weekly basis but rather monthly and this was available from March 2019 to January 2020. In view of the amount of data available she would provide information on the totals but would provide Councillor Carr with a copy of the detailed data after the meeting.

The number of referrals from March 2019 to January 2020 was 241 and the number of Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) fast track stair lifts, through floor lifts, ceiling track hoists or access ramps was 47. The number of referrals that were deemed a priority by the Occupational Therapist was 62, the number of level access showers was 144 and the number of ramps was 37.

Other referrals included Wash Dry toilets, Step lifts and House Extensions and the funding of Central Heating replacements via better homes.

She was unable to give a figure of how many applicants were in health locations waiting to return home as this wasn't something that the service had historically reported on given the fact that as far as the service was aware, all applicants lived at home nearby.

If someone did need to relocate temporarily whilst a DFG adaptation was being installed, updates to policy allowed for some or all of the costs incurred to be funded. DFG could also fund some of the relocation costs if it was deemed that an adaptation to an existing property was not practicable or feasible and another property would accommodate the service users' needs or subsequent adaptations better.

If someone was deemed a higher priority, this was assessed by the referring Occupational Therapist and DFG would progress as priority cases (as reflected in the above information) and immediate action would be taken.

The average waiting times for 2017-18 was 168 days, for 2018-19 it was 108.3 days and for 2019 – 20 it was 76.33 days so waiting times had improved by over 50% since 2017/18 due to new initiatives, better processes and policy.

The average number of days from referral received to the first visit were as follows:

	Immediate	Fast Track	Standard
Quarter 1	3	36	149
Quarter 2	4	43	183
Quarter 3	11	18	175

The National Guidelines for DFG referrals indicated that customers should be contacted within the following timeframe for adaptations:

- Immediate – 5 days
- Fast Track – 4 weeks
- Standard – 6 months (dealt with in date order)

DFG quarter 3 statistics showed a blip/delay in the average number of days for immediate referrals due to a slightly higher number of priority referrals and staff capacity which was being addressed.

DFG had recently recruited 2 additional Project Officers who would commence early in February and a recruitment exercise was ongoing for an additional support officer. DFG was also funding an additional Occupational Therapist for which the recruitment was in progress via the Equipment and Adaptations Team.

Councillor Carr asked, as a supplementary question, why one of her constituents who had requested a low level shower 12 months ago for which funding had been granted in April was still waiting for this to be provided.

Councillor Platts was unable to discuss individual cases in the Council Chamber, however, if Councillor Carr provided her with details outside the meeting she would ensure that an answer was provided.

(b) Councillor Fielding

'Please detail the costs of the security provided at Penny Pie Park as part of the project to construct the gyratory road junction on the park, specifically:

- *What has been the cost of legal advice relating to securing the park and the constructions site?*
- *What has been the cost of engaging the services of Middlesbrough based security company Vistech – please detail the daily cost, the costs to date and the anticipated total cost of security services for the duration of this project?*
- *What was the procurement process for this contract and how did it ensure value for money?*
- *What is the total cost of the security fencing for the site?*
- *What were the perceived risks that led the Council to believe that this level of security was necessary?*
- *What was the estimated cost of security contained in the £4.3 million estimates for this scheme?*

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) commented that he had become used to answering questions in this Council Chamber and indeed he always attempted to give as full, clear and frank response as possible. He regretted to say, however, that there were some elements of the answers to the questions that contained commercially and contractually sensitive information and so on this occasion he would not be able to give a full answer in this Chamber. It was important that this information was made available to Councillor Fielding and indeed to any other Member who wished to have it and he was, therefore, in the process of preparing a full written answer and he hoped to be able to provide that by the close of business today.

Councillor Fielding fully accepted that some aspects may be commercially confidential or contain restricted information but a lot of what he had asked for wasn't restricted so presumably this would be released within Councillor Lamb's document.

Councillor Lamb was happy to provide any information he could but clearly where this was commercially sensitive he wouldn't do.

(c) Councillor Hunt

'it was reported in the Barnsley Chronicle on 10th January that an innovative scheme which could have seen potholes filled in with recycled plastic was being placed on the back burner. It this report correct? Please provide an update on this project'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) reminded the Council that he had presented a response to a question to Elected Members in August 2019 on the use of recycled plastic in road repairs. He could confirm that the Head of Highways and Engineering had met with representatives of the primary UK supplier of plastic bonded asphalt, MacRebur to discuss the potential applications for the material on Barnsley's highway network. Whilst it was true to say that the approach pioneered was innovative, the initial large scale trials carried out in Cumbria were still in their infancy with regard to how this material performed over the long term against more established, industry standard treatments. Once additional data on the performance of plastic bonded asphalt was made available the Service may consider it as a replacement sub-base material for highway construction before trialling it as a wearing course of infill material for 'pot-holes'.

Elected Members should be aware that a wide range of factors had to be considered by Highways Engineers before using new material on the highway network – for example: skid resistance, deformability, elasticity, viscosity at temperature, brittleness at temperature and ability to withstand loading and life-cycle durability. These were key engineering considerations that had to be proven before any perceived environmental benefits were factored in. The Department for Transport required all new materials to undergo rigorous testing procedures before they could be approved and endorse their widespread use.

At this point in time he was not prepared to act in haste and then repent at leisure as he wanted to ensure that this type of surface would not put Barnsley residents at risk, would be durable and good value for money as well as providing an environmental benefit. In summary, the Service was progressing with this but caution had to be the default setting.

Councillor Hunt thanked Councillor Lamb for his comprehensive response. He then asked as a supplementary question, what other innovative schemes the Highways Service was currently considering in relation to Barnsley's roads.

Councillor Lamb responded by stating that there were many innovative schemes being undertaken within the borough and indeed the Council had very innovative engineers and an innovative Management Team. Those innovations came from a number of places. Some of it was about the environmental innovation, some of it was about developing the active travel infrastructure, some of it was about ensuring that public transport could make its way across the borough's roads more easily and hence reduce the need for people to use their personal transport and some of it was driven by funding considerations as well. If he was required to provide a full breakdown of the innovation in pace and being considered this could take some time, therefore, he proposed providing a full written response to Councillor Hunt.

(d) Councillor Hunt

'At the Overview and Scrutiny meeting on the 7th January the press were excluded part of the meeting where the Children's Services performance reports were discussed. Why was this part of the meeting held in closed session?'

Councillor Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson for Children's Services responded by stating that following the Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services in 2012 and the inadequate judgement, part of the Council's system wide Improvement Plan was to develop greater accountability and scrutiny of Officers by Elected Members.

The Private Session of Overview and Scrutiny provided Elected Members with granular and detailed information about the performance of Children's Social Care and Safeguarding Service. The Private Session enabled Elected Members to question Officers and raise any enquires that they may have, bringing forward their constituency experience. This could involve and/or be about very small numbers of children whose identify had to be protected, within the closed session. In these circumstances the Committee was entitled to consider this business in the absence of the press and public and in accordance with legislation. This session enabled Elected Members to discharge their safeguarding responsibilities effectively and thoroughly.

Children's Services were now judged to be good across the Board and further progress had been made to deliver the collective ambition to be outstanding. At the last inspection Ofsted had commended the Council's Service on the due diligence and Overview and Scrutiny from Elected Members. The Service and Business Intelligence Team would review the children's performance reports with a view to publication but children's safety would not be put at risk.

Councillor Hunt thanked the Cabinet Spokesperson for her answer. He commented that the performance report had generally been very positive and he understood that similar performance reports submitted to Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster Councils were considered in the public session. He felt that Barnsley's approach could give the impression that there was something to hide and he, therefore, asked as a supplementary question if the Cabinet Spokesperson could explain why there was a difference in Barnsley given that there was nothing in the Barnsley report that he considered was confidential.

Councillor Bruff responded by reiterating that the Service and Business Intelligence Team were looking at this issue with a view to publication. She had also undertaken and investigation to see what other Councils were publishing but the information provided by those Councils was not in the same detail as provided for Barnsley's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The detailed reports allowed the opportunity for Elected Members to bring out, in those sessions, incidents and issues they were aware of and this could not happen if the sessions were in public so would not be permitted. She gave a commitment that the Service would be examining what could be published and that appropriate information would be published.

(e) Councillor Hunt

'What is the current structure for parking enforcement in Barnsley? How many personnel are employed, how are they managed and what arrangements are in place to ensure that the Council's obligations under the Traffic Management Act 2004 are complied with? How many parking enforcement personnel routinely work outside the town centre? How does the current structure and arrangements compare with the situation when the Traffic Management Act 2004 was first introduced?'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) responded by stating that Parking Enforcement formed part of Parking Services within the Environment and Transport Unit of the Place Directorate.

There were 17 staff in total 2 of whom were part time and deployment was based on meeting statutory requirements to ensure that payment machines were operational during the hours of payment and traffic demand where the Traffic Management Act could be enforced.

Enforcement Officers were allocated areas of the Town Centre to undertake patrolling duties. Officers were deployed to mirror the time restrictions placed for off road and on road parking.

In addition, Elected Members would be aware that Area Councils particularly the North East and South Area Councils had commissioned additional parking services through private contractors.

A total of 4.5 whole time personnel worked outside the Town Centre and covered school zig zags, residents parking zones, off street car parks and restrictions covered by the Traffic Management Act.

With the advent of decriminalised parking under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004, in 2005 the Council had a total of 24 full time equivalents employed to carry out those functions.

Councillor Hunt thanked the Cabinet Spokesperson for his response and, as a supplementary question, asked what initiatives the Council was undertaking to enhance parking enforcement operations outside the Town Centre.

Councillor Lamb felt that he had answered this question. There were 4.5 full time equivalents and Area Councils were at liberty to commission any additional parking enforcement if they wished to do so.

(f) Councillor Fielding

'What progress has been made by the Council in working with Barnsley Hospital NHS Trust to establish a Park and Ride scheme for staff and visitors at Barnsley Hospital? What does the Council intend to do to facilitate such a Park and Ride scheme?'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) responded by stating that he intended to give a slightly fuller answer than just dealing with the specifics of the questions submitted, he would, however, ensure that these were covered within his response.

All Members of the Council knew that parking at the hospital had been an issue for many years, particularly for residents who lived in the locality. As a result of that and also because of the stoic pressure from the likes of Councillor Lofts over many years the Council was working with management and senior managers within the hospital with a strategic aim to reduce the impact that people visiting or working at the hospital had on the local community. Agreement had been reached to work jointly on a series of parking solutions that worked harmoniously for both residents, workers and visitors. To achieve this it had been agreed to work together on the following key areas prior to implementation:

- To undertake traffic and traveller analysis of the area around the hospital grounds. This had commenced on the 27th January, 2020 for one week and also Traveller analysis surveys were planned for the week commencing 26th February, 2020
- From this it was proposed to use the analysis and evidence gathered to further develop hospital employee travel/car parking strategy/policy that supported a range of improvements; and
- Look at options such as local park and ride, park and walk/bike/ebike solutions to support the hospitals employee travel strategy

From a personal perspective it was his aim to see fewer personal cars on the roads but that was a long term piece of work and something that was recognised by all. Infrastructure needed to be put in place to make public transport and active travel a viable option for residents and visitors to the town and indeed the hospital in particular. Consequently, Barnsley along with other South Yorkshire Authorities had

submitted a bid to the Department for Transport Transforming Cities Fund to deliver within Barnsley approximately £40m for such infrastructure development. Furthermore, a bid had been made for £800,000 for pinch point funding specifically in the vicinity of the hospital and once all of these initiatives came to fruition hopefully there would be a range of options in place which would hopefully reduce the traffic issues around the hospital and the neighbouring streets.

Councillor Fielding thanked the Cabinet Spokesperson for his comprehensive answer. He commented that he had already had a discussion with Councillor Lamb informally prior to this meeting, coincidentally at the hospital. It was also pleasing to note that Councillor Lamb had set a good example and had travelled to that meeting by public transport and he had also set a similar example by walking. Both Members were, therefore, 'doing their bit' to solve the parking problems. He was keen that solutions could be found to these issues and, having met with the hospital management, they seemed keen to support the park and ride scheme. He therefore asked, as a supplementary question, if consultation on proposals could take place when such schemes were put forward at an early stage, with local Members, residents and those who would be affected by the changes.

Councillor Lamb responded by stating that proposals were currently at the early stages of development with the gathering of evidence and information in order for a range of options to be developed. Once this had been undertaken there would be widespread, detailed and meaningful consultation not just with local Councillors but with local residents as it was recognised that this was a significant issue for all concerned.

212. Notice of Motion - Tree Planting Strategy

A Motion Submitted in Accordance with Standing Order No 6 was;

Moved by Councillor Kitching – Seconded by Councillor Hunt:

'This Council notes:

- (i) The motion declaring a climate emergency which was passed on the 26th September, 2019;*
- (ii) That the biggest single contributor to climate change is the emission of carbon from fossil fuels;*
- (iii) That trees have the ability to soak up carbon emissions and, therefore, tree planting can offset some of the carbon dioxide which is contribution to climate change*

Furthermore, this Council recognises:

- (iv) The excellent efforts made by community groups, Ward Alliances and Area Councils to undertake small scale tree planting*

Therefore, this Council calls on the Chief Executive and Team to prepare a borough wide tree planting strategy which:

- (v) Aims to increase considerably the tree cover within the borough by identifying council owned land that could be used for tree planting;*

- (vi) Sets out to create more community orchards to help improve the supply of fresh, local produce and boost the health of residents;*
- (vii) Works with the voluntary sector to deliver tree planting plans, including via the Area Councils and Ward Alliances;*
- (viii) Involves schools, colleges and universities and their pupils and students in carrying out tree planting and woodland maintenance; and*
- (ix) Identifies sources of funding available to the Council and voluntary organisations to pay for tree planting*

Upon being put to the Vote, the Motion was lost.

In accordance with Standing Order No 18(b) at the request of Councillor Stowe, supported by more than 10 other Members, a recorded vote was taken on this Motion.

In favour of the Motion:

Councillors Fielding, Hunt, Kitching and Lodge.

Against the Motion:

The Mayor (Councillor Markham), and Councillors Andrews BEM, Barnard, D Birkinshaw, P Birkinshaw, Bowler, Bruff, Carr, A Cave, T Cave, Cherryholme, Clarke, Danforth, Ennis OBE, Felton, Franklin, Frost, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Higginbottom, Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Howard, C Johnson, W Johnson, Lamb, Leech, Mitchell, Newing, Noble, Phillips, Pickering, Plats, Richardson, Saunders, Shepherd, Smith, Spence, Stowe, Sumner, Tattersall, Williams, Wilson, Wraith MBE, and Wright.

All Members present at the time of the vote actually voted.

213. Mr G Brain - Mayor's Attendant/Chauffeur

The Mayor and Members of the Council welcomed Mr G Brain (Mayor's Attendant/Chauffer) to this his first meeting since returning to work following a lengthy illness.

They also extended thanks to those members of staff who had covered the post during Mr Brain's indisposition.

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Chair

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MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 27 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

The Mayor (Councillor Markham)

- Central Ward - Councillors D. Birkinshaw, Bruff and Dyson
- Cudworth Ward - Councillors Hayward, Houghton CBE and Wraith MBE
- Darfield Ward - Councillors Saunders
- Darton East Ward - Councillors Charlesworth, Hunt and Spence
- Darton West Ward - Councillors A. Cave, T. Cave and Howard
- Dearne North Ward - Councillors Gardiner, Gollick and Phillips
- Dearne South Ward - Councillors Danforth, C. Johnson and Noble
- Dodworth Ward - Councillors P. Birkinshaw, Fielding and Wright
- Hoyland Milton Ward - Councillors Franklin and Shepherd
- Kingstone Ward - Councillors Mitchell, Murray and Williams
- Monk Bretton Ward - Councillors Green and Richardson
- North East Ward - Councillors Cherryholme, Ennis OBE and Higginbottom
- Old Town Ward - Councillors Lofts, Newing and Pickering
- Penistone East Ward - Councillors Barnard, Hand-Davis and Wilson
- Penistone West Ward - Councillors Greenhough and Kitching
- Rockingham Ward - Councillors Andrews BEM and Sumner
- Royston Ward - Councillors Makinson
- St. Helen's Ward - Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall
- Stairfoot Ward - Councillors Bowler, Gillis and W. Johnson
- Wombwell Ward - Councillors Frost and Daniel Griffin
- Worsbrough Ward - Councillors Carr, Clarke and Lodge

214. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

215. Suspension of Standing Orders

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM; and

RESOLVED that Standing Order No 13(5) of the council be suspended in respect of the consideration of the Budget insofar as it relates to restrictions on Members speaking more than once.

216. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 - 2022/23 (Cab.5.2.2020/6)

(A) 2020/21 Budget Proposals; and (B) Council Tax 2020/21

The 2020/21 Budget Proposals and the proposed Council Tax 2020/21 were:

Moved by Councillor Gardiner – Seconded by Councillor Franklin.

The following Amendment, submitted in accordance with Standing Order No 8, was:

Moved by Councillor Kitching – Seconded by Councillor Fielding:

The Liberal Democrat Group recognises the hard work of the Finance Team in again bringing forward a balanced budget. We recognise that this is a financially well managed Council and that prudent decisions have allowed the Council to remain in good financial shape despite ongoing challenges in funding right across local government.

Our amendments therefore do not seek to undermine the budget, but to bring focus to some key priority areas which we – and the communities we serve – believe require more investment going forward.

We seek to set up a parks and green spaces investment fund to improve our public parks, playgrounds and open green spaces; a community safety fund for each Area Council; and to properly fund efforts to tackle the climate emergency.

1 Area Council Community Safety Fund

- (i) Emerging investment priority R35 allocates an extra £10,000 to each Ward Alliance totalling £210,000.
- (ii) While we welcome this extra funding for communities, we would like to reallocate this spending specifically for local road safety initiatives which would be welcomed by residents across the borough
- (iii) We would invest the £210,000 into Area Council Safety funds as devolved Area Council Budget. This would be ring-fenced for use by

ward members in conjunction with Area Council Officers on local road safety priority initiatives

2 Parks and Green Spaces Investment Scheme

- (i) The Penny Pie Park scheme remains highly unpopular, ineffective, costly and unnecessary
- (ii) We would therefore cease all spending on the Penny Pie Park scheme immediately, saving approximately £1.6m from the capital budget
- (iii) This money will be used to create a Parks and Green Spaces Investment Scheme, improving play equipment and park spaces across the borough, with a goal of achieving more Green Flag Parks

3 Tackling climate change

- (i) The Liberal Democrat Group believes that investment of £780,000 on positive environmental impact/Zero Carbon objectives is insufficient
- (ii) We would cease Council spending on Trade Union Convenors, saving £237,000 of revenue budget
- (iii) This money will be spent on tackling the climate emergency, specifically on a more ambitious plan to increase tree cover across the borough
- (iv) Emerging investment priority R17 TREE 2020 allocates £345,000 of revenue budget to the Council's tree planting programme for the coming year. This proposal would add the £237,000 to this, giving £582,000
- (v) This increased investment would be underpinned by the development of a robust, ambitious, borough-wide tree planting strategy

Upon being put to the vote the Amendment was lost.

The original motion was then put as the Substantive Motion and:

(A) 2020/21 BUDGET PROPOSALS

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the report of the Service Director Finance (S151 Officer), under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 at Section 1 be noted, that the 2020/21 budget proposals be agreed and that the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, submit, for early consideration, detailed plans that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability for 2021/22 and beyond;
- (ii) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Forecast for 2020/21 to 2022/23 contained at Section 2a (supported by the suite of background papers in Sections 2b – 2g) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS;
- (iii) that the proposed efficiency savings in 2020/21 at Section 4a be approved for implementation and that the 2021/22 efficiency savings proposals at Section 4b be noted subject to further consideration in future budget processes taking account of any further Equality Impact Assessments;
- (iv) that the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure

for 2020/21 of £172.577M be approved;

- (v) that total additional one-off investments (capital and revenue) of £19.4M, including 2019/20 investments, as outlined at Section 5 be approved subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for its use;
- (vi) that provision be made to reflect a market supplement in the Council's care contracts to help address the pay and condition issues in the local care market;
- (vii) that the 2020/21 – 2022/23 budget proposals presented at Sections 6a – 6c be approved subject to Cabinet receiving detailed implementation reports where appropriate;
- (viii) that the changes to the schools funding formula including the transfer of funding from the schools block to the high needs block and the proposed 2020/21 schools block budget as set out at Section 6d be approved;
- (ix) that the new General Fund capital investment of £10.4M (Section 7 Appendix A) and specifically funded schemes of £13.5M (Section 7 Table 7) be included within the capital programme and released subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for their use;
- (x) that the Aggregated Equality Impact Assessment (Section 9) of the proposals be noted and the proposed mitigation actions in the report be approved;
- (xi) that the Chief Executive and SMT, in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, be required to submit reports into Cabinet, as a matter of urgency, in relation to the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above;
- (xii) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of savings proposals;
- (xiii) that the Authority's SMT be charged with ensuring that the budget remains in balance and report regularly into Cabinet on budget/savings monitoring including any action required;
- (xiv) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 2020/21 budget; and
- (xv) that appropriate consultation on the budget proposals takes place with the Trade Unions and representatives of Non Domestic Ratepayers and that the views of consultees be considered by Cabinet and the Council.

(B) COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

- (i) in respect of the Council Tax 2020/21 calculations:

- (a) that the Council Tax Collection Fund surplus relating to Barnsley M.B.C. of £3.200M be used to reduce the Council Tax Requirement for 2020/21;
- (b) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s services be set at £1,541.34 which includes the cumulative special precept earmarked specifically for Adult Social Care of £135.14; and
- (c) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s area be set at £1,813.97 including the Police and Fire precepts as set out in (ii)(c).
- (ii) that, in respect of the Council Tax 2020/21 declaration:
- (a) that it be noted that at its meeting of its Cabinet on the 8th January 2020 the Council made the following calculations for the year 2020/21 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 31(B) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the "Act"):-
- (1) in accordance with Section 31B (3) of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended, the number of adjusted Band D equivalent properties calculated by the Council as its Council Tax base for the year shall be 65,405.74 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B (1) of the Act);
- (2) that the number of adjusted Band D equivalent properties calculated by the Council, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate shall be as follows:-

TABLE 1				
Column	A	B	C	D = C / B
Parish Area	Band D equivalent chargeable properties	95% of Band D equivalent chargeable properties	Precept Issued (after Council Tax Support Grant) (£)	Band D Equivalent Charge (£)
Billingley	97.10	92.25	1,532.00	16.61
Cawthorne	609.20	578.74	20,144.00	34.81
Dunford	248.20	235.79	8,346.00	35.40
Great Houghton	674.80	641.06	23,925.00	37.32
Gunthwaite and Ingbirchworth	298.10	283.20	5,736.00	20.25
High Hoyland	68.70	65.27	-	-
Hunshelf	161.60	153.52	5,000.00	32.57
Langsett	111.60	106.02	3,627.00	34.21
Little Houghton	191.90	182.31	4,359.00	23.91
Oxspring	470.20	446.69	19,530.00	43.72
Penistone	4,431.00	4,209.45	171,872.00	40.83
Shafton	969.80	921.31	36,658.00	39.79
Silkstone	1,214.30	1,153.59	74,832.00	64.87
Stainborough	163.90	155.71	4,797.00	30.81
Tankersley	666.90	633.56	14,163.00	22.35
Thurgoland	757.50	719.63	11,226.00	15.60
Wortley	304.20	288.99	7,796.00	26.98
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	57,409.10	54,538.65	-	-
Total	68,848.10	65,405.74	413,543.00	

- (b) that the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2020/21 in accordance with Sections 31-36 of the "the Act":-

- (1) £173,005,746 being the net aggregate amount the Council estimates for items set out in Section 31A (2) and 31A (3) of the Act taking into account all Precepts issued to it by Parish Councils;
- (2) £68,580,000 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of the Business Rate Retention Scheme and other specific grants;
- (3) £3,200,000 being the amount which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with Section 97 (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus);
- (4) £101,225,746 being the amount by which the amount at (ii)(b) (1) above exceeds the aggregate of amounts at (ii)(b) (2) and (ii)(b) (3) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B (1) of the Act);
- (5) £1547.66 calculated by the Council as being the amount at (ii)(b) (4) above (Item R in the formula in Section 31B (3)); all divided by the Council Tax base as highlighted in (ii) (a) (1) above (Item T in the formula in Section 31B (1) of the Act);
- (6) £413,543.00 being the aggregate amount of all special amounts (Parish Precepts) referred to in Section 31A (2) of the Act; as per column C in the table in (ii)(a) (2) above;
- (7) £1,541.34 calculated by the Council as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate being the amount at (ii)(b) (5) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (ii)(b) (6) above divided by the amount at (ii)(a) (1) (Item T in the formula in Section 31B (1) of the Act) above in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act.
- (8) the following amounts calculated by the Council as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate:-

TABLE 2	
Section 34(3) Calculation :	
Part of the Council's Area	
Parish of :-	£
Billingley	1,557.95
Cawthorne	1,576.15
Dunford	1,576.74
Great Houghton	1,578.66
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,561.59

High Hoyland	1,541.34
Hunshelf	1,573.91
Langsett	1,575.55
Little Houghton	1,565.25
Oxspring	1,585.06
Penistone	1,582.17
Shafton	1,581.13
Silkstone	1,606.21
Stainborough	1,572.15
Tankersley	1,563.69
Thurgoland	1,556.94
Wortley	1,568.32
This table represents the Council Tax for Barnsley MBC plus Local Parishes for Band D only	

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (ii)(b) (7) above the amount of the special items in (ii)(a) (2) Col D in accordance with Section 34 (3) of the Act;

(9) the amounts calculated by the Council as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands are shown below.

TABLE 3

Section 36(1) Calculation :
Part of the Council's Area

Valuation Bands

Parish of :-	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Billingley	865.51	1,038.62	1,211.74	1,384.83	1,557.95	1,904.14	2,250.37	2,596.56	3,115.9
Cawthorne	875.62	1,050.76	1,225.89	1,401.01	1,576.15	1,926.39	2,276.66	2,626.90	3,152.3
Dunford	875.95	1,051.15	1,226.35	1,401.54	1,576.74	1,927.11	2,277.51	2,627.88	3,153.4
Great Houghton	877.01	1,052.43	1,227.85	1,403.24	1,578.66	1,929.45	2,280.29	2,631.08	3,157.3
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	867.53	1,041.05	1,214.57	1,388.07	1,561.59	1,908.59	2,255.63	2,602.63	3,123.1
High Hoyland	856.28	1,027.55	1,198.82	1,370.07	1,541.34	1,883.84	2,226.38	2,568.88	3,082.6
Hunshelf	874.37	1,049.26	1,224.15	1,399.02	1,573.91	1,923.65	2,273.43	2,623.16	3,147.8
Langsett	875.29	1,050.36	1,225.43	1,400.48	1,575.55	1,925.65	2,275.79	2,625.90	3,151.1
Little Houghton	869.56	1,043.49	1,217.42	1,391.32	1,565.25	1,913.06	2,260.92	2,608.73	3,130.5
Oxspring	880.57	1,056.70	1,232.82	1,408.93	1,585.06	1,937.28	2,289.53	2,641.75	3,170.1
Penistone	878.96	1,054.77	1,230.58	1,406.36	1,582.17	1,933.74	2,285.36	2,636.93	3,164.3
Shafton	878.39	1,054.08	1,229.77	1,405.44	1,581.13	1,932.47	2,283.85	2,635.20	3,162.2
Silkstone	892.32	1,070.80	1,249.27	1,427.73	1,606.21	1,963.13	2,320.08	2,677.00	3,212.4
Stainborough	873.40	1,048.09	1,222.78	1,397.46	1,572.15	1,921.50	2,270.88	2,620.23	3,144.3
Tankersley	868.70	1,042.45	1,216.20	1,389.94	1,563.69	1,911.16	2,258.66	2,606.13	3,127.3
Thurgoland	864.95	1,037.95	1,210.95	1,383.94	1,556.94	1,902.91	2,248.91	2,594.88	3,113.8
Wortley	871.27	1,045.54	1,219.80	1,394.05	1,568.32	1,916.82	2,265.35	2,613.85	3,136.6
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	856.28	1,027.55	1,198.82	1,370.07	1,541.34	1,883.84	2,226.38	2,568.88	3,082.6

This table shows the total Council Tax for Barnsley MBC and local parishes (excluding Police and Fire Precepts). The charge for individual valuation bands is calculated as a proportion of a Band D property, as per Section 5 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (ii)(b) (8) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act;

- (c) that it be noted that for the year 2020/21 the under-mentioned precepting Authorities have stated the following draft amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

	Total Precept	TABLE 4								
		Valuation Bands								
		A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Precepting Authority:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
South Yorkshire Fire Authority	4,878,306	41.44	49.73	58.01	66.30	74.59	91.17	107.74	124.32	149.18
South Yorkshire Police Authority	12,953,162	110.02	132.03	154.03	176.04	198.04	242.05	286.06	330.07	396.08

- (d) that having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (ii)(b) (9) and (ii)(c) above, the Council in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown below as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2020/21 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Section 30(2) Calculation :

TABLE 5

Part of the Council's Area

Valuation Bands

Parish of :-	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Billingley	1,016.97	1,220.38	1,423.78	1,627.17	1,830.58	2,237.36	2,644.17	3,050.95	3,661.16
Cawthorne	1,027.08	1,232.52	1,437.93	1,643.35	1,848.78	2,259.61	2,670.46	3,081.29	3,697.56
Dunford	1,027.41	1,232.91	1,438.39	1,643.88	1,849.37	2,260.33	2,671.31	3,082.27	3,698.74
Great Houghton	1,028.47	1,234.19	1,439.89	1,645.58	1,851.29	2,262.67	2,674.09	3,085.47	3,702.58
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,018.99	1,222.81	1,426.61	1,630.41	1,834.22	2,241.81	2,649.43	3,057.02	3,668.44
High Hoyland	1,007.74	1,209.31	1,410.86	1,612.41	1,813.97	2,217.06	2,620.18	3,023.27	3,627.94
Hunshelf	1,025.83	1,231.02	1,436.19	1,641.36	1,846.54	2,256.87	2,667.23	3,077.55	3,693.08
Langsett	1,026.75	1,232.12	1,437.47	1,642.82	1,848.18	2,258.87	2,669.59	3,080.29	3,696.36
Little Houghton	1,021.02	1,225.25	1,429.46	1,633.66	1,837.88	2,246.28	2,654.72	3,063.12	3,675.76
Oxspring	1,032.03	1,238.46	1,444.86	1,651.27	1,857.69	2,270.50	2,683.33	3,096.14	3,715.38
Penistone	1,030.42	1,236.53	1,442.62	1,648.70	1,854.80	2,266.96	2,679.16	3,091.32	3,709.60
Shafton	1,029.85	1,235.84	1,441.81	1,647.78	1,853.76	2,265.69	2,677.65	3,089.59	3,707.52
Silkstone	1,043.78	1,252.56	1,461.31	1,670.07	1,878.84	2,296.35	2,713.88	3,131.39	3,757.68
Stainborough	1,024.86	1,229.85	1,434.82	1,639.80	1,844.78	2,254.72	2,664.68	3,074.62	3,689.56
Tankersley	1,020.16	1,224.21	1,428.24	1,632.28	1,836.32	2,244.38	2,652.46	3,060.52	3,672.64
Thurgoland	1,016.41	1,219.71	1,422.99	1,626.28	1,829.57	2,236.13	2,642.71	3,049.27	3,659.14
Wortley	1,022.73	1,227.30	1,431.84	1,636.39	1,840.95	2,250.04	2,659.15	3,068.24	3,681.96
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	1,007.74	1,209.31	1,410.86	1,612.41	1,813.97	2,217.06	2,620.18	3,023.27	3,627.94

This table shows the total Council Tax for Barnsley MBC, local parishes and the Police & Fire Precepts

The table is the sum of the total Council Tax for Barnsley MBC and local parishes (Table 3) and the precept amounts for the

- (e) that the Service Director (S151 Officer) be authorised to serve notices, enter into agreements, give receipts, make adjustments, initiate proceedings and take any action available to the Council to collect or enforce the collection of non-domestic rates and the Council Tax from those persons liable in accordance with the Council's agreed policy; and
- (f) that the Service Director (S151 Officer) determines in accordance with the principles determined by the Secretary of State and set out in the Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2020/2021, that Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year 2020/21 as defined by Section 41 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 is not excessive.
- (g) that the Director of Legal and Governance be authorised to publish the Council Tax Notice in accordance with the provisions of Section 38 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was then taken on the above items (Minute 216 (A) and (B) refers).

Those in favour of the motion, present at the time of voting

The Mayor, (Councillor Markham) and Councillors Andrews BEM, Barnard, D Birkinshaw, Bowler, Bruff, A Cave, T Cave, Charlesworth, Cherryholme, Clarke, Dyson, Ennis OBE, Franklin, Frost, Gardiner, Gollick, Green, Daniel Griffin, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Higginbottom, Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Howard, C Johnson, W Johnson, Leech, Lofts, Makinson, Mitchell, Newing, Noble, Phillips, Pickering, Platts, Richardson, Saunders, Shepherd, Spence, Sumner, Tattersall Williams, Wilson Wraith MBE and Wright.

Those against the motion, present at the time of voting

Councillors Fielding, Greenhough, Hunt and Kitching

Abstentions

Councillor Lodge

(C) Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement 2020/21

Moved by Councillor Gardiner – Seconded by Councillor Franklin; and

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the 2020/21 Treasury Management Policy Statement at Section 2e Appendix A be noted;
- (ii) that the 2020/21 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement detailed at Section 2e Appendix B be approved;

- (iii) that the 2020/21 Borrowing Strategy at Section 2e including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (Section 2e Appendix C) be approved; and
- (iv) that the 2020/21 Annual Investment Strategy at Section 2e be approved.

217. Proposed options to replace the existing Council Tax Support Scheme for Working Age Claimants (Cab.5.2.2020/7)

Moved by Councillor Gardiner – Seconded by Councillor Franklin; and

RESOLVED that the proposed new Local Council Tax Support Scheme, attached at Appendix 1 to the report now submitted, be approved.

.....
Chair

Item 6

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL (BMBC)

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan.

**Report of the
Executive Director Core Services
to Full Council**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (OSC) ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of the attached Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) Annual Report is to inform the Full Council of the work undertaken by Committee Members during 2019-20 and to publish the report for the public as evidence of local authority as well as partner agency decision makers being held to account.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **It is recommended that Members receive the OSC's Annual Report and note the contribution of the work undertaken in further improving services across the Borough.**

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 Scrutiny was introduced in the Local Government Act 2000 as a means to hold Council Cabinets to account for their decisions. Since then, subsequent acts of parliament have bolstered Scrutiny by extending its remit beyond the council to the work of partner organisations as well. Much of this legislation was consolidated in the Localism Act 2011. This includes Overview and Scrutiny having a specific role in exercising the Authority's powers in relation to the scrutiny of health services and the crime and disorder partnership in the Borough.
- 3.2 Overview and scrutiny is carried out by non-Cabinet Members and is there to act as the check and balance to the decisions being made by both the Council and its partners. The key principles of Overview and Scrutiny are to:
- Provide 'critical friend' challenge;
 - Amplify the voices and concerns of the public; and
 - Drive improvement in public services.
- 3.3 In March 2019, the findings of the recent Corporate Peer Challenge of Barnsley Council undertaken by the Local Government Association (LGA) were presented in a feedback report. As part of this it was acknowledged that 'The council's scrutiny function appears to work well. Members are knowledgeable about the areas they scrutinise and they are appropriately inquisitive about the subject matter, with good working relationships with officers'.

3.4 Within the LGA report it was recommended that ‘the work and impact of scrutiny could be further enhanced if members’ activities and achievements in shaping and improving policy through overview and scrutiny were pulled together in an annual report, which is then reported to Full Council on an annual basis’.

3.5 The production of the attached OSC Annual Report provides evidence of the work of Committee Members as well as the ongoing implementation of the recommendations from the Corporate Peer Challenge in the ongoing improvement of the Council and its services.

4. Implications for local people / service users

4.1 The OSC Annual Report provides evidence to the public of decision makers at both the Council and partner agencies being held to account and the resultant contribution to service improvement. The report also references where local people and service-users have been directly involved in the committee’s work during 2019-20 and the valuable contribution they make.

5. Financial implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5.2 It is noted however that the work of Scrutiny helps to ensure the delivery of value for money services across the Borough.

6. Employee implications

6.1 There are no direct employee implications arising from this report.

7. Communications implications

7.1 It is noted that the work of Scrutiny keeps under review the performance of the Council and other relevant organisations in providing safeguarding and other services to Barnsley communities. Proactive communication about these services and activities takes place on a regular, planned basis as part of the communication strategy for each directorate.

7.2 In addition to ongoing communications, publication of an OSC Annual Report provides opportunity to document the Committee’s activities and highlight its contribution to service improvement.

8. Consultations

8.1 Consultation has taken place with Elected Members and the Council’s Senior Management Team.

9. The Corporate Plan and the Council’s Performance Management Framework

9.1 The work of Scrutiny contributes to the achievement of and improvement in services in relation to a number of outcomes identified in the Council’s Corporate Plan Performance Report. The workstreams of the Committee are also focused

around the Council's three priorities of: a thriving & vibrant economy; people achieving their potential; and strong & resilient communities.

- 9.2 Children's and adults' services, in particular to those who are vulnerable, are a high priority for the council and the work of Scrutiny promotes this emphasis and contributes to performance improvement.

10. Tackling health inequalities

- 10.1 Ensuring the wellbeing and safeguarding of our adults and children continues to be a priority for the Council and its partners. The work of Scrutiny contributes to this work in highlighting issues and ensuring appropriate plans are in place to address them.

- 10.2 As noted in the attached report, the committee's work for the year ahead will remain cognisant of the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on services, especially the likely impact on health inequalities.

11. Risk management and health & safety issues

- 11.1 Scrutiny of service performance both of the Council and its partners contributes towards the effective control and mitigation of risks relating to the delivery of services including the protection of vulnerable adults and young people in the Borough.

12. Promoting equality & diversity and social inclusion

- 12.1 The work of Scrutiny promotes equality and diversity and social inclusion throughout all its work in considering the performance of and improvement in services. The Committee will continue to consider the impact of service provision on all Barnsley communities including vulnerable groups. The involvement of co-optees on the OSC and its TFGs will also enable the committee to further involve those from our diverse communities; thereby promoting social inclusion.

13. Reduction of crime & disorder

- 13.1 As part of Scrutiny's role in performance management and service improvement, work is specifically undertaken in relation to the reduction of crime and disorder through the consideration of particular services and work with partners.

14. Appendices

- 14.1 Appendix 1 – OSC Annual Report 2019-20

15. Glossary

- 15.1 BMBC – Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
OSC - Overview and Scrutiny Committee
TFG - Task and Finish Group

16. Background papers

- Agendas, reports and minutes for all of our Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings are available here:
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=224>
- Council Constitution Changes – Overview & Scrutiny Function - Annual Council 17th May 2019 – Item 8:
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=5243&Ver=4>
- LGA Feedback Report on the Corporate Peer Challenge of Barnsley Council March 2019:
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s55659/Appendix%201.pdf>

Officer Contact: Anna Marshall, Scrutiny Officer **Date:** 21st July 2020

2019/20

Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council



Chair's Foreword



I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function for 2019/20. This report provides an overview of the work undertaken by our Committee Members during the course of the year. This includes work undertaken as part of our Committee Meetings as well as on our Task and Finish Groups in considering services vital to Barnsley residents.

Overview and Scrutiny plays an important role in holding the local authority as well as partner agency decision makers to account. It helps to provide 'critical friend' challenge to ensure the effective delivery of public services and drive improvement. Although the committee is not a decision-making body, it is where parties come together to provide the voice of our diverse communities by influencing services and making recommendations.

During the last 12 months committee members have undertaken 32 meetings, made 37 recommendations and considered 19 different topics covering the work of both the Council and its partners. Each of these contributes to the Council's three priorities of having the following outcomes of:

a thriving & vibrant economy – whereby we create more and better jobs, increase people's skills, strengthen our visitor economy, as well as create more and better housing;

people achieving their potential – through ensuring every child attends a good school, enabling access to early help, keeping children and adults safe from harm as well as ensuring people are healthier, happier, independent and active; and

strong & resilient communities – where we help people get the most out of where they live by volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities, protecting the borough for future generations by recycling and using renewable energy, and that customers can contact us easily and use more services online.

We continue to undertake business by upholding the Council's values of being **Proud, Honest, Excellent** and **Working as a Team** and will continue this into our work during 2020/21.

As I write this, we are in the middle of a global Coronavirus pandemic which has disrupted all our lives and will bring increasing challenges and demands on public services. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have been involved in responding to this crisis and ensured the maintenance of essential services as well as ensured support for our most vulnerable residents.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Committee Members as well as all those who provided information, attended meetings and assisted with the Overview and Scrutiny function's work during the last 12 months, it is much appreciated. I look forward to the next 12 months and contributing positively to both the Council and our partners' work, especially in the ongoing response, recovery and renewal plans regarding the pandemic.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Ennis".

Councillor Jeff Ennis OBE

Introduction

What is Overview & Scrutiny?

Overview and scrutiny is a process of achieving open and democratic accountability for the provision of public services to ensure they meet the needs of local residents.

Like many other local authorities, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) operates the Cabinet system of governance for decision making, which is made up of the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader and 8 other Elected Members.

Overview and scrutiny is carried out by non-Cabinet Members and is there to act as the check and balance to the decisions being made by both the Council and its partners.

The key principles of Overview and Scrutiny are to:

- Provide 'critical friend' challenge;
- Amplify the voices and concerns of the public; and
- Drive improvement in public services.

Although overview and scrutiny is a key part of the political process, it is not party political. Elected Members involved in the process are from across all political groups and are there to work together to look objectively at issues.

Overview and Scrutiny is there to look at borough-wide issues and is not a mechanism for individual complaints from the public or Elected Members. The Council has separate procedures for these. Nor can Overview and Scrutiny look at individual planning or licensing decisions.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) Structure in Barnsley

The OSC meets formally 12 times per year in total. 3 times per year, the committee meets in plenary mode of 34 Elected Members plus our Parent Governor Co-optee to consider Safeguarding topics including a private briefing on Children's Social Care performance as well as to consider other significant issues, such as substantial National Health Service (NHS) changes.

For the remaining 9 meetings, Committee Members allocate time to 3 workstreams which each meet 3 times per year. Workstreams consist of 12 Elected Members plus our Parent Governor Co-optee; however, all Committee Members usually have an open invitation to attend all workstreams, which are aligned to the Council priorities of:

- Thriving and Vibrant Economy;
- People Achieving Their Potential; and
- Strong and Resilient Communities.

The OSC also carries out its work programme through 3 Task and Finish Groups (TFGs), each made up of around 8 Committee Members. Each of the groups examine a topic in detail and then report their findings to Cabinet.



Work carried out in 2019/20

Thriving & Vibrant Economy Workstream

Town Centre Redevelopment: In June 2019, this workstream considered the progress of the Town Centre redevelopment. This included providing check and challenge to financial concerns including the implications of Brexit as well as the lettings strategy. The committee ensured that the concerns of Market Traders were raised as well as that public safety concerns had been considered and addressed. Although not usual for the OSC, this session was held in private due to the commercial sensitivity of the aspects being discussed.



Berneslai Homes Empty Homes Standards: Due to a number of concerns raised regarding the standard of properties being let on behalf of the Council via its managing agent 'Berneslai Homes', the workstream considered the Berneslai Homes Void Standard as well as recent Empty Property Spot Check Reports. The meeting took place in October 2019, during which the workstream acknowledged the positive performance in relation to void turnarounds in comparison with other managing agents, including the proactive estate management undertaken as well as advice and support given to tenants. Given the substantial recommendations made by the committee, a separate report was submitted to the Council's Cabinet for consideration (Cab.27.11.2019/6):

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s59906/Recommendations%20to%20Cabinet%20for%20the%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee.pdf>

A response report to the recommendations was provided by the Council's Cabinet (Cab.22.01.2020/6):
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s62025/Response%20to%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Recommendations%20regarding%20Void%20Properties.pdf>

BMBC's Digital First Programme: In February 2020, Members considered how BMBC is using digital technology as an enabler for transformation of the organisation. This was to ensure Council services are fit for an increasingly digital world and able to meet customer demands as well as continuing to provide for those not able to access digital services. Members challenged the monitoring systems in place for the implementation of the programme and were reassured by the mitigations in place to support potential challenges, such as holding digital support clinics for staff as well as provision of ready-made instruction videos. Members were keen to ensure they are kept abreast of developments and requested that an All Member Information Briefing should be held in due course.

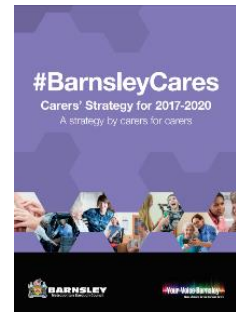
Digital Barnsley: At the meeting in February 2020, Members also covered an item on what is in place to make Barnsley 'Digital as a Place', such as supporting local people to improve their digital skills and access appropriate training and services. Members highlighted the barriers in communities in accessing digital technology due to its affordability and were reassured by the work being done in partnership with other local agencies such as Barnsley College to access funding for initiatives. Members were reassured by the work being done by BMBC with other agencies across Europe; learning from good practice elsewhere which was helping Barnsley to attract new digital business to the town centre Digital Media Centre (DMC).

Overview & Scrutiny Thriving & Vibrant Economy Workstream Added Value:

As a result of the work undertaken, Committee Members have had opportunity to challenge performance and ensure that public concerns are considered and impact on how services are delivered. This includes ensuring barriers are removed to enable residents to access particular services. Additionally, work is now being undertaken to improve property standards for Council tenants as well as re-introduce a decoration scheme.

People Achieving Their Potential Workstream

Carer's Strategy 2017-2020: During this meeting in June 2019, Members considered the Carers' Services for both adults and young people. The committee heard directly from a service user and gained an understanding of the vital support these services provide. Members challenged the support provided to young carers including regarding their wellbeing as well as to ensure their caring role does not impact negatively on their educational attainment. The committee were given information regarding support mechanisms in place for carers as well as work being done to raise awareness of caring responsibilities, especially as many do not recognise that they are 'carers'. Members were keen to support awareness raising and were subsequently invited to and attended relevant events.



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Provision: In November 2019 Members considered a report outlining the development and implementation of a SEND improvement programme; the strengthening of governance arrangements as well as the ongoing challenges, particularly in relation to meeting the increased demand for more specialist school placements. Members challenged partners from across the SEND system including those from education, health and care services as well as those involved in ensuring the voices of parents, carers, children and young people are heard. The committee discussed the improvement plans in place and acknowledged the work being done to make provision available locally; however, they recognised this as an area requiring ongoing consideration.

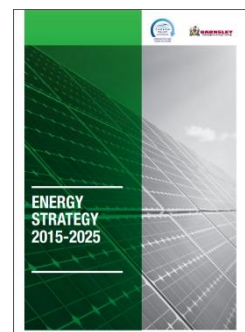
Youth Services: Members undertook a session in March 2020 regarding Youth Service provision in Barnsley. This included hearing from Barnsley's Young Mayor and their view of services as well as their role on the Youth Council. Committee Members learned of the results from the annual 'Make Your Mark' campaign and the issues highlighted by local young people. The committee praised the wrap around care for the whole family in conjunction with other agencies; however, questioned the effectiveness of promotion of the available services. Recommendations were made to improve promotional activity as well as to strengthen links between the Youth Service and Area Councils.

Overview & Scrutiny People Achieving Their Potential Workstream Added Value:

As a result of this work, Committee Members have assisted in ensuring services are joined-up and meet the diverse needs of communities. This includes ensuring Carers' services are linked to relevant armed forces groups as well as that services delivered corporately are linked with those of Area Councils. Committee Members have also been able to seek assurance that appropriate Governance is in place for the ongoing improvement of key services delivered by the Council and partner agencies.

Strong & Resilient Communities Workstream

Energy Efficiency & Pollution Reduction: In July 2019 the committee considered the Council's Energy Strategy and associated targets for reducing carbon emissions. Members noted the positive benefits of a cleaner environment, more active lifestyles and reduced living costs alongside opportunities for businesses and jobs in new technologies. Members challenged work around air quality, to which follow-up information was provided. Questions were also raised regarding the effectiveness of alternative heating sources such as biomass boilers as well as air and ground source heat pumps. It was acknowledged that it was imperative that work on the agenda continues despite economic constraints and that difficult decisions will be required, but this was the right thing to do.



Flooding & Emergency Resilience: In November 2019 the UK experienced exceptionally heavy rainfall which caused flooding in parts of Barnsley. The following month, the committee held a session to consider both the response to the recent flooding event as well as the ongoing work public bodies undertake in the planning and prevention of flooding. The committee also followed-up the recommendations made as part of their Task and Finish Group (TFG) on Flooding during 2016/17. The committee acknowledge the positive progress

made in seeking funding and implementing flooding prevention measures to a number of properties. Concerns were raised regarding a number of areas which had been impacted by the most recent flooding as well as developments on land at risk of flooding. Reassurances were given regarding stringent Planning measures in place for such sites as well as ongoing work with other agencies to address issues and campaign for funding.

NHS Cancer and Aortic Abdominal Aneurysm Screening Programmes in Barnsley: At the end of March 2020 the committee were due to consider performance in relation to these NHS adult screening programmes. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the UK being placed in lockdown, unfortunately this meeting had to be cancelled. However, the reports were published for information as a helpful position statement on performance in relation to screening and the importance of these programmes in saving lives as well as improving quality of life through early identification of conditions. Committee members are able to utilise the information in the reports to publicise these programmes in their communities as well as consider how the Coronavirus pandemic affects performance in future.

Overview & Scrutiny Strong and Resilient Communities Workstream Added Value:

As a result of the topics considered, Members were able to challenge, debate and make suggestions regarding different solutions to improving energy efficiency and reducing impacts on the environment. The timely consideration of the response to recent flooding events enabled Members to highlight residents' concerns and identify hotspots requiring further remedial works. Finally, although not discussed at a meeting, information provided to Members on screening programmes will be utilised for performance comparison in future, as well as providing reassurance regarding current service provision.

Full Committee

Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2018/19: In September 2019 the BSAB Chair alongside 10 representatives from local partnership agencies met with the committee and answered questions regarding work undertaken to safeguard adults across the Borough. This included Members interrogating data in relation to safeguarding issues such as financial abuse and incidents in care homes. The committee were provided with a number of vulnerable adult case studies which had been resolved by agencies working together effectively including support provided to victims. Members were keen to support the agencies in the ongoing need to raise the profile of unseen abuse and encouraging residents to report issues and were reassured by the strong commitment to Safeguarding from all the agencies present.

Barnsley Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) Annual Report 2018/19:

Following consideration of the work to safeguard adults, the committee were joined by additional representatives specifically involved in the safeguarding of children. Members acknowledged Barnsley's progression from 'inadequate' to 'requires improvement' to 'good' via Ofsted inspections. This has provided independent verification that Barnsley has moved a long way, with a continuous service improvement plan and ambition to improve. Members expressed concern regarding the ability of staff being enabled to persist with 'hard to reach' children and were reassured that a structured multi-agency audit programme is in place to ensure this takes place and that relevant resources are utilised to intervene such as the 'Neglect Toolkit'. Members welcomed knowledge of the wider remit of the Child Exploitation Sub Committee as well as the comprehensive safeguarding training programme on offer at nil cost to partnership agencies as well as local voluntary organisations.



Outcome & Actions of the Corporate Peer Review: At the start of January 2020 the committee welcomed the Council's Leader, Chief Executive and members of the Leadership Team to discuss the findings of the Corporate Peer Review in February 2019 and the progress on the recommendations. Members scrutinised work to ensure staff wellbeing, the management of risk, undertake sound financial management and work with partners to ensure positive future outcomes for the Borough. The committee acknowledged the positive results from the peer challenge as well as the areas requiring ongoing improvements to the way the organisation is run and how services are delivered.

Provisional Education Outcomes across the Borough 2019 including Vulnerable Groups:

At the meeting in January, the committee also considered provisional education outcomes for 2019, with the knowledge that there are usually limited changes to the finalised outcomes and by considering them at this time provides opportunity for recommendations to be implemented prior to the following year's exams being undertaken. The committee questioned the interventions in place to ensure that children and young people in Barnsley are supported to achieve their educational attainment potential. Committee members welcomed reassurance that schools were undertaking a broad and balanced curriculum, especially as these schools were outperforming those with a narrow focus on English and Maths. Members challenged data regarding fixed-term exclusions and welcomed the significant reduction in these over the last 12 months. Members acknowledged concerns surrounding the transition from primary to secondary school, particularly for children with an Education, Care and Health Plan (EHCP) in place and welcome good practice being shared amongst schools regarding this.

Adult Social Care Local Account 2018/19: In April 2020 the full committee were due to consider performance in relation to adult social care services. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic this meeting was cancelled; however, the reports were published for information and a brief update was provided in relation to the impact of the pandemic on Adult Social Care services at that time as well as links to ongoing service updates.



Children's Social Care Performance Private Member Briefings: Throughout the Municipal Year, private member briefings are held for committee members to provide overview and scrutiny of performance in relation to children's social care services. The reports include a summary section with an overview of performance, using RAG (Red, Amber, Green) ratings and a direction of travel for most indicators. Areas of performance considered good and areas where improvement is required are highlighted. Specific challenge has been undertaken on re-referral rates, the implementation of the Neglect Strategy and the Graded Care Profile, adoption timescales, agency workers, recruitment and increased social worker caseloads. Members considered trends evident in year-end data including challenging performance in relation to care-leavers accessing education, employment and training. Members requested future sight of a number of review reports currently being compiled.

Overview & Scrutiny Full Committee Added Value:

As a result of the topics considered, Members have had opportunity to meet with, question, and challenge a variety of senior leaders from both the Council and partner agencies, which provides evidence and assurance of agencies working together locally. Members have gained additional knowledge of available services, especially those supporting the most vulnerable, which they can refer local residents to. Ongoing sight of specific service performance has enabled Members to identify trends and suggest attention is drawn to areas of underperformance alongside providing praise to staff to acknowledge areas of excellence.

Task & Finish Groups (TFGs)

In addition to meetings undertaken throughout the year, Committee Members can opt to participate in TFGs which undertake detailed investigations into particular topics. These provide Members with opportunities to work in small groups and visit services both within and outside the Borough to learn from good practice, meet with a variety of service-users and officers as well as gain a better understanding of the complexities involved in the issues concerned.

At the conclusion of each investigation a report is compiled and presented to the Council's Cabinet with a number of recommendations, to which a formal response is provided from relevant services outlining whether they accept the recommendation and if so, how they propose to implement it. During 2019/20, committee members undertook the following detailed TFG investigations:

Poverty: This TFG considered what poverty looks like in Barnsley in terms of data and intelligence; what the key challenges are; what support services are available from the Council and other local agencies; and what the future plans are in terms of this agenda. As part of the TFG, Members met with a number of representatives from local agencies including undertaking a visit to Athersely Community Shop to understand how they are helping people to build confidence and skills to gain employment, and ultimately get out of poverty.



The TFG highlighted a number of recommendations in support of further improvement including undertaking a Poverty Needs Assessment to better understand the current picture in relation to poverty in Barnsley to enable better targeting of support services. The TFG were also keen to ensure that the Council alongside other local agencies are exemplary employers in offering in-work progression as well as focus recruiting staff from our most deprived communities to support Barnsley having an inclusive economy. The TFG's full report is available on the following link - Cab.18.3.2020/8:

<https://barnsley.mbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s64022/Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20-%20Task%20and%20Finish%20Group%20-%20Poverty.pdf>

Adult Mental Health – Early Intervention & Prevention: This TFG co-opted Mark Smith, Vice-Chair of Healthwatch Barnsley, to provide additional expertise to their investigation, which focused on early intervention and prevention in relation to adult mental health. This work included considering brain health for the whole population to avoid even needing 'early intervention' services. During the investigation, the group met with the commissioners and providers of a number of local support services, including visiting the Age UK Barnsley 'Men in Sheds' project. This service provides a safe, supportive and friendly place to meet, where men can socialise, do a bit of light work or busy themselves doing a hobby or learn new skills. This is a safe space for the service users, which avoids drawing attention to it being a 'mental health' support service; however, attending the service for some had been life-saving.



As a result of the TFG's investigation the group highlighted a number of recommendations in support of further improvement. These included further promotion of '5 ways to wellbeing' as a way to ensure everyone looks after their emotional wellbeing. The group were also keen to promote Adult Skills and Community Learning Services, both in terms of services on offer to our communities as well as to utilise our local cultural establishments to display work produced by our residents. The group also made recommendations to partner organisations, including to make a specific budget available to support local voluntary and community groups with running costs as their services were frequently being referred to by statutory organisations. The TFG's full report is available on the following link - Cab.18.3.2020/9:

<https://barnsley.mbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s64178/TFG%20Adult%20Mental%20Health%20Early%20Intervention%20and%20Prevention%20Cabinet%20Report%20FINAL%2020200309.pdf>

Recycling: This TFG investigated the current picture in relation to recycling in Barnsley; how well we perform as a local area and how we compare with others; what local businesses are doing in terms of recycling; and what the future plans are in terms of this agenda. The TFG met with a local community group and several local agencies as well as undertook site visits to learn more. This included visiting Barnsley, Doncaster & Rotherham (BDR) Waste Treatment Facility at Manvers to understand how residual waste is processed once collected, as well as a Morrisons' Store and Distribution Centre to learn of their different environmental considerations.



A number of recommendations have been made by the TFG in support of further improvement. These included a communications campaign to reduce residents' confusion over what items can go in which bin as it is important they adhere to the local scheme rather than national messages. The group were keen that the Council is seen to lead the way in terms of the 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' agenda, including encouraging schools to cover this as an essential part of their curriculum to instil good habits in the younger generation. The TFG's full report is available on the following link - Cab.18.3.2020/10:

<https://barnsley.mbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s64024/Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20-%20Task%20and%20Finish%20Group%20-%20Recycling.pdf>

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees (JHOSCs)

Within legislation, there is provision for Local Authorities to form Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees with other councils to respond to substantial reconfiguration proposals covering more than one council area. These can be convened over varying geographical areas as well as over varying timescales as is deemed appropriate for the matters being considered. During 2018/19, the Chair of Barnsley's Overview and Scrutiny Committee has contributed positively in the region through our joint arrangements and has attended the following JHOSCs:

South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: This committee considers NHS services over the stated geographical footprint which previously considered statutory consultations on Hyper-Acute Stroke Services as well as Children's Surgery and Anaesthesia services. This JHOSC has been involved in the ongoing consideration of changes implemented to these services as well as the development of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (SYB) Integrated Care System (ICS). As part of this committee Barnsley's OSC Chair participated in a workshop with interested members of the public to hear their concerns regarding the relevant services to then feed into future JHOSC meetings.

The link to the meetings of this JHOSC is provided below:

<https://barnsley.mbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=468>

West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Due to proposed changes to Assessment & Treatment Units (ATUs) which affect a small number of Barnsley residents, Barnsley OSC Chair was invited to the West Yorkshire JHOSC. ATUs are designed to be short-term specialist hospital placements for people with learning disabilities to receive specialist mental health treatment so they can return home as quickly as possible. The OSC Chair was involved in ensuring proposals lead to safer, higher quality care for some of our more vulnerable members of society.

The link to the papers for this JHOSC is provided here:

<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=1056&Mid=9834&Ver=4>

Liaison with Other Bodies

In addition to the formal meetings undertaken by committee members, work is undertaken to ensure constant liaison with partner agencies to share learning and good practice as well as avoid duplication. Regular contact is maintained with those involved with the Council's governance arrangements including Area Council Chairs, the Audit Committee, partnership boards including BSAB, BSCP, the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Barnsley's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). Liaison is undertaken with NHS colleagues at Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT), South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation trust (SWYPFT) as well as Healthwatch Barnsley.

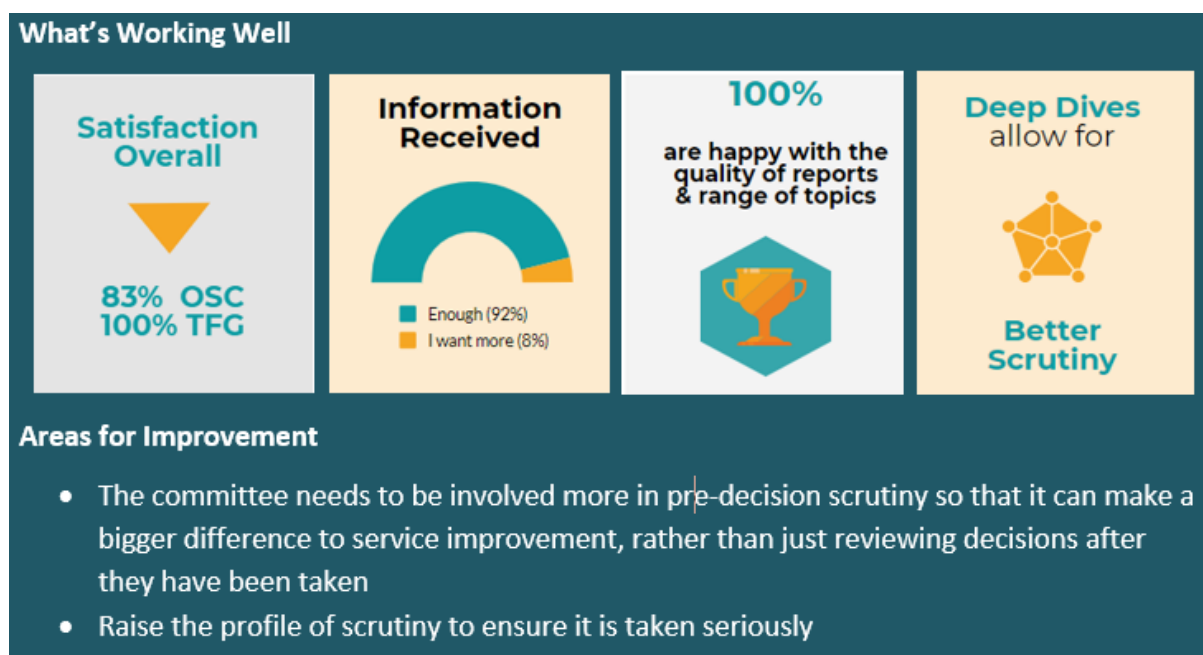
The committee also maintains links with other scrutiny committees in the region, including the Sheffield City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SCROSC). During Barnsley OSC's work programme planning session for the 2019/20 Municipal Year, public transport came up as an area of concern for a number of committee members. Members raised concerns over poor bus and train services in Barnsley, especially poor bus services. Given the role of Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority, it was felt that the issues raised would be better served by oversight and scrutiny by the regional committee, especially given the Bus

Review consultation which was being undertaken at the time; therefore, a referral was made to SCROSC in July 2019. A response was provided to Barnsley's OSC in January 2020:

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=224&Mid=5896&Ver=4>

Feedback

At the end of the municipal year, committee members are surveyed regarding their satisfaction with the operation of the overview and scrutiny function. The questionnaire provides opportunity for committee members to comment on the relative strengths and weaknesses of the arrangements and make suggestions about improvements. Highlights of the Committee Member Survey 2019-20 are shown in the infographic below:



Throughout the year, surveys are also undertaken of expert witnesses who attend the meetings to answer questions from committee members. This enables us to ensure attendees feel appropriately prepared for meetings and so that we can respond to any recommendations for improvement they may make. Highlights from the Expert Witness Surveys 2019-20 are:



Comments from Expert Witnesses 2019-20 include:

I found it an interesting experience and have taken valuable learning from it

Scrutiny offered support for us to better promote our service which we have taken on board

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is well run and although questions can be challenging, witnesses are always treated with respect

I only attended yesterday but I will definitely be taking the suggestions on board and ensuring that actions are implemented

The Year Ahead

As we enter the 2020-21 municipal year, the world is in the middle of a Coronavirus pandemic which has brought about increased demands and pressures on services, placing the Council's resources under further strain. The year ahead is more uncertain than ever; however, there is opportunity for the overview and scrutiny committee to have an important role in providing assurance that the Council and its partners are utilising the available resources effectively.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be able to play an essential role in providing 'critical-friend' challenge to both the ongoing and future response, recovery and renewal plans. This will help to ensure that our residents' voices are heard in the design and delivery of services as we move to 'a new normal'.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair, alongside other Members is involved in the local Outbreak Control Advisory Group. This group will work to advise the local Outbreak Control Board who are responsible for overseeing the prevention of Coronavirus transmission within the borough and ensure that outbreaks are managed effectively if and when they do happen. The Board will undertake the following, with the support of the Advisory Group:

- Provide oversight, assurance and scrutiny of plans to prevent and manage outbreaks of COVID-19 in Barnsley and actions taken to prevent and manage outbreaks and their outcomes;
- Lead communication with residents, businesses and stakeholders in the borough generally in relation to outbreak prevention and management;
- Engage with communities and groups where outbreaks may be more likely or where they have occurred;
- Ensure implementation of the Barnsley Outbreak Control Plan.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will continue to work together to provide critical friend challenge to all services, including those of partners. This includes making a positive contribution to plans for the future, ensuring the voice of the public is heard. Work will also be undertaken to utilise the feedback from our recent surveys regarding the ongoing improvement of the Overview and Scrutiny function.

How to find out more

Agendas, reports and minutes for all of our Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings are available here: <https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/ielistMeetings.aspx?CommitteId=224>

Alternatively, you can contact us at: scrutiny@barnsley.gov.uk

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MEETING:	Planning Regulatory Board
DATE:	Tuesday, 18 February 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barnsley

MINUTES

Present

Councillors D. Birkinshaw (Chair), T. Cave, Danforth, Eastwood, Fielding, Frost, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Leech, Makinson, McCarthy, Mitchell, Noble, Richardson, Smith, Spence and Wright

72. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests with regard to any items on the agenda.

73. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

74. Garage Site, Martin Croft, Silkstone, Barnsley - 2019/1136

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application 2019/1136** (Residential development of 4 no. dwellings at Garage Site, Martin Croft, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4JS)

Mr Ian Turner addressed the Board and spoke against the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

In accordance with agreed protocol, a recorded vote was taken on this planning application with the amendment to REFUSE the application being:-
MOVED by Councillor Hand-Davis and SECONDED by Councillor Smith, with voting being as follows:-

In favour of the amendment to refuse the application:-

Councillors D. Birkinshaw (Chair), Cave, Danforth, Eastwood, Fielding, Frost, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Leech, Makinson, McCarthy, Mitchell, Noble, Richardson, Smith, Spence and Wright.

All Members present at the time of the vote actually voted.

RESOLVED that the application be REFUSED, against the Officer recommendation, due to the concerns around the overdevelopment of the site and the associated implications for the amenity of existing and future residents.

75. St Helens Boulevard, Carlton Road, Barnsley - 2019/0902

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application 2019/0902** (residential development of 93 no. dwellings with provision of associated access, car parking and landscaping, St Helen's Boulevard, Carlton Road, Barnsley)

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation subject to conditions and completion of a S106 Agreement or other legal instrument (including a contract with the developer) which secures the planning obligations in relation to affordable housing, public open space, compensation for loss of greenspace, sustainable travel and education contributions.

76. St Mary Magdelene Church, 254 Pontefract Road, Lundwood, Barnsley - 2019/1494

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application No. 2019/1494** (St Mary Magdelene Church, 254 Pontefract Road, Lundwood, Barnsley, S71 5HR)

RESOLVED that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

77. Land to the South of Lee Lane, Royston - 2019/0239

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update report on **Planning Application No. 2019/0239** (Land to the South of Lee Lane, Royston) in relation to the defence of appeal at the public inquiry.

RESOLVED that the contents of the update report, including the putative reasons for refusal and the need to enter into a S106 Agreement to secure a fall-back position be endorsed by the Board.

78. Planning Appeals - 1st to 31st January 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update regarding cumulative appeal totals for 2019/20.

The report indicated that 6 appeals were received in January 2020, no appeals were withdrawn and 2 appeals were decided in January 2020.

It was reported that 31 appeals have been decided since 1st April 2019, 24 of which (77%%) have been dismissed and 7 of which (23%%) have been allowed.

Chair

MEETING:	Planning Regulatory Board
DATE:	Tuesday, 17 March 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barnsley

MINUTES

Present Councillors T. Cave, Danforth, Eastwood, Fielding, Frost, Gillis, Green, Greenhough, Hayward, Leech, Mitchell, Richardson, Stowe and Wright

In attendance

79. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary interest with regard to any of the planning applications on this agenda.

Due to the absence of the Chair, Councillor D. Birkinshaw, Councillor Richardson was appointed to the position of Chair for the meeting.

80. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

81. 58 Lundhill Road, Wombwell - 2019/0089 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application 2019/0089** [Demolition of existing bungalow and the development of 235 no. dwellings with formation of new access, car parking, landscaping and public open spaces at 58 Lundhill Road, Wombwell, Barnsley S73 0RJ (former Wombwell High School site)].

Ms C Plant addressed the Board and spoke in favour of the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

Mr M Whittingham addressed the Board and spoke against the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation subject to S106 agreement, recommended conditions and an additional condition relating to ecological mitigation.

82. Land north of Lingamore Leys, Thurnscoe - 2019/0809 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application 2019/0809** [Reserved Matters application for residential development of 360 dwellings (Phase 3) at land North of Lingamore Leys, Thurnscoe, Rotherham S63 0PG]

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation subject to S106 agreement and recommended conditions.

83. Cannon Hall Museum and Grounds - 019/1429 and 2019/1457 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Applications 2019/1429 and 2019/1457** [Alterations within grounds of Cannon Hall to include: 1 - Partial restoration of the glazed elements of the North Range greenhouse in the Walled Garden 2 - Existing Cart shed to Kiosk conversion 3 - Change in floor surface material to the Deer Shelter 4 - A new Boat Shed close to the middle Lake of the Daking Brook Lakes complex. 5 - A new boat landing jetty/dipping platform at Cannon Hall Museum, Bark House Lane Cawthorne Barnsley S75 4AT]

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

84. Former Lilac Garage, Lilac Farm, Church Street, Brierley - 2019/1273 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on **Planning Application 2019/1273** [Removal of conditions 14 and 19 of application 2011/1341 – Demolition of existing bungalow and outbuildings, erection of 40 no. dwellings and formation of an area of openspace (extension of time limit of application 2008/0764) at former Lilac Garage, Lilac Farm, Church Street, Brierley].

RESOLVED that the application be deferred to enable further exploration of landscape management.

85. Planning Appeals - 1st to 29th February 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update regarding cumulative appeal totals for 2019/20.

The report indicated that 3 appeals were received in February 2020, none were withdrawn and 2 appeals were decided.

It was reported that 33 appeals have been decided since 01 April 2019, 26 of which (79%) have been dismissed and 7 of which (21%) have been allowed.

86. Cawthorne Conservation Area Appraisal

The Senior Conservation Officer, Planning Policy, introduced this item. Members were asked to consider the adoption of proposed extensions to the Cawthorne Conservation Area boundary and the attendant conservation area appraisal and management plan which informs and supports the extensions.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) in exercise of statutory powers, the Council extends the Cawthorne Conservation Area under the provisions of sections 69 to 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990), and

- (ii) In support of the proposed extension, the Council approves the adoption of the Cawthorne Conservation Area appraisal and management plan.

Chair

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MEETING:	Planning Regulatory Board
DATE:	Tuesday, 19 May 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	VIRTUAL

MINUTES

Present

Councillors T. Cave, Danforth, Frost, Greenhough, Hayward, Leech, Makinson, Noble and Richardson

87. Commemoration

Members noted the sad news of the passing of Cllr Doug Birkinshaw, Chair of the Planning Regulatory Board and offered their condolences to his family. He will be sadly missed, having been Chair for a number of years.

Councillor Ken Richardson was appointed to the position of Chair of the Planning Regulatory Board for the remainder of the Municipal Year, i.e. until Annual Council which is scheduled to take place in October.

88. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary interest with regard to any of the items on the agenda.

89. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th March were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

90. 47 Victoria Road, Barnsley, S70 2BU - 2019/1029 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report in respect of Planning Application No. 2019/1029 – Change of use from hostel to residential development, consisting of the refurbishment of the existing main building on the site into 7no. apartments, associated alterations to the external elevations, erection of single storey detached block containing 4no. apartment units to replace existing annex building and associated alterations to the site layout and parking arrangements (Use Class C3)

Mr Graham Connell addressed the Board and spoke in favour of the officer's recommendation to approve the application.

Mr & Mrs Bell addressed the Board and spoke against the officer's recommendation to approve the application.

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation subject to S106 agreement.

91. Planning Appeals - 1st to 30th April 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update regarding cumulative appeal totals for 2020/21.

The report indicated that 1 appeal was received in April 2020. No appeals were withdrawn.

It was reported that 2 appeals have been decided since 1st April 2020, 2 of which (100%) have been dismissed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

92. Proposed adoption of the Draft Local List of Buildings and Sites (Elsecar)

Members considered a report of the Senior Conservation Officer, Planning Policy with regard to the proposed adoption of the Draft Local List of Buildings and Sites (Elsecar) and the approval of future additions to the adopted local list beyond Elsecar in order to widen the local list out to the entire Borough.

RESOLVED that

- (i) in relation to the requirements of Local Plan Policies HE1 ((e) Heritage), HE3 (Developments Affecting Historic Buildings) and HE5 (The Demolition of Historic Buildings), the Council adopts the draft local list for Elsecar.

- (ii) Furthermore, in relation to the above Local Plan Policies, the Council approves future additions to the local list to widen this initial list beyond Elsecar to cover the rest of the Borough (subject to the amendment of selection criteria that are currently Elsecar specific) .

93. Planning enforcement report

Members were provided with an update on Planning Enforcement service activity covering the Quarter 4 Period of this reporting year 2019/2020 (January – March 2020). The report includes a breakdown of the requests for service received and includes details of key actions and enforcement case outcomes during the quarter.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

MEETING:	Planning Regulatory Board
DATE:	Tuesday, 16 June 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	VIRTUAL

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Richardson (Chair), T. Cave, Danforth, Frost, Green, Greenhough, Hayward, Leech, Makinson, Noble and Richardson

94. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Leech declared a Non-Pecuniary interest in Item 96 as he is a Member of the Sheffield city region transport board.

Councillor Makinson declared a Non-Pecuniary interest in Item 96 as she has worked closely with Dan Jarvis MP around rail and transport connectivity.

95. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

96. Land off Brook Hill Lane, Dunford Bridge, Barnsley, Sheffield - 2019/1013 - For approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2019/1013: National Grid's Visual Impact Provision (VIP) project involving the following works: 1) Construction of a new sealing end compound, including permanent access; 2) Construction of a temporary haul road from Brook Hill Lane including widened bellmouth; 3) Construction of a temporary Trans Pennine Trail Diversion to be used for approximately 12 - 18 months; following construction approximately 410m of said diversion surface would be retained permanently; and 4) Erection of two bridges (one temporary and one permanent) along the Trans Pennine Trail diversion at land off Brook Hill Lane, Dunford Bridge, Barnsley, Sheffield.

Mr Andy Tickle (CPRE) and Mr Chris Baines (VIP Stakeholder Advisory Group) addressed the Board and spoke in favour of the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

Ms Laura Hobbs and Mr Pete Wall (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust) addressed the Board and spoke against the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

A recorded vote was taken, with the following Members voting to approve the application: Councillor Richardson (Chair), T. Cave, Danforth, Frost, Green, Greenhough, Hayward, Leech, Makinson and Noble. The vote was unanimous, as no Members voted to refuse the application and no Members abstained from voting.

RESOLVED that the application be granted in accordance with the Officer recommendation subject to conditions.

97. Planning Appeals - 1st to 31st May 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update regarding cumulative appeal totals for 2020/21.

The report indicated that one appeals was received in May 2020. No appeals were withdrawn in May 2020.

It was reported that 3 appeals have been decided since 1st April 2020, 3 of which (100%) have been dismissed and none of which (0%) have been allowed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

98. Member Planning Consultation Report April 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control presented a report summarising the outcomes of the planning applications agenda pack issued as a Board Member consultation in lieu of the cancelled Regulatory Board meeting that was due to be held on 14th April 2020.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

99. Member Planning Consultation Report May 2020

The Head of Planning and Building Control presented a report summarising the outcomes of the planning applications agenda pack issued as a Board Member consultation in advance of the Regulatory Board meeting held on 19th May 2020.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

MEETING:	General Licensing Regulatory Board
DATE:	Wednesday, 19 February 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), P. Birkinshaw, Clarke, Danforth, Gillis, Green, C. Johnson, W. Johnson, Noble, Shepherd, Sumner, Tattersall, Williams and Wilson

14 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

15 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd October, 2019 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

16 Criminal Convictions Policy Update

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report seeking approval to amend Section 5 of the Council's Convictions Policy which specifically addressed Compliance with Conditions and Requirements of the Licensing Authority.

Currently the policy does not recognise offences committed by drivers where they have received at least 3 written warnings in a twelve month period, and the options that were available to the General Licensing Panel in dealing with them.

It was suggested, therefore, that the convictions policy be amended to reflect the work of officers in the issuing of written warnings following Drivers committing offences and it be made clear that the General Licensing Panel would determine all cases.

In the ensuing discussion, the following matters were raised:

- The proposal was welcomed as a means of giving the General Licensing Board Panel the opportunity to consider information on warnings received by Drivers and in return Drivers would have the opportunity to acknowledge and defend any warnings received
- Members noted that if, for instance, a driver had received written warnings for faulty tyres, they could potentially receive 1 warning for each tyre plus a warning for falsifying their records, resulting in them being brought to Board
- The new policy would be a way for the Board to be able to deal with persistent offenders, or offenders with a pattern of behaviour

RESOLVED that members approve the amendment to Section of the Council's Convictions Policy.

17 Digitalisation of the Licensing Function

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report informing the Committee of the ongoing project work being undertaken in order to digitalise the way that the Licensing Services operates.

Members were reminded of the Digitalisation report presented to the General Licensing Regulatory Board in October 2019, informing them of the plans to digitalise the Licensing function due to the current process and procedure being predominantly paper based and labour intensive for Licensing Officers and a summary of the type of work undertaken was provided.

Within the context of Future Council and Digital First the current method in providing the licensing service could no longer be justified, therefore the Digitalisation project would convert existing manual laborious operations (so far as was feasible) into digital operations.

Members were informed that representatives from the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Trade had attended meetings in which they shared their views, opinions and concerns with regards to a digitalised service.

It was reported that Licensing Officers had worked closely with IT Services in designing the online forms and procedures by taking into consideration the comments shared by the licensed Trade and incorporating receipt of payments, a booking system for the knowledge test and receipt and issue of new and renewed existing licenses and associated documentation.

In the ensuing discussion, the following matters were highlighted:

- The current practice of face to face questions would now be done digitally through the system which had been meticulously tested by Licensing Officers. Any concerns regarding appropriate checks being made were allayed as drivers would be asked to upload appropriate documentation including DBS checks.
- 80% of the Trade were on board with the new system and welcomed the flexibility for drivers with the system being available 24hours a day and not restricted to office hours.
- Workshops were being held for some drivers who were apprehensive and fearful of the new technology and did not have the means of getting online. It was reported that a small group of drivers who may struggle would be invited to test the new system to alleviate any issues and fears they may have.
- The online system will work on all devices ie tablets or phones but if drivers require assistance then they would be signposted to Libraries or some Trade representatives who have volunteered to help.

RESOLVED that Members support the Licensing Team and the Licensed Trades with the digitalisation project to ensure the success of the project from it going live on 2nd April, 2020.

18 Enforcement Update

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report providing an overview of the work of the Licensing Enforcement Officers undertaken recently.

Licensing Enforcement Officers had proactively embarked on a taxi licensing enforcement operation on the 21st November, 2019. This had been a daytime operation involving Licensing Enforcement Officers and Vehicle Examiners from the Smithies Lane Depot. The operation focused on Springwell School and the drivers and vehicles contracted to transport children to the school on a daily basis.

Of the 29 inspected, 23 were found to be compliant. 6 vehicles were issued with immediate suspension notices for defects including nearside indicators, near side screen washer and number plate lights being inoperative, no reserve travel on the handbrake, the external of a vehicle being in a dirty condition, tyres below legal limits, ABS warning lights being illuminated and an electrical fault affecting all the lights on the vehicle.

Vehicle compliance continued to be an issue and at the forefront of every enforcement operation and with every Vehicle Examiner whilst undertaking vehicle inspections. Defective vehicles could not be excused and were not acceptable and this, coupled with failing to complete basic vehicle inspection sheets was a continuing concern as not only had the Trade requested this, but it was a valuable tool that ensured the safety of the licensed vehicle.

Further proactive enforcement operations would continue to be undertaken to ensure that drivers, operators and vehicle proprietors took responsibility for their failures and made appropriate changes as this was key to ensuring the safety of the travelling public.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to questioning, particular reference was made to the following:

- In relation to the cleanliness standards of vehicles, it was noted that for an immediate suspension it would be an Officer judgment call, in one particular case the licence plate was ineligible resulting in the car being suspended until it had been cleaned.
- Officers informed members that a suspension would not be lifted until the car had been deemed roadworthy by relevant Officers. This could be anything from the same day for a dirty car that had been washed to weeks if it had a serious mechanical fault.
- It was pleasing to note that the number of suspensions for faulty bulbs had dropped as the message seemed to be getting around for Drivers to carry spare bulbs in their vehicles.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and the Board place on record its thanks and appreciation to the staff within the Licensing Service and Smithies Lane Depot for all their hard work in undertaking enforcement activities and ensuring the continued safety of the travelling public and for the outstanding results currently being achieved.

19 Driver Appeal - Update

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report providing an overview of the outcome of an appeal made to the Magistrates Court and Crown Court by a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver following a decision made by a General Licensing Regulatory Board Panel to revoke his driver licence.

The General Licensing Regulatory Board Panel had made its decision to revoke the licence on the 8th January 2019. The case was then presented to Barnsley Magistrates Court on 11th July, 2019 by way of an appeal.

In dismissing the appeal the Magistrates had stated that the Council had acted appropriately in revoking the drivers licence. The appeal had therefore been dismissed and the driver had been ordered to pay £900 in costs to Barnsley MBC.

Following the dismissal of the appeal by the Magistrates Court, the Driver lodged a further appeal at Sheffield Crown Court heard on 6th December, 2019. The Crown Court also dismissed the appeal and upheld the decision of the Magistrates Court and ordered the Driver to pay an further sum of £622.50 towards the Local Authority's costs.

Members commented that it was encouraging to see the support from Magistrates and Crown Courts upholding decisions made by Officers and the Panel, proving that the right decisions were being made.

Members expressed their gratitude and gave thanks to the Legal Team in representing the Authority in Court on both occasions. It was testament to the excellent and hard work of Officers and Panel members in bringing the driver to justice and making the safety of Barnsley's travelling public paramount.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the report be noted; and
- (ii) that the Board place on record their thanks and appreciation to all involved for their continued hard work in supporting the Licensing Function and in ensuring the safety of the travelling public.

Chair

Item 12

NOTES OF GENERAL LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD PANEL

4th February, 2020

Present: Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), Clarke and Danforth together with Councillor D Birkinshaw (Reserve Member).

Members of the Public and Press were excluded from all meetings.

1 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

2 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence – Application – Mr A A

The Panel considered a report of the Service Director Legal Services on an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence by Mr A A.

Mr A A was in attendance together with Mrs A (his wife) who gave evidence in support of his case.

After considering all the information and representations made, including additional information submitted by Mr A A the Panel determined that the application for a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence by Mr A A be refused on the following grounds:

- The conviction for two violence related offences and the fact that he had pleaded guilty to the same. This meant that Mr A A would never meet the Council's current policy for Criminal Convictions and would not meet the standards set by the Institute of Licensing Guidance until 2025
- The concerns that he did not inform a neighbouring authority of his convictions when renewing and acquiring a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence issued by that Authority. The Panel did not believe his statement regarding the submission of information to that authority and this meant that he continued to drive as a taxi driver for three years in that area knowing that he had these offences recorded against him
- In considering all the evidence presented the primary consideration for the Panel was the safety of the travelling public. The Panel deemed that he fell short of the Council's Guideline Policy for Criminal Convictions. He provided no extenuating circumstances to warrant a deviation from that Policy and he was not, therefore, deemed to be a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

3rd March, 2020

Present: Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), D Birkinshaw and W Johnson together with Councillor Noble (Reserve Member).

3 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence – Determination – Mr R H

The Panel considered a report of the Service Director Legal Services requesting the determination of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence held by Mr R H.

Mr R H was in attendance together with Mr L W (Licensing Consultant) who gave evidence in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented the Panel determined that Mr R H be allowed to retain his Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence subject to him being required to undertake and pass a Council approved Driver Assessment Course within three months at his own expense and also the issuing of a Written Warning which will be kept on file for 12 months as to his future conduct on the following grounds:

- The manner in which he presented himself and his acceptance that he committed the offence
- The explanation given about the circumstances surrounding the use of the mobile phone
- The genuine remorse shown at the offence committed
- The assurances given that this will not occur again
- The fact that he had provided sufficient extenuating evidence to convince the Panel that he was a fit and proper person to hold such a licence

The Panel did have some concerns about his explanation regarding his application for a taxi licence to another authority but it placed minimum weight on this in arriving at its decision.

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

23rd June, 2020

Present: Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), W Johnson and Wilson together with Councillor Eastwood (Reserve Member).

4 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence – Determination – Mr D M

The Panel considered a report of the Service Director Legal Services requesting the determination of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence held by Mr D M.

Mr D M was in attendance virtually together with Mr D W (Licensing Consultant) who gave evidence in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented the Panel determined that Mr D M be allowed to retain his Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence subject to the following conditions:

- In view of the number of breaches of licensing conditions and the safeguarding concerns, his licence be suspended for four weeks
- Him being issued with a Final Written Warning as to his future conduct
- Him being required to undertake a Council approved Safeguarding Course at the earliest opportunity possible and at his own expense

The decision was made on the following grounds:

- The manner in which he presented himself and his acceptance that he had displayed unacceptable behaviour which constituted a safeguarding concern
- The explanation given about the circumstances surrounding the incidents
- The genuine remorse shown at the incidents and offences committed, the fact that he stated that he had given up smoking and his assurance that the incidents and offences would not occur again
- The reference submitted by his employer
- The fact that he had provided sufficient extenuating evidence to convince the Panel that he was a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

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MEETING:	Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board
DATE:	Wednesday, 19 February 2020
TIME:	2.30 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), P. Birkinshaw, Green, W. Johnson, Shepherd, Sumner, Tattersall, Williams and Wilson

10 Declaration of Interests

No declarations were made at the meeting.

11 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd October, 2019 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record subject to the addition of Councillor Williams to list of those present

Arising out of the minutes, members noted the success of the Best Bar None scheme and discussed how this could be developed in the future.

12 Statement of Gambling Policy Review Consultation 2020

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report informing and seeking the views of Members on the Statement of Gambling Policy Review Consultation document.

Members were informed that in line with Statutory Guidelines the Licensing Authority must publish a Statement of Gambling Policy at least once every three years. The policy had, therefore, been reviewed and it was proposed that a consultation on the policy would run for the statutory 10 weeks commencing on 21st February, 2020 until 1st May, 2020.

In the ensuing discussion the following matters were highlighted:

- The issue of online gambling was raised and whether this was included in the Gambling Policy Review as this was felt to be a far bigger threat to vulnerable people than fixed machines in betting shops. The Licensing Officer informed members that online gambling was covered by the Gambling Commission and not within the Licensing Authorities remit.
- Reassurance was given that the Bookmakers that are within the Licensing Authorities powers are generally compliant and, that the Officer could recall, in the past 5 years there had only been 2 complaints against a gambling licensed premises.
- The Licensing officer informed members that they had written to and consulted with numerous agencies such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, Public Health,

Gamblers Anonymous and various support groups who deal with vulnerable people to request their feedback and input into the consultation.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and the consultation arrangements be approved and that any comments on the review be forwarded to the Licensing Service accordingly to the consultation document.

Chair

MEETING:	Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board
DATE:	Wednesday, 3 June 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), P. Birkinshaw, Green, W. Johnson, Kitching, Saunders, Shepherd, Tattersall, Williams and Wilson

13 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from Members.

14 Statement of Gambling Policy Review Consultation 2020

The Service Director Legal Services submitted a report informing Members of the responses received to the statement of Gambling Policy Review Consultation and requested the referral of the report to Cabinet and Council for formal approval to implement the Gambling Policy.

It was noted that in line with Statutory guidelines in determining and publishing a Statement of Gambling Policy which must take place every three years, the Licensing Authority had reviewed and carried out the statutory consultation which lasted for 10 weeks and ended on 1st May, 2020.

A total of 4 responses were received consisting of 2 from elected members, one from Noise Pollution Officer James Gardham and the Gambling Commission, all of which were positive. The Gambling Commission gave clarification on some points of issues to include a requirement to keep risk assessments on the properties and available for inspection and for stakes on bets being increased from 2019. The Commission felt that these needed to be included in the amended draft policy.

In relation to the final Gambling Policy being adopted on 24th July, it required advertising 4 weeks prior. Members were informed that due to the current Covid-19 restrictions there wasn't a Full Council planned until October, 2020 so in order to meet the deadlines set out, the Policy would have to be agreed through emergency powers of Cabinet and Council.

RESOLVED that members recommend that the statement of Gambling Policy with an implementation date of the 24th July, 2020 be adopted and approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson Core Services in accordance with the urgent action arrangements contained within the Constitution in the absence of a Council meeting.

Chair

MEETING:	Audit and Governance Committee
DATE:	Wednesday, 3 June 2020
TIME:	4.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Richardson (Chair), Barnard, P. Birkinshaw and Lofts together with Independent Members - Ms K Armitage, Ms D Brown, Mr S Gill, Mr P Johnson and Mr M Marks

48. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

49. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd January, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

50. MR ANDREW FROSDICK

The Chair informed Members that Mr Andrew Frosdick, Executive Director Core Services, had retired from the Authority on Friday 29th May, 2020. He, together with Members of the Committee, asked to place on record their thanks and appreciation for his service to the Council and particularly for the advice and support provided at this Committee.

They wished him a long and happy retirement.

51. MR SHOKAT LAL - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CORE SERVICES

Mr Shokat Lal, the recently appointed Executive Director Core Services, was welcomed to this his first meeting of the Committee.

52. REVISIONS TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Executive Director Core Services submitted a report highlighting the amendments to the Committee's Terms of Reference that had been suggested following the review undertaken recently. It was reported that these had been approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson Core Services in accordance with the urgent action arrangements contained within the Constitution in the absence of a Council meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the report and the changes to the Committee's Terms of Reference be noted; and

- (ii) That part of the Committee's development session in October each year be devoted to a self-assessment review covering the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

53. INFORMATION GOVERNANCE, CYBER SECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION OFFICER UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation from Sara Hydon, Head of IT (Service Management) and from Rob Winter, Data Protection Officer, which provided an update on Information Governance, Cyber Security and Data Protection.

Mr Winter reported on the following matters:

- The DPO Review that had been undertaken.
 - Good progress had been made generally and policies and guidance had been reviewed.
 - Important improvements in processes for incident management and Data Protection Impact Assessments had been made
 - Reference was made to the excellent work of the Information Governance Team
 - The Information Governance Board had been reconstituted
 - Other work to focus upon included a review of the training offer, a review of internal procedures for the handling of complex SAR's more effectively and the impact of Covid 19 and the subsequent change in working practices
- DPO Assurance Reviews
 - Annual work was in progress to review certain aspects of compliance with the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulations. Areas to cover included:
 - Broad awareness assessment through a survey
 - Cyber and IT security considerations
 - Incident management
 - Contract provisions
 - A report on the reviews would be submitted to the Committee in due course
 - The Data Protection Officer/Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance was contributing to a number of Covid 19 related groups in order to ensure awareness of Data Protections matters

Mrs Hydon reported on the following:

- Information Governance
 - The Covid 19 Implications and Opportunities
 - Incidents before and during the Covid 19 pandemic

There had been no major adverse impacts from an Information Governance perspective. The type of work undertaken was outlined

- The Data Sharing Protocol had been completed in accordance with the legal requirements (which were outlined) and in discussion with partners – it was noted that further issues might be raised as part of the Council's recovery

phase so work was progressing on ensuring that the Data Sharing Framework was robust

- Achievements had been significant in relation to the paperless office and most employees no longer required paper records unless urgency dictated
- There had been significant reduction in printing due to home working and the move to a 'digital world'. This had been a significant achievement and employees were embracing the need to adopt technological solutions
- During the Covid 19 pandemic, the Service had ensured that full and robust processes were in place and the number of incidents had reduced. In relation to any incidents taking place, appropriate training was being provided and lessons learned were followed up and checked. In addition, constant reminders were issued to reduce the transportation of paper
- The number of instances of disclosure in error had also reduced in part due to the introduction of email encryption software

- Cyber Security
 - Covid 19 Implications and Homeworking – particular reference was made to the temporary arrangements in place and the assistance given to services and to schools. The number of phishing emails had not increased due to homeworking. Indeed, there had been just under a 50% reduction in the number of malicious and avoidable incidents reported, this was where controls had been put in place to stop other employees or Councillors clicking the same email
- The Redcar and Cleveland Incident – details of this incident hadn't been disclosed but appeared to relate to an infection by encryption malware that may have affected backup files. Further information was awaited but this would be used as a learning opportunity to strengthen Barnsley's own systems
- Public Services Network – accreditation had been achieved at the beginning of March for a further year and work was ongoing in order to try to achieve accreditation the following year
- Cyber Essentials Plus – it was hoped that certification could be achieved, and a further report would be submitted to the Committee in due course
- DSP Toolkit – the Council's Cyber Security Strategy had been approved by Cabinet on the 15th April 2020 and work was ongoing on future developments/enhancements
- Strategic developments – reference was made to the way in which the Service took a strategic lead and communicated strategies to, amongst other things:
 - avoid cyber-attack across the council
 - embed policy, training and best practice

In response to previous questioning, reference was made to the membership of the Information Governance Board which acted on behalf of the Senior Management Team by providing a strategic lead for how the Council discharged its information governance responsibilities. The work undertaken by the Board included the receipt of audits and assessments on issues such as PSN accreditation, Cyber Essentials Plus, Data Security and Protection Toolkit. It also investigated areas of non-compliance and approved and prioritised the annual Improvement Plan. The Board received reports on requests for information such as Freedom of Information, Data Protection and Environmental Information Regulations and advised on appropriate actions arising from those reports. It also commissioned specific pieces of work or reports through Task and Finish Groups.

In response to specific questioning, Mrs Hydon reported that the Council's back up data complied with all the legislative and accreditation requirements as detailed within the presentation.

RESOLVED that Rob Winter and Sara Hydon be thanked for their most informative and thought provoking presentation.

54. COVID 19 UPDATE

The Chief Executive gave an update on the action taken by the Authority in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic.

- Response arrangements

The Council's Business Continuity Planning had been based on national standards and delivered on two levels:

- Corporately in setting the overarching recovery priorities
- At a Service Level to consider vulnerabilities to business interruption to public, staff, premises, partners and suppliers

A full review of the approach adopted was to be undertaken in order to ensure that processes remained robust and captured lessons learned

- Risk Assessment – a separate strategic threat and risk assessment had previously been undertaken and a copy of this had been circulated to the Committee. This was a 'living document'. During the first 6 weeks of the crisis the Gold Team met daily but this had now been reduced to twice weekly based on the reduced 'threat' level
- Threats to Service Delivery
 - All Business Continuity Plans had been reviewed prior to lockdown which made it easier for some services to move from face to face to working from home. It was acknowledged, however, that for some this had been a challenge
 - The response phase had focused on maintaining services with a critical or high priority
 - Services most impacted had been those providing a front-line community service, those that needed to be reconfigured to deliver alternative services and those whose demands had increased due to the pandemic (adult social care).
 - There had been and remained a corporate programme of staff redeployment from less to more critical services
 - Non-essential services were focusing on priority activities with less critical activities curtailed or ceased. In this respect particular reference was made to the closure of Libraries and the reconfiguration of the Waste and Recycling Service. The way in which this activity was co-ordinated was outlined
- New Ways of Working – this had been challenging and had forced the authority to lean and adapt to new ways quickly. Some value had, however, been achieved and would be of lasting benefit to the Authority

- As part of the return to the new business as usual, services were reviewing service delivery and how this may differ to that of pre Covid
- The Smart Working Project would be reviewed in the light of the pandemic to reflect longer-term changes to ways of working
- There was to be a phased approach to premises re-occupancy and in the short-term homeworking would remain the default position in line with Government Guidance. Reference was made to the fantastic support offered by the IT service in enabling so many staff to work from home. It was likely that this approach would have major implications in the reduction of travel (to and from home and to meetings) and a long-term increase in virtual meetings. Reference was also made to the way in which certain services had adapted to changing demand during the lockdown and an example was given of the Libraries and Museums Services
- Maintaining Service Delivery
 - As previously outlined, the focus during the response phase had been on maintaining services with a critical of high priority. Non-essential services had been focussing on priority activities with less crucial activities curtailed or ceased
 - With the reduction in lockdown requirements, some Business Units were looking to recommence services. As part of the recovery process Business Units were considering and feeding into their recovery plans (centered on the five recovery themes of humanitarian; business economy; building resilience; education, attainment and skills and infrastructure and the environment):
 - What had stopped?
 - What had started?
 - What positive changes wanted to be retained?
 - What changes needed further assessment or reversing?
- Financial Position
 - A summary of the Financial Impact and estimated costs of the Emergency Response were outlined which indicated that the estimated cost involved was approximately £22m
 - A summary of the Financial Impact of lost income was outlined and indicated potential significant losses of £19m
 - The total net impact, when factoring in the receipt of Government Grant of £18m, was around £23.4m. This was a major concern due to the ongoing impact beyond the current financial year. This matter was being kept under constant review given that the full final financial implications were not currently known

There was a discussion of the financial implications during which the following matters were raised:

- A moratorium had been imposed in relation to non-essential expenditure
- In line with Government Guidelines, no staff had been furloughed but had been redeployed where possible to support other services. Arising out of this, it was noted that the Council had been able to minimise costs as some key partners had furloughed some of their staff reducing costs passed back through to the Council as a result

- Reference was made to the expenditure and the rationale for that expenditure of around £9m to support Care Homes this was in line with Government Guidance to support care homes across the sector
- Reference was made to the finance allocated by Government to the Sheffield City Region to support, amongst other things, transport operators in maintaining services for Key Workers. Part of this allocation would have supported services within Barnsley

The Chief Executive then went on to report on the following:

- Impact on the Workforce
 - Those that were unable to work fell into two groups, those whose health meant they were at greater risk from Covid 19 and those whose role meant that a service could not be provided – school meals for example – both groups were being monitored
 - There was a corporate programme of staff redeployments from less to more critical services
 - There was a corporate approach to those in clinically vulnerable and clinically extremely vulnerable groups based on national guidance and the ways in which these were dealt with was outlined. Information was also provided about the number of staff involved and the ‘groups’ from which they came
- Fraudulent Activity
 - A Toolkit to reduce risk of fraud/error had been developed by the Government’s Counter Fraud Function. There had been a general acceptance that checks would be able to detect and recover irregular payments rather than investigate fraud for prosecution
 - There were likely to be problems with fraud investigations as Local Authorities had been encouraged to push monies out quickly rather than ask charge payers to apply in the normal way
 - The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance reported on the work of the Council’s Anti-Fraud Team which, amongst other things, was undertaking post-event assurance to look for fraud. Reference was made to the National Fraud Initiative which had joined with Experian to undertake Bank Account validation and Active Company Checks. A report on all such activity would be reported to future meetings of the Committee
- Maintaining Resilience
 - The Council both individually and in conjunction with the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (chaired by the Executive Director Place), guided by the National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies, was planning/preparing for a variety of incidents. Debriefing and lessons identified had already begun with a view to improving the understanding of risks and impacts
 - An ongoing Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment had been kept throughout the pandemic response phase and the ongoing transition to recover. This document had been and was being used to guide the strategic direction of the response and recovery

In the ensuing discussion, the following matters were highlighted:

- There was a detailed discussion about the impact on employment in the area and of how the authority would transition to the recovery phase.
 - The Chief Executive commented that from the start of the pandemic there had always been a focus on recovery.
 - It was noted that work was ongoing which included liaison and discussions with partners including the Sheffield City Region/Mayoral Authority particularly in relation to funding streams and opportunities.
 - Reference was made to the work with transport providers to ensure that services were maintained so that key workers could continue to get to and from work
 - It was important that all funding streams dovetailed in order to ensure that all opportunities were maximised and to this end information was provided about the work of Enterprising Barnsley, the ongoing work to revitalise the market and the principal towns initiative
- In response to questioning about the financial implications of the pandemic and the ways in which the Authority would deal with the deficit, the Service Director Finance commented that the deficit, to the extent that it materialised, would be mitigated by pausing new investments that were originally intended to be taken forward in the current financial year. This would ensure that the Council would deliver a balanced budget for the current financial year. The key concern, however, was for 2021/22 and beyond where there was uncertainty around future Government funding coupled with the likelihood that the cost of providing certain Council Services would increase exponentially as a result of the pandemic and the need for them to be provided in a 'socially distanced' way.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive be thanked for her most informative and thought-provoking presentation.

55. GLASSWORKS - UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation from Mr D Shepherd, Service Director (Regeneration and Culture), updating the Committee on the current situation and progress being made in relation to the Glassworks Project.

(a) Construction Impact

- Activity began to slow down on site from mid March and on the 27th March, 2020 Henry Boot Construction decided to temporarily close the site due to:
 - Sub-Contractors closing
 - Operatives from outside the region being unable to find accommodation
 - Supply issues
 - Difficulties in adhering to the 2m socially distancing rule

(b) Construction Recovery

- Henry Boot Construction had been exemplary throughout the process and had recommend a phased return from the 6th April, 2020 in line with Government Guidance. In order to do this, they had:
 - Introduced social distancing measured for both vehicles and pedestrians
 - Introduced a signed and lined one-way system around the site

- Transformed a part of the completed block into a welfare facility in order to eat and maintain social distancing
- Introduced additional cleaning staff via Norse
- Introduced additional storage for materials in the basement
- Completed, in the last month, the acquisition of the Eastern Gateway for storage (which could also be used for welfare services as well should they wish)

(c) Impact on the Programme

- The current projection was that the construction was 6 weeks behind that originally anticipated
- Turner and Townsend had done some early modelling of the impact of the closure based on the initial 4 weeks delay and then at 3 months working at 50% capacity. The projected opening time was now anticipated to be Autumn 2021 but there was an ongoing review of programme dates
- There was a need to discuss with agreed tenants the impact in terms of construction. Henry Boot were, however, working at approximately 70-75% productivity (compared to pre Covid 19) so it was hoped that there would be a reduced impact on the timescales for programme

(d) Impact on Leasing

- Positively, pre Covid 19 deals were still progressing, however, there was likely to be an initial impact on the wider retail and leisure market. The Council was hoping, however, to be in position to announce further occupiers in the weeks ahead
- The current focus of operators was to protect existing businesses and reopen as soon as possible, hopefully by the 15th June, 2020
- The Council was to undertake a review of the leasing strategy. Leases would be reviewed in the coming months and there was a need to understand the impact of any delay on projected dates offered to tenants for their fit out. Positive discussions were progressing with tenants about the opening and the commitment to the Project. A report would be submitted to the September meeting

(e) Progress

- A drone footage video would be made available for members showing the current progress on the scheme

In the ensuing discussion the following matters were highlighted:

- As previously reported, there would be no additional costs to the Council due to any delay in completion of the project because of the Covid 19 pandemic
- Reference was made to the valuation of land and buildings and to the fact that this would be carried at cost because the project was under construction. Once completed the buildings (including various public realm works) would be brought into the accounts and valued appropriately once operational. Further details could be provided particularly in relation to those parts of the project that were currently in use. The External Auditor commented that the valuation of land and buildings was a key area of focus for their audit and would be referenced in his report later in the meeting. He reported also that he had met

the Service Director Finance and members of his Team on a number of occasions at which such matters had been discussed

- Reference was made to the Authority's Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Impact Assessment and on how this would be applied to this project. The Service Director (Regeneration and Culture) briefly outlined how this had been developed and provided details of its main elements. Given that the leisure and hospitality sector was a leading component of any economic upturn, it was important that this sector be given as much support as possible. This was then cross referenced to the Barnsley Economic Recovery Plan. A copy would be made available to all Members
- There was a discussion of the shortfall of yield against costs which was around £2m comprising an £8m annual cost and a £6m annual rental yield. No risks against the construction costs were envisaged
- No businesses or tenancy commitments had been lost within the Glassworks as a result of the Covid pandemic. A number of national businesses had gone out of business recently and this did have an impact as fewer businesses were looking for spaces in new schemes. However, a change was being seen in the types of businesses coming forward and over recent months and weeks there had been a resurgence in the number of local operators who were interested in taking up space

RESOLVED that David Shepherd be thanked for his most informative and thought provoking presentation.

56. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTION PLAN 2018/19

The Chief Executive and Executive Director Core Services submitted a joint report supporting the updated Action Plan (detailed at Appendix 1) relating to the issues identified following the Annual Governance Review for 2018/19.

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance, who presented the report, indicated that the Action Plan covered two areas the progress on which was outlined in detail within the appendix to the report:

- The monitoring of the implementation of management actions identified by the Data Protection Officer to further improve compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations and embed good general data protection practice
- The delivery of the improvement action noted within the 2019 Peer Review findings specifically to address recommendations relating to governance and risk

He reported that in relation to the first item, all assurance reviews had been undertaken and completed and work was progressing on assurance reviews for 2020. In relation to the second, the Committee had received an update on the progress in the review of the risk management approach. He felt, therefore, that in terms of the 2018/19 Annual Governance Statement Action Plan all actions had now been taken and issues addressed.

RESOLVED that the progress being made against each item listed in the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan be noted.

57. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROGRESS AND TIMESCALES

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing an update on the proposed Annual Governance Review process to be adopted for the production of the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20.

The report outlined the background to and the rationale for the new approach, the methodology to be adopted in undertaking the Annual Governance Review and for preparing the Annual Governance Statement together with the timescales for each component part of the process. It was also noted that the Plan would deal with the governance issues relating to the ongoing impact of Covid 19.

RESOLVED that the proposed changes to the Annual Governance Review process for 2019/20 and the timescales for the production of the first draft of the Annual Governance Statement be noted.

58. RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing an update on the development of a new approach to risk management.

The concept for the new approach was centred around the creation of a controls and governance assurance framework. This would create various governance domains which would be used as a basis for capturing the high-level controls expected to be in place and consistently complied with. These were outlined within Appendix 1 to the report.

The new approach would also identify strategic, operational and project concerns, issues and areas of focus with the aim of ensuring that the 'risks' of the moment were captured and managed. This was quite a departure from the traditional risk approach and the reasons for this were outlined. The new approach also aimed to ensure that senior management had focus on the underlying organisations infrastructure.

Work had commenced in January 2020 following the appointment of the new Corporate Governance and Assurance Manager and the report went on to outline the action taken to date which included, amongst other things, the development of a supporting system to facilitate this new approach.

It was acknowledged that the change in culture required would take time to be fully embedded and further work in creating the governance domains would commence within the next few weeks. At this stage and particularly in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic it was not practical to set a specific timescale. This was, however, a priority that had secured the Senior Management Team commitment and further reports on progress would be submitted to future meetings of this Committee.

RESOLVED that the update report and the direction of travel be noted and that further reports be submitted to future meetings of the Committee including the Draft Risk Management Strategy and Policy together with the revised Strategic Register.

59. ANNUAL FRAUD REPORT 2019/20 AND COUNTER FRAUD PLAN 2020/21

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing an account of counter fraud related activity undertaken by the Internal Audit Corporate Anti-Fraud Team during the period 1st April, 2019 to 31st March, 2020 and informing the Committee of the Team's Plan for 2020/21.

In 2019/20 the Team had a total budgeted plan of 578 days. Preventative anti-fraud work undertaken totalled 157 days, reactive investigations totalled 395 days and a further 20 days had been allocated to Internal Audit work and external clients.

The 200/21 operational work programme had been developed to ensure the resources of the Team were utilised in an efficient, effective and accountable way and the work programme would be reviewed continually to reflect fraud trends, emerging risks and general workload.

The report provided a summary of activity together with the outcome, including the monetary value of successful investigations, in relation to corporate pro-active counter fraud activity and reactive investigation work undertaken during the year with specific reference to the following:

- Acknowledging and preventing fraud
- Data matching exercises undertaken in relation to the National Fraud Initiative including the involvement with an HMRC pilot which matched HMRC and NFI data to identify fraud
- The review of the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and support to counter fraud polices
- Reactive Fraud work
- Corporate investigations
- Council Tax Support investigations
- Council Tax fraudulent liability claims
- Allegations of non-domestic rates fraud
- Insurance claim fraud checks
- Right to Buy fraud prevention
- Housing Tenancy Fraud
- Blue Badge misuse/abuse

The report then outlined the key features of the 2020/21 Plan together with information on how the Team was supporting the Council's response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance commented on the successful performance of the Team. Whilst this comprised only three staff members, when things went wrong and the Authority suffered error or fraud, the Team had the necessary capability and expertise to tackle issues and seek appropriate actions and response.

Particular mention was made to the operation of the Blue Badge scheme and in response to specific questioning Ms Race (Principal Auditor) outlined the action taken to prevent fraudulent use particularly by families of the deceased. She stressed, however, that the majority of badges were returned as required in such

circumstances. Information was also provided about prosecutions that had been instigated in relation to the scheme.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the progress made in the development of effective arrangements and measures to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption be noted;
- (ii) That the Corporate Anti-Fraud Team Plan 2020/21 be approved acknowledging the need for the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance to exercise his professional judgement during the year to apply the plan flexibly, allowing for planned proactive or detective days to be diverted to reactive investigation work as required;
- (iii) That further regular monitoring reports be submitted in order to demonstrate progress made against the Plan including information where the Plan has materially varied from the original Plan; and
- (iv) That the embedding of a culture of zero tolerance and high levels of awareness regarding fraud and corruption be supported.

60. INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted his interim annual report on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Authority's Internal Control Arrangements based on the work of Internal Audit for 2019/20 which had been prepared in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

In order to comply with these Standards the report provided:

- An opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Authority's framework of governance, risk management and control
- A summary of the audit work undertaken to formulate the opinion
- Details of key control issues identified which could be used to inform the Annual Governance Statement
- The extent to which the work of other review or audit bodies had been relied upon.

Appendices to the report provided a summary of Internal Audit reports for the year, details and outcome of other Audit Activities, projects and work currently in progress and agreed management actions.

The report indicated that based on the overall results of Internal Audit work undertaken to date, together with the management's implementation of recommendations, the indicative opinion given was reasonable (positive) assurance. This was based on an agreed programme of risk-based audit coverage that had enabled a valid indicative assurance opinion to be provided. The opinion provided was an indicative interim opinion due to a number of planned pieces of work relating to 2019/20 that were currently being finalised. An update would be given to a future meeting of the Committee to coincide with the consideration of the Annual Governance Statement.

It was important that all Senior Managers remained alert to and focussed on maintaining an appropriate, risk-based and effective framework of controls as the Council entered the recovery stage of Covid 19 and also as work continued towards the Barnsley 2030 vision.

The key results from all completed audits had been reported previously within the Internal Audit progress reports and these were summarised in this report. Throughout the year the Committee had also been made aware of progress in the implementation of audit report recommendations.

The current draft Audit Plan for 2020/21 focussed on supporting management to consider the approach to controls in the context of the impact of Covid 19.

In the ensuing discussion, the following matters were highlighted:

- It was noted that assurance opinions had been given for 8 reports issued during the year and a further five were expected within the next few weeks
- Of the 62 recommendations/implications raised, four had been deemed to be fundamental/high. Three of these had been raised in the SAP Concur Expenses report and one had been raised in the Systems Fit For Purpose Report. Two of these recommendations had future recommendation dates and two were currently being followed up with management in accordance with the agreed protocol
- Reference was made to the Core Procurement Compliance Review particularly as it related to NPS. It was noted that the Council worked with the local subsidiary in Barnsley. An explanation was provided of Barnsley's involvement with this company. A report on the outcome of this review was anticipated shortly the results of which would be reported to the next Audit Committee
- The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance accepted that statistically whilst eight reports had been issued during the year, the work of Internal Audit had to be viewed alongside the other pieces of work which they were required to undertake some of which could involve a considerable number of audit days. In his response he made reference to the type of work in which the Service had been involved both of a reactive and proactive nature. All of these contributed to his audit opinion and he was satisfied that the Service was able to identify and deal with significant issues
- It was difficult to give comparisons of reports issued with previous years as many aspects of work were unique in nature

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the assurance opinion provided by the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Authority's framework of governance, risk management and control be noted; and
- (ii) that the key issues arising from the work of Internal Audit in the context of the Annual Governance Statement be noted.

61. INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report prefacing the Internal Audit Charter 2018-20 which had been prepared in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) and which provided a reminder of the key aspects of the Internal Audit Function and gave assurance regarding how the Internal Audit Function was resourced, managed, organised and delivered its responsibilities.

The Charter reflected the current working arrangements but also the aspirations and developments necessary to ensure continuous improvement. It would be made available to all employees via the Council's Intranet site.

The Internal Audit Team also provided services to the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, Berneslai Homes, South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, South Yorkshire Police and Northern College. It was noted, however, that from 1st April, 2020 the Service no longer provided an Internal Audit service to the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

It was reported that the PSIAS required the Head of Internal Audit to prepare and maintain a Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme. Part of this requirement was that an external quality assessment had to be commissioned at least once every five years. This had been planned for later in the year, however, this had now been postponed until 2021.

The Charter, which was appended to the report, would have a fundamental review later in the year and would be brought back to a subsequent meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED that, being satisfied that Charter meets the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and adequately represents and describes the required function to provide this Committee and Senior Management with a professional service, the Internal Audit Charter, be approved.

62. AUDIT SCOPE AND ADDITIONAL WORK 2019-20

The Council's External Auditor, Grant Thornton, submitted a letter presenting an updated Action Plan for 2019/20 providing an update of the scope of audit work planned, including additional work being undertaken, detailing in particular the addition of a significant audit risk in respect of Covid 19, giving details of the Value for Money and Financial Standing position as well as various Regulatory Changes and potential impact of Fees Charged.

Mr G Mills, representing the External Auditor, referred to the following:

- The liaison arrangements in place with the Service Director Finance and his Team particularly in the light of the implications of Covid 19. He commented that the Authority had entered the Covid period in a relatively strong position compared to some other Councils. Discussions were, however, progressing in terms of the action being taken to address the potential deficit and ongoing financial implications. Work was taking longer than normal largely because of social distancing and remote working arrangements

- There were changes to the timetable for the accounts. These had to be submitted to External Audit by 31st August, 2020 although the Finance Team were working to an earlier deadline of 27th June. In addition, the audit of accounts was required to be complete by 31st November but Grant Thornton were working to a mid October deadline
- Reference was made to challenges in respect of property valuation, as mentioned earlier in the meeting and at the previous meeting. Discussions were progressing with the Director of Finance and his Team
- Other things to consider were the recoverability of debtors or receivables and discussions had taken place with the Finance Team who were currently undertaking work in this area
- The audit regulators had been very clear that lockdown was not to be seen as an excuse to have a let up in the drive to continually increase audit quality
- The rationale for the increase in audit fees was outlined

In the ensuing discussion particular reference was made to the following:

- The items included in the Audit Plan, supplemented by the additional work now being undertaken, had been stress tested as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic and the Committee could take some reassurance from this
- With regard to the Pension Assets/Deficit, given the volatility around certain markets (aviation and hospitality for example) questions were asked about the possible diminution in equities. The Service Director Finance did not feel that there would be any impact on the value of the Pension Fund deficit reported in the 2019/20 accounts. His concern would be for the current year and beyond, however, in relation to the South Yorkshire Pension Fund, an equity protection scheme was in place which, in essence, was an insurance policy to protect against shocks in the equities market. He was, however, in ongoing dialogue with the Pensions Authority regarding overall funding levels and the impact on deficit recovery moving forward. From an External Audit perspective, the Pension Fund accounting entries were previously a significant risk and this was a key area of focus for the audit. The External Auditor then outlined the way in which this audit work was being undertaken. He made reference to the use of an auditor expert, PWC, who audited all Pension Funds and Deloitte who were the auditors of the South Yorkshire Pension fund. The outcome of reviews/investigations would be discussed as part of the Barnsley External Audit work with the Service Director Finance and any findings would be included within the ISO 260 report submitted in late September/early October
- The Service Director would follow up queries as to whether or not the Equities Insurance Policy included a force majeure clause enabling the insurance company to decline to pay out any claims. It was felt that this was unlikely

RESOLVED that the letter and report be received and the action being taken and the increase in fees be noted.

63. AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Committee received the indicative work plan for the Committee for the period June 2020 to March 2021.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held on Monday 27th July, 2020, however, as the timetable for the Final Accounts and Annual Governance Statement had changed, it was suggested that the meeting revert to a Wednesday.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the core work plan for meetings of the Audit Committee be approved and reviewed on a regular basis; and
- (ii) that the next meeting of the Committee be held on Wednesday 29th July, 2020.

64. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from this meeting during the discussion of the following item because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

65. INDICATIVE INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2020/21

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report presenting an updated indicative Internal Audit Plan for the financial (audit) year 2020/21. The original Plan had been intended to be submitted to the March meeting, which had subsequently been cancelled. The updated Plan accommodated urgent advice and assurance work in response to the impact of Covid 19.

The Plan outlined the rationale and process for setting the Plan, the Risk Management considerations and how Internal Audit resources were calculated and deployed. It required a further review with Senior Management in order to ensure that it was focussed on priority areas and was aligned to the Internal Audit resources available for the remainder of the financial year.

In addition, it was also reported that the planned restructure of the Service, following the departure of an Audit Manager towards the end of 2019/20, had been delayed due to Covid 19 and resources were having to be prioritised to the pandemic at this time. This would impact on the resources available for a temporary period until the revised structure had been approved and implemented, hopefully by December/January.

Members attention was drawn to key aspects of the Indicative Plan as outlined within Paragraph 3.1 of the report now submitted and it was noted that the Plan and its priorities would be subject to ongoing review throughout the year.

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance commented on a recent security breach he had been informed about within one of the Council's partner organisations. This had been identified at an early stage and remedial action had been taken.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the revised indicative Internal Audit Plan 2020/21 be approved in principle acknowledging the need for the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance to complete further consultations with Senior Management; and
- (ii) That a further update on the proposed final Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21 be submitted for approval at the meeting to be held on the 29th July, 2020.

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Chair

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MEETING:	Audit and Governance Committee
DATE:	Thursday, 25 June 2020
TIME:	4.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Richardson (Chair), Barnard, P. Birkinshaw and Lofts together with Independent Members - Ms K Armitage, Ms D Brown, Mr S Gill, Mr P Johnson and Mr M Marks

66. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

67. DRAFT 2019/20 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Service Director Finance submitted a report presenting the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts, the Council's tenth set of accounts prepared in accordance with International Financing Reporting Standards.

The Committee also received a presentation from Mr P Danforth (Strategic Finance Manager) on the background and legislative requirements to be adhered to in the preparation of the Statement of Accounts.

He made specific reference to the following matters which he put in the context of and, cross referenced to, the current Statement of Accounts:

- The Statement of Accounts Process and the impact of Covid 19 including
 - The legislative drivers
 - The International Financial Reporting Standards
 - The particular impact of Covid 19 in relation to the preparation of the Accounts, the timeframe changes required under the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) Amendment Act 2020, the use of estimates and logistics
- The role of this Committee with particular reference to
 - The Authority's Financial Reporting and Accounting Policies
 - The Risk Management and Governance Arrangements
 - The arrangements in place to identify and tackle fraud
- The Statement of Accounts. The following matters were particularly highlighted
 - The Funding Basis Position (Management Accounts) vs Accounting Basis Position (Financial Accounts)
 - The Management Accounts – Revenue including the Net Revenue Expenditure 2019/20 and Accounting Adjustments
 - The Structure of the Statement of Accounts – the Narrative Report, the four Core Statements, the Disclosure Notes and the Technical Annexes

- The Financial Accounts including the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet (Net Worth)
- Next Steps – following discussion at this meeting further discussions would progress with the External Auditors during the rest of June through to mid October following which the External Auditors would submit their ISO 260 Report on their findings to this Committee

The report and presentation engendered a full and frank discussion during which matters of a general and detailed nature were raised and answers were given to Members questions where appropriate. The following matters were amongst those raised:

- The Service Director Finance reported that the overspend on Looked After Children had been anticipated at the beginning of the year. This was not due to an underestimation in demand as this had been estimated quite closely and the number of placements had been fairly consistent for a number of years. The increase in costs was largely in relation to the complexity of the cases presented. Government grant had been received in the sum of £1m in the last financial year the concern was, however, moving forward and the state of public finances and whether or not the Government would continue to provide these funds
- It was noted that Public Health had an underspend throughout the year of £3m of which £1m had been allocated to continue with public health priorities in future years
- There had been a significant underspend in the Adults and Communities budget and to a large extent this had been forecast due to the early delivery of planned efficiencies from previous years. In addition, the demand for services had not been as significant as had been anticipated and there had also been increased income received from the Health Service
- It was noted that the Council held a level of general HRA reserves as a contingency for unforeseen events. This totalled £7m which had been increased during 2019/20 from £5m which the Service Director Finance felt was appropriate and more than sufficient to meet any risks encountered
- The Head of Finance commented on the level of insurance cover both held internally and held with the Council's brokers. This was regularly reviewed and adapted accordingly if required.
 - The major insurance policies were due for renewal this year and an increase in premium was anticipated in view of the Covid pandemic. This situation was being monitored.
 - To offer some protection, however, the Authority had ensured that all Government Guidelines were followed including ensuring that the public were widely communicated with in terms of social distancing and the appropriate use of PPE he therefore felt that there should be no major concerns in terms of potential insurance claims
- In response to specific questioning, the Service Director Finance commented that he anticipated that the collection of Council Tax would be a major risk. He stated that he was now the Chair of the Yorkshire and Humber Director of Finance Association and every one of the 21 Authorities across the region was concerned about Council Tax and Council Tax collection. The issues were, however, two fold. There had been a huge increase in the number of

Universal Credit Claimants as a result of the Covid 19 impact on employment and the economy. This meant that thousands of households who had been anticipated would have been paying Council Tax in full were no longer liable and, therefore, a significant income had been lost from the tax base. In addition, many households were suffering general financial hardship and were unable to keep up with Council Tax payments. These issues were likely to create an ongoing risk into 2020/21 dependent upon the timing of the financial recovery

- The Service Director Finance anticipated a significant financial shortfall of around £20m in the current financial year largely associated with the costs of dealing with the emergency response combined with the income losses referred to above which were not offset by the government grant received. Hopefully this might change but currently there was an anticipated shortfall in 2020/21 but plans were in place to deal with this including a general moratorium on spending and planned investments in the current financial year had all of which been put on hold. It was anticipated that these proposals would be enough to ensure that there were sufficient funds to meet planned budgetary expenditure. In terms of the reserves this was a similar picture to the HRA as the emergency reserves had been increased from £15m to £20m which was felt to be appropriate to the risks
- It was noted that there wasn't a large dedicated Team preparing the accounts but the approach was to supplement the resources by using the wider Business Unit, together with Procurement and Benefits and Taxation Teams and other colleagues to support work on the financial statements
- The Council had sophisticated systems in place to pull the accounts together, but this relied on the people delivering front line services appropriately and effectively receipting goods and services and ensuring that payments were attributed to the correct financial year. These staff had, during the current climate, been allocated to different tasks and this had meant that there had had to be a number of manual interventions in what would usually have been an automated process. The Service Director Finance was, however, satisfied that this had been undertaken appropriately
- It was noted that the External audit work was to commence next week. A number of planning meetings were held between the Finance Team and External Audit colleagues and this year there had been significantly more than in previous years. To date there had been no disagreements about the approach taken in relation to the preparation of the accounts
- It was noted that 19 Performance Indicator targets had been missed by more than 10% and a report on this could be brought to a future meeting of the Committee. Indeed, a link to that report was included within the Statement of Accounts if Members wished to access it that way
- In relation to the Governments Business Support Grant it was noted that the £40m distributed had now been reimbursed. Some of the money had been distributed prior to the receipt of the grant from the Government which had caused some cash flow issues but these were not considered to be significant and the Government's view was that these costs had been more than covered via other grants that had been issued to the authority. It should be noted that these grants did not cover all the costs and income losses being experienced
- It was not anticipated that current situation would impact on the Council's current borrowing plans or levels of debt and there were no plans to undertake additional borrowing as a result of the pandemic

- The Strategic Finance Manager commented on the actuarial gains/losses on the Pension assets/liabilities which were as a direct result of the changes of the assumptions of the actuary in regard to the CPI rate, pension increases coupled with life expectancy increasing. This had resulted in a decrease in the expected future liabilities
- Arising out of the above, reference was made to the need to provide a narrative to explain the actuarial gains/losses on the Pension assets/liabilities
- Further information could be provided on the governance arrangements of the Joint Ventures referred to within the Statement of Accounts. In general terms, each one of these had their own governance arrangements in place and quite often Elected Members and Officers were represented thereon. In addition, Client Liaison Boards existed within the Council to ensure that the Joint Ventures were performance managed appropriately. The Service Director Finance was confident that the governance arrangements were robust and the Finance Service involvement ensured that the authority was protected, as far as was possible, from any potential risk
- The Council had provided substantial funding in a timely manner to the Care Sector throughout the pandemic and this had been acknowledged by that sector. The ways in which this funding had been utilised was outlined
- The Strategic Finance Manager commented that there were no charges for leases of buildings to Academy Trusts on school buildings that they occupied and controlled. The Council would revalue the assets at the end of the lease period once they transferred back to the ownership of the authority. The Academy Trusts were expected to record the value of the leased assets on their charity accounts and revalue regularly in accordance with normal accounting principles and policies
- The Director of Finance accepted the need to amend the narrative of the performance section and include a link to the Councils Threat and Risk Assessment particularly in relation to the Glassworks and the public realm regeneration
- The Committee would be kept informed of any post balance sheet events. If there were any material issues arising these would be included within the Statement of Accounts. Any adjustments would be seen within the External Auditors final report but if anything of significance was identified before then, the Committee would be informed
- The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance had been asked to prepare a report on governance and the internal control arrangements within the context of the Council's response to the Covid pandemic. This report would be submitted to this Committee in due course. It was likely that any issues identified would be picked up within the Annual Governance Statement
- The Strategic Finance Manager commented on the valuation of assets particularly in relation to the Glassworks and public realm regeneration works. It was noted that works that were completed were valued at current value as they became operative. Those works which were incomplete were valued as an asset under construction at cost
- It was noted that general repairs and maintenance on the highway network was charged to the income and expenditure account whilst major infrastructure works were classed as Capital Expenditure
- The Group accounts including the consolidation of the Bernesali Homes account and the Pension scheme deficit were included within the pack of documents submitted. This also included the full Berneslai Homes Pension

Fund deficit. This was not being treated as a contingent liability and was recorded as a Council liability within the Group

- Information in relation to the breakdown of the re-valuation of the Library and the Markets could be provided. Arising out of this there was a discussion of the property portfolio valuations which it was noted was under constant review to the end of the audit of the accounts. If there were any material changes these would be picked up as part of the post balance sheet events previously referred to. Members were also reminded that for the first time ever, the External Auditor had appointed their own external valuer
- In response to specific questioning, the Service Director Finance commented that the Authority had not been subject to any Ministerial Directives
- The Service Director Finance briefly commented on the arrangements in place to complete the audit given that most staff, including the staff of the External Auditor, were working remotely. It was felt that this would not have a significant impact given that such approaches had been adopted, albeit to a lesser degree, in previous few years

RESOLVED

- (i) that the Service Director Finance and his Team be thanked for their hard work and dedication in producing the accounts in challenging circumstances and a changed and restricted timeframe; and
- (ii) that the work that has taken place to prepare the Authority's Draft 2019/20 Statement of Accounts on an International Financial Reporting Standards basis be noted.

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Chair

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Item 17

APPEALS, AWARDS AND STANDARDS REGULATORY BOARD

(a) School Admission Appeals Panel – 4th February, 2020

Athersley North	3 Refused
Athersley South	4 Refused 1 Withdrawn
Mapplewell Primary	1 Refused
Holy Trinity	1 Refused

(b) School Admission Appeals Panel – 11th February, 2020

Hoyland Common Primary	1 Refused
Outwood Carlton Academy	1 Refused
Laithes Primary	3 Refused 1 Allowed

(c) School Admission Appeals Panel – 26th February, 2020

Athersley South Primary	2 Withdrawn
Penistone Grammar School	2 Allowed

(d) School Admission Appeals Panel – 9th March, 2020

Springvale Primary	1 Refused
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(e) School Admission Appeals Panel – 12th March, 2020

Cherry Dale Primary	1 Refused 1 Allowed
Jump Primary	1 Refused
Greenfield Primary	1 Allowed

(f) School Admission Appeals Panel – 17th March, 2020

Outwood Academy Carlton	1 Refused
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(g) School Admission Appeals Panel – 20th March, 2020

Holy Trinity	1 Refused 1 Allowed
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(h) School Admission Appeals Panel – 29th June to 1st July, 2020

Outwood Academy Carlton	10 Refused 1 Allowed 4 Withdrawn
(i) School Admission Appeals Panel – 2nd to 7th July, 2020	
Penistone Grammar School	13 Refused 6 Allowed 4 Withdrawn
(j) School Admission Appeals Panel – 8th to 9th July, 2020	
Barnsley Academy	8 Refused 4 Allowed
(k) School Admission Appeals Panel – 13th July to 15th July, 2020	
Horizon Community College	8 Refused 4 Allowed 6 Withdrawn
(l) School Admission Appeals Panel – 16th July, 2020	
Outwood Academy Shafton	4 Allowed
(m) School Admission Appeals Panel – 17th July, 2020	
Kirk Balk Academy	1 Refused 2 Allowed 2 Withdrawn

Appeals withdrawn prior to the allocation of a date

Barnsley Academy	2 Withdrawn
Burton Road	1 Withdrawn
Carlton Academy	1 Withdrawn
Gooseacre	1 Withdrawn
Heather Garth	1 Withdrawn
Horizon Community College	1 Withdrawn
Kings Oak	1 Withdrawn

Laithes Primary
Park Street

4 Withdrawn
1 Withdrawn

Penistone Grammar School

3 Withdrawn

Wellgate Primary

1 Withdrawn

Wilthorpe Primary

1 Withdrawn

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MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Thriving & Vibrant Economy Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday, 4 February 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 11, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Clarke, Fielding, Gollick, Green, Higginbottom, Hunt, W. Johnson, Lodge, McCarthy, Noble, Richardson, Smith and Tattersall together with co-opted member Ms. G Carter

5 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

6 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2020 were received.

8 Barnsley Council's Digital First Programme

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Andrew Frosdick, Executive Director – Core Services
 Dave Robinson, Service Director, Customer Information & Digital Services
 Kay Deacey-Coulton, Head of IT Service Improvement

Members of the Committee were provided with a report informing them of the reasons for establishing the Council's Digital First programme; the structure and governance of the programme and the progress of the workstreams so far, together with details of the future activities and next steps that will be taken along the digital improvement journey.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge, the following issues were highlighted:

There are a number of risks associated with the programme which were discussed in detail. These include cultural aspects of the programme around change management, which can take time to embed, employee engagement and adoption of the programme by customers. Members were reassured that there is a robust risk

monitoring system in place to deal with all identified risks and dedicated Change Management Officers and change management framework in place.

It was highlighted that employee engagement and adoption of technology and new ways of working isn't controlled by the programme but extensive change management and adoption work has taken place using new approaches such as digital campaigns, the new Spotlight on Digital Skills site, Digital Support Clinics, creation of 'digital personas' and introduction of videos on the DigitalFirst YouTube channel to support the workforce through change and try to mitigate the risk of non-adoption. Introduction of the SAP system for finance (mileage and expenses claims etc.) was successfully rolled out, with a robust programme for system users and lessons were learned from this and applied to future projects.

Communication is key and there is a need to engage with everyone through diverse means, ensuring that everyone gets the right information at the right time. The programme has a comprehensive communication and engagement plan in place.

Microsoft Office is being superseded by Office 365. It was explained that previously Microsoft supported BMBC running Office 2010 on its own servers but this is now changing to cloud storage and an entirely subscription based model. Although there is a cost attached to introducing Office 365, this will bring about savings in the long term as consolidated databases will be put on the cloud, which doesn't require maintenance. Employees are being supported to migrate data and more than 3000 devices are to be upgraded at a rate of around 40 per day. Resources for refreshing existing devices have been earmarked in budgets.

There will be tangible differences for customers. The service is currently redesigning forms within the customer portal so that the processes of reporting and transacting are much easier. Customer data will be consolidated so that there is one place for everything. This will be rolled out over the next 12 months. This should create capacity in contact centres, where other improvements are being made. For example, 'chatbots' are being created, which will free up capacity in contact centres for more complex cases. Customers are at the core, with opportunities for the public to make suggestions for improvements and to ensure the system meets their needs. There is currently a mobile phone app for customers to use. The design process will involve citizens at all levels of capability. Customers will only have to log in if they want to track progress on queries but more verification will be needed for more complex transactions. A Member suggested that the house number could be used as a unique identifier for information relating to a property but this could be a problem if the information was accessed by the wrong person and could potentially compromise GDPR regulations.

Partners are also classed as customers, and it is important to consider how to work effectively with them and their systems. Services such as shared care and population health management will be looked at in the next stage.

The Council holds PSN (Public Services Network) accreditation, which it achieved on the basis of total transparency and cyber security threat protection. This accreditation ensures that the Council can access information from government departments. Endpoint protection is to be upgraded and there is a prerequisite list of similar accreditations for the cloud. The Council works hard to protect on-premise

and off-premise data. Egress, the current secure mail system, will continue to be used until it is phased out once testing has been carried out on Microsoft's equivalent system.

Bi-monthly meetings take place with Officers from the other South Yorkshire Authorities. Barnsley appears to be ahead in terms of rolling out Office 365, web transactions and process automation.

Members requested to be kept up to date with the progress of this programme and the officers advised they will plan to bring an information station to Members in due course.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution, and
- (ii) A Member briefing be held at the start of the new Municipal year to update members on progress.

9 Barnsley - Digital as a Place

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

David Shepherd, Service Director, Economic Regeneration, Place Directorate
Paul Clifford, Head of Service, Economic Development, Place Directorate
Tracey Johnson, Business Incubation Strategy Centre Manager, Place Directorate
Tom Smith, Head of Employment & Skills, Place Directorate
Dave Robinson, Service Director, Customer Information & Digital Services

The Head of Service for Economic Development introduced the report, providing Members with an overview of Barnsley as a 'digital place', describing the local picture in relation to business; infrastructure; partnership working and the digital skills of people.

The focus of work has been with local universities rather than national and a relationship has been developed with Sheffield Hallam University, creating a digital skills pathway to protect local talent and create good quality local jobs. It was highlighted that Degree Apprenticeships are an opportunity to work with businesses.

The digital journey needs to start as young as possible and local primary schools have a part to play in this. The Digital Media Campus (DMC) have an open door approach and have already built relationships with the Employment and Skills Team. Workshops have been held with young people in terms of problem solving and how best to support them.

In secondary schools, digital is embedded into the whole curriculum and is not uniformly taught as a discrete subject but as a transferable skill. There is a need for careers advice, raising aspirations amongst young people in terms of digital skills being essential and bringing with it opportunities to specialise within the digital sector.

It was highlighted that DMC2 will play a key role in providing grow-on space for existing businesses in DMC1 and also attracting new digital businesses, in collaboration with digital neighbours. DMC2 is currently going through a rebrand to attract tenants and get buy-in. Prices for DMC2 have just been agreed and a bold marketing campaign will be scaled up over the next 3 to 4 months to bring the right businesses in to Barnsley.

Barnsley has to work harder to attract businesses, keep momentum going and stay at the forefront of the digital agenda without a university, which other areas have. However, Barnsley has a lot to learn from Europe and good practice there, staying ahead of the curve and making it relevant for Barnsley and has succeeded in bringing corporate investment in from overseas partners and building infrastructure from the ground up. The Rotherham manufacturing parks provide a further opportunity for partnership working with AMRC and benefits for all.

It was acknowledged that although digital jobs in Barnsley are now growing and account for 2.1% of all employee jobs, this is behind the regional (3.5%) and national (4.8%) digital employee levels. To get to the national average as a minimum standard is challenging. The Sheffield City Region (SCR) is lagging behind and needs to be ambitious and generate as many jobs and businesses as possible. Jobs created won't just be digital, but will be cross industry, including the public sector, voluntary and health sector.

The impact of Brexit is not yet known. There are a small number of companies in the IT sector who contract at European level and have taken offices outside the UK. The long term agenda needs to be around 'growing our own' at regional and national level to minimise any risk. Barnsley has a good reputation, is forward thinking at UK level and is still engaged at EU level. Much can be learned from smaller European cities and they give an umbrella view of what smaller places can do, what works and what doesn't work. Over £2m of investment has come from SCR, with a direct link to work done in collaboration with Europe and which has generated investment.

Embryonic work is currently underway on building an inclusive knowledge economy, working with partners in London and learning from London Boroughs, linked to the Barnsley 2030. This will include building a base of digital jobs in the voluntary sector.

Barnsley needs to be more creative and aspirational going forward, exploring opportunities in how we work and what we do using an agile approach with constant horizon scanning and modifying with people who understand the landscape. Work is underway to secure a number of projects to make sure the business support offer is shored up though a number of different streams.

SCR is currently reviewing its strategic economic plan, with a dedicated digital field in there, which Barnsley is able to influence. The South Yorkshire Digital Strategy has just been adopted and all partners are behind the digital agenda. It was reiterated that it is not just about new businesses but also about drawing down funding to support existing and smaller businesses.

DMC2 will deliver the biggest impact for the smallest investment and will be on stream in June, with an expansion pack for existing businesses. There is a need to

work with commercial bodies on the digital infrastructure which is lacking in terms of fibre and future 5G provision.

There are barriers which may prevent Barnsley residents from engaging with the digital skills pathway. Some may be reluctant and may not have access to equipment at home, therefore it is essential to work with education providers such as Barnsley Council's Adult and Community Learning Service, Barnsley College, Northern College and others to offer free, basic digital skills training. Barnsley College are drawing down SCR money to redevelop the SciTech building and offer digital skills training.

Members were aware of a training programme commissioned by Dearne Area Council to get people back into work, but felt that this should also be followed up by Maths and English. Central Area Council is also looking at employability and skills with a view to commissioning a service. It was felt that all area councils need to think about gaps and needs in learning and skills and how to connect to local businesses.

Members are of the view that there will always be a core group of people who do not have any digital skills and this limits their employability and thus their quality of life. There are also isolated elderly people who would be unable to access services digitally. Work is ongoing with providers in Barnsley around increasing engagement and it is still possible to access European Social Fund money for the next 2 years for digitally excluded groups.

The Library at the Lightbox is a welcoming setting for digital learning but there are areas in Barnsley which do not have a library or suitable resources and infrastructure to offer digital learning. Communities need to be part of the conversation and come together to identify need and how it can be met, looking at other buildings and being creative in getting provision into areas that need it most.

There is no doubt that the digital agenda is contributing to the success of the Glassworks and business regeneration in many ways. Barnsley Market is embracing the 'shop appy' mobile phone app and 'click and collect', the library is very citizen centric and the wider development of the digital campus will help to unlock further potential for retail and leisure.

RESOLVED that witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

Chair

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MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - People Achieving their Potential Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday, 10 March 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Carr, Frost, Hayward, W. Johnson, Lodge, Mitchell, Newing, Pickering, Tattersall and Williams.

8 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

Apologies for absence were received from Ms G Carter in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

9 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 11 due to his membership of the YMCA and his position as staff representative on the JNC that sets the standards for youth and community work.

10 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th February, 2020 were received for information.

11 The Local Youth Offer in Barnsley

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:-

Nine Sleight – Service Director, Education, Early Start & Prevention, People Directorate;

Julie Hammerton – Early Intervention & Prevention Service Manager, People Directorate;

Rachel Payling – Head of Service, Stronger Communities, Communities Directorate;

Angela Kelly – Early Intervention and Prevention Service Operational Manager, People Directorate;

Emma Baines – Youth Voice and Participation Operations Manager, People Directorate;

Alyssa Butler – Young Mayor of Barnsley and Barnsley Youth Councillor;

Councillor Margaret Bruff – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services.

By way of introduction Members received a brief presentation focusing on the offer in Barnsley and associated performance information.

In 2019 2,125 young people had accessed provision, with 32,544 attendances which included consultation such as ‘Make Your Mark’. Figures related to young people

aged 11-19, and those aged up to 25 with additional needs. 1,048 young people had accessed more than 8 hours of provision. 17 had accessed the children's rights service, which provided advocacy for children in care. 165 individuals had attended sexual health services, with 1,323 attendances. 187 young people had accessed one-to-one support through the Early Help Pathway. Members were also made aware of the nature of help being sought, with 'physical health', to 'establish and build relationships', and 'achieving personal and social development' being most common.

The impact and quality of interventions was measured through a number of tools including 'outcomes star', and 'this is me'. Members were made aware that the service was subject to continuous improvement, quality assurance and contract management arrangements. In addition, service user feedback was taken into account in service design.

Members were made aware of the outcomes for young people and for the wider community. Noted was the reduction in first time entrants to the criminal justice system and reduction of re-offending rates. 9,554 young people had voted in the annual 'Make Your Mark' campaign. A focus on early help had reduced the need for more intensive support, and flexible and proactive diversionary services had helped to prevent nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

Thanks were given for the presentation and report received and questions were invited from Members. In the ensuing discussion and in response to detailed questioning and challenge, the following matters were highlighted:-

The Youth Mayor was asked about the quality of the service from the perspective of a service user. It was felt that the service was very engaging and positive, which provided support to young people who may have otherwise struggled. The service assisted young people to learn skills and progress as a person.

With regards to the provision of a 'Youth Hub' Members heard that discussions were taking place with 'Youth Zone' and that a Cabinet report would be forthcoming in due course. Assurances were given that the service would work with any partners to ensure services were complementary.

Noted was the need for the local authority to provide 'sufficient educational and recreational activities'. Though the provision of a 'Youth Zone' would complement this, it was not part of consideration of the configuration of the service. In light of the difficult financial situation, there continued to be a borough wide offer, which included the provision of I Know I Can (IKIC) Centres and detached youth work. Members acknowledged that Barnsley had always given a high priority to this area, and although there was always more that could be done, the service continued to be high quality, and to make a difference, working with partners and providers.

In relation to work with young people from refugee or migrant families Members noted that there wasn't any specific offer tailored to this demographic, but support was given for any young person to access the service.

Questions were raised about how Barnsley's offer compared with neighbouring South Yorkshire Authorities. Barnsley continued to be in a positive position, having a high quality offer, working alongside and coproduced with young people. It was

acknowledged that Barnsley does not have the same issues as seen elsewhere in the county, but that work continues with South Yorkshire partners in areas such as Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

Noting that the CCE funding was time limited, Members questioned the impact of the funding ending. Assurances were given that legacy work had been factored in to planning of the project, and though some functions may cease, important parts would be mainstreamed.

Members challenged how representative the Youth Council was, and Members heard that representatives were democratically elected, but that current representation included that from the BME community, Looked After Children, and those who have a Special Educational Needs plan. A number of children in care and those attending Greenacre and Springwell schools were also co-opted. Members of the Youth Council also attended the LGBTQ forum in order to ascertain the views of this group.

Examples from other authorities where surpluses from commercial activities were reinvested in youth services were discussed. Whilst this practise did not currently occur in Barnsley, it was something that would be considered. However, it was important that commercial activities did not alter the focus and compromise the delivery of the core service. Members were made aware of the Excel programme, which had been developed in partnership with schools and was currently being piloted. If successful, this would be rolled out further and could become income generating.

Members discussed the work of Central Area Council in supporting voluntary organisations who were interested in undertaking Youth Work. This was supported by officers, recognising the benefit of peer support. The offer was made to work closely with Area Councils on projects such as this.

The importance Area Councils placed on services for young people, and the investments made was stressed. The important community leadership role of Members was acknowledged and the valued services the Area Councils commission. It was suggested that communication between the Area Councils and youth services needed to be more frequent going forward, and the need to strengthen the links to work more closely strategically and operationally.

How Council services worked with community groups was discussed, and Members heard how there were 9 lead workers in place across Barnsley. Part of their role was to understand the full offer in their area to ensure services were complementary. Young people were encouraged to join appropriate activity, and the views of these groups were listened to.

Members noted the need for all services to work together in partnership. A case study providing an example of good practice was provided. In response to an area of concern, reactive workers were deployed. Working with partners, and though investment with CRT for football coaching, this had resulted in a positive outcome, with young people now engaged and had taken part in a national football tournament.

A discussion took place regarding the 'Make Your Mark' exercise. 9,954 had taken part. This had resulted in 2 national campaigns being supported, in addition to 3 local

campaigns. Nationally the issues selected were 'protect the environment' and 'put an end to knife crime'. Locally 'the effects of drug use in communities', 'Young people's access to transport (the offer)', and 'Community safety, including anti-social behaviour (ASB), crime, gangs and policing' had been agreed.

The results of 'Make Your Mark' had been discussed in various forums, including the Children's Trust, and Community Safety Partnership. Discussions had taken place with secondary head teachers about the issues, and how future voting numbers could be increased. Work had also taken place with the SEND Youth Forum to understand the views of these young people and this was being shared with schools and partners.

A challenge was made about how the service was promoted, and whether families and young people would be aware of the offer. It was noted that this was advertised in schools, and community organisations. There was also a strong digital presence, with some young people choosing to self-refer as a result of information they had seen online.

Members noted that young people would also be referred to the service through work with families through services such as early help.

Whilst the promotion of the service to those engaged was acknowledged, questions were raised how the wider community would be made aware. It was noted that this was an ongoing process, with normal channels being used, including word of mouth and through building relationships with people of influence. The support of Members was appreciated with this.

Members noted that the Communications Department assisted with campaigns, but more could be done, such as celebrating achievements and promoting positive work. This could help to challenge perceptions, with an example being Barnsley's significant progress with regards to improving educational outcomes.

Members questioned what assessments the Service was subject to, whether it was audited or self-assessed and what officers felt the next potential inspection outcome could possibly be.

Members noted that there were regular audits held on planned activities, action plans and targeted 1:1 support with young people and also that Service Improvement Plans were in place to work towards early prevention. However, the Targeted Youth Services were not subject to their own inspection but were part of the Children's Services Inspection, Youth Justice Inspection and the inspection of SEND Services. There were a range of Frameworks in place to meet the needs, standards and continued service improvement plans to help Services understand where not only they need to improve but also how to build on what they already did well including feedback from young people through their voice and participation.

Members raised a question regarding the wellbeing of staff and whether the support was adequate enough for those who work unsociable hours whilst undertaking face to face support. Officers informed members that for full time employees, group staff supervision sessions were held on a regular basis to enable them to talk about any issues they had. 6 weekly supervision sessions with the Manager were being held and the Council's Personal Development Sessions were carried out on a regular

basis. The part time staff that work nights both detached and centre based were given a de-brief after every session and all staff were made the offer of wellbeing support. In response to queries around staff being given adequate personal development opportunities, members were informed that staff were given regular training through the Council's online POD system which holds a range of training programmes which they had access to as and when required.

Members praised the Take Away Programme from the Youth Service and its wrap around care for the whole family in conjunction with other agencies. It was felt that the continued work to build links across departments within the Authority and involving Area Councils could build even further to ensure the Youth Service grows from strength to strength.

RESOLVED:-

That thanks be given to all officers for their attendance at the Committee and the work undertaken with young people throughout the borough;
That work is undertaken to strengthen the links between the service and Area Councils, including the services they commission.
That work is undertaken to better promote Youth Services available in the Borough both to those who are eligible to access them, as well as amongst the general population so they are aware of support services in place.
Officers provide a break down to each Area Council of the issues raised by young people in each local area who participated in the 'Make Your Mark' Campaign.

Chair

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MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Full Committee Meeting available virtually on https://barnsley.public-i.tv/
DATE:	Tuesday, 12 May 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Carr, Gollick, Higginbottom, Hunt, Lodge, Lofts, Makinson, Sumner, Tattersall and Wilson.

20 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies were received from Ms G. Carter in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

21 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillors Makinson and Tattersall each declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 23 due to their positions on the board of Berneslai Homes.

22 Minutes of the Previous Meetings

RESOLVED that the minutes of the following meetings be approved as a true and correct record:

Full Committee meeting held on 7th January, 2020;

Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream meeting held on 4th February, 2020;

People Achieving Their Potential Workstream meeting held on 10th March, 2020.

23 Covid-19 Response

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:-

Cllr Sir Steve Houghton, Leader

Sarah Norman, Chief Executive

Julia Burrows, Director of Public Health.

A presentation was provided to Members which highlighted the following points:-

There had been 174 Covid-19 related absences, with 163 of these due to staff self-isolating but unable to work and 11 with confirmed or suspected Covid-19. There were no concerns around absence. As with most areas, there had been issues with the supply of PPE and this challenge remained.

Patient flow from hospital and capacity in residential care did not present any issues. Nearly 2,100 tests for Covid-19 had been undertaken, but this did not include any figures for testing of residents done by Public Health England.

A bereavement support service had been commissioned with 31 already taking advantage of this. Health and wellbeing remained a priority and information on this subject had been regularly circulated to staff, Councillors and to residents.

The Emergency Response Contact Centre had received almost 2,500 calls as of 11th May, and demand was currently able to be met. 63,000 letters were in the process of being distributed to vulnerable residents with those most vulnerable being prioritised. Where no contact could be made, this would be followed up by telephone, and in person if required.

Work continued with children known to social care with contact being maintained often via the use of technology, and statutory timescales being met as a minimum. Schools and early years settings were being supported to remain open to key workers and young people considered vulnerable, however numbers of the latter attending were not as high as would be ideal.

In relation to critical frontline services, crematorium, mortuary and funeral capacity was adequate and there were no areas of concern.

Green waste collection had been paused, but all other waste continued to be collected, with arisings around 20% above that seen at the same time last year. Household Waste Recycling Centres had recently reopened, which had gone well, with social distancing being observed.

Essential highways safety work continued, as did emergency repairs to Berneslai Homes property, however routine maintenance had paused.

£38.15m of grants had been distributed to almost 3,500 businesses, with nearly 1,200 enquiries received by Enterprising Barnsley. Regulatory Services had been working with Enterprising Barnsley to support businesses with their reopening in line with advice as lockdown eased. The Employment Support Helpdesk dealt with 46 enquiries on issues such as benefit claims, and support for those in furlough.

An economic assessment had been commissioned in order to understand the impact on businesses and retail in more detail.

With regards to the financial position, it was noted that the Council had increased costs and a loss of income. The current estimate was that total costs were in the region of £40m with £15m being received from Government. This left a net cost of £25m to the authority.

A strategy for recovery and renewal is in place, which will focus around the following 5 areas; Health and Wellbeing, Business and Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Environment and Infrastructure.

Thanks were given to the work of all staff in the current situation, and the need for ongoing change was acknowledged, given the impact of Covid-19 would be seen over the longer term.

Questions were invited and challenge provided from Members. In the ensuing discussion the following points were noted:-

In relation to the questions about whether Area Teams could have coordinated community responders sooner, Members heard how initial efforts concentrated on those most vulnerable who were on the shielding list. Area Teams had assisted in the mapping of support in each area. Unsure of demand, decisions were made for responders to prioritise those on the shielding list in the first instance. As the situation progressed and anticipated demand was known, a shift was made to make more widespread use of community responders. It was acknowledged that there would always be lessons learned, and the Area Teams played a crucial role in assessing the impact locally of Covid-19 and would be important in the recovery phase.

In relation to support for communities in Barnsley such as Worsborough that had been highlighted as one of the most at-risk post Covid-19, Members heard that issues faced in this community were seen in areas throughout the borough. Recovery presented a challenge and it was noted that the economy was a key focus in the recovery plan. The Council was working with Sheffield City Region to plan for recovery on a county wide basis, with Government indicating that they wish for economic issues to be considered at this geography. However, there will be a Barnsley wide plan that feeds into sub-regional plans, and Members were reminded of the economic impact assessment commissioned to inform this. The role of Area Councils in delivery at a more local level was also acknowledged.

Noted was the unclear situation in relation to finance from Government and Members heard of lobbying taking place to make the case for shortfalls to be addressed, and additional resources to aid recovery.

Members questioned what the challenges in relation to children and education were, and those present heard that services remain operational, with statutory processes for those most vulnerable being delivered. Visits and reviews had been undertaken, with these taking place virtually where possible, and meetings such as the Fostering Panel and Adoption Panel had been also continued.

In relation to support for the workforce, Members were reminded of the daily bulletin for staff and Councillors which highlighted support for staying well at home. This included e-learning modules and advice on healthy lifestyles. The 'Well at work' intranet site was accessible and counselling support was still available through Occupational Health, with this being provided virtually.

The importance of ensuring staff health had been stressed with Managers asked to keep in touch with their staff daily. In addition, a Wellbeing Pulse Survey had been conducted to further understand the stresses and strains faced by staff and Councillors.

In relation to the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on men and on those from more deprived areas nationally, it was noted that very detailed information was not available for Barnsley but only just over half of deaths in the borough were male. Almost 75% of deaths were seen in those aged over 75 and with long term health

issues. It was noted that all health issues impacted disproportionately on those with health problems and those from deprived areas.

In relation to concerns about contact tracing, it was noted that phone apps will play a part in this, but much of this will be human focused. Though current arrangements suggested much of this may be done nationally, Directors of Public health were keen to shape how this may happen locally.

With reference to concerns about Covid-19 in care homes, Members heard how approximately 75% of care homes in Barnsley were Covid-19 free, and that 2/3rd of deaths in Barnsley were in hospital with just under 1/3rd in care homes. Work had been undertaken with the residential care sector to ensure adequate supplies of PPE and their appropriate use. Training in infection control had also been provided. Financial support had been made available to ensure resilience with staffing support also provided where necessary. Whilst support had also been provided for those providing domiciliary care, Members heard that the challenge had not been as great as that seen in care homes.

In relation to discharge from hospital, tests were undertaken to ensure those discharged were free of Covid-19 and efforts were made to ensure patients were discharged to homes without the infection.

With regards to testing for care workers, Members noted that after some time a system that works well was finally in place. Care workers could go to the testing facility at the hospital or could telephone for a testing kit to be posted to them.

Concerns were raised about the school meals voucher scheme, and assurances were given that the issues previously seen with the system had now been resolved and it was working well for Barnsley parents.

When questioned about the main challenges going forward, it was acknowledged that this was different from a crisis event such as flooding and would be ongoing for the immediate and medium-term future. It was acknowledged that delivering public services effectively in this period and managing public expectations would be challenging. Working to drive forward recovery considering the financial situation and weak local economy also presented a significant challenge.

Members also heard how it would be imperative to retain some of the benefits seen such as the time saved and reduction in traffic from holding virtual meetings. It was also hoped some of the strengths such as an increase in neighbourhood support, and the numbers volunteering could be maintained.

Noting issues with public transport, active travel was discussed and though details of a £250m Emergency Travel Fund were unclear, it was an area that would be explored. Members also noted that discussions were also taking place with SYPTTE to reopen the Active Travel Hub.

In relation to the impact of Covid-19 on the Glassworks scheme it was noted that a detailed report would be considered by Cabinet at the end of the month. Due to social distancing measures, there had been delays to construction. There was a

potential impact on leasing and discussions were taking place with tenants, with preliminary feedback positive.

In relation to the support for businesses and ensuring compliance, key advice was available on the Enterprising Barnsley website and Regulatory Services had been proactive in contacting food premises who had diversified to provide a takeaway service. Where the public had concerns, businesses had been contacted and advice given, which had generally been welcomed with additional action only taken twice.

Members questioned the impact of schools such as Horizon not being open, it was noted that since Easter it had reopened with a small number of students now attending. Assurances were provided that the Council worked closely with all schools through Barnsley Alliance to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable children were met.

The need to understand the impact of children being taught at home, rather than school, was acknowledged with this forming a key part of the impact assessment and work undertaken with Barnsley Schools Alliance. Anecdotally it was suggested those adversely affected could include children of families working from home with little spare time, as well as those without access to online learning, though ASOS had supported the latter with donated laptops.

In relation to the restoration of other formal Council meetings, Members noted that there were plans for the Annual Council to take place in October. It was proposed that the Mayor would be elected to office for the following 18 months. Plans were also in place to reinstate the Area Councils over the course of the next few weeks.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation and responses to questions.
- (ii) That Members be kept informed of the outcome of the impact assessment work and the development of recovery plans going forward.

Chair

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MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream - available virtually on https://barnsley.public-i.tv/
DATE:	Tuesday, 9 June 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	VIRTUAL

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Gollick, Hunt, Lofts and Sumner, Pickering, Clarke, Green, Hunt, Richardson and Noble.

24 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies/Apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

25 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

26 Minutes and Notes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2020 were received.

27 Impact of Covid-19 on the Barnsley Economy and Glass Works Development

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

- Matt Gladstone, Executive Director - Place Directorate
- David Shepherd, Service Director, Economic Regeneration & Culture, Place Directorate
- Councillor Tim Cheetham, Cabinet Spokesperson - Place Directorate

A presentation regarding the report of the Executive Director Core Services and the Executive Director Place regarding the Impact of COVID-19 on the Barnsley Economy and Glass Works Development was delivered to Members.

Key items to note included:

£39m in grants has been distributed to 3500 businesses to date, with an additional £2.3m of discretionary grants in progress. Economic modelling scenarios indicate that in the 'worst' case scenario the economy in Barnsley is predicted to contract by 15%, with a 7% contraction for a 'medium' case scenario and an associated impact on jobs, businesses and GDP.

Five key priority areas have been identified for recovery: sectoral business support; retail and urban centres; digital campus; commercial property and the Market.

In terms of the employment and skills priority, it is likely that there will be increasing volumes of high unemployment, insecure work and in-work poverty, with older workers (50+) and new entrants to the labour market most likely to be impacted. Plans are in place to address these areas and to develop new skills and resilience in the workforce to keep pace with technology and business process re-engineering.

The Glass Works experienced temporary suspension of work in line with Government guidance, with an exemplary phased return to work from 6th April. Productivity is now back to almost 80% productivity but there will be an inevitable impact, with opening moved out by a couple of months to Autumn 2021.

Existing signed tenants are actively working with the Council to mitigate impacts and along with incoming tenants have stated their continued commitment to the scheme, with plans for social distancing in place. New tenants are also coming on board. Cllr Cheetham gave credit to officers and partners, particularly Henry Boot, in reaffirming commitment to the scheme and planning for recovery. Weekly discussions take place with Government around the recovery, in which the Sheffield City Region (SCR) is also playing a key role.

Members carefully considered the report and presentation, providing challenge through detailed questioning. In the ensuing discussion the following points were raised: -

Over 60% of the scheme by lettable area is currently let or in solicitors' hands, with further lettings expected and several leads being actively followed up, particularly on the 'food' side in terms of restaurants etc, with interest in part raised due to the signing of key leisure providers such as Cineworld and Superbowl. Several retailers have already approached the Council about future lettings and reserve plans are in place. The leasing strategy is being revised, with back up plans for potential vacant space in the scheme is being considered for high quality cultural space, education space and working with health care partners, building on the success of the Library at the Lightbox, which has proven to be a highly innovative scheme which has drawn people in. Members will be provided with financial information in relation to the current income secured and the overall income forecast for the scheme. The Council remains committed to letting further space in the Glass Works on a commercial basis and ensuring income maximisation remains a key driver of the leasing strategy as the scheme moves towards completion in late 2021. Members will be provided with financial information in relation to the current income secured and the overall income forecast for the scheme. The Council remains committed to letting further space in the Glass Works on a commercial basis and ensuring income maximisation remains a key driver of the leasing strategy as the scheme moves towards completion in late 2021.

All signed tenancy agreements have been reviewed with assurances given that even in the worst-case scenarios, 'long stop' dates will be met to ensure exit clauses are not invoked. Where timescales have been tight, personal discussions have taken place with operators with extensions to dates agreed which have been followed up with legal agreements.

Discussions have taken place with operators who have signed agreements around their plans moving forward, incorporating concerns about insolvency and what will happen when the 'furlough' scheme comes to an end. To date no difficulties have been identified. There is a lot of volatility on the High Street nationally, with many big names folding in the restaurant sector but with others waiting to bring forward new formats etc. A number of operators, including those in the leisure sector, have expressed an interest in bringing forward a 'family oriented' scheme for the Glassworks and which is appropriate for Barnsley. This is unlikely to change. Operators such as casinos and purely drinking establishments will not fit within the family market which is being pursued. The local demographic is vitally important to the Glassworks and may mean that Barnsley bounces back sooner than expecting, with people staying locally for retail and leisure opportunities rather than travelling further afield.

There has been volatility in the cinema market particularly in terms of share price. Cineworld was initially affected but the company share price has now rallied and long-term plans are in place to bring forward socially distanced cinema across the world. Cineworld continues to be a strong worldwide operator and has reaffirmed commitment to Barnsley, viewing Barnsley as a great opportunity as there are 340,000 potential customers in the Barnsley catchment area without competition. Offers from other cinema providers have been turned down. Members were reassured that by the time the Glassworks opens, Cineworld will have very slick arrangements in place having learned from the experience of the global lockdown easing.

GDP is not an effective 'stand-alone' measure of the economic impact of Covid 19, as in some instances as it can mask the impact of job losses and business closures. This is why economic impact is measured in a variety of ways, not just GDP. Plans are being developed to address the impact on employment, but the priority at the start of the crisis was to put £40m into Barnsley's business bank accounts whilst ensuring all businesses had access to high quality advice through Enterprising Barnsley (both online and over the phone) together with specific employment support advice (Tom Smith). Recovery plans are aligned to SCR plans to ensure recovery across the region as a whole.

Companies who have been identified as 'at risk' of job losses are being tracked through the 'Gold' arrangements. Inward investment enquiries continue to come in and Barnsley has been praised for not using Covid 19 as an excuse. Henry Boot only paused for a couple of weeks and along with many other companies were soon back up and running with social distancing in place to ensure safety.

Although it has been suggested that there could be as many as 2000 job losses in Barnsley, this is from other parties' economic modelling. Barnsley is not predicting the number of possible job losses but rather attention is focussed on supporting specific sectors such as a strong construction sector, hotel, retail, hospitality and leisure sectors and ensuring they are able to move forward. The 2008 recession saw lots of new jobs in the retail and hospitality sector, which may (or may not) happen again. There is a recognition that there is a need to support local employers now and supported employment schemes are being actively explored across all sectors. The Future Jobs Fund model has been problematic in relation to private sector

engagement, but this is now further considered in conjunction with SCR although there are some technicalities to face.

DMC2 is working with Barnsley College and Sheffield Hallam University around the digital jobs' agenda, both for now and planning for the future. Tech businesses are connecting with local businesses to plan for the future together, which will have a significant positive impact across the Borough.

Apprenticeships are highly valued in Barnsley, with performance higher than the Yorkshire and Humber average. There is a degree of potential risk, but Barnsley College and other providers are working together to ensure there will be a good offer for the new academic year in September for current Year 11 students.

A report has been prepared and a press statement issued regarding a review of Barnsley Markets, encompassing rental agreements, flexible arrangements, use of artwork, and other lessons learned, particularly from the Market Kitchen. The review highlighted the importance of the Market Kitchen in the recovery, as this acts as a key footfall driver and was doing well before the lockdown.

Market Traders have been involved in discussions around the recovery arrangements. Further lessons will be learned from Monday when 'non- essential' traders will be able to open in a safe and managed way. Intuitive signage and social distancing measures and advice will be in place. Officers are in touch with the Market Traders Federation and have asked for interested traders to come forward to be part of a steering group which is being set up.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Officers be thanked for their attendance at the meeting, their hard work and contribution to driving forward the recovery of Barnsley from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (ii) Thanks be extended to staff who had worked hard to ensure the smooth running and public webcasting of the meeting;
- (iii) Members will be provided with financial information in relation to the current income secured and the overall income forecast for the scheme.
- (iv) Markets report will be provide with a redacted version of the Markets review report.

Chair

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - People Achieving Their Potential Workstream
DATE:	Thursday, 9 July 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY - https://barnsley-public-i.tv/core/portal/home

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Hayward, Lodge, Makinson, Newing, Tattersall, Williams, Lofts and Stowe.

28 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

29 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

30 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were noted.

31 Impact of COVID-19 on Adult Social Care and Care Homes In Barnsley

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

- Wendy Lowder, Executive Director Adults and Communities, BMBC
- Sharon Graham, Head of Service – Commissioning, BMBC
- Julie Chapman, Service Director – Adult Social Care and Health, BMBC
- Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson – Adults & Communities, BMBC
- Emma White, Health & Wellbeing Principal, Adults & Communities, BMBC
- Jane Sivakumar, Chief Nurse, Barnsley CCG
- Gill Stansfield, Deputy District Director General Community, SWYPFT

A report was received to inform the Committee of the local authority's recent submission to government outlining Barnsley's system wide offer to care homes as part of the response to COVID 19.

It was noted Barnsley care homes support over 1,800 residents across 72 homes. A large number of homes are occupied by elderly residents who are classed as vulnerable to COVID 19, as such the need to wrap those homes with support is essential in response to the COVID 19 outbreak.

It was recognised that the Council and partner agencies have worked flat out over the past few months to keep the borough's care homes as safe as possible, as well as themselves.

The collective heart felt sympathies of all present were expressed to the families who have lost loved ones because of the crisis.

A presentation was received to provide an update on how adult social care has been impacted in the wider sense. This provided further details in respect of:

- the social work offer
- directly provided services
- adult joint commissioning
- data and governance
- the workforce
- infection prevention control
- community support
- finances

The Chair thanked the officers for their report and presentation. Members carefully considered the information and provided challenge through detailed questioning. In the ensuing discussion the following points were raised:

It was noted the Care Home Plan references 72 care homes and queried whether this number represents all care homes or just those specialising in elderly care. It was confirmed this is all care homes in the borough, and that the same level of support is offered to all.

It was questioned whether the salary uplift (discussed at BMBC Cabinet before the COVID pandemic) was now in place. It was confirmed this is in the process of being implemented in partnership with the various care home providers and is being worked through subject to consultation and agreement.

Regarding infection prevention control; assurances were sought that all available grants are being received. It was confirmed this is the case and that 75% of the grant is being used to support care homes, whilst the remainder is being used on a flexible basis in discussion with the care home providers. The remaining 25% has been issued to home care providers.

It was questioned whether potential seasonal variations were being planned for, particularly as we approach the winter months. The meeting was informed of what plans are in place for COVID and other conditions such as flu. It was noted flu vaccinations this year will be critical to help protect the health service and measures will be put in place to ensure as many people are vaccinated as possible, with the potential lowering of the age recommendation also an option. It was acknowledged it is difficult to predict when winter will start and therefore when to plan for.

It was questioned whether any care homes are not participating in testing programmes or providing data. It was reported there are some understandable instances of homes having been worried about the stress of testing asymptomatic individuals.

Regarding the gathering of data, it was reported that COVID had seen massive leaps forward in respect of data gathering and sharing and efforts will be made to ensure new processes benefit us going forward. It was noted a new data dashboard will be developed.

It was asked whether family members visiting care home residents had been tested. It was confirmed this hadn't been undertaken and noted homes closed their doors quite quickly to visitors. It was noted new guidance is being introduced regarding the safest means of relatives visiting residents.

Regarding the permitting of family visits, it was noted a lot of work had been done to deploy equipment to facilitate virtual visiting, but each home would need to risk assess their environment to ensure visiting could recommence safely. It was suggested some homes may have the structural capability to utilise external doors to create safe environments.

It was questioned what additional measures are being put in place to support people with dementia and other needs who perhaps rely on external 'pampering'. It was noted these have stopped as a consequence of lockdown but many instances have been reported of staff providing additional support to residents to deliver these types of non-medical services. Officers reported on some amazing examples of creativity coming from the homes and the need to recognise the efforts of staff.

The meeting considered the economic impacts of COVID and the danger we are nationally approaching a tipping point which will see private providers no longer able to generate a profit and leave the market. It was noted there have been a number of national, regional and local studies commissioned to investigate the risks and quantify the financial shortfall in the sector. A recent study by the LGA & ADASS identified that nationally the home care / care homes & supported living sector were facing additional costs amounting to an estimated £1bn for extra staffing, £4bn for PPE equipment and £700m for increased cleaning. It was recognised there may be further societal changes of attitude to care homes that will need to be factored into the financial forecasts for the sector.

The health of the adult social care finances of the borough was questioned. It was noted that at the last time of reporting this showed spend to be within the annual budget allocated, however, this precedes COVID and finances are likely to be reassessed as the full picture becomes known.

The meeting discussed reported instances of some homes failing to provide an expected standard of care, both before and during the pandemic. It was acknowledged that whilst the vast majority of homes have responded brilliantly to new challenges some have been challenged. It was confirmed that those homes which 'require improvement' under the Care Quality Commission ratings will continue to be worked with through quality assurance and improvement processes.

The meeting discussed the role Members can play in lobbying for fair financial settlements. It was requested that a briefing note be produced to help inform those debates.

Members placed on record their thanks to the officers and all health and social care sector staff engaged with supporting our care homes at this difficult time, and requested this be conveyed back to everyone.

It was suggested there is hope that a benefit of the COVID pandemic will be improved working relationships between all health care sectors.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Officers be thanked for their attendance and contribution at the meeting;
- (ii) The Committee's thanks be extended to officers and all health and social care sector staff in responding to the pandemic;
- (iii) Members support the promotion of the uptake of the flu vaccination across all our communities when the time comes as this will be critical in protecting individuals and services;
- (iv) A briefing note be produced on Adult Social Care costings so Members can utilise this to lobby for fair financial settlements.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance

Chair

MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 13 January 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors W. Johnson (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bowler, Bruff, Carr, Clarke, Gillis, Lodge, Mitchell, Williams and Wright.

26. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute numbers 28 and 31 due his membership of YMCA.

Councillor Carr declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute numbers 28, 29 and 31 due to her position as trustee of DIAL.

27. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 4th November, 2019 (Cen.13.01.2020/2)

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 4th November, 2019.

The Chair congratulated everyone involved in the organisation of the networking event which had been a success, offering an opportunity for members of the Ward Alliances and those delivering services to network.

Questions were asked regarding the organisation of the Clean and Green Visioning Conference, and it was noted that this would take place on 20th February.

Members noted that there was also an opportunity to feed any concerns in relation to recycling in to the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group considering this, which was led by Councillor Fielding.

With regards to queries relating to the payment of Fixed Penalty Notices, it was acknowledged that these could be paid in instalments through PayPoint.

Members discussed whether the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices still featured in the press, and it was noted that the Barnsley Chronicle often ran stories when offenders refused to pay and the case went to court.

Members noted that the figures relating to residents of Central Ward accessing DIAL services had been circulated and would be considered later on in the meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 4th November, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

28. Performance Report Q2 - Overview of Performance (Cen.13.01.2020/3)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, which contained an overview of performance for quarter two. To date 251 people had received one-to-one advice, much of which was provided through the DIAL contract. 27 Young people had also received one-to-one support primarily through TADS.

Members noted that since April 2018 1,577 fixed penalty notices had been issued. As a result of Area Council investment 9.5 full time jobs had been created along with 32 part time/sessional jobs. 92% of contract value had been spent locally, which was significantly higher than the Council as a whole.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

29. DIAL Presentation (Cen.13.01.2020/4)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to the Wellbeing Fund which was launched in early 2019, which was made up of finance from the Area Council and Public Health. Applications were invited from organisations that met at least one of the Area Council priorities and two of the five ways to wellbeing. Seven grants in total were approved, with DIAL and The Youth Association being two of the successful organisations.

Jill Morton, Nigel Brown and Wes Kenyon were welcomed to the meeting. An overview of DIAL and the service delivered through the Wellbeing Fund was provided. Members noted that so far the service had been delivered to 429 residents, and £226,560 of additional income had been generated in unclaimed benefits. For each £1 invested, £12.95 had been generated.

Four new volunteers had been recruited and trained, and were supporting sessions, with 430 volunteer hours being dedicated. 81% of those accessing the service had reported a reduction in anxiety and improved wellbeing.

13% of those accessing the service had a declared primary mental health condition, and 63% a long term health condition.

Members heard that the service would continue until June, 2020, with the outcomes continually monitored. Four welfare benefit workshops were to be delivered to help encourage self help by upskilling participants, and these would be held in community venues.

Case studies were provided from a resident and a volunteer perspective, highlighting the impact of the service.

Questions were raised about where sessions were advertised, and it was noted that posters were displayed throughout the area, as well as publicising the sessions through social media. Where the service was not already doing so, it was suggested that posters highlighting the date and times of all sessions be displayed on noticeboards in all of the wards of Central Area Council.

RESOLVED:-

- i)** that thanks be given for the presentation and for the positive work undertaken by all involved in the delivery of the service; and
- ii)** that the the Area Council Manager explores ways to continue the provision of Advice Services in the Central Area.

30. The Youth Association - Presentation (Cen.13.01.2020/5)

Dmitry Fedotov and Rebecca Coyne were welcomed to the meeting to provide an overview of the work of The Youth Association.

Members heard of the background of The Youth Association as a charity rooted in Yorkshire. The work mixed traditional principles together with a progressive approach.

The work done in Barnsley, funded by the Wellbeing Fund, was under the Street Smart scheme and took place in Kendray. The street based work engaged groups of young people, and included informal learning. Members heard how the funding from the Wellbeing Fund had been matched with funds from Yorkshire Sport Foundation in order to provide extra sessions with a sporting theme.

Street based workshops took place around themes such as cooking, treasure hunts, self-awareness, tent building and drug awareness. Group work was also undertaken in outdoor spaces, and it was noted that Kendray was unique in that young people were always outside whatever the weather. Engaging positive role models was also used to help increase aspiration.

Those present heard how green spaces throughout Kendray were utilised, as were the 5ive football pitches, however traditional pastimes such as conkers and kerby were also introduced to young people.

The scheme linked directly to Central Area Priorities, and although was largely informal it provided personal and social development, helped to build emotional resilience and increase aspirations.

Approximately half way through the scheme, there had been 413 attendances by 156 individuals.

Members noted that case studies and stories were provided on the website and on Twitter. Feedback was continually sought from young people, who valued the sessions, and highlighted how they helped them grow as individuals.

Members questioned the gender split for the programme, and it was noted that more males than females participated but that further activities aimed at engaging more females had been arranged.

Questions were asked in relation to the age range engaged and it was noted that this was largely between 12-18 years, but the scheme didn't exclude those aged under 12 if they attended.

Queries were raised as to whether any concerns had been raised in relation to county lines and Members heard that staff were aware and had policies and

procedures in place to deal with such issues, but this had not been an issue in the area. Conversations had taken place with young people around gangs and knife crime, with the belief that if young people had access to a wider range of life choices they would most likely take the right decision.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the presentation and all the good work taking place in Kendray as part of the scheme.

31. Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.13.01.2020/6)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item, referring to the report which provided a brief update on the development work for each of the priority areas.

With regards to social isolation, Members noted that independent research would be undertaken to understand the issues faced across the life course, support available, and any gaps in provision. The outcome of this research and any proposals for intervention would then feed into a future meeting of the Area Council.

With regards to the procurement of a service to build emotional resilience in children and young people aged 8-14, Members noted that Barnsley YMCA was the successful contractor following a full procurement exercise. Pre-contract meetings were being arranged and the contract was due to commence on 1st April, 2020.

Members were reminded of the service for new mothers, which had commenced on 1st April, 2019 for a 12 month period. The project had staff in place and was well managed, reporting as required by the contract. There had been recruitment and training of volunteers, and a number had been matched with new mums. However, it was acknowledged that the referrals could be higher in number and could have been received sooner.

A meeting had been held between the Area Council Manager, Health Visitors and Community Midwives, where assurances had been given that the service was still required and that more referrals would be forthcoming once the service became more well established.

The contract was procured with the opportunity to extend for further 12 month periods and Members discussed whether it was appropriate to do so. Although the numbers of referrals was below target, the consensus was that there were a number of variables impacting on the take up of the service, but that the service needed to be given the opportunity to grow, and in future that this ought to be taken into account in target setting.

It was recognised that the Area Council often piloted interventions which were new and innovative, and that this often would be expanded and learning taken account of in core services.

The attention of Members was drawn to the Environmental Enforcement service delivered by District Enforcement, which too was procured with the ability to extend for future periods of 12 months. Given that performance had been positive, with 336 fixed penalty notices issued within the first 6 months, 45 of which were for dog fouling, it was recommended that the contract be extended.

Members' attention was drawn to the contract held by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, which again was procured for one year with the option to extend for further periods of a year. All targets had been met with 52 social action interventions in quarters 1 and 2 and 41 new adult volunteers engaged. It was therefore recommended that this contract be extended for a further year.

Those present discussed the issue of providing Christmas trees across the area, and the need to find a sustainable, affordable solution.

Members were reminded of discussions from the workshop to consider provision to improve emotional wellbeing of children and young people. Following procurement to support those aged 8-14, on 17th December, 2020 a working group met to consider provision for children aged 14+. It was suggested that any service should be best placed to serve those most in need and should provide coverage across all of the five wards of Central Area, and that this would be via a model of outreach and detached youth work.

Members considered proposals outlined within the appendix of the report, including the recommendation that £60,000 be allocated to 'Youth Work Fund' and that applications be welcomed from potential providers. It was suggested that a panel be convened to discuss any applications, with representation from each ward. Members noted the suggestion that delivery start in May, with provision able to become established within daylight hours.

In addition to outreach provision it was also suggested that support be provided to volunteers wanting to establish youth work or play work provision. It was likely that this would take the form of training, but also with support and advice provided to help individuals and groups. Members noted that discussion was still taking place with regards to the details of this provision and it was suggested that a further report detailing this be brought to a future meeting of the Area Council.

Members were supportive of upskilling volunteers, whilst also ensuring that anyone wishing to establish provision was aware of the requirements of doing so.

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the financial situation for the Area Council. £517,053 had been committed for 2019/20, with £181,337 remaining. For 2020/21 £400,760 had been committed, with approvals pending for around £118,000 and other anticipated additional expenditure of around £56,000.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the overview of priorities, contracts, Service Level Agreements, and Wellbeing Fund Priorities be noted;
- (ii) That the feedback on the development of agreed priority areas from 1st April, 2020 including the research undertaken in relation to social isolation across the adult life-course be noted;
- (iii) That the outcome of the recent procurement exercise for the service 'to build emotional resilience and wellbeing of children and young people aged 8-14 years living in the Central Council Area' be noted, with YMCA Barnsley being the provider appointed;
- (iv) That the contract with Family Lives be extended for an additional period of 1 year (1st April, 2020 – 31st March, 2021) at a cost of £50,000;

- (v) That the contract with District Enforcement Ltd. be extended for an additional period of 1 year (1st April, 2020 – 31st March, 2021) at a cost of £45,000;
- (vi) That the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd. be extended for an additional period of 1 year (1st April, 2020 – 31st March, 2021) at a cost of £95,000;
- (vii) That an Out of Hours Youth Work Grant Fund for young people aged 14+, with a total allocation of £60,000 be established, as outlined within the report, with responsibility for the approval of grants delegated to the Executive Director Communities following liaison with the Youth Work Fund panel and the Central Area Council Manager;
- (viii) That £28,000 be allocated in principle to the development of a Training and Development Support Service for Voluntary Neighbourhood Youth Work in the Central Area, with a report providing further details to be considered at a future meeting of the Area Council;
- (ix) That the financial position for 2019/20 and project expenditure for 2020/21 to 2022/23 be noted.

32. Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.13.01.2020/7)

The meeting received the notes of the following meetings:-

Central Ward Alliance held on 23rd October, 27th November, 2019;

Dodworth Ward Alliance held on 19th November, 2019;

Kingstone Ward Alliance held on 20th November, 2019;

Stairfoot Ward Alliance held on 11th November, and 9th December, 2019;

Worsbrough Ward Alliance held on 21st November, 2019.

It was noted that the notes from the Stairfoot Ward Alliance on 11th November, 2019 were inaccurate as both Councillors Gillis and Bowler had been in attendance.

Councillor Williams mentioned the work undertaken by Creative Recovery under the 'Winter Wanderland' project. 38 residents had taken part by decorating their windows and the event had been well received.

RESOLVED that the notes and feedback from the Ward Alliances be received.

33. Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.13.01.2020/8)

The Area Council Manager drew attention to the balances remaining within each of the Ward Alliance Funds. It was noted that, as per previous agreement at the Area Council, any funding devolved from the Area Council to the Ward Alliance Funds must be allocated by the end of March, and spent by the end of July, with any remaining to be returned to the Area Council.

Members discussed difficulties, with delays in the delivery of certain services, especially those provided by core Council departments. The frustration this resulted in was acknowledged as was the need to plan for such expenditure over the longer term where possible.

In the discussion it was noted that recent changes in contract procedure rules meant that, although best value needed to be demonstrated, procurement under £10,000

only required one quote.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

34. Appreciation

The Chair placed on record his thanks to the Area Council Manager, who had announced that she would be retiring in May, 2020. The hard work and commitment was recognised, and best wishes were given for her retirement. The sentiment was echoed by all Members present.

Chair

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MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 9 March 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors W. Johnson (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, Carr, Clarke, Fielding, Gillis, Lodge, Mitchell, Williams and Wright.

35. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Carr declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute numbers 38 and 39 due to her position as a trustee of DIAL.

36. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 13th January, 2020 (Cen.09.03.2020/2)

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 13th January, 2020.

Members heard how the DIAL Service was now being advertising widely, including within the Central Ward.

A number of concerns were raised in relation to the contract with District Enforcement, and Members were encouraged to give details about these to the Central Area Council Manager for further investigation.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Central Area Council meeting held on 13th January, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

37. Hope House Presentation (Cen.09.03.2020/3)

Rachel Taylor from Hope House was welcomed to the meeting to provide an overview of the Hope House Connects project, financed through the Wellbeing Fund.

Members noted how the project sought to meet the Area Council priorities of family support and reducing isolation, and also delivered against two of the five ways to wellbeing.

The project built on the success of a long established group, led by a volunteer who was unable to continue. This was further developed with increased resources and focused on early social skills, fine motor, and literacy skills.

The other area of focus was on families with children under the age of one, with the group known as Little Chimps. The target of number of families to engage with had been exceeded, with the number attending Little Chimps doubling. The success of this was attributed to social media and word of mouth. Although families attended from each ward in the Central Area, the majority were from the Central Ward.

Members were provided with case studies about the direct impact of the project, reducing the social isolation experienced by new parents, which in turn allowed them to build networks, access further help, and build resilience.

A number of indirect impacts had also been seen with connections being made by volunteers and others involved in the project delivery, resulting in them providing mutual support.

Members praised the project and its impact. Discussion took place around the differences between this and a normal 'mother and toddler' group, and it was noted that age appropriate resources were provided, but that support was also provided for adults to engage, in order to address their issues.

With regards to attendance, it was suggested that the project could be promoted more widely. It was agreed that promotional resources be provided to the Area Council Manager in order to make these aware for Members to distribute through their networks.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation and the positive work undertaken;
- (ii) That materials be provided to Members in order to allow more widespread promotion of the service.

38. Performance Management Report Q3 (Cen.09.03.2020/4)

The Area Council Manager reminded Members that the report covered the period October to December, 2019. Whilst performance was generally positive, two of the contracts and two of the projects funded by the Wellbeing Fund had a number of 'Amber' ratings.

Members noted the cumulative impact of Central Area interventions since April 2017, and the Area Council Manager gave more in depth information about each of the areas of investment.

In relation to the service delivered by Royal Voluntary Service there were a number of areas rated as 'Amber'. The number of referrals was 40 against a target of 75. Members were reminded that the project would cease at the end of March 2020, but that careful consideration was being given to the support required by each client and referrals were being made as necessary.

The contract with YMCA continued to be delivered effectively. 116 Sessions had been delivered with 70 new young people participating. During the period there had been 1,417 attendances.

Members heard that 148 Fixed Penalty Notices had been issues within the quarter by District Enforcement. It was noted that this represented a slight decrease on previous quarters, as a light touch approach had been taken over the Christmas period. A number of areas had been targeted as a result of intelligence submitted, resulting in 28 of the notices being issued for dog fouling.

Members questioned the visibility of officers, acknowledging that a visible presence was a deterrent. It was noted that the contract only provided the equivalent of 1.5 full time officers, and that this was shared over 5 wards. The Area Council Manager responded by saying that they would discuss the possibility of providing 'heat maps' showing where officers had been patrolling with District Enforcement. Members also discussed the deterrent effect for children, with them being able to undertake a litter pick in lieu of the payment of a fine. It was suggested that this may act as a greater deterrent for adults than a fine.

Members considered the performance against the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance. 15 social action interventions had been led by Twiggs, 42 adult volunteers engaged, and 68 pieces of added value work undertaken. Members gave thanks for the positive work undertaken.

Performance against the Service Level Agreement to support the reduction in the flytipping of household waste had been positive, with 220 incidents reported, 81 of which were going forward for further investigation by the officer in question. Noted was the work undertaken informally, with conversations taking place with residents in areas where hoarding or neglect was seen.

Members praised the work of the officer, and it was suggested that it may be useful for them to go on Berneslai Homes Walkabouts with Members and officers where there were issues with homes in both public and private ownership.

Members heard how the officer responsible for supporting new tenants in the private rented sector had made direct contact with 42 households. 21 had been supported with issues related to waste and 17 required informal engagement with the landlord. The case studies provided served to highlight the issues being addressed and it was acknowledged that the majority of issues were resolved informally.

Those present went on to consider the performance of the service being delivered by Family Lives. In the quarter 22 referrals had been received, compared to a target of 45. Since then a further 11 referrals had been received. It was acknowledged that efforts had been made to further promote the service through such as social media groups. However, the impact on those accessing the service had been considerable, and the numbers of volunteers engaged was also positive.

Members questioned what further could be done to stimulate referrals; including ensuring relevant health professionals were aware of the scheme. Members also acknowledged proposals for a 'Community Parent' scheme within the Council's budget. Noting Central Area Council's innovative work, it was agreed that the service would need to be reconsidered when any core service was established.

The Area Council Manager then gave an overview of the projects funded through the Wellbeing Fund.

The results for DIAL were acknowledged with the service being well used by residents throughout the area. It was noted that figures for Kingstone were lower than elsewhere, but this was as a result of a later start.

ELSH continued to deliver 5 sessions per week. 34 new adults had been engaged, with many of these from ethnic minorities, including economic migrants and asylum seekers.

Exodus had delivered 53 sessions within the quarter, with five very active clubs being maintained.

Members were reminded of the previous presentation on Hope House Connects, with 7 new families engaged over a sustained period. Members noted the human impact of the service as highlighted in the case studies.

TADS continued to deliver one-to-one services at primary schools and also provide drop-in sessions, but had underachieved against targets set for young people receiving support. It was noted that the time spent supporting young people was more than predicted, as young people accessing the service had more serious issues than first envisaged. Questions were raised around the referral mechanisms, with some inappropriate referrals for young people requiring more intensive support, and this would be further considered.

Street Smart continued to undertake innovative street based work in Kendray, and Members heard that a dance group had been formed, with a performance scheduled at the Central Area Council Celebration event.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

39. Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.09.03.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item providing an update on the current situation in relation to each of the priority areas previously agreed. With regards to the 'Addressing Loneliness and Social Isolation in Adults and Older People' priority, Members heard how research was currently underway in order to inform future commissions. In mid January 'Just Works' had been appointed and to date a literature review had been undertaken, 28 community conversations conducted and an online survey launched. A report featuring the results of the research would be completed to feed into a workshop to discuss this in more detail on 31st March, 2020. The outcome of the workshop was scheduled to be discussed at the Area Council meeting in April.

An overview of all current contracts and associated timescales was then provided. It was noted that the current Service Level Agreements (SLAs) concentrating on supporting new tenants in private sector rented accommodation, and that to assist the reduction in the flytipping of household waste were due to come to an end in November. They would therefore be discussed by the Area Council in April or June.

Members noted that each of the projects funded through the Wellbeing Fund was likely to end in June or July. The report circulated provided a brief overview of each, and suggested a course of action for each to consider moving forward.

Members discussed Creative Recovery and noted that the project had been delayed, and that the second part of the project had yet to be delivered. Members expressed concerns at the delays and lower than expected performance, and reassurances were given that performance had been monitored regularly by the Area Council

Manager. Members also noted that projects were paid in arrears for delivery, providing a safeguard should delivery not be forthcoming.

Exodus, TADS and The Youth Association would be invited to apply to the Youth Work Fund. It was noted that opportunities for ELSH may be forthcoming from the research into social exclusion.

A suggestion was made that the DIAL service be delivered for 12 months at a cost of £30,000 with 1 session per week in each ward, and that the Hope House Connects project be supported from June 2020 to the end of July 2021 at a cost of £14,000.

Members noted the Youth Work Fund had been launched, which would allocate £60,000 of previously ring-fenced Area Council Finance. The attention of Members was drawn to the application pack which had been circulated as an appendix to the report. The closing date for applications was 27th March, and an evaluation panel was set to meet on 23rd April, with the outcome being able to be reported into the next Area Council meeting.

Members were reminded of the second element of support for young people 13+, which involved the establishment of a package of training and development assistance for volunteers. Information sessions had been organised and the feedback from interested parties would be taken into account in the next stage of developing the proposal. It was likely that the Area Council would receive details of this at their next meeting.

The Area Council Manager went on to provide an overview of the financial situation of the Area Council, and noted that to date £22,800 in income had been provided from Fixed Penalty Notices

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the overview of Central Area Council's current priorities and overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements, and Wellbeing Fund projects and associated timescales be noted;
- (ii) That feedback about the development of the agreed priority areas from 1st April, 2020, including the piece of research to be undertaken in relation to social isolation across the adult lifecourse, be noted;
- (iii) That approval be given for an advice service to be delivered by DIAL for the period 1st June, 2020 – 31st May, 2021, with one session each week delivered in each Ward of the Central Area, at a cost of £30,000;
- (iv) That approval be given for the Hope House Connects service to be delivered for the period 1st June, 2020-31st July, 2021 at a cost of £14,000;
- (v) That the updates on work to take forward services to support young people aged 13+ be noted;
- (vi) That the financial position for 2019/20 and projected expenditure to 2022/23 be noted.

40. Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.09.03.2020/6)

The meeting received the notes of the following meetings of the Ward Alliances within the Central Area:-

Central Ward Alliance on 22nd January, and 19th February, 2020;
Dodworth Ward Alliance on 14th January, 2020;
Kingstone Ward Alliance on 8th January, and 12th February, 2020;
Worsbrough Ward Alliance on 6th February, 2020.

RESOLVED that the notes and feedback from the Ward Alliances be received.

41. Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.09.03.2020/7)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to finance remaining in each of the Ward Alliance Funds.

Central Ward Alliance Fund had £10,405.34 remaining, and Dodworth Ward Alliance Fund had £15,554.14 remaining at the time the report had been published, but a number of applications had subsequently been approved leaving around £10,000 remaining.

Kingstone Ward Alliance Fund had £4,538.91 remaining; Stairfoot Ward Alliance £10,026.99 remaining and Worsbrough Ward Alliance £18,161.66 left to allocate.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Tuesday, 9 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors W. Johnson (Chair), P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, Carr, Clarke, Fielding, Gillis, Lodge and Williams

42. Commemoration

The Chair acknowledged the recent passing of Cllr Doug Birkinshaw, who was a valued member of the Area Council. Everyone was invited to take part in a minute silence in his memory.

43. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He spoke of the recent retirement of the Central Area Council Manager Carol Brady, and gave thanks for her hard work, and her contribution to the Central Area.

Welcomed were Lisa Phelan and Sarah Blunkett, who would be replacing Carol. In addition Jonathon Banwell was welcomed as the new Senior Management Link Officer for the Area Council

44. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

45. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 9th March, 2020

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 9th March, 2020.

RECOMMENDED that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 9th March, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

46. Covid-19 Presentation

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities and Rachel Payling, Head of Stronger Communities, were welcomed to the meeting to present the item.

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due to its length and ongoing impact. The recovery provided an opportunity for renewal and restart in some areas, and it was acknowledged that responses needed to be agile and adaptive due to the complicated nature of the situation.

The pandemic also offered opportunities to realign values, strengthen relationships with partners and create a new normal as restrictions begin to lift. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and one was in development at a South Yorkshire level. Barnsley plans would align and be complementary. It was noted future plans needed to be interactive in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks. It was also noted that responses would be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding. Moving forward interventions would need to be able to both respond to any peaks and enable recovery.

Three horizons were considered – h1 immediate recovery steps; h2 post-peak recovery steps; and h3 realising the recovery objectives. It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into h2, with lockdown being lifted. This was a period of innovation and that certain positives from the pandemic needed to be retained. As Barnsley moves forward, the h3 horizon provides the opportunity to define the objectives of recovery and the future wanted for the borough.

Members heard how the Council's draft recovery strategy encompassed 5 points; Humanitarian – Health and Wellbeing; Business Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Infrastructure and the Environment. It was recognised that all of which needed to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

Members noted the steps being undertaken to develop and implement the recovery strategy, including conducting impact analysis, giving consideration to what services need to be restarted, maintained, or discontinued, and monitoring, learning and being adaptive going forward. It was noted that plans required the contribution of a wide range of partners across Barnsley.

In considering the role of Area Councils, the valuable contribution they played in responding to the crisis through the flexing of commissioned services, and the refocusing of community organisations was acknowledged, as was the role they would play in assisting recovery.

Members noted that, in light of the current financial position, the Council was reviewing all budgets and service areas to ensure they remained relevant in relation to Covid-19 and recovery efforts. Members were reminded of the cessation of all non-essential expenditure earlier in the year.

For the Area Council, the overall budget remained unaltered for 2020/21, but it was suggested that there was a need to review priorities and commissioning intentions to ensure that they were still relevant.

Those present heard of the anticipated challenges ahead, which included poverty and worklessness; schooling and education; mental health and emotional wellbeing;

re-establishing the fabric of society; and impacts on health and wellbeing from a reduced accessing of services.

It was noted that the Council's strategic direction such as in relation to digital, an inclusive economy and Zero40 remained relevant. It was also suggested that the pandemic had offered opportunities, with agile working potentially supporting more district centres, the establishment of support networks in the communities, and a greater insight into those who are most vulnerable in communities.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain, but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the only exception being where finance had already been approved and local businesses had committed resources.

Although there was an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but that this position would be reviewed for 2021/22.

Members noted the previous requirement for Ward Alliances to match 50% of their funds with external finance or volunteer time. It was recognised that this would be difficult to achieve and would therefore be relaxed for the current financial year.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence, with the backlog being addressed in due course. In addition, it was noted that the collection of domestic green waste was due to recommence on 9th June.

Members heard how initially the Central Area Team responded to the pandemic by mapping the support available in the area. These services were then supported and promoted by the team. In addition, support was also provided for the communication of more boroughwide messages. The team, assisted by officers and Councillors, distributed approximately 5,000 postcards in the area highlighting available support, specifically focusing on the most vulnerable.

Support was provided to implement the Community Responder service, which supported those who were vulnerable or shielding. A training package was developed and implemented with the support of Barnsley CVS, with 250 responders volunteering, and 445 requests for support across the borough.

Within the Central Area, 54 volunteers were engaged as Community Responders, with 110 requests for support. 57 of these were for assistance with shopping and 53 for befriending. Communities themselves also responded to the pandemic, with activity in each ward including support for those most vulnerable.

Members heard how the contracts held by the Area Council had been flexed in light of the pandemic. Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had been supporting Neighbourhood Services by cleaning areas, picking up litter and cutting grass. Support was also provided to maintain areas normally looked after by volunteers.

The contract delivered by the YMCA continued, but with support now provided through online means and through telephone calls.

All legal agreements had been signed for the successful projects to be delivered through the Youth Work Fund, with delivery commencing when safe to do so.

DIAL had flexed their arrangements to provide the service through telephone calls and online platforms, and Hope House had made arrangements to ensure their delivery was safe.

Members were reminded of the research being undertaken in relation to social isolation and it was suggested that this feeds into a working group prior to the next meeting of the Area Council.

District Enforcement had continued patrolling, providing a useful source of neighbourhood intelligence in relation to such as fly tipping, and ensuring play areas were secured and not being used.

The SLA to address fly-tipping in the area continued to provide support; working with residents and landlords, and investigating suspect vehicles carrying waste. It was noted that the contract was due to end in November and therefore decisions would be required about the future of the service in due course.

In relation to the service to support new tenants living in private sector rented accommodation, it was noted that 158 tenants had been identified prior to lockdown, with contact made with 35. The service was flexed to take account of Covid-19 and it was noted that this service also was due to end in November, 2020.

The perinatal service delivered by Family Lives had moved to engaging their client group via online means and by telephone. Families had been supported accessing food banks and food vouchers, with assistance provided in a variety of areas such as relationships, domestic abuse and accessing counselling.

Members were reminded of the current financial commitments of the Area Council which had 7 commissioned services and 3 grant funded projects. It was noted that there was an allocation for the celebration event, and this could be used when appropriate.

The services combined to deliver against the priorities of Environment; Health and Wellbeing; Community Safety; and Young People, and Members were reminded of the ongoing work to consider social isolation and the possibility of supporting voluntary youth club provision in the area.

47. Discussion: reflection on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Members were reminded of the five strategic priorities and were asked to consider whether the priorities of the Area Council aligned and whether services could continue, perhaps amended. In addition, Members were asked to highlight what might not align and may need to cease, or where there may be gaps that would require addressing.

Questions were raised about the amount of finance available, the task involved, and whether it was feasible to address such issues at an area level. In response it was acknowledged that the Area Councils played a significant role in the response to the pandemic but that this was just one part of the response made by the whole of the Council. In addition, it was noted that the Council was not unique in its financial situation due to Covid-19 and alongside other Councils, representations were being made to Government.

The important role of Area Councils, with their intelligence at a local level and the ability to respond to their communities was acknowledged, meaning that Barnsley was better placed than some other areas in this respect.

Questions were raised about home working, and whether offices would be rationalised in order to reduce overall costs to the Council. It was noted that this was an area being considered. However, there were wider implications such as the loss of interaction and potential isolation to consider.

In relation to the cessation of non-essential spend, it was acknowledged that 'essential' could be subjective, and Members were encouraged to consider all expenditure in relation to the five strategic priorities.

A number of Members suggested that both the priorities and current financial commitments of the Area Council remained relevant and contributed to the overall strategic objectives. Suggestions were made to extend both Service Level Agreements.

Areas such as supporting businesses, and issues with access to food were highlighted as possible gaps, however it was suggested that the former may be being addressed through such as Enterprising Barnsley and the latter better considered by Ward Alliances. Holiday hunger programmes had been supported by a number of Ward Alliances, but consideration had to be given to whether similar could be undertaken at the current time.

The hard work of voluntary and community groups was noted and the need to ensure they were supported. Members noted that questionnaires were being sent to groups to understand the issues faced in order to consider how best to support these.

The need to support volunteers who had been unable to engage due to issues such as shielding, and also to encourage those who had decided to volunteer during the pandemic to continue was noted. Members heard how the volunteer coordinators network was considering how best to support clients as the borough moved from response to recovery.

Members commented on the increase in litter linked to the reopening of shops and takeaways, and the rise in dog fouling. The need to ensure District Enforcement commence issuing Fixed Penalty Notices as soon as it is safe to do so was stressed.

Questions were raised about the devolving of Area Council finance to Ward Alliances, and it was noted that a decision had yet to be taken on this, but the Area Council could consider this at a future meeting.

With regards to the work to consider supporting voluntary youth provision, it was suggested that this could not be undertaken online and therefore may have to be postponed.

Members discussed how Ward Alliance Fund applications would be approved, given that Ward Alliances had ceased to meet. It was noted that processes were in place to consider applications without the need for a meeting, however ways to re-establish Ward Alliance meetings were being considered.

In order for further discussions to take place in advance of the next meeting of the Area Council it was suggested that a number of workshops be convened, with representation from each ward. The outcome of discussions would then feed into a future meeting of the Area Council.

RECOMMENDED:-

- (i) That a workshop be convened to consider the priorities of the Area Council and its contribution to the strategic priorities of the Council;
- (ii) That a workshop be convened to consider the research and other available intelligence in relation to social isolation in the Central Area.

48. Close of meeting

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 20 January 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson and Phillips

26 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

27 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 18th November, 2019 (Dac.20.01.2020/2)

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 18th November, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

28 Performance Report Q3 (Dac.20.01.2020/3)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to the report, which contained performance from services commissioned by the Area Council and those projects funded through the Dearne Development Fund.

Members noted that performance was for quarter 3 of 2019/20 and that there were no major issues with any of the commissions.

The Employability Service was performing well, with 78 learners to date engaged; 28 within the last quarter. 15 of those engaged had gone into employment, 56 gained a qualification, and 61 had gone on to further training.

It was noted that recently referrals from Job Centre Plus were requiring more intensive support to return to the job market, which was felt may impact on the achievement of targets. A push on social media, and within the community magazine, was thought would help to improve the numbers of self-referrals.

With regards to performance against the contract held by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, 25 social action events had been held within the quarter, 10 groups supported, and 56 new volunteers recruited. Two areas had been adopted by residents and two impact sessions had been held with schools or community groups.

Noted was the number of used needles in the area, which was increasing. The Area Council Manager made Members aware that they were working with relevant drug services to help manage and reduce this issue.

The service to reduce Social Isolation being delivered by B:Friend had received three requests for pairing within the quarter, and had brokeews eight new pairings. In total

360 volunteer hours had been pledged. There had been four new volunteers recruited and 20 further enquiries about volunteering.

Members noted the case study, and the significant impact the service had on the lives of those involved. Also noted was the number of men engaging in the Thurnscoe Social Club. Although small, this was positive.

Members were reminded that nine applications had been funded through the Dearne Development Fund, with approximately £25,000 remaining in the fund at the time the report was written.

Goldthorpe Development Group continued to perform well, with the lowest number of attendees at any of their sessions being 54, but over the past quarter attendances totalled 241. 102 had attended their Christmas session, with plans being put in place for the event to be ticketed in future in order to avoid overcrowding.

The TADS service had supported five young people from the Astrea Academy Dearne, with many requiring intensive support for complex issues. In addition eight young people attending primary schools in the area had also been supported. 11 had attended the drop-in and yoga sessions, and feedback from schools in the area was very positive.

The Little Talkers project had engaged with six families so far, with the service receiving positive feedback. Families were engaging in new activities and parents were being upskilled as a result.

The advice service being delivered by CAB had delivered 20 sessions within the quarter, assisting 67 clients. Clients had been assisted to claim over £35,000 of additional benefit, and around £94,000 of debt had been managed.

Members noted that B:Friend had received additional finance from the Development Fund which had enabled the service to deliver on an additional day. Due to this the service had reached out to 23 older neighbours who were now engaged in either 1:1 activity or through social groups.

Due to the contract with DIAL to provide advice around £233,000 of additional benefit had been gained to date. Within the last quarter 22 sessions had been held and 97 residents supported. Members noted the complexity of issues dealt with and that the service was often oversubscribed with people queuing for long periods of time.

RESOLVED:- That the report be noted.

29 Dearne Area Council Procurement and Financial Update (Dac.20.01.2020/4)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report highlighting the financial situation of the Area Council. From an opening budget of £216,886.17 for the 2019/20 financial year, £4,288.41 remained for allocation.

Within the Dearne Development Fund the opening balance was £88,590.88, with £19,018.78 of this from healthier communities. Nine projects had been funded, with £24,946.13 remaining.

Members noted that the Housing and Migration post had now been filled, with the officer starting on the 6th January, 2020. Comments were made that the post had been vacant nearly a year, despite it being much needed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

30 The Dearne Area Council Social Connectivity (Dac.20.01.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, reminding Members of the current service in the area funded by the Area Council in order to reduced social isolation. Currently delivered by B:Friend and funded through Nesta and the Area Council, it was noted that this would come to an end at the beginning of October, 2020.

Members considered options going forward, with that preferred being to procure a similar service in order to increase social connectivity.

A draft specification had been circulated, which built on the strengths of current provision, and took into account national guidelines. The documentation included the wish to maintain current social groups and one-to-one provision. It also included an increased emphasis on engaging males, who were currently underrepresented.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the procurement of a Dearne Area Council Social Connectivity project be approved at £27,000 per annum for a period of two years; and
- (ii) That the specification for the Dearne Area Council Social Connectivity project be approved.

31 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 18th November, 2019 (Dac.20.01.2020/6)

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 18th November, 2019.

It was noted that the Head of Economic Development had made contact with reference to the Towns Fund from central government. Goldthorpe had been selected, with the potential of up to £25m available. Rather than creating a group to oversee this, it was suggested that the Dearne Approach Steering Group expand its membership to be able to take on this task. The local MP and members of local businesses had been invited to take part. Finance was already available to employ staff in order to create appropriate strategies and plans for the development.

Members questioned whether this was just for Goldthorpe, or the wider area, and it was thought that this would just cover Goldthorpe, however it was noted that Members would be briefed further when more information was available.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group be received.

32 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 5th December, 2019 (Dac.20.01.2020/7)

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 5th December, 2019.

Members noted that the meeting had received an update about the work of the Area Council, had considered three applications to the Ward Alliance Fund, agreeing healthy holidays provision for February, 2020.

RESOLVED that notes from the Ward Alliance be received.

33 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.20.01.2020/8)

Members noted that Dearne North had approved 18 projects within the financial year, leaving a balance of £8,147.12 to allocated.

Dearne South had approved funding to support 15 projects, and had a balance of £12,044.04 remaining.

It was noted that the Community Development Officer would be organising a workshop for Members to discuss potential use of Ward Alliance Funds.

34 SY Violence Reduction Unit (Pac.20.01.2020/9)

The item was deferred for discussion at a future meeting of the Area Council.

Chair

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 16 March 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson and Phillips

35 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

36 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 20th January, 2020 (Dac.16.03.2020/2)**

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 20th January, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

37 **Emma Hudson - Healthy Lifestyles Advisor - Yorkshire Smokefree Barnsley (Dac.16.03.2020/3)**

Emma Hudson, Healthy Lifestyles Advisor, was welcomed to the meeting. Through a contract with Public Health, Yorkshire Smokefree Barnsley delivers support for smoking cessation. This is undertaken through a variety of means such as one-to-one support with individuals, telephone assistance and through groups.

Members heard how those admitted to hospital are given support, with each patient asked about their smoking status, and offered nicotine replacement with a referral to the support service should they so wish. The fully funded scheme offers nicotine replacement and Champix, together with behavioural support through the team for a period of 12 weeks.

Behavioural support is designed to help individuals change habits and routines. This is provided on an appointment basis with group sessions held in a number of places throughout the area, including in Goldthorpe Library.

Members asked how the service was advertised, and heard that promotion was undertaken through posters, the internet, Twitter, on local forums and through word of mouth. A suggestion was made to provide Members with resources such as posters to distribute and display through their networks.

Those present heard that the resources contained contact information, and following contact with the service, an initial assessment would be undertaken and individuals asked to attend groups for support.

Members heard that smoking cessation services had been available 20 years in Barnsley and statistics for the borough showed that prevalence had reduced to

around 16%, which was close to the national average. However, it was noted that rates were higher in the Dearne than the Barnsley average.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the presentation.

38 Mark Miller - SY Violence Reduction Unit (Dac.16.03.2020/4)

Mark Miller was welcomed to the meeting. Members heard how Mark had been seconded from his role as Community Safety Team Leader to Barnsley Partnership Manager in the SY Violence Reduction Unit.

SY Violence Reduction Unit had been established in as a result of a successful bid for £1.6m of government finance.

Work has taken place to produce an area profile, detailing the issues faced, highlighting differences between areas and detailing any gaps in service. Members noted that this covered all types of violence, from domestic abuse to slavery and gun/knife crime.

The Area Profile had been completed and was expected to be approved by the Executive Board. It would then be submitted to the Home Office with the Violence Reduction Strategy by 31st March, 2020. Members noted that delivery plans had been developed which were bespoke to different areas, providing local solutions to local issues.

Members heard that a grant fund had been established with £60,000 being allocated to Barnsley from this. The fund was significantly oversubscribed, but Barnsley had some success with four projects being allocated finance. One of the successful projects was to fund trading standards operations around the illegal sales of tobacco.

Questions were raised around whether there was any priority given to tackling issues associated with underprivileged young people and with county lines. It was noted that projects such as Exodus were funded to provide services to engage young people, and raised awareness of issues such as county lines.

In addition Members noted the work to adopt a Public Health approach to policing. This would respond to research that showed the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on people's lives.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation and response to questions; and
- (ii) That the report on Public Health Approaches to Policing be circulated to Elected Members.

39 Dearne Area Council Finance and Commissioning Update (Dac.16.03.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to the financial situation of the Area Council. From an opening balance in 2019/20 of £216,886.17, Members had allocated £212,597.76, leaving £4,288.41. When carried forward to 2020/21, this provided a starting balance of £204,288.41. Allocations had been made to the value of £176,557, leaving £27,731.41.

The Dearne Development Fund had started the financial year with £88,590.88 and remaining was £3,650.68.

Members noted that the newsletter had been designed with support from Communications. Feedback had been very positive, and a significant number of enquiries had been received. It was suggested that a future meeting should consider investment in further editions of the publication.

Those present heard that the Housing and Migration Officer had been very proactive and feedback about the service was positive. Members commented that issues were prevalent on the same streets and often with the same houses. Members asked to be provided with numbers of CPNs issued and prosecutions taken forward. Members discussed the impact on behaviour and the need for positive action undertaken to be featured in the press as a deterrent.

Members noted the current health situation and the potential for this to impact on users of the service provided by B:Friend. It was noted that this was being taken into account and there may be some adjustments in the delivery of the service.

Members were reminded that the employability service, delivered by Dearne Electronic Community Village, had been commissioned for a year, with the opportunity to continue for two further periods of a year. Members heard how the service was performing well and agreed that this should be continued.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the current financial position and the impact on future budgets be noted;
- (ii) that the latest position with regards to commissioned services be noted;
- (iii) That further information be provided on CPNs and prosecutions in relation to work undertaken by the Housing and Migration Officer;
- (iv) That the employability service be continued for a further year from 1st April, 2020 to 31st March, 2021 at a cost of £33,000.

40 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 16th January, 2020 (Dac.16.03.2020/6)

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 16th January, 2020. The meeting had agreed to hold a workshop to consider projects that would deliver to the agreed priorities.

Members commented on the success of the 'Don't destroy the Dearne' project, and the positive feedback that had been received.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

41 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.16.03.2020/7)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Members noted that, at the time of the report being produced, Dearne North Ward Alliance Fund had £3,277.12 remaining from a total budget of £21,784.29 for the year. 23 projects had received funding.

Dearne South had made awards from the Ward Alliance Fund to 17 projects, leaving £9,794.04 from a total fund of £23,232.98.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 8 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, C. Johnson and Phillips

42 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

43 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

44 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 16th March, 2020

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 16th March, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

45 Covid-19 Presentation

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities and Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager were welcomed to the meeting to present the item.

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due the scale, scope, and complexity of the pandemic.

However, the situation also offered opportunities to realign values, strengthen relationships with partners, restart and realign priorities to create a new normal. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and one was in development at a South Yorkshire level. Barnsley plans would align and be complementary. It was noted future plans needed to be agile and iterative, in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks. It was also noted that responses would be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding.

Three horizons were considered – h1 immediate recovery steps; h2 post-peak recovery steps; and h3 realising the recovery objectives. It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into h2 with lockdown being lifted. This was a period of innovation and that positives from the pandemic such as the ability to work more remotely, and to be more active, needed to be retained. As Barnsley moves forward, the h3 horizon will be the future that we want with the outcomes Barnsley desires, and objectives are being set to achieve this.

Members heard how the Council's draft recovery/renewal strategy encompassed 5 points; Humanitarian – Health and Wellbeing; Business Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Infrastructure and the Environment. It was recognised that all of which needed to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

Members heard of the steps being undertaken to develop and implement the strategy, including conducting impact analysis, considering what services need to be restarted, maintained, or discontinued, and noted the need to monitor, learn and be adaptive going forward.

In considering the role of Area Councils, the valuable contribution they played in responding to the crisis was acknowledged. This included the flexing of commissioned services, the refocusing of community organisations was, and supporting the emergence of new groups. Members heard of the important role that Area Councils and the community as a whole would play in assisting recovery.

Members noted that, in light of the current financial situation, the Council was reviewing all budgets and service areas to ensure they remained relevant in relation to Covid-19 and recovery efforts. Members were reminded of the cessation of all non-essential expenditure earlier in the year.

For the Area Council, the overall budget remained unaltered for 2020/21, but it was suggested that there was a need to review priorities and commissioning intentions to ensure that they were still relevant.

Those present heard of the anticipated challenges ahead, which included poverty and worklessness; schooling and education; mental health and emotional wellbeing; re-establishing the fabric of society; and impacts on health and wellbeing from a reduced accessing of services.

It was noted that the Council's strategic direction such as in relation to digital, an inclusive economy and Zero40 remained relevant. It was also suggested that the pandemic had offered opportunities, with agile working potentially supporting more district centres, the establishment of support networks in the communities, and it had offered a greater insight into those who are most vulnerable in communities.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the only exception being where finance had already been approved and local businesses had committed resources.

Although there had been an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but the position would be reviewed for 2021/22.

Members noted the previous requirement to match 50% of the Ward Alliance Funds budgets with external finance or volunteer time, and that this would be difficult to achieve and would therefore be relaxed for the current financial year.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence, with the backlog being addressed in due course. In addition, it was noted that the collection of domestic green waste was due to recommence on 9th June.

In relation to the work of the Area Team, Members heard that the team had been mapping the support available in the area, and promoting this to residents, alongside boroughwide initiatives. Additional support had been provided to help the distribution of wellbeing boxes and Easter eggs that had been donated.

Support had been provided to the emergency contact centre, with the team being assisted to deliver 3,000 postcards. Also supported was the initiative to produce face coverings. 79 individuals had sewed approximately 2,200 face coverings which had been distributed throughout the borough.

Assistance had been provided to Community Responders, with Area Teams working with Barnsley CVS in order to coordinate training. 10 Responders had been engaged in the area, responding to 36 requests for support. 21 requests had been for shopping with 15 for befriending. A number of those requesting support required this on an ongoing basis, and complex cases had been referred to more suitable services for support.

Contracts held by the Area Council had been flexed, with B:Friend providing support to 76 older people via telephone and social media. Food parcels and wellbeing packs had also been provided.

Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had been supporting the work of Neighbourhood Services litter picking and cleaning targeted areas. Support had also been offered to community groups.

DECV continued to support 23 learners online with 3 gaining employment recently. The Housing Officer continued their work, reporting issues with waste, such as contaminated bins, flytipping and also addressed issues of disrepair.

Welfare advice services provided by DIAL and CAB had moved online and were also able to be accessed via telephone. All other face to face work funded through the Dearne Development Fund had ceased.

Members were provided an overview of all contracts, including associated costs and when they were due to end.

Approximately £28,000 remained for allocation, though it was acknowledged that no finance had been devolved to the Dearne Development Fund, which had previously provided financial support to CAB and DIAL.

46 Discussion: reflections on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Members were reminded of the five strategic priorities. They were asked to consider whether the priorities of the Area Council aligned and whether services could continue, perhaps amended. In addition, Members were asked to highlight what might not align and may need to cease, or where there may be gaps that would require addressing.

The issue of business closure and associated unemployment was raised, and the expectation that this situation could worsen. The need to provide further support to residents through DIAL and CAB services was suggested.

Those present discussed the need for up to date data, including Universal Credit claimants, and support requested through Enterprise Barnsley, and existing support available. This would help Members to understand the issue in more detail, including whether the situation differed in the Dearne when compared to other areas.

RESOLVED That the availability of data and information on the impact of the pandemic be explored with a view to this informing further discussions on the subject.

47 Close of the meeting

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair

Item 29



MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 27 January 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), T. Cave, Hunt, Lofts, Pickering, Platts and Tattersall

39 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

40 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 18th November 2019

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 18th November, 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 18th November, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

41 Violence Reduction Unit - Mark Miller

Mr Mark Miller (Community Safety Team Leader) attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the establishment and operation of the Violence Reduction Unit.

He explained that in October, 2019 he had been seconded to the Unit which had been established by the Police and Crime Commissioner as a partnership between the Local Authority and the South Yorkshire Police. The Unit had been borne out of previous government initiatives aimed at reducing serious violence and knife crime. South Yorkshire Police and other key stakeholders had been allocated £1.6m from the Government to establish the Unit which had been based on a model originally piloted in Glasgow. It was hoped that early investment and intervention using a multi-agency approach could assist in tackling the root causes of violence and thereby prevent problems escalating.

A profile was being developed for each area which would set out the current position with regard to violent incidents as well as the key issues for that area. A draft had been prepared and would be launched shortly. From the profile, a strategy for violence reduction would be developed which would outline the actions to be taken by multiple agencies who were all to be asked to 'buy in' to the approach. Agencies to be involved included the Local Authority, Police, Fire as well as other providers/services including the Youth Offending Team, schools, the Crime Commissioning Team as well as the Health Service.

Members of the Area Council welcomed this approach and in response to questioning Mark Miller gave a brief outline of the type of work to be undertaken and particular mention was made to:-

- work with schools and early intervention proposals
- gun and knife crime, domestic violence, assault and drug related offences

- the ways in which Elected Members could refer issues identified within their community
- issues related to the night time economy and work being undertaken with bars, clubs and other venues

Mark Miller commented that the development of the strategy was an extensive piece of work which would include the views and concerns of local residents following a consultation exercise.

The Chair and Members of the Area Council thanked Mark Miller for his most informative presentation.

42 Environmental Education Contract (Clean and Green Service) - John and Wendy Twigg

John and Wendy Twigg gave a presentation on the background to and current position with regard to the Environmental Education Contract (Clean and Green Service). The presentation included, amongst other things:

- The work undertaken since the commencement of the contract and the issues of which they were most proud. It was pleasing to note the amount of encouragement and support they now received as well as the direct links forged with schools and with businesses
- The shift of culture/attitude to self-sufficiency and a move away from reliance on council services to a partnership approach
- Information was circulated showing 'before' and 'after' photographs together with statistics relating to work undertaken
- The return on investment in terms of volunteer hours and the number of work placements offered.
- Information was also provided on the work undertaken with school pupils with varying abilities and particular reference was made to the work undertaken with Greenacre school and with Barnsley College students
- Work with businesses to reduce waste particularly plastic and glass and work with pharmacies to encourage safe disposal of sharps
- Liaison that was undertaken with organisations including the Woodland Trust, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and the Recovery College

Members of the Area Council welcomed the progress made and in response to questioning information was provided on:

- The specific work undertaken over the last couple of months
- The challenges encountered during the transition from reliance on the authority to a partnership and volunteering approach
- The improvements in liaison and partnership approach with external bodies and organisations
- the improvement in the environment for wildlife

The Chair and Members thanked both John and Wendy Twigg for their most encouraging presentation.

43 Excess Winter Deaths - Julie Tolhurst, Anna Stobbs and Sharon Brown (DIAL)

The Area Council received three presentations under the banner of tackling Excessive Winter Deaths.

The first presentation by Julie Tolhurst (Public Health Principal) gave a general overview of the current position with regard to the number of winter deaths within the borough (with statistical comparisons to national data) and the steps being taken to tackle issues identified. Particular reference was made to the following:

- The trends (national and local) from 2001 – 2017 which indicated that the number of winter deaths was higher in Barnsley. Information was also provided for the Area Council
- The reasons for the increase in the number of deaths together with the underlying causes. Within this context reference was made to the number of people living with underlying health conditions, access to services to manage conditions, social isolation and fuel poverty
- The actions of DIAL in promoting the warmer homes project
- The development of an action plan in association with partners to start to address issues
- The work of partners and volunteers
- The importance of disseminating key messages to vulnerable residents about ways of avoiding excessive cold and about remaining healthy

In the ensuing discussion the following matters were raised:

- It was important to undertake a further in-depth analysis of the data in order to identify the root causes for the increase in deaths and the ways in which such matters could be tackled. Once this analysis had been undertaken it would be shared with members of the Area Council. It was noted that the Business Intelligence Team was currently undertaking an analysis for the previous quarter and a further report could be provided in the spring
- Reference was made to the work of the Task and Finish Group on poverty. Arising out of this, reference was made to the housing commission stock survey which was to be undertaken and to the issue in some wards in relation to housing conditions and energy efficiency

The second presentation by Sharon Brown of DIAL, supported by Margaret Richardson (Caseworker – Warm Homes) focused on the Warm Homes, Warm Connections initiative. The initiative provided emotional and practical support and advice to isolated and energy vulnerable residents.

Sharon Brown briefly outlined how the initiative operated and made particular reference to the following:

- The social return on the investment and how this was calculated. It was noted that since last January 304 home visits had been made to residents who were socially isolated or who were living in cold homes or both
- The ways in which stakeholders and residents were identified
- The way in which the added value of the initiative was calculated and determined

- The intended changes introduced, what the performance measures were and how this was measured
- The number of volunteers participating in the initiative and the financial value this equated to. It was noted that for every £1 spent the social return value had been calculated to be £11.86
- Other external factors that had impacted or affected the changes that had occurred

In the ensuing discussion particular reference was made to the following:

- Detailed statistical information on the operation of the scheme would be provided on a ward by ward basis at a future date. It was noted, however, that there would be a lag between the implementation of the initiative and the impact that the service had on the number of winter deaths in the locality
- Margaret Homes explained the action taken to refer residents for first time central heating or boiler replacements. Work was also undertaken to assist residents to undertake price comparisons and to change their energy suppliers to reduce costs. This was not always easy as some residents were reluctant to change suppliers for a number of reasons but there were, in many cases, significant savings to be made
- It was noted that in some instances grants for certain energy efficiency improvements were available. Assistance was also available from various energy suppliers. Information on the number of residents assisted in this respect would be made available for the Area Council Manager for distribution

The third presentation by Anna Stobbs (Public Health) focussed on Social Isolation. She explained the initiatives and commissioned services that had been introduced to tackle this issue and made reference to other activities within the North Area Council area which, whilst not 'labelled' social isolation, nevertheless contributed to addressing that issue.

At a national level, a strategy had been agreed to tackle social isolation and loneliness and a number of commitments had been identified, however, there was currently little clarity nor a single solution identified. Such a strategy would bring together local government, public services, the voluntary and community sectors, businesses together with public health which it was hoped would address the root causes of social isolation. She then made reference to the various strands under consideration which included social prescribing, employee pledges, improving public spaces as well as other innovative solutions to loneliness. The Government now wanted to receive reports on the progress of schemes to tackle loneliness. There would be a combination of solutions and in order to ensure a successful outcome it was particularly important to ensure that they were all fully evaluated.

Anna Stobbs then gave a brief overview of current actions. A Task and Finish Group was currently examining a borough wide approach and an all Member Information Briefing was to be held on the 11th February, 2020.

She then went on to refer to specific Foundation, Direct and Gateway Services and the ways in which these impacted on and contributed to reducing social isolation.

A meeting was to be held with all Area Managers to look at a collective review and the outcome of these discussions would be fed into the wider review which would determine an appropriate approach.

In the ensuing discussion, particular reference was made to the following:

- The reasons for social isolation, the types of groups available, the reluctance of some (men in particular) to join such groups and the ways in which these issues could be overcome
- The ways in which Area Councils could assist in reducing social isolation by highlighting gaps in provision
- The role of Public Health and the NHS in identifying and addressing issues
- The role of 'social prescribers' in signposting individuals to various groups as well as the links with the Stronger Communities Partnership
- It was anticipated that the outcome of the review would be available towards the end of the year

The Chair and Members of the Area Council thanked Julie Tolhurst, Sharon Brown, Margaret Richardson and Anna Stobbs for their most informative presentations and for answering Members questions.

44 Young People's Health and Wellbeing Project Specification - procurement update

The Area Council Manager introduced the item and asked Members to reflect on the discussions that had taken place recently at the workshop which had explored the opportunity for a North Area Council funded young people's project.

Members were reminded of the background and intended focus for the project and were given an overview outlining the current position with the development of the project.

The project was currently out to tender, however, the advertisement had been delayed which meant that it would not be possible for the service to commence until May 2020 at the earliest. It was noted that a provider presentation was scheduled for the 12th March, 2020.

RESOLVED that the procurement update be noted.

45 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance - to include update from budget profiling workshop

The Area Council Manager provided introduced this item and provided Members of the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that had been proposed.

It was reported that the specification for the Environmental Education contract was to be reviewed at a workshop planned for 3rd March, 2020. The Grants Panel was to meet on the 28th February, 2020 for the Evaluation Panel and it was particularly important that the Area Council Manager was alerted to any proposed commissioning profile variations so that feasibility considerations could be made at the earliest opportunity. It was also noted that decisions on the continuance of various projects

would have to be taken at the March meeting so that there was sufficient time to advertise tender opportunities.

The Area Council Manager reported that whilst the Housing Migration Officer post was currently vacant a successful recruitment exercise had been undertaken and following interviews on the 17th January, 2020 the post had been filled (subject to the usual background checks). Details of the commencement date would be provided once this was known.

It was also reported that the closing date for applications for the Stronger Communities Grant was 12.00 noon on the 31st January, 2020.

The forecast for 2019/20 showed that whilst there was a significant underspend (including underspend from previous years,) this would be reduced to £156,433 and the reasons for this were outlined. In addition, there were some sizeable projects upon which decisions were required in March 2020 which meant that there was unlikely to be any further underspends going forward.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the existing budget position and funding commitments be noted;
- (ii) That the current position regarding the recruitment to the Housing Migration Officer post be noted; and
- (iii) That a Workshop be arranged to review the Environmental Specification prior to a decision on whether or not to re-commission the project.

46 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager updated the North Area Council regarding the financial position of the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2019/20 period.

It was particularly noted that in September 2019 an additional £10,000 of devolved ward budget had been allocated to each Ward Alliance. This finance would roll over into the following financial year.

RESOLVED that each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2019/20, in line with the guidance on spend.

47 Notes from the area's Ward Alliances

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on the 12th November and 10th December, 2019; Darton West Ward Alliance held on the 6th November, 2019; Old Town Ward Alliance held on the 12th November, 2019; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on the 14th November, 2019.

Further information was provided as follows:

Within the Darton East Ward, the Christmas Lights switch on had been well supported at Woolley Colliery, however, the Darton Christmas Tree had been vandalised for the second year in succession so consideration was to be given to

whether or not provision should be made next year. It was also reported that the Christmas Disco had been a success and there had been good attendance for the Father Christmas event.

In the Darton West Ward work was progressing on the first phase of the Park development, footpath works and bulb planting etc. In addition, the Christmas lights switch on, Remembrance Day and poppy events had been successful.

The Old Town Ward has supported the St Paul's Christmas Community Celebration which had been a success. The Christmas events had been well attended. A number of issues had been raised in relation to Traffic Regulation Orders and investigations were progressing into the feasibility of undertaking a summer project for children.

In the St Helen's Ward investigations were being undertaken in relation to the possible provision of a defibrillator. The Ward Alliance had provided support for the Caterpillar Club and the Junior Tykes and the Christmas events had been successful. Thanks were extended to all who had rallied round to address vandalism issues. The Memorial service at Laithes Chapel had been successful and schools were thanked for participating in events. Moving forward, the Alliance was looking at developing the Ward Plan and specific reference was made to the development of happy healthy eating events. Information was also referred to in relation to forthcoming projects/bids and specific reference was made to, amongst other things, the provision of a bench in memory of soldiers from the Yorkshire Regiment. Reference was also made to the provision of funding for smart water marking.

RESOLVED that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

Chair

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Item 30



MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 16 March 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), A. Cave, T. Cave, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Pickering, Platts and Tattersall

48 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

49 **Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 27th January 2020**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th January 2020.

It was highlighted that development of the Violence Reduction strategy was well underway and will be shared with Members when it is completed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 27th January 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

50 **Stronger Communities Grant Outcomes report (March)**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating Members about the North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant application and allocation process, the outcome of the grant panel meeting and the projects approved for funding, also outlining the performance management and monitoring arrangements for successful projects.

It was explained that it was a very competitive process, with 7 applications received before the deadline, totalling over £100,000. The Grants Panel met at the end of February, with each ward represented by a Councillor. Four applications were recommended for funding as follows: Emmanuel Methodist Church – Connections) £19,996.00; YMCA Youthwork £10,576.00; Making Space/Barnsley Dementia Gateway – Information, Advice and Wellbeing Café £10,000 and Citizens' Advice Bureaux – North Area Debt Advice Service £9,428.00. Members highlighted the difficulties of making decisions this year, as the same applications are submitted by organisations every year and the aim should be for projects to be self sustaining at the end of the grant funding. It was reported that the Mking Space Café project was to be delayed until the summer, with reduced funding, due to the current Coronavirus pandemic. This may also impact on other projects which are aimed at similar age groups. The Area Council Manager is attempting to contact the Emmanuel Church about this issue. It is known that Berneslai Homes is planning to close some of its Community Centres due to Coronavirus. A Member raised a query about confidentiality of information and GDPR requirements. It was explained that

confidential information is not shared across projects, although larger organisations do retain their own information and are able to contact local stakeholders.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Members note the NAC Stronger Communities Grant update;
- (ii) Members note the projects that have been approved for funding, and
- (iii) Members agree the performance and monitoring arrangements outlined in Section 7 of the report.

51 Young People's Health and Wellbeing Project Specification - procurement (verbal update)

The Area Council Manager gave a detailed update of discussions that took place at a recent workshop which explored the opportunity for a North Area Council funded young people's project. It was explained that when the commission went out to tender only one application was received, which did not meet the project criteria, rendering the procurement unsuccessful. Provider feedback indicated that problems had been experienced with the process, particularly YorTender. The procurement panel met on 12th March to discuss the outcome and way forward and along with other stakeholders, developed a number of recommendations to adapt the model. It is recommended that the focus of delivery shifts away from in-school delivery to after school and holiday provision in the community, with beneficiaries identified and informally referred by schools to ensure those most in need are supported. Members were made aware of the Beyond Words initiative. Beyond Words is a charity that provides books and training to support people who find pictures easier to understand than words, with resources to empower people through pictures. Kexborough Primary School currently have a staff member trained to use this resources and have found it beneficial when working with children with emotional needs, with positive results. It was felt that it would be of benefit for Beyond Words to be delivered in 3 geographical areas – St Helens, Darton and Old Town, with the same programme running in each area in terms of after school activities and school holiday provision. All 6 local schools will be involved, with 2 TAs and 2 volunteers trained in each organisation. It is anticipated that the project will lead to establishing better links between schools and communities in a positive manner. The children supported wouldn't necessarily meet the criteria for special educational needs, but would benefit from additional input to manage their emotions. Members were asked to note that the out of school provision may not be available until September to allow for transition work to be undertaken with Years 5 and 6 from September 2020.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Members note the procurement update;
- (ii) the focus of the project be adapted to allow for great invest in community provision;

- (iii) the process be redesigned and the opportunity converted into a more accessible grant, dividing the opportunity into smaller 'lots' based on geography;
- (iv) the feasibility of training key locality based staff to use 'Books Beyond Words' resources be fully explored, and
- (v) an additional budget be allocated to allow for staff training in the use of 'Books Beyond Words'.

52 Environmental Education Contract

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, summarising the project development activity that had taken place regarding the North's Environment Priority and associated Environmental Education Contract and asking the North Area Council to consider next steps regarding future investment in this priority area.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The North Area Council note the key points identified at the priority workshop held on the 5th March 2020;
- (ii) The Area Council Manager be tasked with refining the specification of the project to improve the overall environmental appearance of the four wards that make up the North Area Council area and how to increase volunteering and engagement associated with this priority area;
- (iii) A further workshop be arranged for 16th April, and
- (iv) Councillors give some consideration to the educational outcomes they wish the redefined specification to include.

53 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, providing Members with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed. Detailed information was provided with regard to projects attracting significant commitment, including the Anti-Poverty Community Outreach Project, the Clean and Green Service and the Housing Migration and Private Sector Housing Officer post. Health and Wellbeing projects, the Stronger Communities Grant, devolved funding to Ward Alliances and the Community Magazine were also discussed.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The North Area Council note the existing budget position and funding commitments;

- (ii) Members agreed to fund the Anti- Poverty IAG contract for two years (+1yr) from September 2020
- (iii) Members agreed to fund the environmental education provision for two years (+1yr) from October 2020
- (iv) Members will meet for a 2nd workshop to redefine the environmental specification prior to a decision to re-commission.
- (v) Members noted information regarding the Housing and Cohesion Officer, and
- (vi) Members agreed to the final year's extension of the Warm Connections Project (Sept 2020 – Aug 2021)

54 Performance Management Report - Commissioned Projects & Grant Summary - Q3

The Area Council manager introduced this item, providing Members with a comprehensive North Area Council Performance report for the period October to December 2019. Projects were discussed in detail and case studies were provided for a number of projects including CAB/Dial; Twiggs Grounds Maintenance; the work of the Housing Cohesion and Participation Officers and the Reds in the Community Healthy Lifestyles project.

RESOLVED that Members note the contents of the Performance Management Report

55 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund

The Area Council Manager updated the North Area Council with regard to the financial position and the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2019/20 period. Information included base budget allocations; carry forward from 2018/19 and funding devolved from the Area Council.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The update be noted, and
- (ii) each Ward in the North Area Council area continues to prioritise the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2019/20, in line with the guidance on spend.

56 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 14th January and 11th February 2020; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 15th January and 5th February 2020; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 29th January and 11th February and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 16th January 2020. Additional updates were provided as follows:

Darton East: The local action plan for the year has now been agreed. A number of applications for funding have now been agreed, including £500 for the defibrillator at the LIDL supermarket. The pantomimes took place at Greenside church hall, raising money for both the church and for charity. The Greenspace group is to carry out litter picking on alternative Saturdays, focussing on three areas – Mapplewell park, the War Memorial and the Community Gardens. Hanging baskets are to be sponsored by local businesses this year.

Darton West: Fencing at Dearne Hall Road is still awaited, as Twiggs need to get a licence to work on Highways land, although funding was agreed last July. The Darton Village in Bloom project is underway and 2 projects are to be chosen to work on, which will be entered into the Barnsley in Bloom competition next year. A defibrillator has been installed at Redbrook Community Centre, with another coming on stream in Priestley Avenue. Officers were thanked for their assistance with this.

Old Town: Various applications for funding have been agreed, including funding for a disability football challenge and a Writing competition prize of £100. Community groups are being approached for help to purchase 'live' Christmas trees. The writing group supported by Lee Swift is very positive. Two information boards have now been erected at the Fleets. The cost of using mains electricity for Christmas tree lights has been explored but this is very expensive.

St Helens: The Christmas events were very well received in the community, with local schools all involved. A number of funding applications have been agreed, including £365 to reduce Carlton Road bollards to knee height for safety reasons and an Environmental working budget of £5000. Galas are in the planning stage and the ward plan is being developed. Ideas for the Great British Spring Clean are being put forward. An event for young people is to take place at the end of the summer holidays. Good discussion about mental health, self harm etc. event for yp – at end of summer holidays. Two events are being planned to restore the Barnsley PALS flags with input from an organisation in Manchester. Thanks were expressed to all who had contributed to this.

RESOLVED that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

Chair

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Item 31



MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Friday, 5 June 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), T. Cave, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Newing, Platts and Tattersall

57 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

58 **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed participants, the Press and the public to the meeting, highlighting that this meeting was to be streamed live over the internet and that a recording would be available on the Barnsley MBC website shortly after the conclusion of the meeting.

59 **Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 16th March, 2020**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th March 2020. It was highlighted that the waiver for the anti-poverty steering group has now been progressed and is awaiting sign-off.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 16th March 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

60 **Covid-19 Presentation**

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, and Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities were welcomed to the meeting to deliver a presentation on BMBC's Covid-19 Recovery Plan.

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due to its length and ongoing impact and the requirement for responses to be agile and adaptive.

The pandemic also offered opportunities to realign values and to create a new 'normal'. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and a recovery plan was also in development at a South Yorkshire level, with Barnsley plans aligned and complementary to this. It was noted future plans needed to be interactive, agile and iterative in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks and that responses would

be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding.

Three horizons were considered – H1 immediate recovery steps (April-June 2020), H2 post-peak recovery steps (July-December 2020) and H3 realising the recovery objectives (2021 onwards). It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into H2, with lockdown being lifted, and that this was a period of innovation. As Barnsley moves forward the H3 horizon will be the future that we want with the outcomes Barnsley desires. Barnsley is Currently in the 'collision zone' where all 3 horizons meet.

A 5 point recovery and renewal strategy is proposed, encompassing: Humanitarian (Health and Wellbeing), Business Economy, Building Resilience, Education and Attainment and finally Infrastructure and the Environment. This will go to Cabinet over the next few weeks. An impact analysis will be conducted, what's stopping, starting and continuing will be identified, the key recovery actions and plan will be set out, a 100 day recovery plan will be implemented alongside ongoing monitoring, learning, testing and adapting. It was recognised that all of these need to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

It was highlighted that we have already seen how commissioned services and community organisations have flexed to adapt their service models and continue support to local communities. However, there is a need to review funding assumptions made for all budgets in 2020/21. Funding allocations for area councils remain unchanged but there is a need to consider whether the planned priorities remain the same. There is likely to be an exacerbated impact on poverty and worklessness, education, mental health and emotional wellbeing, economic impact, coupled with a need to re-establish the fabric of society and the health and wellbeing impact from lack of service availability.

There is an opportunity to build on the digital agenda, inclusive economy, more agile working, changing support networks and examples of greater community spirit as exemplified by the Thursday night support for NHS and care workers.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the only exception being where finance has already been approved and local businesses have committed resources.

Although there was an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but that this position would be reviewed during the remainder of 2020/21.

Members noted the previous requirement for Ward Alliance Funds to match 50% of their budgets with external finance or volunteer time was to be relaxed until it is possible to hold public events.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence as staff return to substantive grass cutting duties from 8th June and the backlog being addressed in due course.

The North Area Council Manager outlined the North Area Team's Response to the crisis, which initially was community mobilisation with Area Team support. Over 5000 leaflets were delivered across the area, Nestle Easter eggs were distributed to those in need and Community Responders stepped up, answering 84 requests for support.

Area Council contracts and grants have been flexed, including the Warm Connections Project, DIAL, Twiggs, CAB and YMCA and detailed information was provided of what this 'flexing' looked like. The Dementia Café and Emmanuel Churches Older Person Inclusion projects have had their start dates deferred. They will reopen when it is safe to do so in accordance with national guidance. The Area Council manager highlighted that it is a delicate balance of practical support and nurture and that the current North Area Priorities and Commissioning Intentions have a strong synergy with the 5 point plan outlined earlier.

Members were provided with detailed information on the North Area Council Budget. Those projects rated as 'Green' are continuing, those rated 'Amber' are being revised and those rated as 'Red' are being discontinued.

RESOLVED that Members note the presentation.

61 Discussion: reflection on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Following the Covid-19 presentation, a discussion took place regarding how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery and specifically what they would like to continue to do. Members were of the view that they wanted to use community groups and Ward Alliances to assist with the recovery but were unsure how to do this going forward with the requirement for social distancing etc. Reassurances were given that government guidance would be issued when available and that it may be possible to hold 'virtual' Ward Alliance meetings until such time as face to face meetings can recommence.

Members thanked Council staff and volunteers for all their hard work in supporting the community together with NHS staff, care home workers and all Council key workers. The Area Council Manager highlighted that there is an increasing number of vulnerable individuals in the community who may not meet threshold for statutory support and the Area Council and volunteers have been instrumental in identifying and supporting them. It is now a case of 'surviving', not thriving, and there is a greater awareness of pressures in the community, particularly amongst older and vulnerable people who have needed support. This greater depth of contact into communities should definitely be seen as a positive.

Existing contracts will help with the recovery and are closely aligned to the Recovery Strategy. Throughout the crisis there has been a food parcel service, medication

delivery and community befriending. The South Yorkshire Resilience Forum is in place to manage those individuals who are shielding. An exit strategy will be put in place for those who are shielding so that appropriate plans and step-down arrangements can be put in place for those who have become reliant on the service. The Befriending service will look at what is appropriate to sustain, using existing organisations and volunteers and building on it. Recovery planning is still in the early stages and will take 12-18 months.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Contract waiver arrangements will be put in place for existing contracts which were due for retendering (Environmental Education until March 2021 and a 12 month waiver for Anti-Poverty Outreach).
- (ii) A new start date will be agreed with the Community Cohesion and Housing Officer and the Young People's project.

62 Environmental Education Contract Specification

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, summarising the project development activity that has taken place regarding the North's Environment Priority and associated Environmental Education Contract. Next steps regarding the future investment in this priority area were also presented to Members for consideration.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The North Area Council should note key points identified at the priority workshop held on the 16th April 2020;
- (ii) The North Area Council agreed the content of the specification at Appendix1; and
- (iii) The North Area Council agreed to proceed with the procurement of the revised specification following a 6 month waiver of the existing contract

63 Close of the meeting

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 30 January 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cherryholme, Felton, Green, Houghton CBE, Makinson, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

38 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Hayward declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 44 and left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed. Councillor Sir Steve Houghton took the Chair for this item only.

39 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

40 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout October, November and December 2019. The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – The new artwork commemorating the battle of the Somme has now been installed in Cudworth Pocket Park, paid for by the Cudworth Environmental Group and the Cudworth Ward Alliance. The Christmas Panto ‘Puss in Boots’ at the Methodist Church was a great success. Recent funding applications include the installation of defibrillators at Age UK, Age UK Dementia Friendly Café for a trial period of 6 months. The Spring Health Fayre is planned for Saturday 21st March, 10.30 to 12 at the Methodist church. The Great British Spring Clean will take place on 28th March, with volunteers meeting at 10 a.m. at Cudworth Park. The view down the valley is wonderful now that the shrubs have been cleared. The BMX site at Dorothy Hyman is being moved down the valley, having extended the car park, this is a large scale project and will take 2 years to complete.

Monk Bretton – A key project in the Monk Bretton area has been working on the provision of 5 defibrillators, part funded through the Heathy Heart Group. All defibrillators will have ‘guardians’ and training courses will be provided regarding their use. The community is looking forward to another ‘Great British Spring Clean’ in

March. A raised bed has been installed on the entrance to Lundwood and this will be planted up.

North East – The Christmas pantomimes held at Great Houghton, Shafton and Grimethorpe were a great success. A ‘Tidy Day’ was held on Wednesday 22nd January, supported by volunteers from ASOS who collected 56 bags of waste from the area. The Grimethorpe Residents Group is now up and running and are also doing litter picks. Recent successful funding bids were outlined, including provision of planters at Great Houghton Village Hall and catering equipment at the Methodist church. Bulb planting has taken place across all 4 villages. The Great British Spring Clean will take place between 20th March and 13th April, with the Ward Alliance encouraging all 4 villages to take part. The new ‘What’s On’ booklet has now been completed and the Ward Alliance has agreed to joint fund 2 defibrillators in the community. Each village now has a defibrillator.

Royston – It was reported that the Ward Alliance has been busy working on many projects covering a myriad of issues. Of the 84 community projects across the area, 26,811 volunteer hours have been contributed which equates to a monetary value of over £300,000. Defibrillators have been fitted outside stores on the High Street, at the Pavillion, the Police Station, the Pack Horse Public House and the centre at Meadow Crescent. Plans are in place to kickstart funding for next year’s Christmas lights with funding provided for 10 with a view to businesses funding others. CCTV cameras for the Neighbourhood Watch have also been funded. The Achievement Awards will take place at the Town Hall on 10th March and a Health Fayre is planned for 3rd March. The Ward Alliance and the S106 Steering Group continue to meet. Principal Towns have funded the refurbishment of 9 shop fronts to date, with 14 to go. The Greenspaces group continues to meet, working on the park and the shrub beds and collecting 30 bags of green waste. There will be 5 or 6 events during the Great British Spring Clean period, with a Ward Alliance member leading each area. The 2nd edition of the ‘What’s On’ guide is currently being proofread prior to distribution.

The Area Council Manager reported that she will be visiting each Ward Alliance twice a year from now on.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

41 Lisa Blackburn and Rachel Lancaster will update the Area Council with regard to the Blue Badge Scheme

Lisa Blackburn and Rachel Lancaster were welcomed to the meeting to talk about the Blue Badge Scheme, explaining in detail the process for applying for a badge and the scoring criteria which is issued by Central Government to determine eligibility. It was highlighted that with regard to a non-visible or hidden disability, supporting medical evidence is required and the assessment is tailored to take account of this. If an application is refused, the applicant has the right to appeal to the Board. There is no definitive criteria for armed forces personnel, as all assessments are based around mobility.

A discussion took place around the potential misuse of the Blue Badge Scheme. It was explained by the Officers that they work closely with Civil Enforcement Officers

to ensure that badges are used correctly. Two prosecutions have been made, with another four in the pipeline.

RESOLVED that Members note the information provided and that Lisa and Rachel be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

42 Stop Smoking commissioned project

Amanda Longdon, Stop Smoking Service Manager and Sarah Sverdloff, Healthy Lifestyle Advisor, were welcomed to the meeting to give an overview of the North East Stop Smoking Project. Smoking prevalence in the North East area is reducing but is one of the highest rates in the country, with just over 1 in 4 adults in the area smoking. It is higher than the Barnsley average. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death, is linked to long term health conditions and comes at great financial cost to society.

It was highlighted that Level 2 advisors working in the community have exceeded the annual target for supporting people to quit. Four week and twelve week quit rates continue to improve year on year, with 51% of people quitting in Year 1 and 58% quitting in Year 2 of the project. Sarah now runs 7 clinics across the area at a variety of locations, including GP practices and family/community centres. All of the sessions are well attended and positive client feedback has been received. An additional clinic has just been set up at ASOS, which is doing really well. A clinic has also been set up at Outwood Academy, Shafton, with 15 children attending on the first day and attendance increasing week on week.

A discussion took place around the use of e-cigs and potential health risks. This is being closely monitored as the use of e-cigs is not licensed by the NHS as yet. However, this is supported as use of e-cigs is 95% safer than smoking.

CCW: results fantastic, intergenerational.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Members note the update, and
- (ii) Amanda and Sarah be thanked for the fantastic work they are doing in the community and for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

43 North East Area Council Project Performance Report

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, highlighting progress in regard to the delivery of a number of projects aligned to the agreed outcomes and social value objectives of the North East Area Council.

Members considered a summary performance management report for each service commissioned to provide services in the North East Area Council area, together with detailed case studies outlining the valuable work taking place which also contributes to these objectives.

Specific items to note included the Social Isolation and Dementia Project; the work of the Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Officer; District Enforcement (including

car parking, litter and dog fouling) and reparation litter picking work which had been done in conjunction with 15 young people, 7 of whom were from the North East Area.

The North East area team has been involved in planting 7,000 daffodils bulbs at Cudworth park, encouraging volunteers, community groups, businesses, individual and families to brighten up the park in time for spring 2020, also supported by Henry Boot.

The North East Ward Alliance helped low-income families cope with the extra costs of feeding children over the six-week school break through the 'Fit and Fed' family based project, providing open spaces around the holidays for children and families to come together to play, learn new skills, and share a meal together.

During the festive period a number of community Christmas events across the North East Area were supported with the aim of addressing social isolation by bringing people out of their homes and interacting with others. Examples of these projects include – village Christmas trees, Christmas lights on the High Street and other key focal points, pantomimes and Christmas Carol Concerts with the school choirs.

In November 44 homes in Lundwood around the Lang Avenue area were flooded, causing loss, damage and distress to residents and their properties, with some residents rehomed due to the damage caused. The Ward Alliance created crisis hampers made up of all the essential items a family would need to live on, to help them through the flooding period and alleviate some of the financial pressures during this difficult time. A Christmas party was also held at Burton Grange Community Centre for the flood victims. The party was designed to bring the community together after the difficult time, allow them to socialise and get back to sense of normality. It was also an opportunity to say thank you to all those that had volunteered and helped out during that time.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The update be noted
- (ii) That the Area Team be thanked for their hard work, and
- (iii) Members let the Area Manager know about any problem with private landlord properties, vulnerable tenants/families and 'hot spots' in their areas.

44 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating Members regarding the commissioning budget and financial analysis for the period 2017/18 to 2020/21.

Members were then reminded that the North East Area Council had agreed the specification for the Apprentices and Employability Commission and that it should go out to tender at the meeting on 30th November 2019. However, BMBC's Category Manager, Strategic Procurement & Commissioning Support, and Post 16 Partnership Manager has now been advised that all framework apprenticeships will no longer be funded by the Government after July 31st 2020, and will be replaced by new 'standard' frameworks. It is therefore necessary to withdraw the Apprentices and Employability tender in order to be able to assess the impact this will have on the

commission. A waiver will be required until the end of July 2020, at a cost of £70,866 to ensure there is no break in service until a revised commission is completed.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Members note the commissioning budget and financial analysis update report;
- (ii) withdraw the Apprentices and Employability tender in order to be able to assess the impact this will have on the commission;
- (iii) the Executive Director Communities be authorised to complete all necessary paperwork in order to waive contract procedure rules and extend the commission until the end of July 2020, at a cost of £70,866 to ensure there is no break in service until a revised commission is completed.

45 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating Members regarding the North East Area Council Budget and Ward Alliance Funds.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

46 Interim Finance Report

Members were asked to approve the continuation of the Stop Smoking Community Outreach Service commission with SWYFT for a further year from April 2020 until the end of April 2021 at a cost of £30,000 per annum, with an additional plus 1 year to be funded subject to further funding being available and satisfactory outputs and outcomes being realised. Members were reminded of the smoking statistics for the North East area, the successful delivery of the project to date

The North East Area Council Manager then updated Members regarding the procurement of an Environmental Enforcement Service with a focus on littering, dog fouling and parking. This contract was awarded to District Enforcement and the service started in April 2019. The project was successfully delivered, and the positive outputs and outcomes realised have been reported in the Area Manager's Performance Reports. Members were asked to approve the continuation of the Enforcement commission with District Enforcement for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £65,000 per annum.

In order to ensure that the Environmental Enforcement Service operates as part of the Council's broader approach and operates within the same degree of integrity as the primary enforcement agent in the North East Council Area, a service level agreement with BMBC's Safer Neighbourhoods Service is in place. This enables the electronic processing of tickets to be implemented and delivered using hand held devices. Members were asked to approve the continuation of this service level agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Service for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £14,840 per annum.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the continuation of the Stop Smoking Community Outreach Service commission with SWYFT be approved for a further year from April 2020 until the end on April 2021 at a cost of £30,000 per annum, with an additional plus 1 year subject to further funding and satisfactory performance;
- (ii) the continuation of the Enforcement commission with District Enforcement be approved for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £65,000 per annum; and
- (iii) the continuation of the service level agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Services be approved for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £14,840 per annum.

Chair

Item 33



MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 4 June 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cheetham, Cherryholme, Ennis OBE, Felton, Higginbottom, Houghton CBE, Makinson, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

47 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

48 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed participants, the Press and the public to the meeting, highlighting that this meeting was to be streamed live over the internet and that a recording would be available on the Barnsley MBC website shortly after the conclusion of the meeting.

49 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 30th January, 2020

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 30th January 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 30th January 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

50 Covid-19 Presentation

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, and Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities were welcomed to the meeting to deliver a presentation on BMBC's Covid Recovery Plan

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due to its length and ongoing impact and the requirement for responses to be agile and adaptive.

The pandemic also offered opportunities to realign values and to create a new 'normal'. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and a recovery plan was also in development at a South Yorkshire level, with Barnsley plans aligned and complementary to this. It was noted future plans needed to be interactive, in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks and that responses would be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding.

Three horizons were considered – h1 immediate recovery steps, h2 post-peak recovery steps and h3 realising the recovery objectives. It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into h2, with lockdown being lifted, and that this was a period of innovation. As Barnsley moves forward the h3 horizon will be the future that we want with the outcomes Barnsley desires. Barnsley is Currently in the 'collision zone' where all 3 horizons meet.

A 5 point recovery and renewal strategy is proposed, encompassing: Humanitarian (Health and Wellbeing), Business Economy, Building Resilience, Education and Attainment and finally Infrastructure and the Environment. This will go to Cabinet over the next few weeks. An impact analysis will be conducted, what's stopping, starting and continuing will be identified, the key recovery actions and plan will be set out, a 100 day recovery plan will be implemented alongside ongoing monitoring, learning, testing and adapting. It was recognised that all of these need to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

We have already seen how commissioned services and community organisations have flexed to adapt their service models and continue support to local communities. However, there is a need to review funding assumptions made for all budgets in 2020/21. Funding allocations for area councils remain unchanged but there is a need to consider whether the planned priorities remain the same. There is likely to be an exacerbated impact on poverty and worklessness, education, mental health and emotional wellbeing, economic impact, coupled with a need to re-establish the fabric of society and the health and wellbeing impact from lack of service availability.

There is an opportunity to build on the digital agenda, inclusive economy, more agile working, changing support networks and examples of greater community spirit as exemplified by the Thursday night support for NHS and care workers.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the only exception being where finance has already been approved and local businesses have committed resources.

Although there was an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but that this position would be reviewed for 2021/22.

Members noted the previous requirement for Ward Alliance Funds to match 50% of their budgets with external finance or volunteer time was to be relaxed for the current financial year.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, the schedules of which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence as staff return to substantive grass cutting duties from 8th June and the backlog being addressed in due course.

Caroline Donovan, North East Area Council Manager, outlined the local response to the pandemic. Over 100 wellbeing boxes had been delivered to elderly residents, over 300 easter eggs distributed, 28 families provided with slow cookers and the ingredients for healthy meals on a regular basis, and currently over 400 activity packs for tots, juniors and teens are being made up. Local volunteer Community Responders have worked with people who are either shielding or have been assessed as vulnerable. They have all been fully trained and provided with PPE to support shopping and befriending in their local communities.

Contracts and grants have been flexed and detailed information was provided of what this 'flexing' looked like. Current priorities and commissioning intentions were outlined, together with contract end dates. The Council was asked to consider the 5 recovery priorities; which initiatives align and can continue and which don't align.

RESOLVED that Members note the presentation.

51 Discussion: reflections on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Councillors were invited to ask questions on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist the community in recovery. A number of issues were highlighted including specific items of note:

The Principal Towns project will still be going ahead. Phase 1 of the project has been secured so projects will be delivered if this is what members want although the timescales may change. The Public Toilets scheme in Cudworth is going ahead unless plans are to be amended, although there may be some contractual delays. Indeed, contracts on the majority of projects have been signed so will go ahead.

There are no proposals to change governance arrangements at the moment and meetings will have to take place 'virtually'. In the future more agile working from district centres may be possible. The use of technology means people can be a lot more flexible, including working from home and in local offices, dependent on the individual and the service they work for. Consideration will be given over the next few months as to how to get district centres up and running. When shops and local businesses are able to reopen they will need help to re-establish and work safely and may need signage, advice around social distancing and queue management. Members were aware of a number of local businesses who have managed the situation well with regard to queuing and keeping customers safe.

It was confirmed that Barnsley is NOT a hotspot for Coronavirus. The figures for the period between 6th and 23rd May increased due to the fact that testing was stepped up, particularly in care homes. Lots of positive results came back during this period which seemed to indicate disproportionate positive results, which engendered this headline. It is a similar story in Barnsley to the rest of Yorkshire. Incidences and numbers of deaths are slowing but people are still catching the disease and people continue to lose their lives. It was highlighted that where communities have poor health outcomes generally and those with underlying health issues are more at risk. Barnsley will also feel the economic impact due to current levels of deprivation, which is why recovery planning is so important. Until a vaccine is developed, this situation will need to be managed as effectively as possible.

Government guidance and advice from Public Health is still awaited in terms of reopening community venues. Particular challenges exist with regard to libraries and managing numbers in the building. In terms of risk assessments, assistance will be given where possible in accordance with government guidance. Barnsley CVS will advise and assist organisations across the area.

RESOLVED that Members note the discussion and information provided.

52 Procurement and Finance Update

The Area Council Manager introduced this item. The Members agreed that the North East Area Council's priorities should continue as follows:

- A Thriving and Vibrant Economy
- Love Where You Live
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Young People

Members were then asked to consider several financial recommendations in the light of Barnsley MBC's Recovery priorities.

RESOLVED that:

- i. the Executive Director for Communities be authorised to complete all the necessary paperwork in order to waive contract procedure rules to extend the current Apprentices and Employability commission until the end of March 2021 at a cost £145,000.
- ii. The North East Area Council devolve a further £40,000 to the Ward Alliances, at an additional £10,000 per Ward Alliance.
- iii. The North East Area Council allocate a further £55,000 to the Youth Development Working Together Fund.
- iv. Age UK Barnsley is awarded a further £4,000 to continue the Information, Advice and Guidance service for a further 12 months, and
- v. A £20,000 contingency fund is allocated to further strengthen the recovery of environmental improvements across the North East Area Council.

53 Close of the meeting

Chair

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MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 13 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson

30 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

31 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 5th December 2019 (Pac.13.02.2020/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th December, 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 5th December, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

32 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 5th December 2019, and 9th January, 2020 (Pac.13.02.2020/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 5th December, 2019 and 9th January, 2020.

Members noted the the application from Cawthorne VE75 would no longer be forthcoming as they had secured the required finance from other sources.

Thanks were given to Richard Leech for his volunteering to take part in the evaluation panel for the Clean and Tidy commission.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance be received;
- (ii) That thanks be given to Richard Leech for his volunteering to take part in the tender evaluation panel for the Clean and Tidy commission.

33 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.13.02.2020/4)

The Area Council Manager introduced the report, noting the finance remaining in the Ward Alliance Fund which was in the region of £26,000. It was noted that the forthcoming Ward Alliance Meeting would consider over £11,000 of applications.

Members acknowledged that projects funded, and that finance could be carried forward into 2020/21. It was likely that this would be in the region of £15,000. Members noted that the Ward Alliance Fund would be promoted through the coverage in Penistone Living.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

34 Performance Report Q3 (Pac.13.02.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, and Members noted that the report covered the period October to December, 2019.

Five contracts were in place for services delivering in the area, these were held by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, Age UK, DIAL, Citizen's Advice Bureau and South Pennine Community Transport. The Area Council Manager made Members aware that there were no concerns about any of the contracts.

The attention of Members was drawn to the overview of performance, and it was noted that the services contributed to some of the priorities more than others. It was suggested that the local economy and supporting young people may be areas where Members wished to focus investment on in the future.

Members noted the numbers of volunteers engaged, and those influencing the design and maintenance of their environment. 19 Community groups had been supported within the quarter, 2 of these being new. 79 residents and young people had also received advice and support within the quarter.

With regards to the current contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, it was noted that this would come to the end of the extension period on 31st March, 2020. Generally performance against the contract was very positive. Although weather had been poor, the numbers of businesses engaged was relatively high, though number of schools worked with had reduced, but 11 pupils had still been engaged.

The edible beds by Windermere Road in Penistone were now being looked after by a group of volunteers, and groups such as Team Green Moor and Tankersley and Pilley Environmental Group (TPEG) were still very active.

A new business, Garden Creations had been engaged and a new community group around the railway turntable near Green Road had been developed.

Also positive was the HBEE+ group which had been established to look after a patch of land under a gardening licence granted by the Council in order to create a habitat for bees and other pollinators.

The relationship with Cawthorne Parish Council had developed further and support was still given to the Watermeadows group and to the Marketeers. Members noted the work in Thurlstone at Spout House Well and with Bank View Café.

Members discussed the issue of vandalism and litter in the Market Barn, with some of the latter associated with drug use. It was noted that the Police were aware, and it was envisaged that some of the litter issues may be able to be solved with additional bin capacity.

Progress against the three lots being delivered by Age UK was considered. Overall all lots were performing well, with 41 volunteer hours pledged in the quarter. Many volunteers were working on a one-to-one basis, with 5 new volunteers recruited in the quarter and 4 new enquires. As well as working with individuals on a one-to-one

basis, there was also the ability to arrange small scale group activities such as lunches.

Those present heard of the increase in older people being referred to the service who had more complex issues, which the service was not equipped to respond to. These were therefore referred on to social care.

Members heard that a positive impact on measures of wellbeing and isolation had been seen due to the interventions by Age UK.

The Pen Pal project was said to be working well, and was the first of its kind in the borough. Not only did it impact on loneliness but it helped young and old to engage with each other.

Members praised the work of Age UK, including that which sought to address issues in some of the more isolated communities within the area, many of which had lost their community hub in recent times.

Information and advice was also provided through the first lot of the contract, with the majority of beneficiaries being aged over 70 years old. Within the quarter £35,000 of additional benefit had been gained, bringing the total to approximately £150,000 for the year.

Within the quarter 108 journeys had been undertaken as part of the community car scheme, but with only 5 volunteer drivers and 10 repeat users. All users and drivers were encouraged to continue to use the booking system in order to monitor usage.

Lot 2 of the contract with Age UK was focused on promoting healthy lifestyles. Work continued with groups in Pilley and Wortley, and also development work was taking place around the Crow Edge, Carlecoates and Dunford area.

The Men in Sheds project had successfully launched and was being well attended. Plans were in place to undertake work to make or fix things within the community.

The third lot managed by Age UK was to create and manage a network in the area and the SOPPA network (Supporting Older People in the Penistone Area) was established as part of this. The network now had 13 members, with a community nurse recently joining. As part of the lot, work was being undertaken to inform 'Age Friendly Penistone'. Research had been undertaken and results were being analysed. Members heard that the findings from this would feed into an action plan and the Principal Towns programme. It was acknowledged that not all targets within the lot had been met, as it had taken time to establish the network.

Members heard how Age UK would be undertaking an evaluation of the interventions funded by the Area Council in Penistone with feedback from this being presented to a future meeting.

To date 52 individuals had received advice from DIAL with £161,000 of additional benefit claimed. For every £1 the Area Council had invested, £36.77 had been brought into the area. It was acknowledged that each resident accessing the service could provide a positive impact on the wider family.

Members noted the positive work and discussed the extent of the problem of under claimed benefits throughout the area. Promotion of the service was considered, but it was noted that this may require additional capacity. It was suggested that the Area Council Manager discusses these issues with DIAL and reports back to the Area Council.

Citizen's Advice Bureau was now in the second 12 month period of funding from the Working Together Fund. Although the offer was positive, it was felt that use by residents was somewhat sporadic, but Members suggested that the arrangements (2nd and 4th Wednesdays) were somewhat confusing. It was proposed that some promotion could be undertaken, and closer working between this service and DIAL may be beneficial.

South Pennine Community Transport reported over 3,500 passengers making journeys on the 25 bus service within the quarter, showing its popularity. Discussions were taking place with SYPTE regarding future support to the service, and it was noted that this may require an element of further grant funding from the Working Together Fund to continue to operate beyond March 2020.

The 25a service had recently been introduced. Although the offer was limited, the service had been well received.

The organisation was in discussion with Thurgoland Parish Council with regards to providing an additional service, which may link to Fox Valley.

It was noted that South Pennine Community Transport had launched their 5 year strategy, and had recent success at the Community Transport Awards, being amongst the top 3 community transport providers of the year.

Members wish to express their thanks to the Area Council Manager in ensuring the success of the commissions and the effective delivery.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be received;
- (ii) That the Area Council Manager discusses with DIAL the current levels of demand and potential promotion and expansion of the service;
- (iii) That the Area Council Manager suggests greater levels of cross promotion and referrals between DIAL and CAB services in the area; and
- (iv) That the Area Council Manager be thanked for their hard work in successfully managing all Area Council contracts to ensure their effective delivery.

35 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.13.02.2020/6)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, referring to previous discussions about the Age UK services being funded through the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolation Older People Fund. A full review of the service was underway and it was suggested that the Area Council receives feedback from this at the meeting in June.

In relation to the Working Together Fund, over the past few years a total of £209,456 had been devolved for allocation. From this £61,030 remained to distribute.

Members noted that one application was on hold, pending further consideration of the Supporting Young People priority at the scheduled workshop.

Members noted that the funding to support South Pennine Community Transport would be coming to an end on 31st March, 2020. It was acknowledged that the organisation was in discussion with SYPTE but that further grant funding may be required. If this was the case Members encouraged an application to the Working Together Fund, ideally for either less finance than before, or providing a greater level of service than previously. Any unallocated Working Together Fund finance would be carried forward to the 2020/21 financial year.

Members noted that the current Clean and Tidy contract had originally started in 2017. Due to satisfactory performance this had subsequently been extended, and would now end on 31st March, 2020. In August 2019, the Area Council had decided to commission a similar service, with a view to this being established from 1st April, 2020. The commission had been advertised, returns received, and a tender evaluation panel had convened to select a preferred provider. The outcome of this would feed into the next meeting of the Area Council.

Due to additional finance being made available for the Ward Alliance Fund, significant finance remained, however this would be carried forward for distribution in 2020/21.

Members were reminded about the previous approval for content relating to the Ward Alliance and Area Council to feature in two editions of the Penistone Living publication. The next edition would be published on 21st February, 2020 and would feature Men in Sheds, Watermeadows Park, and a short article on the work undertaken to support young people. Members noted the positive coverage and were minded to consider future space in the publication.

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the current financial situation. In 2019/20 £178,171 had been allocated, leaving £21,829 to be carried forward to 2020/21. Within 2020/21, finance had been allocated to Age UK and the Clean and Tidy commission with approximately £71,000 remaining.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be noted;
- (ii) That the update and progress of contracts funded by the Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant Fund be noted, and that a full review of the service be provided at the June meeting of the Area Council;
- (iii) That the update and financial position of the Penistone Working Together Funds be noted;
- (iv) That the update on the current Clean and Tidy contract, and the procurement of a future contract to commence April 2020, be noted;
- (v) That the current financial position of the Penistone Ward Alliance Fund be noted;
- (vi) That the provision of Area Council updates in the February edition of Penistone Living be noted, and that the provision of material in future editions be considered at a future meeting of the Area Council;
- (vii) That the financial position of the Area Council for 2019/20 and that predicted for 2020/21 be noted.

36 Area Council Future Action Plan (Pac.13.02.2020/7)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item reminding Members of the review of Area Councils which had been undertaken in 2019, with key officers and Members providing feedback at a number of workshops.

As a result of the review an action plan had been developed which had been arranged in three themes 'How we work with internal and external partners and the wider strategic landscape'; 'Impact of the Area Council's work'; and 'Commissioning cycle, including priority setting, use of budgets and member involvement'.

With regards to the link officer role, it was noted that a role profile had been developed; this would be used to highlight the expectations placed on new link officers. Members noted that David Shepherd had decided to step down from the link officer for Penistone Area Council. Members gave thanks for David's contribution to the Area Council in his time as link officer.

Members noted actions within the plan such as the need to improve the link with wellbeing teams, share good practice across Area Councils and develop guidance on how issues could be escalated if required.

The plan included a focus on the evaluation of work and improving communications and branding. It also embedded Social Return On Investment (SROI) methodologies in order to show the wider value of the work of Area Councils.

Members noted the need to improve priority setting processes, including access to data, and the opportunity to increase the involvement of Members in the procurement of interventions.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be noted;
- (ii) That thanks be given to David Shepherd for his contribution in the role as Penistone Area Council Senior Management Team Link Officer, and
- (iii) That Members be kept informed of the delivery of actions contained within the plan.

37 Tour De Yorkshire (Pac.13.02.2020/8)

Stephen Miller, Community Development Officer, provided Members an overview of arrangements for the Tour De Yorkshire 2020, as he had acted as link officer between the Area Team and officers in events.

The event will take place on Saturday 2nd May, 2020 and will be stage 2 of the women's tour and stage 3 of the men's. It is being classed as the heritage section of the event.

This will be the first time that the women's race had passed through Penistone, and will be passing through the town in the morning, with men in the afternoon.

Members were made aware of the proposed route, which would involve a sprint through Oxspring.

Preparations were in place to encourage involvement from partners and raise awareness of the event. A roadshow had been organised to take place on 25th March for interested parties to attend.

It was envisaged that land art will be created, which is likely to follow the heritage theme. Previously the Ward Alliance had financially supported Parish Councils and Schools, matching their finance to support engagement in the event.

Members were supportive of the work, and gave credit for the work of the community support the event in previous years.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

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Item 35



MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 4 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson

38 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

39 Welcome and Introductions

Matt Bell was welcomed to the meeting in his new role as Senior Management Team Link Officer. All other introductions were dispensed with as officers and Members knew each other.

40 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Area Council meeting held on 13th February, 2020

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th February, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 13th February, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

41 Covid-19 Presentation

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities and Elaine Equeall, Penistone Area Council Manager were welcomed to the meeting to present the item.

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due to its length and ongoing impact. It was noted that responses needed to be agile and adaptive.

However, the pandemic also offered opportunities to realign values and to create a new normal. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and one was in development at a South Yorkshire level. Barnsley plans would align and be complementary. It was noted future plans needed to be interactive, in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks. It was also noted that responses would be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding.

Three horizons were considered – h1 immediate recovery steps, h2 post-peak recovery steps and h3 realising the recovery objectives. It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into h2, with lockdown being lifted, and that this was a period of

innovation. As Barnsley moves forward the h3 horizon will be the future that we want with the outcomes Barnsley desires.

Members heard how the Council's recovery strategy encompassed 5 points; Humanitarian – Health and Wellbeing; Business Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Infrastructure and the Environment. It was recognised that all of which needed to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

Members noted the steps being undertaken to develop and implement the recovery strategy, including conducting impact analysis, considering what services need to be restarted, maintained, or discontinued, and the need to monitor, learn and be adaptive going forward. It was noted that plans required the contribution of a wide range of partners across Barnsley.

In considering the role of Area Councils, the valuable contribution they played in responding to the crisis through the flexing of commissioned services the focus of community organisations was acknowledged, as was the role they would play in assisting recovery.

Members noted that, in light of the current financial position, the Council was reviewing all budgets and service areas to ensure they remained relevant in relation to Covid-19 and recovery efforts. Members were reminded of the cessation of all non-essential expenditure earlier in the year.

For the Area Council, the overall budget remained unaltered for 2020/21, but it was suggested that there was a need to review priorities and commissioning intentions to ensure that they were still relevant.

Those present heard of the anticipated challenges ahead, which included poverty and worklessness; schooling and education; mental health and emotional wellbeing; re-establishing the fabric of society; and impacts on health and wellbeing from a reduced accessing of services.

However, it was noted that the Council's strategic direction such as in relation to digital, an inclusive economy and Zero40 remained relevant. It was also suggested that the pandemic had offered opportunities, with agile working potentially supporting more district centres, the establishment of support networks in the communities, and a greater insight into those who are most vulnerable in communities.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the only exception being where finance has already been approved and local businesses have committed resources.

Although there was an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but that this position would be reviewed for 2021/22.

Members noted the previous requirement for Ward Alliance Funds to match 50% of their budgets with external finance or volunteer time, and that this would be difficult to achieve and would therefore be relaxed for the current financial year.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence, with the backlog being addressed in due course.

Members heard of the work of the Penistone Area Team in using community networks to map what was happening in response to the pandemic and provide support. Noted was the phenomenal response from communities throughout the area, including from groups such as Huskar Helping Hands and Love Thy Penistone. The Area Team had worked to support and promote activity and provided localised support for the Councils Emergency Contact Centre, including delivering 4,000 postcards advertising the service, with the help of partners.

Wellbeing boxes had been delivered to older people, with those in receipt identified through Age UK.

In addition to the community groups efforts, Community Responders had also provided support, and the Area Team had worked with Barnsley CVS to provide training for volunteers, and insure the correct use of PPE. The responders predominantly provided support with shopping and befriending. 19 Community Responders had provided support, with an additional 6 recently recruited to replace a number of those originally recruited who had now returned to work.

There had been 6 requests for shopping, and 22 for befriending, and it was noted that not all requests were from older people, but from other age groups that were shielding. It was suggested that requests for shopping may curtail with the lifting of restrictions, but that the need for befriending would likely continue.

Members heard of the flexing of contracts during the pandemic in order to continue to meet the needs of the community.

Age UK had continued to target the vulnerable, particularly those with no family or friends, with 60 service users being supported with shopping and befriending. It was noted that support was being provided to consider the next phase of delivery, which would hopefully include more activities.

The contract with Twiggs had been flexed in order to provide support for Neighbourhood Services, focusing on priority areas. Contact with and support of groups had been maintained, with work being undertaken by Twiggs and volunteers on sites on their own and on different days.

Support from DIAL and CAB had moved online and on to the telephone, and although figures were not available for the area, demand was thought to be high.

Members heard of the extension of the grant provided to South Pennine Community Transport which had continued to provide a service for older and vulnerable residents to access shopping. It was acknowledged that the service would require review in light of the current situation.

Those present were reminded of the Area Council Priorities:- Helping People to Connect Better; Environment; Health and Wellbeing; Support for Young People; and The Local Economy including Tourism.

Noted was the financial situation, with around £48,000 unallocated in the current financial year, £115,000 carried forward from 2019/20 and around £61,000 remaining unallocated in the Working Together Fund. Even taking into account the likely continuation of contracts due to expire in 2020/21, around £93,000 would remain in the Area Council budget and around £52,000 in the working together fund.

42 Discussion: reflections on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Members were reminded of the 5 recovery priorities:- Humanitarian – Health and Wellbeing; Business and Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Infrastructure and Environment and were invited to consider what aspects of the Area Council plans aligned to these and could continue, perhaps with some adaption, what didn't align and should cease, and where gaps would be that required addressing.

Members heard of the impact analysis underway, and the complicated picture this provided. A wide range of impacts had been seen from a lack of education to the inability to do maintenance on highways. It was noted that this information would be shared in due course.

It was suggested that the priorities of the Area Council did largely align and delivery to those boroughwide. Focus had been on building resilience for vulnerable and isolated older people, for young people, and for those with debt issues.

With regards to the economy, it was suggested that the impact on the town centre, small businesses, and the rural economy may wish to be considered. It was noted that though the Principal Towns programme would assist the town, but that the contraction in tourism and the inability to hold events would have a negative impact.

It was suggested that the financial impact on residents would be great, with some furloughed residents struggling to meet their financial demands.

Also noted was the impact on the mental health of residents, with young people previously highlighted as an area of concern, and that this was an area under consideration by the Area Council.

With difficulties using public transport, the promotion of active travel was noted, at it was noted that there were a number of schemes in development. Funding had been secured for a pilot project in Barnsley Town Centre and funding was also available to improve the A628 from Penistone to the Flouch for walking and cycling.

The issue of public toilet provision was discussed, and it was noted that consideration was being given to how these could be opened in a safe way.

Members wish to acknowledge the work of volunteers during these uncertain times and the amount of help provided to those most vulnerable and isolated.

RESOLVED:- that further discussion takes place in order to consider where Area Council support be best provided, and that the outcome of this be considered at a future meeting of the Area Council.

43 Close of the meeting

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair

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MEETING:	South Area Council
DATE:	Friday, 14 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Andrews BEM, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, Lamb, Smith and Sumner.

34 Election of a Chair for the meeting

As Councillor Daniel Griffin was unavailable, nominations were taken from the floor for someone to act as Chair for the meeting.

RESOLVED That Councillor Andrews acts a Chair for the meeting.

35 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Frost declared an non-pecuniary interest in minute number 38 due to his position as a trustee of Age UK.

Councillor Andrews declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 38 in so far as discussion related to his position as spokesperson for Public Health.

36 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

The meeting considered the minutes of South Area Council held on 17th January, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the South Area Council held on 17th January, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

37 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Sac.14.02.2020/3)

The meeting received the notes from the following Ward Alliances:- Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliance held on 8th January, 2020; Wombwell Ward Alliance held on 20th January, 2020; and Darfield Ward Alliance held on 16th January, 2020.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

38 Public Health Update (Sac.14.02.2020/4)

Diane Lee, Head of Public Health, Christus Ferneyhough, Senior Public Health Officer, Alec Tinker, Senior Public Health Officer, and Ged Savva from Magpie were welcomed to the meeting.

Members were reminded of the previous discussion about options to improve strength and balance. Those present were made of interventions currently available including those for falls prevention, strength and balance, and exercise groups.

Also noted was the data relating to falls and proportion that had occurred in care homes, however it was noted that these could be due to a number of reasons. Members acknowledged that initiatives such as sloppy slippers would help to reduce falls, but questions were raised about whether checks were carried out in homes.

Members heard that 'Safe and Well' delivered by South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service provided home checks, which covered fire safety but also would consider slips, trips and falls and issues such as fuel poverty. It was noted that the service did operate proactively but also would respond to referrals from such as the Private Sector Housing Officer. Members heard that there was an information sharing protocol in place in order to pass information between the Council and Fire Service to aid the identification of residents who may benefit from such services.

Following on from the previous meeting where Members had decided to fund the training of 24 individuals to be able to undertake Functional Fitness MOT (FFMOT) assessments, those present discussed various options for ensuring assessments were undertaken. These included paying for assessor time, and providing appropriate resources such as leaflets and flyers. Suggestions were made to offer the training free as part of continuous professional development with a preference to those who would be willing to contribute time to undertake assessments free of charge.

Consensus was that larger Health and Wellbeing Events, with a variety of providers being in attendance may be the preferred way to engage with potential beneficiaries.

Members went on to consider 'Move It Or Lose It' and proposals to train provide level 2 fitness instructors to engage people over 65 years old in strength and balance exercises. Members noted the cost of providing such a service, and the associated variables including room hire costs, and discussed the potential of charging a contribution to attend the sessions.

Those present heard how Fit Reds had been operating in the area for approximately 8 weeks with the highest rates of engagement in the borough and the lowest rate of drop outs. This served to highlight the lack access to health and wellbeing activities in the area.

Members were supportive of the FFMOT and 'Move It Or Lose It' proposals but wish to receive more fully developed costings at a future meeting prior to any approval.

Members then went to consider information relating to food access and underweight children. The weight and height of all children in reception and year 7 of primary school are measured, their body mass index (BMI) calculated, and children are categorised as underweight, healthy weight, overweight or obese.

For reception, Members heard how the percentage of underweight children in Barnsley significantly exceeded both national and regional figures. However data related to very small numbers across the borough. For year 6 Barnsley was not statistically higher than the regional or national average. In addition to those underweight obesity also remains a concern for both reception and year 6 years, emphasising the need for a healthy, balanced, portion controlled diet.

Members considered data by ward and by school, and although numbers were relatively small, they did cause some concern.

Ways in order to address the issue were considered, which included food banks, promoting the take up of free school meals, encouraging healthy packed lunches, and providing breakfast clubs at schools.

Members discussed food banks and the requirement for a referral from a health professional for one off support. It was noted that donations of formula were being discouraged as often the formula required was tailored to the needs of a baby. A position statement on this issue was being drafted by colleagues in Public Health and would be provided to Members.

The take up for free school meals was debated, and a request was made for rates to be broken down further if possible to explore whether take up reduced in year 3 onwards. Members discussed whether low take up may be down to the eating habits of some children or stigma attached in applying for free school meals. Members asked to be provided details of the process to apply for free school meals.

With regards to the lunchbox toolkit it was noted that although this had been developed, it had yet to be piloted. Members heard that the Wombwell Ward Alliance was working with Park Street School and with parents using donated food to construct balanced packed lunches for the week.

Members noted the importance of breakfast for children and the impact this had on learning. Those present were made aware of support from Magic Breakfast in establishing breakfast clubs, with a view to them becoming self-sustaining in the longer term.

Members recognised the role of schools, and supported the interventions and campaigns being undertaken but also acknowledged the need to encouraging parents to make the right choices, and a suggestion was made that parents could be engaged through summer events.

The meeting went on to consider the issue of air quality, especially around schools. It was acknowledged that some resource is available to support interventions, and that South had been suggested as a pilot area to reduce car idling around schools. Similarly to the Smoke Free Schools campaign, this would be based on encouragement, rather than enforcement. This will include producing signage outside schools, and will feature on social media to raise awareness of the issues. This work will tie in with promotion of road safety and active travel to school, the Beat The Street campaign, and also Clean Air Day on 18th June.

Members were supportive of the approach, and discussed the issues of buses idling for extended periods. It was noted that this had been raised with bus providers, and although this issue was hard to enforce, Members were encouraged to continue to report the issue to the relevant bus provider and to Regulatory Services.

Ged Savva from Magpie provided feedback on Smoke Free Hoyland. Members were reminded of the previous discussions on the subject and the fact that research had highlighted that 96% of visitors to Hoyland Town Centre did not smoke which was something to be celebrated. It was noted that the rates quoted included vaping.

As part of the work events had been held in order to ascertain what was the spirit of Hoyland and develop a place identity. This work would culminate in a launch of Barnsley's first smoke free place, promoting a better shopping experience.

As part of developing a place identity an artist was to be engaged, with a local panel to shortlist 3 artists and a community vote on final designs.

It was noted that Hoyland Place Champions would be recruited and these volunteers would also have a budget to keep the momentum of the work going. In addition a marketing plan would be developed to encourage new users and business growth in the area.

Members heard that prospective dates for a launch event would be circulated to Members and coverage for the area was expected to be extremely positive. Those present commended the work of Magpie.

RESOLVED

- (i) That thanks be given to those giving presentations;
- (ii) That a future meeting of the Area Council receives fully developed and costed proposals to increase strength and balance provision in the area;
- (iii) That a position statement of the issue of the provision of infant formal at food banks be circulated to Members;
- (iv) That details of the procedure for parents to apply for free school meals be circulated to Members together with more data relating to take up;
- (v) That the work to improve healthy eating as part of reducing numbers of underweight children be supported, and that Members provide support where possible to encourage parents and schools to raise awareness around this subject;
- (vi) That the work on 'Smoke Free Hoyland' be commended and that Members provide feedback on prospective launch dates.

39 Procurement and Financial Update (Sac.14.02.2020/5)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item, referring to previous discussions at the Area Council in relation to the use of income from Fixed Penalty Notices. To date the Area Council had received £32,523 in income. Members heard how the Parks Manager had been contacts to ascertain which play equipment and play areas required improvement. It was noted that play areas in Wombwell and Darfield Ward had received investment more recently but there was need for improvements to be made at Birdwell Rec, Milton Forge and Cloughfields sites.

Members noted that three of the contracts held by the Area Council were due to come to an end shortly, but had been procured with the option to extend for a further year. As performance against each contract had been satisfactory, the extension of each was supported.

Those present were reminded of the discussion at the previous meeting regarding the possibility of increasing the patrolling hours of Environmental Enforcement staff in order to provide additional resource to target parking issues outside of the two areas

of focus of Hoyland and Wombwell town centres. Extra resource could also provide enforcement of littering and dog fouling.

The Area Council Manager made Members aware that, following discussion with District Enforcement, extra capacity could be made available for additional enforcement of dog fouling and littering, but not for parking. However, it was noted that additional enforcement of dog fouling and littering may free up some of the existing officers' time in order to undertake further parking enforcement. It was suggested that this course of action be undertaken, and that demand be monitored to inform the service in the future. In addition it was suggested that an estimation of the income expected from Fixed Penalty Notices be provided to inform future discussions about the service.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That £31,343.13 be allocated to the refurbishment of the Birdwell Rec, Milton Force and Cloughfields Play Areas with approval of final details of any refurbishment to be delegated to the Executive Director, Communities;
- (ii) That the South Area Tidy Team Environmental and Educational Service contract be extended until 31st March, 2021 at a cost of £181,721;
- (iii) That the One Stop Shop Advice service contract be extended until 30th June, 2021 at a cost of £79,572;
- (iv) That the Environmental Enforcement Service contract be extended until 31st March, 2021 to provide 22.5hours per week of enforcement of parking, dog fouling and littering, at a total cost of £18,179.96; and
- (v) That the demand associated with the Environmental Enforcement Service be monitored, and that estimated levels of income from Fixed Penalty Notices be provided, to inform future discussions about the service

Chair

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Item 37



MEETING:	South Area Council
DATE:	Friday, 5 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Andrews BEM, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, Lamb, Saunders, Shepherd, Smith, Stowe and Sumner

40 Election of Chair

As the Chair was unavailable, a Chair was elected for the meeting.

RESOLVED:- That Councillor Stowe be elected as chair for the meeting.

41 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Frost declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute numbers 44 and 45 due to his position as director of Age UK Barnsley.

42 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and made necessary introductions.

43 Minutes of the Meeting of South Area Council held on 14th February, 2020

The meeting considered the minutes of South Area Council held on 14th February, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the South Area Council held on 14th February, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

44 Covid-19 Presentation

David Robinson, Service Director Customer Information and Digital Services, Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities and Lisa Lyon South Area Council Manager were welcomed to the meeting to present the item.

An overview of the strategic approach was provided, acknowledging that Covid-19 was different to previous incidents due to its length and ongoing impact. The recovery provided an opportunity for renewal and restart in some areas, and it was acknowledged that responses needed to be agile and adaptive due to the complicated nature of the situation.

However, the pandemic also offered opportunities to realign values, strengthen relationships with partners, and create a new normal as restrictions begin to lift. Members heard how the Government had drafted a recovery and renewal strategy, and one was in development at a South Yorkshire level. Barnsley plans would align and be complementary. It was noted future plans needed to be agile and interactive,

in order to respond to the need for services to be turned on and off in relation to further peaks. It was also noted that responses would be different depending on the needs of particular groups of people, including those shielding.

Three horizons were considered – h1 immediate recovery steps; h2 post-peak recovery steps; and h3 realising the recovery objectives. It was suggested that Barnsley was moving into h2, with lockdown being lifted, and that this was a period of innovation and that positives from the pandemic needed to be retained. As Barnsley moves forward, the h3 horizon will be the future that we want with the outcomes Barnsley desires.

Members heard how the Council's draft recovery strategy encompassed 5 points; Humanitarian – Health and Wellbeing; Business Economy; Building Resilience; Education and Attainment; and Infrastructure and the Environment. It was recognised that all of which needed to be underpinned by the financial stability of the Council.

Members noted the steps being undertaken to develop and implement the recovery strategy, including conducting impact analysis, considering what services need to be restarted, maintained, or discontinued, and the need to monitor, learn and be adaptive going forward. It was noted that plans required the contribution of a wide range of partners across Barnsley.

In considering the role of Area Councils, the valuable contribution they played in responding to the crisis through the flexing of commissioned services, and the focus of community organisations was acknowledged, as was the role they would play in assisting recovery.

Members noted that, in light of the current financial position, the Council was reviewing all budgets and service areas to ensure they remained relevant in relation to Covid-19 and recovery efforts. Members were reminded of the cessation of all non-essential expenditure earlier in the year.

For the Area Council, the overall budget remained unaltered for 2020/21, but it was suggested that there was a need to review priorities and commissioning intentions to ensure that they were still relevant.

Those present heard of the anticipated challenges ahead, which included poverty and worklessness; schooling and education; mental health and emotional wellbeing; re-establishing the fabric of society; and impacts on health and wellbeing from a reduced accessing of services.

However, it was noted that the Council's strategic direction such as in relation to digital, an inclusive economy and Zero40 remained relevant. It was also suggested that the pandemic had offered opportunities, with agile working potentially supporting more district centres, the establishment of support networks in the communities, and a greater insight into those who are most vulnerable in communities.

Members were reminded of the guidance issued in relation to Ward Alliance Funds, and that the base budget of £10,000 per ward would remain, but plans for an additional £10,000 had been paused due to the current financial situation. It was emphasised that Ward Alliance expenditure should support recovery efforts, with the

only exception being where finance had already been approved and local businesses have committed resources.

Although there was an interest in re-establishing community events, it was acknowledged that this was not appropriate in the current climate, but that this position would be reviewed for 2021/22.

Members noted the previous requirement for Ward Alliance Funds to match 50% of their budgets with external finance or volunteer time, and that this would be difficult to achieve and would therefore be relaxed for the current financial year.

An update was provided in relation to the provision of grass cutting, which had been impacted on from prioritising domestic waste collection. It was noted that that this would now recommence, with the backlog being addressed in due course. In addition, it was noted that the collection of domestic green waste was due to recommence on 9th June.

In relation to the work of the Area Team, Members heard that as soon as lockdown was announced the team had gathered information regarding the response by the community and the local support networks being established. Support was available throughout the area with volunteers offering befriending, collection of prescriptions and help with shopping. The team produced ward plans in order to direct residents and partners to assistance. In addition, social media and neighbourhood networks were used to disseminate information both about local support and that available more generally.

Members heard how the services commissioned by the Area Council had been flexed in order to take account of the situation. All services engaged in dialogue with the Area Council Manager early and responded quickly to adapt the service.

Age UK Barnsley had considered ways to work more safely and had concentrated their resources on the most vulnerable. 69 users were receiving support. A number of the existing volunteers were unable provide support as they were shielding, however, overall volunteer numbers had increased and discussions were taking place about how the additional volunteers could be retained. In addition to normal delivery, wellbeing boxes had been delivered, and afternoon teas had also been delivered to celebrate VE day.

The Tidy Team had changed focus, recognising that they were unable to work closely with volunteers, and due to some staff self-isolating. Their main programme was now being delivered without volunteers, and the team was also supporting Neighbourhood Services in a number of 'hotspot' areas, with over 1,000 bags of waste collected. Members noted that there were plans for wider public engagement in a forthcoming dog fouling campaign.

CAB had altered their delivery, with services being provided through telephone, email and through their website. 126 clients were being supported, which was lower than seen previously but clients had increasingly complex cases. Previously benefit and debt advice had predominantly been requested, however increasingly support was required with employment and housing issues.

Although District Enforcement had ceased to issue fixed penalty notices, they had continued patrolling, and had dispersed groups, put signs up in play areas, and had provided intelligence around the area. The Private Sector Housing Officer had also been patrolling and continued to provide assistance to vulnerable residents requiring support.

The South Area Team had worked with parent support advisors, helping to support those who were unable to access learning online. The team had provided signposting to Council services and had supported the establishment of the Emergency Contact Centre by delivering 6,000 leaflets alongside Councillors, Council staff and those employed through South Area Council contracts.

The team had supported the establishment of Community Responders, working closely with Barnsley CVS in order to ensure appropriate training and support was in place for volunteers, and matching them to requests for support.

74 requests for support had been received, and 44 Community Responders engaged, with a number of those requesting support having complex underlying issues. The majority of requests were for befriending as opposed to for assistance with shopping, and the prevalence of loneliness in all age groups had been noted. The efforts being made by the Community Responders was recognised by the team, even though a celebratory event could not be held in the current situation.

Members were reminded of the current priorities of the Area Council, and it was noted that £54,318 remained unallocated in the current financial year. In addition, £1,180 of income from the Kingdom Contract remained, and £9,062 allocated to the South Area Council Health and Wellbeing fund.

Noted were the contracts already in place and their end dates, together with the grants provided through the Health and Wellbeing Fund. Members were also reminded of previous discussions in relation to work to address social isolation and the need to make a decision with regards to this at the next meeting. Also noted was the work to progress strength and balance training, which had been put on hold.

Noted was the progress being made on Smoke Free Hoyland, with efforts being made to arrange a launch. The links to the Principal Towns programme and the economic impact of Covid-19 on businesses were acknowledged. Those present were reminded of discussions in relation to road safety and air quality around schools; food access; and the possibility of holding health and wellbeing roadshows in summer as well as winter.

45 Discussion: reflections on the presentation and how the Area Council can assist our communities in recovery

Members were reminded of the five strategic priorities and were asked to consider whether the priorities of the Area Council aligned and whether services could continue, perhaps amended. In addition, Members were asked to highlight what might not align and may need to cease, or where there may be gaps that would require addressing.

Questions were raised around the financial impact of the pandemic, and whether area budgets may reduce to assist with the delivery of statutory services. Members

heard how the Council was in an unprecedented situation, and all non-essential expenditure had been halted. All services were being reconsidered in relation to their contribution to the recovery effort, but the important role of the Area Council was recognised, with the current budgets being maintained.

The work of the Area Council and all Council staff was acknowledged in this difficult time.

Members noted the pressure on the local economy and positive impact of the Council in the effective distribution of support grants. It was suggested that levels of unemployment may rise in the community, and the economy was an area which the Area Council and Ward Alliance may wish to provide support. However, it was important to avoid duplication with other services being provided, or those being planned.

The meeting discussed the benefits of meetings such as the Ward Alliance being held in person, such as the Town Hall, and it was noted that meetings were taking place to discuss the possible reopening of certain venues.

Discussion then centred around the impact on children and young people from the closure of schools, especially for those families who did not have internet access. Also acknowledged was the impact on the mental health on young people.

It was noted that work had taken place to provide technology to families who did not have access to online learning, and Members were encouraged to provide feedback on any families with outstanding issues. The ongoing costs of this were noted, and Members heard how discussions were taking place with schools with regards to this.

In relation to the mental health impact of the pandemic, Members were made aware that work on hidden harm was underway in the Mental Health and Resilience subgroup. An assessment which considered impact across the life course was nearing completion and would be shared with Members in due course.

The need for further discussion was acknowledged and it was suggested that briefing with Members be established, with the outcome of this to feed into the next meeting of the Area Council.

RESOLVED that a Member briefing be arranged to discuss this subject in more detail, with any emerging recommendations to be considered by a future meeting of the Area Council.

46 Close of the meeting

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair

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Item 38



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 22 January 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders and Tattersall

159. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest, as a Board Member of Berneslai Homes and a Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in respect of minute number 164..

160. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 8th January 2020 had been called in.

161. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th January, 2020 (Cab.22.1.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

162. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.22.1.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

163. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.22.1.2020/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

164. Response to Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations regarding Void Properties (Cab.22.1.2020/6)

In addition to the presented report, Cabinet Members noted assurances regarding temporary and emergency accommodation measures.

In respect of the recommendation to collect grass cuttings, it was clarified this does not just regard Berneslai Homes properties and noted the frequency of cut is being increased to 21 days.

RESOLVED that the responses to each of the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group into Void Council Properties, as set out in the report submitted, be endorsed

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Chair

Item 39



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 5 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders, Sumner and Tattersall

165. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

166. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 22nd January 2020 had been called in.

167. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 January 2020 (Cab.5.2.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

168. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.5.2.2020/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 17th January 2020 was noted.

169. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.5.2.2020/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Core Services Spokesperson

170. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 - 2022/23 (Cab.5.2.2020/6)

The Leader and Members welcomed what was considered to be a positive report, inclusive of instances of investment, and both thanked and congratulated officers for their work. It was suggested the proposed budget would help lots of vulnerable people and lower paid staff in the health care sector.

A) 2020/21 BUDGET PROPOSALS

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27th FEBRUARY, 2020:-

- (i) that the report of the Service Director Finance (S151 Officer), under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 at Section 1 be noted, that the 2020/21 budget proposals be agreed and that the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, submit, for early consideration, detailed plans that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability for 2021/22 and beyond;
- (ii) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Forecast for 2020/21 to 2022/23 contained at Section 2a (supported by the suite of background papers in Sections 2b – 2g) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS;
- (iii) that the proposed efficiency savings in 2020/21 at Section 4a be approved for implementation and that the 2021/22 efficiency savings proposals at Section 4b be noted subject to further consideration in future budget processes taking account of any further Equality Impact Assessments;
- (iv) that the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure for 2020/21 of £172.577M be approved;
- (v) that total additional one-off investments (capital and revenue) of £19.4M, including 2019/20 investments, as outlined at Section 5 be approved subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for its use;
- (vi) that provision be made to reflect a market supplement in the Council's care contracts to help address the pay and condition issues in the local care market;
- (vii) that the 2020/21 – 2022/23 budget proposals presented at Sections 6a – 6c be approved subject to Cabinet receiving detailed implementation reports where appropriate;
- (viii) that the changes to the schools funding formula including the transfer of funding from the schools block to the high needs block and the proposed 2020/21 schools block budget as set out at Section 6d be approved;
- (ix) that the new General Fund capital investment of £10.4M (Section 7 Appendix and £13.5M (Section 7 Table 7) of specifically funded schemes be included within the capital programme and released subject to further detailed reports on the proposals for their use;
- (x) that the Aggregated Equality Impact Assessment (Section 9) of the proposals be noted and the proposed mitigation actions in the report be approved;

- (xi) that the Chief Executive and SMT, in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, be required to submit reports into Cabinet, as a matter of urgency, in relation to the detailed General Fund Revenue Budget for 2020/21 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above;
- (xii) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of savings proposals;
- (xiii) that the Authority's SMT be charged with ensuring that the budget remains in balance and report regularly into Cabinet on budget/savings monitoring including any action required;
- (xiv) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 2020/21 budget; and
- (xv) that appropriate consultation on the budget proposals takes place with the Trade Unions and representatives of Non Domestic Ratepayers and that the views of consultees be considered by Cabinet and the Council.

B) COUNCIL TAX 2020/21

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 27TH FEBRUARY, 2020:-

- (i) that the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31st March 2020 relating to BMBC of £3.200M be used to reduce the 2020/21 Council Tax requirement, in line with statute;
- (ii) that the 2020/21 Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC's services be set at 3.90% (1.90% for Barnsley MBC services and an additional 2.0% for the Chancellor's Adult Social Care levy);
- (iii) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley MBC's areas be determined following confirmation of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and South Yorkshire Fire Authority precepts for 2020/21; and
- (iv) that the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish/Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual parish precepts for 2020/21.

C) TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND POLICY STATEMENT 2020/21

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 27TH FEBRUARY, 2020:-

- (i) that the 2020/21 Treasury Management Policy Statement at Section 2e Appendix A be noted;

- (ii) that the 2020/21 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement detailed at Section 2e Appendix B be approved;
- (iii) that approve be given for the 2020/21 Borrowing Strategy at Section 2e including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (Section 2e Appendix C); and
- (iv) that the 2020/21 Annual Investment Strategy at Section 2e be approved.

171. Proposed options to replace the existing Council Tax Support Scheme for Working Age Claimants (Cab.5.2.2020/7)

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL ON 27TH FEBRUARY, 2020 that the proposed new Local Council Tax Support Scheme, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

Adults and Communities Spokesperson

172. Barnsley Adult Social Care Local Account 2018/19 (Cab.5.2.2020/8)

Members congratulated adult social care staff and partners on the remarkable performance of the service, as detailed within the report.

Special thanks were also noted for the retiring Adult Social Care and Health Service Director, the Leader proposing that he has helped to transform his service and leaves behind an amazing legacy.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Barnsley Adult Social Care Local Account for 2018/19 be approved; and
- (ii) that awareness of the Local Account be promoted with Elected Members and constituents.

173. Modern Slavery (Cab.5.2.2020/9)

RESOLVED:-

- i) that the publication of the Modern Slavery statement be approved; and
- ii) that the Council be a co-signatory to the Co-operative Party Charter Against Modern Slavery.

174. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as described by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, as follows:-

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Type of Information Likely to be Disclosed</u>
175	Paragraph 3
176	Paragraph 3

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

175. Strategic Growth Clusters: M1 Junction 37 Economic Growth Corridor - Phase 2 (Claycliffe) (Cab.5.2.2020/11)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress made in delivering the M1 Junction 37 – Phase 2 (Claycliffe) scheme be noted and authorisation be given to the continued development of the individual Work Packages and progression of the scheme to ensure that all external grant funding be secured, whilst ensuring that the overall aims and objectives of the scheme are achieved;
- (ii) that approval be given to the acceptance of grant funding from the Sheffield City Region Investment fund (SCRIF) totalling £10.637M to contribute towards the M1 Junction 37 - Economic Growth Corridor – Phase 2 (Claycliffe);
- (iii) that the Executive Director Core Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Place be authorised to:-
 - a) negotiate the terms and conditions of, and final approval of the Combined Authority SCRIF Grant funding agreement, for the delivery of the infrastructure improvements set out in the appendices attached to this report and conclude the approval and funding processes with Sheffield City Region Combined Authority (SCRCA);
 - b) accept tenders, appoint, where necessary, a contractor to implement the delivery of the scheme, subject to the costs being contained within the Grant Funding Agreement, and where necessary, apply for any necessary consents, licence arrangements, prepare details of and publish a Side Roads Order under sections 14 and 125 of the Highways Act 1980 to deal with any required changes to the existing highway network to accommodate the scheme; and
 - c) submit the order to the Secretary of State for Transport for confirmation and to take all necessary steps to secure confirmation of the Order including (if necessary) supporting the order at a local public inquiry.
- (iv) that the Corporate Asset Manager be authorised to:-
 - a) negotiate the terms and conditions of any development agreements required with relevant private developer(s) in order to minimise the financial risks to the Council;
 - b) where necessary, be authorised to enter into negotiations with any private land owner(s) to acquire privately owned land or property and enter into agreements to occupy land not in the current ownership of the

Council. Also to complete any variation to any existing leases on the occupation of land owned by the Council and where necessary, negotiate compensation payments; and

- c) carry out title investigations for the lands and rights required to deliver the scheme with a view to pursuing their acquisition by the use of compulsory powers, if necessary, which, if required, will be the subject of a further report to Cabinet.
- (v) that the Service Director for Regeneration and Property be authorised to:-
- a) submit change variation requests to SCR CA in relation to the approved scheme where necessary to retain external grant funding secured, whilst ensuring that the overall aims and objectives of the scheme are achieved;
 - b) under the terms of the Barnsley Contract Procedure rules, if necessary, seek tenders for any aspect of the project and appoint the successful tender on the basis of most economically advantageous bid; and to consider whether the works, services or goods can be provided in-house, subject to value for money considerations;
 - c) in accordance with paragraph 2.3 (b)(i) of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (In-House Providers), the Business Park service contract be awarded to NPS Barnsley, under the Joint Venture Service Level Agreement to provide check and challenge on any private sector work packages involved in delivering the Strategic Business Parks.
- (vi) that the Executive Director Place be authorised to undertake all necessary steps to secure delivery of the M1 Junction 37 – Phase 2 (Claycliffe) projects;
- (vii) that the release of the capital resources required to fund the delivery of the work packages required be approved;
- (viii) that the Executive Director Core Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Place be authorised to negotiate the terms and conditions of, and final approval of the Combined Authority SCRIF Revised Grant funding agreement, for the delivery of this scheme; and
- (ix) that the Service Director Business Improvement, Human Resources and Communications be authorised to create a temporary project manager to liaise with Sheffield City Region to oversee and monitor the delivery of the SCRIF funded works.

176. Transfer of Stable Cottages 1 and 2, Cannon Hall to Barnsley Museums and Heritage Trust (Cab.5.2.2020/12)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to gift the Stable Cottages 1 and 2 together with the right to use 4 car parking spaces to Barnsley Museums and Heritage Trust;

- (ii) that the Corporate Asset Manager be authorised to finalise Heads of Terms for the transfer of Stable Cottages 1 and 2 and the right to use 4 car parking spaces to the Trust and for a management agreement for maintenance purposes; and
- (iii) that the Corporate Asset Manager be authorised to instruct the Executive Director Core Services to complete the transfer of the Stables Cottages 1 and 2 to the Trust together with completing a management agreement between the Trust and the Council in relation to the management of repairs.

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Chair

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Item 40



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 19 February 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Frost, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin and Tattersall

177. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest as a School Governor in respect of Minute Numbers 182 and 183.

Councillors Andrews, Frost and Howard declared a non-pecuniary interest as Board members on Barnsley Business Innovation Centre (BBIC) in respect of Minute Number 186.

178. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 5th February, 2020 had been called in.

179. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th February 2020 (Cab.19.2.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th February, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

180. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.19.2.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

181. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.19.2.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the report notifying the receipt of the following petitions be noted and the recommended actions for responding to them be endorsed:-

- (a) Containing the signatures of 95 signatories, in respect of pedestrian safety on Wellington Crescent and Underwood Avenue at Worsbrough Bank End, Barnsley.

The Council's Traffic group will inform the petitioners representative that;

As part of the continued pressure on Highway service budgets; the dedicated budgets for introducing traffic calming and Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) that could introduce parking restrictions, yellow lines etc has been reduced to

zero. The only money available for traffic measures is the road safety budget and which is targeted to sites on a priority basis.

The method used to ascertain the priority sites is by using Personal Injury Collision (PIC) data obtained by South Yorkshire Police.

The Council receives an allocation of Integrated Transport funding from the Department for Transport (DfT), via the Sheffield City Region, to carry out remedial measures/improvements at locations where there is a history of PIC collisions. The Council educates and promote road safety to the general public.

The Authority has a statutory duty to monitor all PIC's and each year officers interrogate the database to determine the list of priority locations, which require intervention first.

Following this, officers then seek to resolve issues at these locations using the available funding received.

There have been 4 collisions on Wellington Crescent and Underwood Avenue during the last four years and have occurred on the road away from the school. This area does not fall within the current priority collision list.

As a result, it does not meet the criteria for the provision of parking restrictions and traffic calming but the Council will continue to monitor the location as part of ongoing collision analysis.

In addition, the Authority is aware that the school has not responded to or accepted any support from the Council's Road Safety team to discuss measures available from the Council to educate and promote road safety to the children, parents and teachers. The road safety can provide support including:-

- Signs in the shape of children at zig-zigs,
- School representative to attend PACT,
- Work with parking enforcement and children to educate drivers – children issue notices to parents with support from parking officers,
- Request Smiley Sid attends the school from the Police.

These measures will require support from the school to be effective.

No further action on this matter.

Children's Spokesperson

182. School Admissions Arrangements in the Borough (2021/22) (Cab.19.2.2020/6)

RESOLVED that the proposed school admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools for the school year 2021 – 2022, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

183. Co-ordinated Scheme of Admissions to Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools (2021/22) (Cab.19.2.2020/7)

RESOLVED that the proposed co-ordinated scheme for admission to primary and secondary schools for the school year 2021 – 2022, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

184. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as described by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, as follows:-

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Type of Information Likely to be Disclosed</u>
185	Paragraph 3
186	Paragraph 3

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

185. High Street Heritage Action Zone (Cab.19.2.2020/9)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to the acceptance of grant funding from Historic England totalling £1.968m to contribute towards the improvements to buildings on the Eldon Street high street, improving visitors' first impressions of the town for those arriving by public transport, as detailed in the report submitted;
- (ii) that the release of Council capital resources of £2m in matched funding (as detailed in Section 7 and Appendix A) be approved; and
- (iii) that the commencement of the High Street Heritage Action Zone programme (highlighted in Section 4 of the report) from 1st April 2020 be agreed.

186. Barnsley Business Innovation Centre Company Restructure and Partnership Arrangements (Cab.19.2.2020/10)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to the proposed restructuring of the Barnsley Business Innovation Centre (BBIC) company structure as outlined in the report now submitted;
- (ii) that the Executive Director Core Services be given delegated authority to negotiate and conclude the revised company constitution of the Barnsley Business Innovation Centre and the members agreement on behalf of the Council; and
- (iii) that it be noted that Council representation on the Board of Directors will remain the same as the existing BBIC company.

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Chair

MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 18 March 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost and Tattersall

204. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-Pecuniary interest in respect of Minute numbers 15, 16 and 17 by virtue of being a Board Member of Berneslai Homes.

Councillor Lamb declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Minute number 14 by virtue of being a Board Member of Barnsley Adult Community Learning.

205. Notes of the previous Inquorate meeting held on 4th March, 2020 (Cab.18.3.2020/3)

- (i) that the notes of the inquorate meeting held on 4th March, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- (ii) that the recommendations from that meeting as detailed below be agreed and actioned as appropriate:-
 - (a) Outcomes of the Youth Parliament's "Make Your Mark" Ballot (2019) (Cab.4.3.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the outcomes of the Youth Parliament's "Make Your Mark" Ballot 2019, as detailed in the report, be noted;
- (ii) that the priorities identified by young people through the National "Make Your Mark" Ballot for the duration of the campaign period be promoted; and
- (iii) that the significance and scale of the "Make Your Mark" Ballot be noted and support give to champion the issues identified by Barnsley's 11-18 year old population through their local area arrangements, consultation mechanisms and commissioning of services for young people.
- (b) Validated Education Outcomes in Barnsley 2019 (Cab.4.3.2020/9)

RESOLVED that the validated education outcomes in the Borough for 2019 and the actions to be taken to improve the progress of all categories of pupils at each stage of the National Curriculum, as detailed in the report be noted.

- (c) Corporate Plan Performance Report - Quarter 3 October to December 2019
(Cab.4.3.2020/10)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Corporate Plan Performance Report for Quarter 3 (October to December 2019), as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (iii) that it be noted that the Stronger Communities quarterly narrative report would no longer be provided as part of the Corporate Performance products. Dissemination of the report would now be determined by the Communities Directorate.
- (d) Corporate Financial Performance Quarter Ending 31st December 2019
(Cab.4.3.2020/11)

RESOLVED:-

a) *Corporate Financial Performance*

- (i) that the Corporate Financial Performance Report for the Quarter ending 31st December, 2019, as set out in the report now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that the current forecast General Fund revenue operational underspend for 2019/20 of £5.877m be noted and agreed that this be considered as part of the updated Reserves Strategy which will form part of the 2020/21 budget setting process;
- (iii) that the current forecast Housing Revenue Account (HRA) operational underspend of £1.981m be noted;
- (iv) that approval be given to write off historic debts totalling £1.736m (£1.563m General Fund/£0.173m HRA).

b) *Capital Programme Performance*

- (v) that the forecast position on the 2019/20 and overall five year Capital Programme be noted;
- (vi) that approval be given to the scheme slippage of £22.487m;
- (vii) that the new schemes approved during the Quarter totalling £11.922m be noted;
- (viii) that approval be given to a total net increase in scheme costs in 2019/20 of £0.482m.

c) *Treasury Management*

- (ix) that the key messages from the Council's Treasury Management activities carried out during the quarter be noted.

- (e) Gender Pay Gap Report 2019 (Cab.4.3.2020/12)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the findings of the Council's Gender Pay Gap report as of 31st March, 2019 as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the long-term commitment to reducing the Council's Gender Pay Gap be endorsed and the Action Plan at Appendix 2 of the report be noted.
- (f) Implementation of the 2020/21 Pay Policy Statement (Cab.4.3.2020/13)

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 2ND APRIL, 2020 for approval to implement the 2020/21 Pay Policy Statement, contained within Appendix 1 of the report now submitted, with effect from 1st April, 2020.

206. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.18.3.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

207. Action Taken Under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.18.3.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the actions taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

1. Provision of Statutory Services to the Oughtibridge Valley Development (Cab.4.3.2020/6)
2. School Term Times and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2021-2022 (Cab.4.3.2020/8)
3. Community Asset Transfer – Valley Community Centre, Cudworth (Cab.4.3.2020/14)
4. Holden House, Barnsley – Lease Renewal to Riverside Housing Association (Cab.4.3.2020/15)
5. Barnsley – A Gigabit City: A Full Fibre Digital Transformation for Barnsley (Cab.4.3.2020/17)

208. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.18.3.2020/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Children's Spokesperson

209. Children's Commissioner for England: National Takeover Challenge 2019 (Cab.18.3.2020/7)

The Children's Spokesperson welcomed the following young people to the meeting to present the outcomes of the National Takeover Challenge:-

- Bailey Maw
- Frankie Harper

A presentation on the very positive feedback received from participants in the Challenge was provided.

Members commented on how they too had derived much from what had been a very worthwhile undertaking and considered what more might be done in future years to build on the initiative further.

The young people were invited to comment further on what they most enjoyed about the Takeover Day and what could be done to improve future events. Feedback noted the need to have better communication with employers to ensure these events are of greatest benefit to all parties and the need to engage with a wider variety of employers.

Members thanked all the young people who took part and the officers involved with facilitating the event.

RESOLVED that the continued success of this annual event as an example of good working across partnerships which can continue to be built upon in future Takeover events and activities aimed at improving the range of outcomes for children and young people, including those in care and care leavers be noted

Core Services Spokesperson

210. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Task and Finish Group - Poverty (Cab.18.3.2020/8)

Councillor Ennis attended the meeting as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and in summarising the work of the Committee and Task and Finish Groups commented on the importance of the scrutiny function in respect of helping to determine and improve the Council's decision making processes.

Councillor Lofts presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding Poverty.

In supporting the recommendations, the Leader noted these are in line with the intentions of the Inclusive Economy Review which seeks to provide appropriate focus on those who need the most support.

Members acknowledged the relationship between the poverty theme and the current Covid-19 crisis and recognised the need to ensure Council services are capable of meeting the changing needs of the public, particularly given guidance around limiting face to face contact.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the Executive Director Communities be requested to co-ordinate a response to the recommendations in the report within 3 months.

211. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Task and Finish Group - Adult Mental Health (Early Intervention and Prevention) (Cab.18.3.2020/9)

Councillor Carr presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding Adult Mental Health (Early Intervention and Prevention).

Members requested their thanks to the Scrutiny Officer for the work undertaken in co-ordinating the work of the Committees and support for Chairs and Committee Members be recorded.

Members commented on the importance of the Council recognising the mental health needs of staff also, as a basis on which to build Council services and noted the support initiatives in place.

The Scrutiny Chair commented on the importance of Task and Finish Group sites visits and noted what can be learnt from these to ensure all interventions are effective and meaningful for service recipients.

Members noted the importance of co-ordinating complementary Council services.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the Director of Public Health be requested to co-ordinate a response to the recommendations in the report within 3 months

212. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Task and Finish Group - Recycling (Cab.18.3.2020/10)

Councillor Fielding presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding Recycling.

Members welcomed the report's comments on what has been learnt from engagements with the private sector and discussed what more the Council could do to innovate on its approaches to recycling.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the Executive Director Place be requested to co-ordinate a response to the recommendations in the report within 3 months

213. Employee Survey and Investors in People Assessment 2019 (Cab.18.3.2020/11)

RESOLVED that the outcome of the Employee Survey and the Investors in People assessments undertaken in 2019 be noted with the Council being awarded 'Gold' accreditation.

Leader

214. Implementing the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal (Cab.18.3.2020/12)

The Leader provided Cabinet with a summary of the report presented and commented on how the recommendation presented accords with and benefits the Council's ambitions in respect of both the Sheffield City Region and Yorkshire-wide perspectives.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Monitoring Officer, be delegated the authority to take forward and conclude the legal steps necessary to implement the Devolution Deal including consenting on behalf of the Authority to the enabling Powers Order, provided that such Order corresponds to the proposals contained in the Governance Review and Scheme, as detailed in the report now submitted.

Environment and Transportation Spokesperson

215. Vehicle Replacements 2020 - 2021 (Cab.18.3.2020/13)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that authorisation be given to the replacement of 97 vehicles, in the 2020/21 financial year, to be used by Council departments and partner organisations, with a total value of up to £3,585,500 (including the additional cost of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) as referred to in paragraph 2.2) by way of purchase followed by a sale and lease back arrangement as outlined in paragraph 7.9 or whichever method of funding is deemed appropriate following full financial appraisal; and
- (ii) that the upgrading of 24% (38% for Council departments and 14% for partner organisations) of the petrol and diesel fuelled vehicles highlighted for replacement in the report to ULEVs at an additional estimated expense of £235,000 included in the total amount stated in paragraph 2.1 be supported. £171,000 of this is for Council departments and £64,000 for partner organisations. This is the extra cost to purchase a ULEV over a standard petrol/diesel powered vehicle. The £64,000 additional cost for partner organisations will be recovered from them through increases in hire charges.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

216. Adult Skills and Community Learning Service Annual Self Assessment 2018/19 (Cab.18.3.2020/14)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Adult Skills and Community Learning annual self-assessment for the full academic year August 2018 to July 2019, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted; and
- (ii) that the Service's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for the academic year August 2019 to July 2020, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report now submitted, be noted.

217. Barnsley Homes Standard Programme 2020/21 (Cab.18.3.2020/15)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to the nine main Barnsley Homes Standard schemes, stand-alone elemental schemes and the Programme of batched replacements, releasing resources as detailed in the report now submitted;
- (ii) that Berneslai Homes be authorised to progress schemes within the new Property Repairs and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) 2020 contract or to appoint a suitable contractor for proposed elemental schemes and following a procurement exercise and containment of costs within the approved sums;
- (iii) that the added Social Value delivered by the PRIP 2020 as set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report be noted; including use of directly employed local staff and over 30 directly employed apprentices; and
- (iv) that the Carbon Saving efficiency measures, and anticipated reductions to tenant's energy bills, as set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report be noted.

218. Houses in Multiple Occupation - Article 4 Direction (Cab.18.3.2020/16)

In addition to the matters raised within the report, Members noted the need for officers to have sufficient capacity to enforce the Direction and the need to understand the environmental impact of Houses of Multiple Occupation.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the making of an Article 4 Direction, to remove permitted development rights for conversion of residential dwelling houses into Houses of Multiple Occupation as detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved
- (ii) that representations received in response to publication of the statutory notice of the making of the Direction be reported back to Cabinet to determine whether the Direction should be confirmed

219. PRIP Berneslai Homes Construction Services Contract (Cab.18.3.2020/17)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the outcome of negotiations with BHCS (see Section 5) for 2/3rds of the Property Repair and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) contract, as per the agreed approach within the 'PRIP Tender Strategy 2020' (Cab.16.10.2019/10 refers) be approved;
- (ii) that the estimated saving of £1.7M per annum be noted and agreement be given that the 30 year Business Plan be revised to reflect the revised projected costs; and
- (iii) that authorisation be given to the preparation of necessary amendments to the 'Agreement/SLA' between the Council, Berneslai Homes and Berneslai Homes Construction Services to reflect the updated contractual requirements over the 10 year contract period; including the new schedule of rates,

branch/overhead rates and commitments to Customer Service, Performance, Social Value and Sustainability.

220. Keresforth Close, Barnsley - Free School Proposal (Cab.18.3.2020/18)

The meeting was informed that subsequent to the publication of the meeting agenda, some additional public objections were received within the consultative timeframe in respect of how the Local Plan differs from proposed use and the site selection criteria and LocatED sites report. These were tabled for Members' consideration and the Council's proposed responses and mitigations noted.

Members' acknowledged proposals for the development of the site for a school will be subject to an application for planning permission which will be subject to public consultation and will be determined following consideration by the Planning Regulatory Board.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given for the free school as the preferred use for the Keresforth Close site and the site be transferred to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (DHCLG), subject to the necessary planning consents being achieved;
- (ii) that the Corporate Asset Manager works with the Department for Education and Trinity MAT to agree Heads of Terms for a transfer of the land and the delivery of a free school on the site;
- (iii) that the Executive Director Core Services be authorised to complete the above transaction with legal completion being subject to gaining the necessary planning consents, noting the assurance of the Minister through his agents that the planning proposal will include the provision of a publicly accessible area of open space as an integral part of the development of the site;
- (iv) that approval be given for the principles set out in the report and supports the continued collaborative working with public sector partners under the One Public Estate Programme;
- (v) that the Council will continue to work with the other parties who have expressed interest in this site to accommodate them elsewhere on Council owned assets; and
- (vi) that the objections received following the publication of the Notice under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, as summarised in the principal report and the tabled report, be noted, but are not considered to outweigh the case for the disposal of the open space as set out in the reports..

221. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as described by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, as follows:-

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Type of Information Likely to be Disclosed</u>
19	Paragraph 3

222. Keresforth Close Free School Proposal - Options Appraisal (Cab.18.3.2020/20)

The meeting received additional information pertaining to the options appraisal work.

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Chair

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Item 42



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 15 April 2020
TIME:	9.30 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders, Sumner and Tattersall

223. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

224. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 1st April 2020 had been called-in.

225. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.15.4.2020/3)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 3rd April 2020 were noted.

226. Actions Taken Under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.15.4.2020/4)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

- 1 Borough Strategies for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disability (2020-22) (Cab.1.4.2020/6)
- 2 Highways Capital Programme 2020/21 (Cab.1.4.2020/7)
- 3 Brierfield Close Area – Proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Objection Report (Cab.1.4.2020/8)
- 4 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programmes Report (Cab.1.4.2020/9)
- 5 Inclusive Economy Peer Review Action Plan (Cab.1.4.2020/10)
- 6 Sale of Plot 2 Rockingham Hoyland to Gregory Property Group (Cab.1.4.2020/12)

227. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.15.4.2020/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

228. Cyber Security Strategy 2020 - 2021 (Cab.15.4.2020/6)

RESOLVED that the Cyber Security Strategy, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved.

229. Provision of High Needs Specialist Post-16 Education Training (Cab.15.4.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the demand for out of Borough Education and Training provision for young people with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) who have complex behavioural needs, and the impact to resources, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that approval be given to utilise the High Needs Block funding for a £900,000 3-year contract to commission a Specialist Provider to meet needs in the Borough.

230. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as described by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, as follows:-

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Type of Information Likely to be Disclosed</u>
231	Paragraph 3

231. 2020-21 School Condition Capital Programme (Cab.15.4.2020/9)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the list of schemes, as detailed in Appendices B and C of the report submitted, be approved and financed from the 2020-21 Department for Education (DFE) School Condition Allocation;
- (ii) that the Executive Director Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesperson, be authorised to vary the programme of works, and to approve additional schemes, to meet emerging priorities; and
- (iii) that the financial implications arising from the report be included in the capital programme and released in accordance with the Financial Regulations Code of Practice C5.2(a).

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Chair

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Item 43



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 29 April 2020
TIME:	11.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Saunders, Sumner and Tattersall

232. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

233. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 15th April, 2020 had been called in.

234. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th April 2020 (Cab.29.4.2020/3)

The minutes of the virtual meeting held on 15th April 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

235. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.29.4.2020/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week endings 10th and 17th April 2020 were noted.

236. Actions Taken Under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.29.4.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

- 1 Glass Works Scheme and Wider Town Centre Public Realm Improvements
- 2 Planning Regulation Board – Interim Decision Making Arrangements

237. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.29.4.2020/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Leader

238. COVID-19 Update (Cab.29.4.2020/7)

RESOLVED that the contents of the report now submitted regarding the Council's response to the Corona Virus (Covid-19) Pandemic be noted and supported.

Children's Spokesperson

239. Refresh of the Borough School Placement & Sufficiency Strategy for Children & Young People with Special Educational Needs (2020-23) (Cab.29.4.2020/8)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the outcomes of the recent review and approval be given to adopt the draft refreshed Placement and Sufficiency Strategy for pupils with Special Educational Needs including a disability (SEND); and
- (ii) that the refreshed Strategy be approved for consultation with children and young people with SEND and their families alongside other stakeholders to increase the range and capacity of local school placement provision.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

240. Statement of Community Involvement (Cab.29.4.2020/9)

RESOLVED that the updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), as set out in the report now submitted, be adopted.

241. Hoyland West Masterplan (Cab.29.4.2020/10)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress made in the development of the draft masterplan framework for Hoyland West, as detailed in the report submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the proposal to undertake a Community Consultation exercise planned to commence during May 2020 be approved.

.....
Chair

Item 44



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 13 May 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders, Sumner and Tattersall

242. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

243. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 29th April 2020 had been called in.

244. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th April, 2020 (Cab.13.5.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

245. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.13.5.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

246. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.13.5.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

- 1 Appointment of Director of Children’s Services and Director of Adult Social Services
- 2 Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Interim Decision Making Arrangements

247. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.13.5.2020/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

248. Royston Masterplan Framework (Round 1 Consultation) (Cab.13.5.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress made in the development of the draft masterplan framework for Royston, as detailed in the report submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the proposal to undertake a Community Consultation exercise planned to commence during June 2020 be approved.

249. Hoyland South Masterplan Framework (Round 1 Consultation) (Cab.13.5.2020/8)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress made in the development of the draft masterplan framework for Hoyland South, as detailed in the report submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the proposal to undertake a Community Consultation exercise planned to commence during June 2020 be approved.

.....
Chair

MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 27 May 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders, Sumner and Tattersall

LEADER'S INTRODUCTION

The Leader informed the meeting this would be Andrew Frosdick's final BMBC Cabinet meeting ahead of his retirement and led Members in thanking both Andrew and Mrs Frosdick for their years of service to both the Council and the people of Barnsley.

250. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

251. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 13th May, 2020 had been called in.

252. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th May 2020 (Cab.27.5.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

253. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.27.5.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

254. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.27.5.2020/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Children's Spokesperson

255. Commissioning of School Places at Penistone Grammar School for Pupils with Special Educational Needs (Cab.27.5.2020/6)

RESOLVED that approval be given to the commissioning of up to 20 places for pupils with special educational, including complex needs, at Penistone Grammar School, as detailed in the report now submitted.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

256. The Glass Works - Impact of Covid-19 (Cab.27.5.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that delivery of the Glass works scheme continues towards a projected scheme opening in 2021, as detailed in the report now submitted;
- (ii) that the analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 emergency on the Glass Works development be noted;
- (iii) that the measures being put in place to support the recovery of the Glass Works from the Covid-19 emergency be noted; and
- (iv) that a further report be received when the longer term impacts of the Covid-19 emergency on the Glass Works scheme are fully understood.

.....
Chair

Item 46



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 10 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Howard, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders and Tattersall

257. Chair's Introduction

The Chair noted this would be Rachel Dickinson's last meeting as Executive Director for People.

Members expressed their huge thanks to Rachel, on behalf of the Council, the people and especially the children of Barnsley for everything she has done during her time here.

Members agreed Rachel leaves the Borough in a much better place to when she arrived and may be rightly proud of everything she has achieved for both Adults and Children's Services.

258. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

259. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 27th May 2020 had been called in.

260. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th May 2020 (Cab.10.6.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th May 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

261. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.10.6.2020/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 29th May 2020 were noted.

262. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.10.6.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

1 Council Timetable 2020/21

263. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.10.6.2020/6)

RESOLVED that the report notifying the receipt of the following petitions be noted and the recommended actions for responding to them be endorsed:-

- (a) Containing the signatures of 278 signatories, in respect of a 30mph speed limit on Staincross Common and Windhill Lane.

BMBC Traffic Team does not support this proposal. The 40mph section is predominantly agricultural land to its northern side with properties set back from the road on the southern side, with the 30mph transition coming in where the building density increases. The existing 40mph speed limit was designed in accordance with the guidance set out in Department for Transport Circular 01/2006 'Setting Local Speed Limits'. To lower it would do little for road safety but would potentially present an additional (and avoidable) burden in terms of trying to secure compliance. Also to be considered is the loss of the existing 30mph signs on the entry to the side roads. Historically we have had a backlash in such situations from residents on side roads who see this as impacting on the safety on their roads. The views of those residents would need to be sought and considered before making changes.

We have discussed this proposal with South Yorkshire Police's Principal Traffic Management Officer, who stated that "from a policing perspective we cannot support a lowering of a speed limit which would abstract our officers to the task of enforcing an artificially low or ill-conceived restriction, or leave us managing the expectations of local residents who may see little impact on traffic passing their homes".

Periodic mobile speed enforcement is conducted on Windhill Lane and we will send a request South Yorkshire Police's Safety Camera Manager to ask that that this is undertaken more frequently.

The last speed survey was undertaken in late 2017. This was conducted after the fixed speed camera had been bagged for a number of weeks, so those using the road regularly knew that it was not in use.

Average speed: 34.8mph
85th%ile: 39.8mph

Core Services Spokesperson

264. Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 4 January to March 2020 (Cab.10.6.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Corporate Plan Performance Report for Quarter 4 (January to March 2020) and the 2019/20 Year-End, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the Performance Report be shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform and support their ongoing work programme.

265. Corporate Finance Performance Report Year End 2019/20 (Cab.10.6.2020/8)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the 2019/20 draft revenue final accounts position, as set out in the report now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that the final position for the General Fund being an operational underspend of £6.9m, split between an operational underspend for Council Services of £6.0m and an operational underspend on Corporate budgets of £0.9m, as detailed in Section 5, be noted;
- (iii) that approval be given to £1.9m of the underspend be earmarked to support the Covid-19 Recovery Strategy with the remaining balance (£5.0m) being used to increase the Council's General Fund Minimum Working Balance from £15m to £20m to offer further protection against the ongoing impact of Covid-19 and other future financial risks;
- (iv) that agreement be given to earmark the carry forward revenue resources as identified in Sections 3 and 6 and Appendix 1, subject to further reports being submitted for individual approvals where necessary;
- (v) that the final position of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) being an operational underspend of £2.4m and approve that £0.6m of the balance be earmarked to support the Covid-19 Recovery, with the remaining balance (£1.8m) being used to increase the Minimum Working Balance of the HRA from £5.2m to £7m;
- (vi) that approval be given to the write off of historic bad debt totalling £2.1m being £1.9m General Fund and £0.2m HRA as detailed in Section 4 of the report; and
- (vii) that the expected impact of Covid-19 on the Council's Financial Position be noted and that the Finance Recovery Strategy be identified and adopted.

**266. Capital Programme Performance Year Ending 31st March 2020
(Cab.10.6.2020/9)**

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the final position of the 2019/20 Capital Programme which totals £140.9m, as set out in the report now submitted, be noted;
- (ii) that project scheme slippage and the associated funding into future years to allow scheme completion, totalling £16.1m, be approved;
- (iii) that approval be given to the project net re-phasing of budgets and associated funding into 2019/20, totalling £4.7m;
- (iv) that a total net increase in scheme costs, funded from unallocated resources in 2019/20 totalling £1.7m be approved;
- (v) that the new schemes approved and included within the capital programme during the quarter totalling £46.5m be noted;
- (vi) that it be noted that all schemes in delivery during 2020/21 be reviewed in respect of deliverability risk, financial risk and other risks in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic; and
- (vii) that all schemes that are due to commence during 2020/21 be reviewed in terms of both ongoing appropriateness and in respect of deliverability risk and financial risk in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, as outlined in the Council's Financial Recovery Strategy, be noted.

267. Annual Report on Treasury Management Activities 2019/20 (Cab.10.6.2020/10)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Treasury Management Activities undertaken for the period 2019/20, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
- (ii) that the latest expectations for interest rates as outlined in Section 4 of the report be noted;
- (iii) that the Prudential and Treasury Indicators as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted; and
- (iv) that the proposed (temporary) increase in investment limits, as outlined in paragraph 6.3 of the report, be approved.

**268. Barnsley's Recovery and Renewal Strategy - Moving on from COVID-19
(Cab.10.6.2020/11)**

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Barnsley MBC Recovery and Renewal Strategy, as set out in the report now submitted, be endorsed;

- (ii) that the proposed governance and roadmap to support the Strategy be noted; and
- (iii) that further reports be submitted as appropriate to advise on progress.

Children's Spokesperson

269. National Assessment and Accreditation Scheme for Child and Family Social Workers: Evaluation of the Phase Two Pilot in the Borough (Cab.10.6.2020/12)

RESOLVED that the outcomes emerging through the piloting of the National Assessment and Accreditation Scheme (NAAS) in the Borough and the benefits to be accrued in the quality of practice, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

270. Future Commissioning Of Resourced Education Provision For Pupils With Sensory Impairments (Cab.10.6.2020/13)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the recommended Option 5 is the preferred method for continuing to meet the educational needs of children with sensory impairments in the Borough, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved with effect from 7th September 2020; and
- (ii) that the Sensory Team's Peripatetic Service to local mainstream schools for the purpose of supporting the education needs of children with sensory impairments, be reviewed for effectiveness, as part of the quarterly performance and finance reporting framework, for services to children and young people with special educational needs.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

271. Demolition of 35 Eldon Street and Associated Temporary Highway Works (Cab.10.6.2020/14)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the Service Director Regeneration and Culture be authorised to appoint Henry Boot Contractors using the existing partnering agreement to undertake the demolition works and associated temporary highway works of 35 Eldon Street, Barnsley including all surveys required for safe demolition of the site and reconfiguration of the highway; and
- (ii) that the Service Director Regeneration and Culture be authorised to appoint successful tenderers for all additional survey work required for demolition; and/or consider whether the works, services or goods can be provided in-house, in compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, subject to value for money considerations.

**272. Recognising the Impact of Covid-19 and the Contributions Made
(Cab.10.6.2020/15)**

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the concept of developing a Memorial Sculpture which also recognises the contribution of key workers, as set out in the report submitted, be endorsed;
- (ii) that approval be given to the introduction of the Mayor's Special Award Medals;
- (iii) that the review of the Freedom of the Borough Scheme in 2021 incorporate an opportunity to recognise the impact of Covid-19 and the contributions made; and
- (iv) that approval be given to a virtual Book of Condolence being established.

273. Barnsley Youth Zone (Cab.10.6.2020/16)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that, as a consequence of the debilitating financial impact of Covid-19, agreement be given for the Barnsley Youth Zone to be initially paused for a period of six months pending a fuller understanding of the Council's overall financial position and in particular the Government's response to that, as set out in the report now submitted;
- (ii) that a further report be brought forward when the position is more fully understood; and
- (iii) that, in light of the current Covid-19 emergency, a further financial review with the provider OnSide be undertaken of the Youth Zone business model.

.....
Chair

Item 47



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 24 June 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost and Tattersall

274. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

275. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 10th June, 2020 had been called in.

276. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th June, 2020 (Cab.24.6.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th June, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

277. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.24.6.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

278. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.24.6.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

- 1 Statement of Gambling Policy Review Consultation 2020
- 2 2020/21 Pay Policy Statement
- 3 Appointment of Monitoring Officer and Designated Scrutiny Officer

279. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.24.6.2020/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

280. Six Monthly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance (October 2019 to March 2020) (Cab.24.06.2020/7)

The meeting was advised of a minor typographical error in the report.

RESOLVED that the Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severances which have taken place in the period October 2019 to March 2020, as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted.

281. Covid-19 Barnsley Care Home Plan (Cab.24.6.2020/8)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the contents of the Barnsley Care Home Plan report and attached submission, be approved; and
- (ii) that all Care Home plan submissions be reviewed through the regional Better Care Fund team and that formal feedback be provided. Where required the plan will be amended subject to this feedback.

282. Annual Report of the Barnsley Corporate Parenting Panel (2019/20) (Cab.24.6.2020/9)

RESOLVED that the progress and achievements made by the Corporating Panel in supporting children and young people in care, together with care leavers, during this period be noted.

.....
Chair

Item 48



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 8 July 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, Bruff, Cheetham, Gardiner, Lamb and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Franklin, Frost, Saunders and Tattersall

283. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Cllr Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest in the matters to be considered at minute number 293 by virtue of being a Berneslai Homes Board Member.

284. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 24th June, 2020 had been called in.

285. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th June 2020 (Cab.8.7.2020/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th June, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

286. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.8.7.2020/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

287. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.8.7.2020/5)

RESOLVED that the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached to the report now submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

- 1 Authorisation of the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020

288. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.8.7.2020/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

289. Barnsley Multi-Agency COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan (Cab.8.7.2020/7)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Barnsley's Multi-Agency COVID 19 Outbreak Control Plan, be noted; and
- (ii) that the content of the Plan and the development of the Outbreak Control Engagement Board be supported.

290. Restoration of Meeting Arrangements (Cab.8.7.2020/8)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the emergency actions taken in addressing the challenges of lockdown and successes achieved, the proposals to virtually return all meetings to a pre-lockdown position and, in accordance with any changes to Coronavirus Act legislation, the proposals to further restore physical or hybrid physical/virtual meeting arrangements, be noted;
- (ii) that the proposed, amended 'tech refresh' programme for Members, required to support the restoration of meeting arrangements ambition be noted.

291. RoSPA Awards (Cab.8.72020/9)

RESOLVED that the achievement of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents Order of Distinction Award 2020 and British Safety Council International Safety Award 2020, be noted and continuous efforts made to improve upon performance in health and safety within the Authority.

292. Net to Gross Payments (Cab.8.7.2020/10)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the proposed change to current payment arrangements from the 27th of July 2020, be agreed;
- (ii) that the proposed changes to be made in July will not include third party top ups be agreed; and
- (iii) that further consultation with care home provider be supported.

293. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - Capital Works 2020/21 Programme (Cab.8.7.2020/11)

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that approval be given to the Housing Revenue Account Capital Works as detailed in the report now submitted; and

- (ii) that the commentary relating to the installation of new gas boilers, as set out in paragraph 4.2 and the implications of the capital works programme in relation to the Council's Zero 40/45 objectives at paragraph 18.1, be noted.

.....
Chair

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Item 50

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

25 NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, R Frost, P Haith,
C Hogarth, P Price, C Ransome, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO J Courtney, QFSM, DCFO A Johnson, T/ACO S Helps,
S Booth and D Nichols
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

A Frosdick, M McCarthy, M Potter, L Noble, G Richards and
I Rooth
(Barnsley MBC)

E Redfearn (OPCC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor S M Richards, N Copley, S Norman, ACO T Carlin
and M Buttery

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair, on behalf of the Authority, announced that their thoughts were very much with the families and businesses that had suffered during the recent flooding and wished them a speedy return to normality.

The Chair also acknowledged the excellent response from across the UK of the emergency services, armed forces and other agencies, with particular praise for South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service who did themselves proud; they went above and beyond the call of duty and deserve recognition for this.

The Chair was also delighted to announce the appointment of Alex Johnson as the Chief Fire Officer of South Yorkshire; Alex had an exciting vision and determined focus and the Authority looked forward to working with her in the New Year.

The Chair noted that the position would not have been available except for the existing Chief's decision to retire in January; this therefore would be his last Authority meeting.

The Chair paid tribute to J Courtney who had left Merseyside in 2006 to come to South Yorkshire and within five years was appointed as CFO. He had brought visibility and approachability to the role whilst facing significant challenges, he had also made significant achievements including being awarded QFSM in 2018.

The Chair wished the Chief and long and happy retirement which had been earned and was well-deserved.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That the agenda item 16 entitled ‘Contingency Firefighting Arrangements’ and item 17 ‘Appointment of Independent Member – Audit and Governance Committee’ be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Cllr Damms reported that, at the upcoming meeting of Sheffield City Council, he was hoping to move a motion thanking the Fire Service for all their hard work during the recent floods; it was hoped that this would be a cross-party motion.

Cllr Haith reported that she had attended the Pensions Board training in October and was thankful for the insight into the Firefighters’ Pension Schemes which was very useful and would be beneficial when making decisions in the future.

Dr Billings, on behalf of himself as PCC and South Yorkshire Police, wished J Courtney well for his retirement. He had helped to drive forward collaboration between Fire and the Police which was working well and Dr Billings thanked him for his efforts in this area. The efforts had borne fruit during the recent floods which had been a huge and complex operation involving multi-agencies which had drawn praise from the public, especially for the Fire Service and the Police.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2019

In answer to a question from Cllr Ayris, it was confirmed that Counsel's advice with regard to the Service Level Agreement with Barnsley MBC had been circulated to all Members of the Authority.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 14th October 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 2019/20 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Authority considered the second 2019/20 Financial Performance report.

The report informed as to the likely financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2020. The report included an estimated revenue outturn position, an updated reserves position statement and an update on the capital programme with a narrative commentary to help explain the key financial changes that were contributing to them.

Members were reminded that the 2019/20 approved operating budget was £53.565m. Based on the latest expenditure and planned contributions from earmarked reserves, the Authority was projecting a net operating spend of £54.014m. However, this variance was more than offset by an increase in funding mainly from late Home Office notifications in relation to the pension deficit and other Section 31 grant funding. The latest funding projection was £54.222m, a £0.675m increase leaving a net operating underspend of £0.208m after any planned contribution to reserves.

Members were requested to continue to note the financial risks facing the Authority, in particular with regard to national pensions issues; the timescales for remedy were still uncertain.

S Booth informed Members that the Capital Programme had been re-profiled to take account of notable exceptions with regard to Barnsley Fire Station and the two former CPC sites at Aston and Tankersley.

In response to a question from Cllr Haith regarding a review of On-Call firefighters, the DCFO replied that it was a standard review to ensure there were the correct number of people to improve the on-call availability.

Cllr Hogarth queried the projected overspend on expenses of £10,000 asking why it was so much over budget, and the reason for the exact amount of £10,000.

S Booth replied that he would get back to Members with the answer.

In response to a question from Dr Billings, S Booth explained that the overspend was due to pensions liabilities which the Service had only been informed about after the budget had been set.

With regard to the Stronger, Safer Communities Reserve Fund, this was not part of the operating budget but was included for transparency and to give Members an understanding of the spend in this area.

RESOLVED – That the Authority noted:

- (i) The latest estimated revenue performance, which was showing a potential net operating underspend of £0.0208m for the financial year ended 31st March 2020.
- (ii) The latest estimated decrease in General Reserve of £0.052m for the financial year ended 31st March 2020, which was broadly in line with expectation.
- (iii) The likely net impact on known financial risks that are not fully quantifiable at this stage in the financial year.
- (iv) The re-profiling of the Capital Programme for 2019/20.

11 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2020 - 2023

A report was submitted which provided an early insight as to the likely financial performance and position of SYFR ahead of the proposed Annual Revenue and Council Tax Setting report that was due to be considered by Members on 10th February 2020.

Members were informed that, since the last budget report. Work had been progressing on reviewing the financial planning assumptions in the Medium Term Financial Plan. This provided a demonstration of the likely scale of financial challenges, risks and uncertainties facing the Authority, especially post the final year of the Multi-Year Funding Settlement.

The situation was only likely to become clearer when the Government was able to articulate the state of the nation's public finances post the General Election and Brexit and when it sets out its Spending Review beyond the current one year holding position.

To add to this uncertainty, there were also a number of funding reviews underway including Fair Funding, business rate retention and police collaboration; these could potentially have a big impact on Fire Authority funding.

However, in 2020/21 there was the promise of an inflated central government settlement which would mean the best funding for the last 10 years assuming that the pension grant was received during the year.

For the following two years it had been assumed that the Authority would receive the same level of funding less 5%. This had been the core assumption that the report had been based on.

The report detailed the key planning assumptions which the 'most likely' funding scenario had been based on. Members were informed that under this assumption the service would not have to move to riding four firefighters on a fire appliance more than currently was the case. Other scenarios were included for comparison.

The report also reaffirmed the reserves strategy and provided Members with a re-profiling of those reserves.

S Booth informed Members that the current approved Capital Investment Programme would come to an end within the next 18-24 months.

Therefore, as part of the budget setting process which would come to the Authority in February 2020, additional capital investment proposals would be brought for Members' approval.

In response to a question from a Member, S Booth confirmed that the Bellwin Scheme had been activated over a week ago. The threshold for Bellwin was approximately £105,000, anything above that amount could be claimed back from the government.

Cllr Ross welcomed the cautiously optimistic report and queried whether riding five firefighters on a fire appliance could be the norm in the future.

The DCFO replied that it was currently the aim to ride five and the Service was working with Occupational Health to maximise the productivity and efficiency of staff currently available.

S Booth advised caution as the long-term funding position would not be known until December 2020, but a moderate recruitment course of 18 wholetime firefighters commencing in June had been built into the plan.

In reply to a question from Cllr Ayris, it was confirmed that the reserves strategy would be re-visited in November 2020 when the funding position would be clearer.

Cllr Ransome referred to the 'other expenses' including BMBC charges and queried whether BMBC was responsible for facilities management.

S Booth confirmed that it was a nominal charge for the use of Barnsley Council's facilities e.g. meeting rooms.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Accept the updated Medium Term Financial Plan for the financial years 2020/21 to 2022/23, and note the contents of the report, the significance of the savings identified to date and the likely implications of the different funding scenarios for the operational service.
- (ii) Accept the proposed approach for managing reserves as set out in Section C of the report and note the likely use of the useable earmarked reserves over the term of the Plan.

- (iii) Note the up-to-date approved capital programme spending and financing projections 2019/20 to 2021/22 at Section D.
- (iv) Agree to consider new, additional capital investment schemes for approval into the current capital programme as part of the 2020/21 Budget and Council Tax Setting report at Section D.
- (v) Note the known financial risks, uncertainties and events that would need careful consideration and management in the run-up to and when setting the 2020/21 Budget and Council Tax (Section D).

12 DYNAMIC COVER TOOL (DCT) - INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP)

A report was submitted to present information on the Dynamic Cover Tool (DCT) software as part of the Service's commitment to exploring technological aids to support the IRMP, reduce risk and manage resources more effectively.

Members were informed that the DCT was currently being used by Fire and Rescue Services in London, Surrey and the West Midlands to, amongst other things, optimise risk/incident cover from available resources, co-ordinate resources during major incidents and make forward planning decisions for overtime/detachments and distribution of staff and resources.

The DCT would enable staff to access a continuous live map of SYFR's risk, incidents and resource profile, actively displaying the areas where risk had increased or decreased due to resource coverage and its resulting impact on the area in which it was located.

The software also provided a platform for performance management and the Service's impact on community safety/risk management.

The indicative costs were £75,000 for the purchase, licencing, implementation, data migration and training and circa £37,000 annual support and ongoing licence.

It was confirmed that there would be the opportunity to collaborate with other Fire and Rescue Services, which could mean a reduction in costs.

The Tool could also be used with other agencies, e.g. the Police and would have been useful during the floods as it would have informed staff where they needed to move appliances to.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the contents of the report.
- (ii) Endorse the Service to progress engagement with stakeholders and other Fire and Rescue Services using the DCT and the required procurement process.

13 THE PROCUREMENT SERVICE - A SIX MONTHLY UPDATE

A report was considered to give an update on Procurement Services, its activities, its support of the roles of SYFR and a report on FS323 Request to Contracts Standing Orders Waiver activity in the preceding 6 months.

In April, Members had requested a six-month update report and the report detailed the progress of Procurement Services for the period April to October 2019.

Members were informed that there had been a slight restructure within Procurement with the loss of a Business Support Officer. It was intended to replace this role with an Assistant Category Manager.

The report gave details of the tenders the Service had been involved in, contracts awarded, ICT procurement, the relocation of the SYFR Central Stores and the reformation of a Regional Procurement Group with North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside FRS's.

It was noted that the Service had, over the last 6 months, delivered procurement savings of £427,948,82, detailed analysis of the savings were at Appendix A to the report.

In answer to a question from Cllr Ayris it was confirmed that approved supplier lists were no longer used.

Cllr Ransome thanked D Nichols for an informative report and queried who was responsible for ongoing contracts management.

D Nichols responded that this was the responsibility of the relevant awarding officer and the client officer.

It was agreed that a further update would be provided in six months' time.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the Authority notes the content of the report and endorses the positive work of the Procurement Services Team.
- (ii) That a further update would be provided to the Authority in six months.

14 LOCAL PENSION BOARD ISSUES

A paper was considered which reported on Local Pension Board issues.

Members were reminded that the Authority had ultimate responsibility as Scheme Manager for the Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

The role of the Local Pension Board (LPB) was to assist the Scheme Manager in ensuring that any delegation in place was managed appropriately and that the Scheme was compliant with the regulations and relevant legislation.

Members were informed that the LPB was responsible for receiving details of any breaches of the law which must be reported to The Pensions Regulator (TPR). Details of a breach were contained within the report and should be formally noted by the FRA. The breach had been reported to TPR.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Recognise and understand the FRA's role as Scheme Manager in owning all the risks associated with pensions, and agree that the LPB Risk Register be reported to them annually as part of the Board's annual report.
- (ii) Recognise and understand the LPB's role in identifying officers to update the risks and in escalating any issues of concern to the Scheme Manager as appropriate.
- (iii) Note the breach reported to The Pensions Regulator and the actions identified to prevent a reoccurrence.

15 LOCAL PENSION BOARD KEY ISSUES AND MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2019

L Noble presented a paper which provided a summary of the Key Issues discussed by the Local Pension Board at its meeting on 15th October 2019. The minutes and actions from that meeting were also provided to give further detail.

It was noted that the annual training and awareness session with the LGA's Bluelight Pensions Advisor was held before the last meeting of the LPB and was attended by five Members of the FRA.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

16 CONTINGENCY FIREFIGHTING ARRANGEMENTS

A report was submitted to update the Authority on Home Office expectations with regards to contingency firefighting arrangements in the event of industrial action.

The report detailed the current arrangements with regards to business continuity, the outcome of the recent OJEU compliance exercise which identified the market strength, along with a range of proposals and associated costs for the consideration of Members regarding the provision of resources during any period of Industrial Action.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve Option 1 through a 2-year retainer contract providing 'Officer in Charge' to staff 8 appliances in conjunction with SYFR's Contingency Crews.

The Chair and Cllr Hogarth abstained from the vote on the above matter.

- (ii) Note the mobilisation costs associated with SYFR's Business Continuity Arrangements, if invoked.

17 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER - AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

A report was submitted requesting the Authority to endorse the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel to appoint Andrew Dyson to the vacant role of Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee with effect from 24th October 2019.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the action to date to recruit an Independent member of the Audit and Governance Committee.
- (ii) Agree the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel and appoint Andrew Dyson to the vacant role of Independent member of the Audit and Governance Committee, subject to satisfactory references.
- (iii) Agree to an appraisal process after the first four-year term of appointment (October 2023).

Action Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	Provide Members with an explanation for the overspend on expenses of £10,000.	By the next FRA 13-1-20	S Booth	Information provided to Members via email on 18.12.19 and available via the website link below.
2	To provide Members with a further update on Procurement	FRA June 2020	S Booth D Nichol	

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

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Item 51

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

13 JANUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, P Haith, C Hogarth,
P Price, C Ransome, S M Richards, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, T/DCFO T Carlin, S Booth and L Murray
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

A Frosdick, M McCarthy, N Copley, L Noble and M McCool
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Frost,
M Potter, S Norman and T/ACO S Helps

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

Members were referred to a letter received from the Local Government Association (LGA) and the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) which proposed the creation of a dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector, until Autumn 2020.

A contribution of £8,000 was sought from the Authority towards the establishment of the team, which would work with the sector and the Home Office to help set out the business case for funding the fire and rescue service to the Treasury, whilst considering the need for increased funding to the sector as a whole; this would not affect the Authority's ability to lobby on an individual basis. It was envisaged that contributions would be sought nationally from all fire and rescue services.

Councillor Taylor referred to the recent Joint Liaison Forum (JLF) meeting where discussions had commenced on both the individual and collective lobbying approaches. Members noted the fire and rescue service lobby, established by the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) and Government representatives, to be held at the Houses of Parliament on 14 January 2020.

Members noted that the contribution of £8,000 would be sourced from the 2019/20 budget. The Service would be provided with feedback from the dedicated team via the NFCC, and inform the Authority accordingly.

RESOLVED – That Members supported the request for a contribution of £8,000 towards the establishment of a dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector, until Autumn 2020.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members noted that agenda items 19 and 20 entitled ‘Appendices B and C to the Progress Report on Estates and Facilities Service Improvements’ would be considered in the absence of the public and press, due to the security element to prevent the building plans of the fire stations being made widely available.

RESOLVED – That agenda items 19 and 20 entitled ‘Appendices B and C to the Progress Report on Estates and Facilities Service Improvements’ be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

None.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 25 November 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 SYFR HMICFRS INSPECTION REPORT

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented outlining the outcome of the HMICFRS inspection report for SYFR. The report provided a summary of the main findings for the three categories (pillars) of inspection - effectiveness, efficiency and people - on which SYFR had been rated ‘good’ in all three of the areas, with ten out of eleven sub categories rated as ‘good’. The

inspectors had identified some areas for improvement, and an action plan and appropriate measures would be implemented to address these. The review and action plan would be undertaken by T/GM Rowland in preparedness for the next inspection which was anticipated for Spring/Summer 2021. The Service would review all of the tranche 3 inspection reports from the other fire and rescue services, in order to achieve learning points. All of the 45 fire and rescue services in England would be inspected for a second time. The State of Fire and Rescue report would be published in January 2020.

CFO Johnson had today met with the FBU to discuss a variety of issues including the leave policies for carers and special leave, and training planning in order to maximise firefighter numbers on fire appliances. A great deal of work and positive action was underway in relation to equality of opportunity, and workforce development plans were in place via a workforce planning group, which involved the trade union representatives and senior managers within the organisation.

Councillor Taylor congratulated the Service on the outcome of the inspection, whilst recognising the extent of the preparatory work undertaken. SYFR was now recognised as one of the very best fire and rescue services within the country.

Dr Billings acknowledged the good HMICFRS inspection report which he considered to be very encouraging. Both SYP and SYFR were inspected by the HMICFRS and had both received good outcomes, which he considered should provide huge reassurance to members of the public within South Yorkshire. He suggested that the Authority should have sight of the action plan once it had been devised. He stated that following the HMICFRS's Inspections of the Force, there was a requirement to respond formally to the Inspectorate, and he queried whether SYFR had an obligation to do the same.

CFO Johnson stated that a press release had been issued following receipt of the HMICFRS inspection report. She would ascertain whether a formal response was required to be sent to the Minister, and inform Members accordingly.

Councillor Ayris congratulated the Service on the outcome of the report. He queried the timescales for management of the actions of areas for improvement within the action plan, to enable Members to be informed of the progress made.

Members noted that initially T/GM Rowland would undertake a detailed review of the inspection report in order to ascertain the scale of the work needed and the additional resources required. This would enable timescales to be produced for each action and determine whether additional funding was required.

Councillor Ayris requested that a link to the report be included within the minutes of the meeting.

Councillor Ross endorsed the congratulations already conveyed to the Service and suggested that a report be presented to the Authority to highlight the comments made by the Inspectorate, and the progress made to address the areas of concern.

CFO Johnson commented that this would be built into departmental business plans.

Councillor Richards requested that, following the review of all of the tranche 3 inspection reports from the other fire and rescue services, that the Authority be provided with information on any additional learning points that had been ascertained. She requested that acknowledgement should be given to CFO Courtney on his retirement, for the good HMICFRS inspection report received during his time as Chief.

Councillor Haith expressed her thanks to all SYFR staff for the excellent inspection report. She queried why the report had indicated 'risk' as an area for improvement.

CFO Johnson stated that this related to the number of risk premises within South Yorkshire. Nationally, there was no clear description of what was classed as high or low risk premises. SYFR had requested clear guidance from HMICFRS to determine high or low risk premises, in order to ensure that the Service had attended those high risk buildings, and whether more/less visits should be made to those buildings.

Councillor Taylor considered that attendance times was another area that required clarity, which had a mixed approach nationally. He looked forward to receiving the action plan.

CFO Johnson commented that there was no definition of attendance times, and this was reliant upon each individual fire and rescue service to set accordingly. The Service was looking for HMICFRS guidance on the issue.

RESOLVED – That Members discussed the outcome of the SYFR HMICFRS inspection and agreed the monitoring arrangements for the action plan.

11 CLOSE PROXIMITY CREWING (CPC) - UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided Members with an update in relation to the resourcing of SYFR's remaining Close Proximity Crewing fire stations (CPC). This was the latest report provided to Members since the judicial review of the CPC arrangements that had been delivered by the High Court ruling in May 2018, which had determined that the CPC duty system at Edlington, Aston Park, Tankersley and Lowedges Fire Stations was non-compliant, unless a collective agreement could be reached with the representative bodies. The return of the Grey Book compliant 2-2-4 duty system at all CPC stations had begun to be initiated in early 2019, following no collective agreement being reached.

Currently, Aston Park and Tankersley Fire Stations were the only two remaining CPC stations in operation within the Service, and refurbishment works would be undertaken during 2020. Planning would commence in early 2020 for Tankersley Fire Station. Edlington and Lowedges Fire Stations were currently being refurbished to ensure that the facilities were fit for purpose for firefighters on the 2-2-4 duty system. Aston Park Fire Station provided a water rescue capability, and expressions of interest for volunteers to move onto the station were sought. It was anticipated that the 2-2-4 duty system at Aston Park Fire Station would commence in mid-2020.

Members were provided with assurance that the Service was managing the move from CPC to the 2-2-4 duty system on the fire stations, in close liaison with the Health and Safety Executive.

Councillor Ransome queried the Service's recruitment programme, and when additional firefighters would be recruited.

Members noted that volunteers were sought internally within the Service for a sideways move onto the 2-2-4 duty system stations. Currently, the Service was not specifically undertaking firefighter recruitment, but CFO Johnson was in negotiations with the representative bodies around the issue.

CFO Johnson had met with the FBU today with a view to reaching an agreement for a process in which firefighters would be moved onto the 2-2-4 duty system stations, in order to balance the Watches; discussions would continue. It was anticipated that there would be an increase in the numbers on the next firefighter recruitment course from 18 to 24 individuals, which would facilitate cover for retirement and workforce planning etc.

Dr Billings queried whether the associated risks were recorded on the Risk Register, and whether the Risk Register was for the Service or the Authority.

CFO Johnson stated that the Service and the Authority had separate Risk Registers.

T/DCFO Carlin added that both the Authority's and Service's Risk Registers would be considered at the Audit and Governance Committee meeting to be held today. CPC had remained on the Service's Risk Register for a considerable amount of time. Risks would be de-escalated as the risks were reduced.

Members noted that the Authority's Risk Register was considered by the Audit and Governance Committee meeting on a quarterly basis (the same as the Service Risk register), and that an annual report is also presented to the Authority on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Endorsed the ongoing, positive progress and improvements made so far to return the remaining stations back to the 2-2-4 duty system.

12 GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY PHASE 1 REPORT - TRAINING GAP ANALYSIS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided a gap analysis of the current position relating to the training provision at SYFR, following publication of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry: Phase 1 Report of the Public Inquiry into the fire at Grenfell Tower on 14 June 2017.

Councillor Taylor referred to the Local Government Association's Fire Commission, which would hold a special meeting on 24 January 2020 to discuss issues surrounding the outcome of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry to date. Members noted that Councillor Taylor would be happy to relay any information, views or questions to the special meeting on their behalf.

Councillor Ayris queried how the National Operational Learning Secretariat operated, the implications, and whether it was fit for purpose.

T/DCFO Carlin stated that the National Operational Learning Secretariat required every fire and rescue service nationally to upload learning onto the system. In terms of the success of the system, the information provided had been useful, albeit there had been instances of events that had occurred in other areas of the country which had been raised through the news and social media, with a lag of information coming in through the learning system at a later stage.

Members noted that the Regulatory Reform Order 2005 was the legislation used by the Business Fire Safety to ensure that buildings within South Yorkshire were safe i.e. where people worked and visited, with the exception of homes; the legislation had moved the burden from the Service onto the owners/occupiers. It was considered that the Grenfell Tower Inquiry may result in a shift of the responsibility back to the fire and rescue service, and the resources required to pick up this work will need to be discussed.

Councillor Ross queried the Service's position in relation to the 'stay put' policy within Gap 2 of the Gap Analysis, as opposed to evacuation.

Members were informed that the Service had worked very closely with the responsible owners/occupiers of every high rise building with ACM cladding within South Yorkshire to determine their fire strategy, and in the event of a 'stay put' strategy, to ascertain whether it was the appropriate strategy for the building. There were only three high rise buildings remaining within South Yorkshire, most of which the cladding had been removed, or small amounts of cladding remained, prohibition notices had been placed on bin chutes which were at the side of the cladding, and other buildings had a 'waking watch' system.

CFO Johnson was comfortable that appropriate measures had been implemented at high rise buildings within South Yorkshire, together with the arrangements made for additional fire appliances to attend when necessary. There was still a potential for additional buildings containing cladding to be identified within South Yorkshire. She had recently taken part in a telephone conference with the majority of other Chief Fire Officers across the country and they had discussed how to provide assurance in this area. The Service could assure Members and the Government that they had visited all of these premises, had spoken to the responsible persons, that SYFR's firefighters had been trained and were aware of the buildings that had been visited. Should a building be determined not to contain dangerous cladding and all of the fire precautions were in place, then the 'stay put' policy would be the safest option.

Councillor Haith referred to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service who had implemented a mid-night order on a number of their properties. She queried whether this had also been implemented within SYFR.

CFO Johnson stated that the issue had been raised as part of the telephone conference, which had discussed the letters issued by West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to the responsible owners of high rise buildings, in order to ascertain the plans and strategies. The NFCC had since made the letter available to be utilised by all of the fire and rescue services nationally. The Service was reviewing a small number of properties, where the owners had not been forthcoming about the types of cladding used etc. CFO Johnson confirmed that those high rise buildings with safety issues within South Yorkshire, had now either had the cladding removed or interim measures imposed. There were outstanding issues with just one privately owned building to ascertain funding in order to replace the cladding.

SYFR was fully compliant with the NFCC agreed guidance on the interim measures on suspending the 'stay put' policy.

Dr Billings suggested that most of the individuals that resided in high rise buildings would be surprised to learn that SYFR was not involved in all stages of the planning, building and refurbishment works of those buildings. He considered that further work should be undertaken to enable the fire and rescue service to be fully engaged in the process. He queried whether the Service had liaised directly with the residents of the high rise properties, and whether any safety advice had been provided. He also queried why Grenfell and the Phase 1 recommendations did not currently sit on the Corporate Risk Register.

CFO Johnson stated that the Grenfell report in isolation did not sit within the SYFR Corporate Risk Register, but elements within it – e.g. firefighter training, safety and the role of Business Fire Safety would all be included in the SYFR Risk Register to recognise the significance of the measures required to avoid a repeat of this terrible tragedy. Following the Grenfell Tower incident, the Service had visited all of the high rise premises in South Yorkshire, and had met with residents wherever possible to provide assurance. SYFR had also liaised with the four local authorities on the matter. Following the Dame Hackett Review, a number of SYFR firefighters had been embedded within the London Fire Brigade, through the NFCC.

Members noted that SYFR would continue to push for sprinkler installation in all buildings, and in particular in the high rise buildings in South Yorkshire.

Councillor Hogarth queried whether the Service was able to inspect those new buildings that had been built with retrospective planning permission.

CFO Johnson stated that SYFR had the right to enter premises, and attempts would be made to arrange visits wherever possible. Crews would inform SYFR's Business Fire Safety of any new buildings, and local authorities would be contacted to ascertain building plans and arrange for visits to be made.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and approved further action for the development of training against the recommendations.

13 KEY ISSUES ARISING FROM THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2019

Members were presented with the key issues paper arising from the Performance and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 21 November 2019.

Dr Billings welcomed the report which he considered provided the appropriate level of detail for Members, together with the actions arising from the meeting.

RESOLVED - That Members noted the key issues arising from the Performance and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 21 November 2019.

14 DRAFT POLICE AND FIRE COLLABORATION BOARD MINUTES OF 11 NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Police and Fire Collaboration Board held on 11 November 2019.

15 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 15 November 2019.

16 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 25 November 2019.

17 PROGRESS REPORT ON ESTATES AND FACILITIES SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to provide Members with the details on progress to improve the Estates and Facilities Service within SYFR. The report was the latest in a series of reports presented to Members since June 2017, regarding the improvement plan for the Estates and Facilities service. The report provided details of the improvements and progress made to date, the major work and projects that were currently underway and their present status, alongside proposed new schemes that would need to become part of the capital programme in 2020/21.

Councillor Hogarth queried whether a Service Level Agreement was in place with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) in respect of them utilising the fire stations.

L Murray commented that her team was liaising with YAS in relation to their different requirements at each of the fire stations, and that individual agreements were in place with the fire stations to ensure that the relevant accommodation costings were paid, whilst ensuring that all of the Service's costs were covered at no detriment to the Service.

Councillor Ayris queried if and when Members would have sight of the outline business case.

Members noted that the outline business case would form part of the SYP and SYFR Collaboration Board minutes that were submitted to the Authority. The normal route for decision making around collaboration was made at the Delivery Board at which the outline business case would be presented to the meeting on 26 February 2020. Subject to approval at that meeting, it would progress onto the Police and Fire Collaboration Board which was attended by Councillor Taylor, Dr Billings, CFO Johnson and Chief Constable Watson.

Councillor Ayris referred to past issues which had been encountered post inspection of the completion of works. He queried the current situation regarding post inspection of the works, the percentage of works that were inspected, and how it tied into best practice elsewhere.

L Murray stated that the new interim team consisted of more building surveyors including an additional fixed term building surveyor, to enable capacity for the works to be checked as matters progressed. Currently, feedback from the helpdesk regarding the surveyors had been very positive from J Tomlinson, the Hard FM contractor, and other sources of information. Consideration was being given to a facility within the wider team for a similar clerk of works function, to ensure that work was checked as matters progressed, in order to prevent any future issues.

Councillor Ross queried where the additional funding for the potential circa £250,000 for the construction of the multi-use community building at the new Barnsley Fire Station would be sourced. He also queried the temporary equipment outside Lowedges Fire Station, and the latest position regarding the green roof at Birley Fire Station.

S Booth referred Members to the report previously submitted to the Authority, which had flagged up numerous potential supplementary estimates that may be required for Barnsley Fire Station, and the financial envelope of £4m provided in 2015. At that time tenders for the works had not been received, and the Service had raised with the Authority that additional funding may be required for the temporary accommodation and multi-use community building. He was fairly optimistic that the costs would be contained within the £4m envelope. In the event that the costs could not be contained within the £4m envelope, a separate report would be submitted to the Authority to seek a supplementary estimate, and this would be included as part of the capital investment programme, to be presented to the Authority meeting in February 2020.

L Murray commented that the works had been completed at the Lowedges Fire Station on 10 January 2020. The temporary accommodation would be used for the works at Aston Park and Tankersley Fire Stations; a Member visit could be arranged if required. In relation to the green roof at Birley Fire Station, a number of specialist reports had indicated that when the material had initially been laid, the soil had contained an overly high level of zinc, which had prevented the roof from 'greening up'. Discussions had been held with the original contractor who would undertake further work on the roof over a 12 month period. If, by the end of the

period, the roof was still not green enough, arrangements would be made with the contractor to replace the roof entirely. The Service had engaged with STRI Ltd, who was the leading global pitch design and consultancy specialist for professional sports surfaces. STRI Ltd had commissioned the reports into the zinc issue and was working alongside the main contractor to ensure that the necessary maintenance was undertaken.

Councillor Ransome thanked L Murray for the work undertaken and the progress made. She queried whether the Estates and Facilities Services had a full complement of staff.

Members noted that the only vacant position was the Property Services Manager; the role was currently being covered partly by the Senior Building Survey who was on a fixed term contract. Consideration was being given as to how the post could be shared between both the SYFR and SYP Estates and Facilities Services teams.

Dr Billings gave thanks for the report presented. He acknowledged the huge task placed on the Head of Joint Estates and Facilities for SYFR and SYP in supporting both organisations on two Estate Strategies. Dr Billings felt the aspiration moving forwards should be a joint Estates Strategy for both organisations.

Members noted that in November 2019, L Murray had brought the vision and target operating model for the Estates and Facilities Management to both the Delivery and Collaboration Boards. At that time, a total of six options had been presented; two of the options had been discounted and four options were now being worked up with the Project Team to present to the Delivery Board on the 26 February 2020, the Police and Fire Collaboration Board, and potentially to the Authority. The four options for future service delivery consisted of operating as currently under a Joint Head of Estates and Facilities Management whilst enhancing the experience from the last 12 months' learning. The other three options related to adopting a lead authority model with one organisation responsible for both estates.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report in particular the future proposed capital investment schemes for the following financial year.
- ii) Endorsed the ongoing, positive progress and improvements made so far in Estates and Facilities as part of the Service's improvement journey towards becoming an effective and efficient support service of SYFR.
- iii) Approved the proposed updates to the Estates Plan.

Action Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To provide Members with feedback from the dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector.	ASAP	CFO Johnson	
2	The Authority to have sight of the action plan, following a detailed review of the HMICFRS inspection report.	ASAP	T/GM Rowland	
3	To inform Members whether SYFR had sent a formal response to the Minister following receipt of the HMICFRS inspection report.	By the next FRA 10-2-20	CFO Johnson	A formal response from CFO Courtney was not sent following receipt of the final Report, and not believed to be required/expected. A full formal response was sent to the preceding Draft Report, as required.
4	To include a link within the minutes to the HMICFRS inspection report.	By the next FRA 10-2-20	M McCoole	https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/publications/frs-assessment-2018-19-south-yorkshire/
5	A report to be presented to the Authority to highlight the comments made by the inspector on the HMICFRS inspection report and the progress made to address the areas of concern.	By the next FRA 10-2-20	T/GM Rowland	This may form part of Action 2 above (reporting of the Action Plan).
6	The Authority to be provided with information on any additional learning points that had been ascertained from the review of all of the tranche 3 HMICFRS inspection reports from the other fire and rescue services.	ASAP	T/GM Rowland	This may form part of Action 2 above (reporting of the Action Plan).

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

Item 52

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

10 FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, R Frost, P Haith,
C Hogarth, P Price, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, T/ACO S Helps and S Booth
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

A Frosdick, M McCarthy, N Copley, L Noble and M McCool
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor C Ransome, Councillor S M Richards, S Loach,
M Potter, S Norman and T/DCFO T Carlin

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

In her absence, Councillor Richards asked the Chair to convey to Members that she considered SYFR's new Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) campaign to be excellent. The campaign was available to view via www.youtube.com.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Haith referred to the recent Treasury Management training session that she had attended. She considered that the session had been very informative and had provided an understanding of the technical jargon which would hopefully assist Members in making better informed decisions at meetings.

Councillor Buckley congratulated SYFR on attending the recent Holocaust Memorial Day.

Councillor Damms had attended a lobby at the Houses of Parliament on 14 January 2020 together with Councillor Taylor, Trade Union representatives, and a number of MP's including Clive Betts MP and Ed Miliband MP. He was disappointed that the current Policing and Fire Minister, Kit Malthouse MP, or his representatives had been in attendance. He considered that the lobby had been a worthwhile event in the pursuit of a fairer system. A silent walk had also been undertaken in remembrance of the Grenfell Tower incident.

Councillor Taylor thanked N Carbutt, FBU Brigade Secretary, for organising the lobby which had been well structured, and had included a number of press and television interviews which had been a good step forward in terms of lobbying for the Fire and Rescue Service.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2020

M McCarthy referred to Item 1 on the Action Table 'to provide Members with feedback from the dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector'. He requested that the timescale of the action be amended to reflect that the information would be provided to Members when the work was complete, due to it being a piece of work that may take some time.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 13 January 2020 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 STATE OF FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to provide Members with an overview of the State of Fire and Rescue Report which had been released on 15 January 2020, by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue

Services (HMICFRS), Sir Thomas Winsor, together with the subsequent actions to be taken by SYFR. The report highlighted that fire and rescue services had much to celebrate, although there were a number of areas for concern i.e. a lack of focus on building safety, barriers to becoming more effective and efficient, a lack of diversity across the workplace and in some instances a 'toxic' bullying culture. Four recommendations had been detailed within the report for the wider fire sector. Members would be provided with further updates when more information was received in respect of the four recommendations.

Councillor Ayris referred to the operational independence for Chief Fire Officers which would be considered by the Home Office by September 2020. He sought clarity on what was recommended and the benefits. He also queried whether there was a timescale for the production of the action plan.

CFO Johnson referred to a recent National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC) meeting which had highlighted the different levels of independence for Chief Fire Officers across the country, dependent upon the governance structures and other contributory factors. In the first instance, the NFCC would produce a paper on the meaning of operational independence, but it is accepted that there was a need to standardise independence across the sector. The action plan would be presented to SYFR's Senior Leadership Team this week, following which a formal action plan would be presented to Members at either a Corporate Advisory Group (CAG) or Performance and Scrutiny Board (P&S).

Councillor Taylor requested that Members be provided with an update in respect of the action plan at each Authority meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and approved further actions to enable service improvement.

11 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - LATEST FORECAST FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was presented as the third report in a series of reports that Members received throughout the financial year, to inform as to the likely financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2020. The report included an estimated revenue outturn position, an updated reserves position statement, an update on the Capital Programme and a narrative commentary to provide an explanation of the key financial changes that were contributing to each of them.

Members recalled the 2019/20 approved operating budget of £53.565m. There was a projected net operating spend of £53.588m based upon the latest expenditure and planned contributions from earmarked reserves. Members noted the latest funding projection of £54.222m, a £0.657m increase leaving a net operating underspend of £0.634m after any planned contributions to/from reserves.

Councillor Ayris referred to the premises overspend of £0.217m. He queried what measures would be implemented to control the trend which was expected to continue for at least the remainder of the year, and more than likely into the next year.

S Booth referred to SYFR's aspiration, as part of the vision for Estates and Facilities Management, to provide fit for purpose facilities on fire stations. Members had previously been informed that the estate had not been maintained as well as it should have been, which had led to a large number of legacy issues. Estate condition improvement works for phases 1 to 3 were being undertaken, with phase 3 of the works to shortly commence on site, to address those legacy issues. SYFR had previously had a policy of not having planned maintenance. When the contract with Tomlinsons had commenced in November 2018, discussions had focused upon implementing a strategy and moving towards prevention rather than response. It has been recognised that this would take a period of time, and it was envisaged that the legacy issues in terms of capital investment would have been resolved by the end of 2021, as part of the estate condition works and the new capital programme. L Murray had instructed the Estates and Facilities Management team to focus on essential priority works across the estate, rather than those works that may be desirable.

Councillor Hogarth referred to the introduction of Telematics across the fleet which was progressing albeit slower than expected, due to the need to fully involve representative bodies and introduce new policies surrounding its introduction and future use.

S Booth said there were ongoing meetings with the representative bodies on this issue. Delays had been incurred as SYFR was not in control of the procurement framework, which South Yorkshire Police (SYP) had initially signed up to as part of the national framework. The Telematics had now been fully installed at SYP, and SYFR was awaiting the installation of Telematics.

Dr Billings highlighted the huge difference that Telematics had made to the SYP vehicle fleet, which had enabled more efficient use of its vehicles and fuel. He queried the process of the Government's Bellwin Fund, how the excess had been formulated and whether Central Government had a separate funding stream for Bellwin.

N Copley stated that anything over 0.5% of the budget (over £107k) would be eligible for excess.

S Booth commented that he was unsure whether Central Government had a separate funding stream for the Bellwin Fund. He assumed that the Treasury would have a significant amount of funding set aside to which each department could draw upon if such a contingency was required. SYFR would have to meet the first £107k in line with the qualifying criteria of the Fund. It was hoped that the remainder of the monies would be returned to SYFR, as the majority of SYFR's dependency and the majority of costs during the recent floods had been attributable to other fire and rescue services.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted and considered the latest estimated revenue performance, which was showing a potential net operating underspend of £0.634m for the financial year ended 31 March 2020.
- ii) Noted the latest estimated increase in General Reserve of £0.374m for the financial year ended 31 March 2020.
- iii) Noted the likely net impact of known financial risks where it was currently not possible to fully quantify at this stage in the financial year.
- iv) Noted the re-profiling of the Capital Programme for 2019/20 into future years as detailed in the 2020/21 Annual Revenue Budget and Council Tax Setting Report, which was a separate agenda item at the meeting.

12 2020/21 ANNUAL REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING

A report of the Clerk and Treasurer and Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to seek Authority approval to the 2020/21 revenue budget and to set the council tax and precept by 28 February 2020.

Councillor Ross welcomed the Authority's position in respect of increased Government funding. He considered the Pension Deficit Grant to be the big issue, and was aware that formal confirmation had been received for 2020/21 in respect of the funding. However, the position for 2021/22 was uncertain. Councillor Ross enquired as to whether the Business Rate Levy for 2020/21, once confirmed, would be a positive figure. He also queried whether SYFR would be changing the size of the hose reels which was currently 22mm. In relation to borrowing, he queried whether there would be a change of policy, or whether long term loans would be taken out before an increase in the interest rates. He was pleased to observe that the amount for total investments in foreign countries had been reduced from £20m to £5m. He commented that the variance between the different levels of council tax of 1.5% to 1.9% totalled £129,862.

S Booth stated that the pension grant had been a long running issue. The Home Office's financial advisor had announced on the day of the finance settlement, that the Minister had approved the pension grant received in 2019/20 of £2.756m which would be continued into 2020/21; no indication had been made regarding the value for future years. Luke Edwards, Director of Fire and Resilience within the Home Office, had stressed his preference to 'roll up' the pension grant into the RSG Government grant settlement. The best case scenario for SYFR's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) was that the £2.756m would be rolled up into 2020/21 or 2021/22 and be subject to a 5% reduction moving forwards. The compounding issue was the extent to which the Treasury considered the sector was efficient, or whether it considered that the sector needed to become more efficient.

The State of Fire and Rescue Report and the HMICFRS had indicated a requirement for the sector to demonstrate that it was efficient, or that it had plans in place to make it more efficient. Until that time, the Treasury may consider that the sector had sufficient funding, and could potentially allow the sector to protect that funding or to prevent the funding from being grown further. The matter was further compounded by the pensions issues nationally. Remedy meetings were being held around the McCloud and Sargent Cases, as a result of which SYFR's pension liabilities would increase. An estimate had been made, as part of SYFR's annual accounts which were undertaken last year, whilst working with the Government's Actuary, to ascertain the impact on SYFR's overall liabilities for the pension fund, which equated to a cost of £67m which was a significant increase. In relation to the Business Rates Levy, a figure had been removed from the report, as an announcement had been anticipated from Government. Notification from the Government was now expected in April/May 2020, and a report would be brought back to the Authority at that point, which was expected to be a positive amount for the Business Rates Levy.

N Copley stated that although there were no guarantees, a suggestion had been made that the Business Rates Levy could be 25% of the levels of last year.

Members noted that the new midi fire appliance utilised the 22mm hose reel, the effectiveness of which was being ascertained to determine whether it should be replicated across SYFR's other fire appliances.

S Booth agreed with Councillor Ross' calculations of the difference between the different levels of council tax which equated to £129,862. He stated that, in relation to capital borrowing against the reserve, like most local authorities over the past years, SYFR had utilised its cash reserves instead of borrowing money. Twelve months ago, SYFR had been in a position where the under borrowing had been approximately £13m, which had placed the Service on the riskier side should the interest rates start to change. It had been agreed through the Treasury Management Strategy, which had been agreed at the Audit and Governance Committee, to reduce the under borrowing position over a 12 month or so period. Borrowing had been taken out to reduce the under borrowing position to approximately £6m/£7m. N Copley as Treasurer, had been keen to keep to the current under borrowing position, which reflected the Service's general and earmarked reserves. The expectation was that when SYFR looked to seek additional approvals for capital investment that money would need to be borrowed as the capital investment reserve would be depleted.

Councillor Ayris referred to a question that he had raised at the Authority meeting held in November 2019 in relation to the MTFP, and the Reserves Strategy. He had been informed that the Strategy would not be revisited until November 2020. He therefore queried whether the report presented was premature in asking Members to reaffirm the Reserves Strategy. He sought clarification as to the mechanism in place for Members to keep the Reserves Strategy under review up to the end of November 2020.

N Copley confirmed that the Authority could revisit the Reserves Strategy at any point during the year.

Members noted that working on a 12 month period of November to November each year as a forerunner to the budget process, was a formal process for the MTFP to be brought to Members for consideration, whilst providing an opportunity for SYFR to plan the budget strategy. There was an opportunity throughout the year for Members to consider the reserves, as part of the budget monitoring process. Members would be asked to consider the reserves position as part of the outturn report presented to the Authority in June 2020, which would set out the Service's revised expectations to a contribution to those reserves. The MTFP set out a 3 year profile of reserves together with an expectation position at the end of 2023. S Booth would include a revised update on the reserves profile within the Outturn Report to be presented to the Authority meeting in June 2020. He considered that quarterly or 6 monthly reviews of the reserves was adequate.

N Copley stated that in relation to the longer term Reserves Strategy, clarity was needed over the funding position, which would be provided to Members if the information was available before June 2020.

Dr Billings thanked S Booth and N Copley for the comprehensiveness and clarity of the report which highlighted the potential risks and dangers to SYFR's budget. He considered that the Service was moving into the future with many unknowns. In relation to approving an increase in Council Tax, he highlighted the need to be mindful that South Yorkshire was a very poor part of the country, with most properties falling within Bands A and B. He queried whether the Audit and Governance Committee considered the potential risks and dangers to SYFR's budget.

Members noted that dependent upon the issue, the Performance and Scrutiny Board, Audit and Governance Committee or the Authority would consider SYFR's risks in more detail. The Audit and Governance Committee's remit included a quarterly review of SYFR's risks.

Councillor Haith queried how much the Authority's figures and charges had increased as part of the budget setting process.

S Booth stated that the figures and charges had been increased by inflation. In 2019, a review had been undertaken to ensure that a cost recovery model was in place and that it had been increased by the cost of inflation.

Councillor Frost expressed his thanks to S Booth for the comprehensive report provided, and he was pleased to note that the budget had provided for an additional 24 firefighters. He also gave thanks to the officers who had delivered the recent Treasury Management training session, which had assisted in increasing his knowledge and understanding in this area.

Councillor Ross proposed an amendment to the recommendations, in view of the fact that the previous report on the agenda had referred to a surplus from the outturn, whilst taking into account a potential windfall and the burden on the council tax payer. He therefore proposed an amendment to Recommendation F to approve a Council Tax Increase of 1.5% for 2020/21.

Councillor Ayris seconded Councillor Ross' amendment to Recommendation F.

Councillor Damms stated that he hoped the proposed amendment to Recommendation F would not be passed. It was prudent to bear in mind that there was no certainty to SYFR's funding.

Dr Billings added that the proposals erred on the side of prudence, and felt that any deviation from the proposals would be irresponsible.

Councillor Buckley stated that he did not agree to the proposed amendment to Recommendation F.

A vote was taken to the proposed amendment to Recommendation F.

Councillors Ross and Ayris voted in favour of the proposed amendment.

The amendment to Recommendation F was not supported.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Approved the Authority's 2020/21 Revenue Budget at Appendix A.
- ii) Noted the Treasurer's Section 25 Statement (Section H – paragraphs 64 to 78) in support of the budget.
- iii) Approved the Capital Investment Strategy (Appendix B) including the updated Capital Programme and new approvals as set out in Section E of the report.
- iv) Approved the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy at Appendix C.
- v) Approved the fees and charges schedule for 2020/21 at Appendix D.
- vi) Approved a Council Tax Increase of 1.99% for 2020/21.

13 **PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to provide the revised Pay Policy Statement for the Authority for 2019/20 for consideration, as required under the Localism Act 2011.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the Pay Policy Statement.

14 **SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES RESERVE (SSCR) FUND UPDATE**

A report of the Deputy Clerk was presented which provided an update on the current spend status of the Stronger Safer Communities Reserve Fund (SSCR), including the Sprinkler Fund, and provided further information regarding the c£422k of SSCR residual funds.

Members recalled that at the Authority's Ordinary Meeting held in June 2019, the Authority had authorised an allocation c£415k to a Safer Homes South Yorkshire initiative, with any remaining residual funding to form a contribution to the Referral Partnerships Project. Following a tendering exercise, the Yorkshire Children's Centre had been identified as the preferred bidder. However, following the retirement of the SSCR Programme Manager, a delay had ensued in the implementation of the decision, which had been resolved upon identification of the issue, and a schedule of works had been developed to commence with the Yorkshire Children's Centre in January 2020. Prior to the signing of the contracts in December 2019, the Yorkshire Children's Centre had confirmed that it was unable to fulfil the proposed contract. At the Corporate Advisory Group meeting held in December 2019, Members had been made aware of the position and the requirement to seek Authority approval as to how the residual funding could be best invested.

Councillor Ayris supported the recommendations within the report, but he was disappointed that the Safer Homes South Yorkshire initiative had been unsuccessful.

Councillor Haith queried how the £309k funding to support the South Yorkshire Fire Partnership Referral Project would be utilised.

T/ACO Helps stated that the South Yorkshire Fire Partnership Referral Project would look to progress activity with key partners across South Yorkshire, many within the health and social care sector, to ensure that SYFR's Home Safety Checks and the Safe and Well visits were offered to the most vulnerable people. This would be a 3 year programme to strengthen and increase the relationships with partners around assisting individuals that were injured due to fires. The funding would enable SYFR staff, predominately FCSO's, to be moved into a particular role, whilst backfilling individuals into those roles.

Councillor Price welcomed the recommendation within the report to approve any further residual funding (c£113k) to be reallocated to the SSCR Sprinkler Fund. He queried whether the apartment block in Sheffield, which was the tallest block of apartments in South Yorkshire that had recently been approved, would automatically include sprinklers or whether future funding would be required for the resource.

T/ACO Helps stated that the specification for the apartment block in Sheffield had been agreed by Sheffield City Council's Planning Department. SYFR's Business Safety Team would enforce certain regulations, although most regulations would relate to the Codes of Practice. Members noted that the funding had been set aside by the Authority to encourage both developers and owners of buildings which were occupied by vulnerable tenants, or local authorities to show them the benefits of utilising sprinkler systems, which would ensure greater safety for the occupiers of the premises, reduce the cost of damage in the event of a fire, and keep SYFR staff safer when responding to such incidents. SYFR was one of the leading fire and rescue services across the country for sprinklers and the advocacy provided across the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC). The funding allocated had seen approximately £2m investment made locally; future investment would be made by

partners. T/ACO Helps was happy to discuss the issue in more detail with Councillor Price outside of the meeting.

Councillor Damms requested an explanation as to why individuals would be reluctant to install the sprinkler systems into high rise properties.

T/ACO Helps stated that the reluctance related to the legislation. Developers would only complete the required work, rather than works over and above the initial investment. It had been observed that the Kelham Mount high rise building, which was the first high rise building to have been retrofitted with sprinklers across the country, had been done so at a cost of just over £1,000 per domestic flat. It was envisaged that moving forwards, builders would recognise that by installing sprinkler systems into premises at the outset, it would enable other allowances to be made within their design features. SYFR worked with builders and developers to ensure they were aware of the benefits of installation at the build stage. R Brason was SYFR's Sprinkler Advocate and a leading expert in this field nationally.

Councillor Damms queried whether the insurance premiums would be lower if a sprinkler system had been installed from the outset.

T/ACO Helps stated that he was unsure whether the installation of a sprinkler system would attract a cheaper insurance premium, but he assumed so. He would provide Members with a briefing note to provide further clarity on the installation of the sprinkler systems. Through the SSCR, the Sprinkler Fund focused upon those homes for the most vulnerable in South Yorkshire, and this was a major consideration in considering funding applications.

Dr Billings referred to the issues raised previously at the Authority meetings regarding the high rise buildings in Sheffield, and particularly in light of the Grenfell Tower incident. He was unsure where the different responsibilities lay between SYFR and the local authorities, and how closely the Service was involved with the planning permissions for high rise buildings received at the local authorities. He suggested that a comprehensive report be presented regarding the responsibilities of SYFR and the local authorities, and to determine whether the Authority had a view on the role that SYFR should play when high rise buildings were built.

T/ACO Helps suggested that the Corporate Advisory Group would be the appropriate forum to discuss the matter in greater detail.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the updated position for the SSCR fund.
- ii) Noted the matters which affected the Safer Homes South Yorkshire initiative.
- iii) Approved the use of £309k funding to support the South Yorkshire Fire Partnership Referral Project.

- iv) Approved any further residual funding (c£113k) being reallocated to the SSCR Sprinkler Fund.
- v) Noted the residual amount may change as final accounts were settled with the Round 3 Small Grants Projects.
- vi) Noted that the funding of the Partnership Referral Project from residual SSCR funding would result in the £260k contribution from general reserves (as agreed at the June 2019 SYFRA) no longer being required.
- vii) Agreed that the issue of sprinklers, liaison with builders/developers and local authorities, together with the national position, would be discussed at a future Corporate Advisory Group meeting.

15 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR 2020/21

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to present the SYFR Performance Management Framework for 2020/21, which was reviewed annually to ensure that it reflected the Service's key priorities whilst enabling the outcomes related to those priorities to be monitored. It had been determined that a Task and Finish Group would undertake an in-depth review of the Performance Management Framework during 2020/21.

T/ACO Helps stated that the review had already commenced. It was intended to present the information to Members at the Corporate Advisory Group (CAG) for debate over the next 12 month period, to enable the Performance Management Framework to be shaped, prior to Authority approval.

Councillor Cave queried whether any Members had been invited to sit on the Task and Finish Group.

T/ACO Helps commented that the Task and Finish Group consisted of members of the SYFR Data Performance Team, but he was happy to extend the offer to Members.

Councillor Taylor sought a Member volunteer to sit on the Task and Finish Group.

Councillor Cave volunteered to become a member of the Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed that:-

- i) The Performance Management Framework for 2020/21 should remain the same as for 2019/20.
- ii) A Task and Finish Group would carry out an in-depth review of the Performance Management Framework during 2020/21.
- iii) Councillor Cave would become a member of the Task and Finish Group.

16 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 13 January 2020.

17 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Yorkshire and Humber Employers Association Meeting held on 16 January 2020.

18 LOCAL PENSION BOARD KEY ISSUES AND MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2020

Councillor Frost raised a question arising from the recent Local Pension Board meeting, in relation to the Authority’s budget setting and the risk of the recalculation of the McCloud and Sargent Case. Members noted that SYFR’s HR Department may require temporary assistance with the additional workload associated with the Transitional Protection Judgement.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Local Pension Board held on 23 January 2020.

Action Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To provide Members with feedback from the dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector.	When complete	CFO Johnson	
2	The Authority to have sight of the action plan, following a detailed review of the HMICFRS inspection report.	ASAP	T/GM Rowland	
3	A report to be presented to the Authority to highlight the comments made by the inspector on the HMICFRS inspection report and the progress made to address the areas of concern.	ASAP	T/GM Rowland	This may form part of Action 2 above (reporting of the action plan).

Fire and Rescue Authority
Monday 10 February 2020

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
4	The Authority to be provided with information on any additional learning points that had been ascertained from the review of all of the tranche 3 HMICFRS inspection reports from the other fire and rescue services.	ASAP	T/GM Rowland	This may form part of Action 2 above (reporting of the action plan).
5	To provide Members with an update and a formal action plan arising from the State of Fire and Rescue Report to either CAG or P&S Board.	ASAP	CFO Johnson	
6	A report to be provided to Members on the Business Rates Levy following notification from the Government expected in April/May 2020.	FRA 22-06-20		
7	To include a revised update on the reserves profile within the Outturn Report.	FRA 22-06-20 (Ordinary)	S Booth	
8	To provide Members with a briefing note to provide further clarity on the installation of the sprinkler systems – to include the role and responsibilities of Government, SYFR, local authorities, builders developers etc.	ASAP	T/ACO Helps	A presentation to be made to the Stakeholder Planning Board Meeting on 18-03-20.
9	To present information to Members over the next 12 months to enable the Performance Management	CAG (timescales to be determined)	T/ACO Helps	

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
	Framework to be shaped, prior to Authority approval.			

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

ANNUAL MEETING

22 JUNE 2020

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, R Frost, P Haith,
C Hogarth, P Price, C Ransome, S M Richards, C Ross and
Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, DCFO C Kirby and S Booth
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, N Copley, S Loach, M McCoole, M Potter and
L Noble
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

A Mullen
(RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP)

Apologies for absence were received from
ACO T Carlin and R Barnett

1 TO APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

M McCarthy sought nominations for the appointment of the Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year. He added that, whilst there was no requirement within the Coronavirus Act for the constituent authorities or the Authority to hold annual meetings until at least May 2021, a decision had been taken to hold the Authority's annual meeting.

Members noted that, in the interim period, should a constituent authority decide to hold its annual meeting, and changes were made to its membership, then the Authority would make the appropriate membership amendments during the course of the year.

Councillor Taylor added that this caveat would also be applied to the other items on the agenda.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Taylor be appointed as Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year.

2 TO APPOINT THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RESOLVED – That Councillor Damms be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year.

3 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Councillor Taylor reflected upon the last year as Chair to the Authority, which he considered had been both a busy and challenging one, that had commenced with the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) through to the appointment of the new CFO and DCFO, and the current exceptional circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic. He stated that SYFR continued to provide the highest level of protection to the communities within South Yorkshire, and that SYFR had surpassed its reputation with the HMICFRS Inspection results, its responses to major incidents and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. He personally thanked all Members, in particular the Chairs and representatives on the various boards and committees for their hard work, advice and assistance provided to him, SYFR and in particular to CFO Johnson for providing guidance, openness and accessibility. He also thanked L Noble, M McCarthy and M McCoole together with the other members of the Joint Authorities Governance Unit for the support provided to him.

4 MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY 2020-21

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented which provided the membership of the Authority for the municipal year 2020-21:-

Barnsley	Councillors T Cave and R Frost
Doncaster	Councillors P Haith, C Ransome and C Hogarth
Rotherham	Councillors R Taylor and A Buckley
Sheffield	Councillors S-M Richards, S Ayris, T Damms, C Ross and P Price
PCC*	Dr A Billings - South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

**At the Authority meeting held on 13 February 2017, it was agreed that the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner would become a Member of the Fire and Rescue Authority with full voting rights.*

RESOLVED – That Members noted the membership of the Authority for the municipal year 2020-21.

5 AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to enable the Authority to note the appointment of Members to the Committees and Boards and also the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Committees (other than the

Appeals and Standards Committee) which were made at the Authority Meeting held on 24 June 2019.

As mentioned above, if constituent Authorities hold Annual Meetings during the municipal year 2020-21, the authority would change its membership accordingly.

RESOLVED – That Members noted:-

i) The meeting structure as set out below:-

Committee/Working Party	Members
Audit and Governance Committee	Cllr P Haith (Chair) Cllr S Ayris Cllr C Ransome Cllr S-M Richards Cllr C Ross Cllr C Hogarth 3 Independent Members:- Mr A Dyson (appointed October 2019) Mr C Pilkington Mrs N Wright
Appointments Committee	Cllr R Taylor Cllr T Damms Cllr P Haith Cllr C Ransome Cllr A Buckley Cllr T Cave
Appeals and Standards Committee	Cllr S Ayris Cllr C Hogarth Cllr C Ross Cllr R Frost Cllr S-M Richards Cllr P Price
Principal Officers Review Committee A	Cllr C Ransome Cllr T Damms (sub) Cllr P Haith Cllr P Price (sub) Cllr A Buckley Cllr R Taylor (sub)

Principal Officers Review Committee B	<p>Cllr R Frost Cllr S Ayris (sub)</p> <p>Cllr C Hogarth Cllr A Buckley (sub)</p> <p>Cllr C Ross Cllr P Haith (sub)</p>
Principal Officers Review Committee C	<p>Cllr S Ayris Cllr T Damms (sub)</p> <p>Cllr T Cave Cllr R Taylor (sub)</p> <p>Cllr S-M Richards Cllr C Ransome (sub)</p>
Performance and Scrutiny Board	<p>Cllr A Buckley (Chair) Cllr S Ayris Cllr T Cave Cllr C Hogarth Cllr P Price Cllr R Frost Cllr P Haith</p>
Stakeholder Planning Board	<p>All FRA Members Cllr P Price (Chair)</p>
Corporate Advisory Group	<p>All FRA Members (No Chair required)</p>
Joint Liaison Forum (JLF)	<p>All FRA Members</p>

ii) The terms of reference of the Committees as set out in Appendices A to H.

6 FUTURE MEETING DATES 2020/21

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented setting out a schedule of meeting dates for the Authority in 2020/21.

Members noted an additional Fire Authority meeting date scheduled for Monday 11 October 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Agreed the current governance framework of 8 meetings per year for the Authority and 6 meetings of Audit and Governance Committee underpinned by the Appeals and Standards Committee, Appointments Committee and the two Boards (Stakeholder Planning and Performance and Scrutiny).
- ii) Approved the suggested schedule of meeting dates for 2020/21 as set out below:-

Fire and Rescue Authority	Audit & Governance Committee	Performance & Scrutiny Board	Stakeholder Planning Board
*27 July 2020	*27 July 2020	*16 July 2020	*22 July 2020
*14 September 2020	*14 September 2020	10 September 2020	*23 September 2020
*12 October 2020			
*23 November 2020	*23 November 2020	19 November 2020	*18 November 2020
11 January 2021	11 January 2021		
8 February 2021			
	15 March 2021	25 March 2021	17 March 2021
26 April 2021			
	26 May 2021		
21 June 2021 (AGM & Ordinary)			
26 July 2021	26 July 2021	15 July 2021	21 July 2021
13 September 2021	13 September 2021	9 September 2021	22 September 2021
11 October 2021			
22 November 2021	22 November 2021	18 November 2021	17 November 2021

* Meeting dates already arranged

7 ARRANGEMENTS UNDER SECTION 41 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1985

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to request the Authority to note the appointments of District Council representatives under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985.

As mentioned above, the appointments will remain unchanged for the municipal year 2020/21 unless constituent Authorities hold an Annual meeting and change the membership.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the appointment of the following Members and substitute Members of each constituent council, made at the Authority meeting held on 24 June 2019. Section 41 Members answer questions at Council meetings within their home authority on the discharge of the functions of the Fire and Rescue Authority:-

Authority	Member	Substitute
Barnsley	Cllr R Frost	Cllr T Cave
Doncaster	Cllr P Haith	Cllr C Hogarth
Rotherham	Cllr R Taylor	Cllr A Buckley
Sheffield	Cllr T Damms	Cllr S-M Richards

8 OUTSIDE BODIES

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to request the Authority to consider whether or not it wished to re-affiliate to the various outside bodies listed in the report and, if it did, to consider representation of the Authority on outside bodies.

Councillor Taylor requested an explanation of the offer around learning and development available for Members serving on outside bodies.

By way of an example, L Noble referred to the four Community Safety Partnerships that Members had been appointed to. Members are provided with briefings, policy support and research, and this is available for other bodies such as the LGA, YHEA etc. Should Members require advice or additional support they should contact either herself, M McCool or M McCarthy.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the affiliation to the various outside bodies listed below:-

Outside Body	Member Representation
LGA General Assembly	S41 Members
LGA Fire Commission	Chair / Vice-Chair or their nominee
LGA Urban Commission	Chair & Vice-Chair or their nominee
LGA Rural Commission	Chair & Vice-Chair or their nominee
Association of Metropolitan Fire Authorities (AMFRA)	Chair & Vice-Chair

Yorkshire and Humberside Employers' Organisation (YHEA)	Cllr Tony Damms
Community Safety Partnerships (or equivalent)	Section 41 Members
Local Pension Board (SYFRA)	Cllr R Frost (Scheme Manager rep)
Police & Fire Collaboration Board	Chair of the Authority

- ii) Noted the representatives serving on the outside bodies listed in the report for 2020/21 and agreed that, in accordance with Standing Order 24, the appointments continue until the next annual meeting of the Authority, or membership ceased.
- iii) Considered any learning and development that may be required to support Members on Outside Bodies.

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

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Item 54

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

ORDINARY MEETING

22 JUNE 2020

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, R Frost, P Haith,
C Hogarth, P Price, C Ransome, S M Richards, C Ross and
Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, DCFO C Kirby and S Booth
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, N Copley, S Loach, M McCoole, M Potter and
L Noble and M McCoole
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

A Mullen
(RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP)

Apologies for absence were received from ACO T Carlin and
R Barnett

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO
ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Frost referred to a visit to Barnsley Fire Station with ACO Carlin on 15 May 2020, where he had liaised with the crews regarding the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. He had thanked the crews for all of their hard work undertaken during this time.

Councillor Cave referred to his involvement in the review of SYFR's Performance Management Framework. He had attended a virtual meeting on 29 April 2020 with S Nicholson, N Smith, L Noble, and also a virtual meeting held on 1 June 2020 where J Patrick had given a presentation on the functionality of Power Bi. Councillor Cave considered that Power Bi was an impressive piece of software, which Members would be keen to use in order to provide 'real time' data on performance, not just across South Yorkshire but within their own local areas. He referred Members to the initial Power Bi briefing made at the Corporate Advisory Group (CAG) meeting held in December 2019, which had demonstrated the ability for the programme to drill down to both ward level and LSOA Level 2. It was important to note that the use of Power Bi put South Yorkshire ahead of the curve in terms of national fire data. He referred to the National Fire Chief Councils' Central Programme Priorities, which examined data interoperability, web development, local development, and software to feed into a national standard. Councillor Cave said that SYFR's Senior Leadership Team should be congratulated on the work done so far. Councillor Cave would continue to be involved in the development, and he suggested that Members should be provided with an update on Power Bi at a future CAG meeting, prior to Members receiving training on the programme and before it goes 'live'. The new performance framework would 'go live' later than expected due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The current performance framework was in place for a 12 month period.

Councillor Taylor agreed that Members should be provided with an update on Power Bi at a future CAG meeting.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 REPORT OF A DECISION OF THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND CLERK AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CHAIR OF THE SY FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY - FIRE AUTHORITY MEETING ON 20 APRIL 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted a decision of the South Yorkshire Chief Fire Officer and Clerk after consultation with the Chair of the SY Fire and Rescue Authority – Fire Authority Meeting held on 20 April 2020.

10 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE: YEAR END OUTTURN REPORT 2019/20

A report of the Director of Support Services was presented to inform Members of the final revenue and capital outturn position for the financial year ended 31 March 2020. The report also included an updated total reserves position alongside a narrative commentary to help explain the key financial changes that had led to the year-end position, when compared to the approved revenue and capital budgets.

Members noted the constant financial challenges faced by the Service over the last 10 years, as a result of the reducing Government funding year on year. As the end of the multi-year government settlement reached a conclusion, it had marked the exit of the UK from European Union and the start of the global Covid-19 pandemic. Members were referred to the local challenges faced which had included the return of Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) stations to the 2-2-4 duty system, the IRMP agreement to enable four firefighters to ride on a fire appliance if so required, the lasting implications from the severe flooding incidents that had occurred in Doncaster in November 2019, and the emerging national issues, which would become clearer within the next 12 months.

Where possible, SYFR staff had been asked to work from home in response to the pandemic. The Service continued to play a major role within the community to respond to the pandemic by providing/receiving Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and in delivering food or medical parcels to the most vulnerable people within South Yorkshire. It was anticipated that some of those events and the financial implications would continue into 2021 and potentially beyond.

S Booth referred to recent conversations held with the Treasurer regarding the medium term financial planning and the intention to review it more closely over the summer period, with a view to revisiting the medium term financial plan in November 2020. It was necessary to commence the process much earlier this year, due to the risks faced by both the sector and the Service, and the implications that it could potentially have on the Service from operational planning and financial planning perspectives. It was not anticipated that any significant Government announcements would be made in the near future to provide clarity on the sector and its future, other than the 1 year settlement. S Booth said it would be necessary for the Service and Members to assist with the financial planning process.

Members were referred to the proposal to create a Covid-19 reserve of £0.970m to provide assistance to financially shield or protect the Authority. The Service received a set amount of funding from business rates and council tax; some of those revenues were now at significant risk. A number of local authorities nationally had suggested that they may face financial difficulties. The creation of a Covid-19 reserve would assist the Service in managing the situation. The report also proposed to utilise the additional monies within the general reserve, over and above the balance of £5m to create a Service improvement reserve.

The Service had delivered a £42k underspend on a £54m budget, which had been a positive outcome. The financial strategy had looked to reduce the level of reserves from £25m - £26m a few years ago, down to below £10m by 2022; work was on course to achieve this objective. The Service had invested almost £5m capital investment in buildings, vehicles, ICT and operational equipment. The Service had requested a budget carry forward of £270k to support ongoing priorities i.e. uniform and firefighting equipment, service improvement and the IRMP modelling approach.

Councillor Ross highlighted a typographical error within section 30 of the report, which should have indicated that South Yorkshire had experienced severe flooding in November 2019. He referred to the £0.1m underspend which related to the lower number of apprentices recruited. He considered that moving forwards, it was important to keep the matter under close review as a public body, in order to potentially increase the number of apprentices recruited to SYFR in the future. This was important for both the financial recovery of the Sheffield City Region, as well as assisting young people who may be struggling to find employment.

S Booth noted Councillor Ross' valid point. He would ensure that sufficient detail on apprentices was provided within the financial reports in the future, to highlight the work undertaken in this area and the impact on the recovery within the South Yorkshire.

In relation to the reserves strategy, Councillor Ayriss commented that it was difficult to understand the minimum revenue position compared with what had been agreed in the past, due to all of the changes that had happened over the recent period. He also queried in relation to the two reserves that Members had been asked to approve at today's meeting, where the funding for community risk related matters and the risk based attendance model i.e. consultancy fees, would come from.

S Booth stated that in relation to the minimum revenue reserves position, the useable general reserves position was currently £5.646m, which included this year's underspend of £42k. The suggestion was to take the £646k to be put into the Service improvement reserves. The minimum general reserve figure that was agreed within the Medium Term Financial Plan in November 2019 was £5m following discussions with the Treasurer, and SYFR was keen to preserve that figure. In relation to Councillor Ayriss' second question regarding the funding of consultancy work, which may take place around the IRMP, the Service had identified the need to put £70k into carrying out the resource modelling work, as well as the consultation that may be required once a new IRMP model had been identified.

Councillor Richards queried whether the source of the Hatfield Moors fire had been identified, and what could be done to prevent such an incident in the future.

CFO Johnson stated that the most likely cause of the Hatfield Moors fire was a BBQ or the intentional starting of a fire. It was difficult to prove the cause of the incident due to the area affected by the fire. The Service would continue to work with Hatfield Moorlands Natural England to ensure that their site was maintained to try and ensure that any future fires could be prevented from spreading to such a

degree. The Service's Communications Department was working to encourage people not to use BBQ's and to be mindful of discarding cigarettes etc. when in the countryside.

Councillor Frost concurred with Councillor Ross regarding maximising the number of apprentices. He requested an explanation on the reference within the report to the Service's significant increase in energy this year.

S Booth stated that there were a number of reasons why the Service's energy costs had increased. He added that it had been remiss of himself not to have taken into account for this year's budget, the credits that had been in place in previous years. Therefore, the increase in costs had not been anticipated.

Councillor Haith referred to the Operational Resource Team (ORT) and the overspend position for the year. She queried whether the ORT was fully staffed or whether the budget would be increased.

CFO Johnson stated that the ORT was not currently fully staffed, which had been attributable to the increase in overtime costs to supplement the Team. The ORT would form part of the review which would result in less overtime costs. The Area Manager for Emergency Response would lead on this piece of work.

Councillor Hogarth queried whether the general reserve could be increased, rather than creating a Covid-19 reserve. He added that a situation may arise when the Covid-19 pandemic was over, as to where to move the allocated £970k funding to. He also queried the 30% increase to transport costs within the last year.

S Booth said the Service did not want to be seen as adding into its general reserve. A specific issue and associated risk had been identified from the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the local authorities, in particular the revenues around the business rates and council tax, which created an earmarked reserve in response to the circumstances, rather than to putting the amount into the general reserves. Consideration would be given as to whether the £970k would be a sufficient amount in the coming months, and as the financial plans were taken forward and the outcomes of the economy and the level of recession both within the national and local communities were known. It was anticipated the £646k would be put into the Service improvement reserve. The Authority had identified once again the importance of continuous Service improvement.

Members recalled the Service Improvement Plan which had been signed off at the last Authority meeting held in April 2020. A resource led plan was in place which would enable the Service to support and facilitate those actions with the intention to improve effectiveness and efficiency. By placing the monies within an earmarked reserve this provided greater accountability and transparency to both Members and other stakeholders. S Booth commented that in relation to transport insurance, there had been a general increase in premiums. The Service had received a number of insurance claims in relation to damages or incidents that had taken place. Vehicles are insured in the event that should a vehicle become involved in an accident where the Service was liable, then the Service would have to pay a

specific amount of money as part of that claim. Therefore there would be variability within the costs year on year.

Dr Billings gave thanks for the comprehensive report presented. He agreed with S Booth's comments regarding the precariousness of the financial situation moving forward and the unknowns to be contended with. He considered it to be good news to commence the financial planning earlier this year, and he presumed that the issues surrounding the collection fund would not be impacted on until 2020/21. He requested an explanation of the capital programme that had been approved for 2019/20 of £8.595m, which had been increased during the course of the year to £10.921m, and the final spend of £4.660m. He also queried whether any monies had been received from the Home Office under the Bellwin scheme, and whether these requests would go through the local authorities rather than as a direct request from SYFR.

S Booth expressed his thanks to Dr Billings for his positive comments on the comprehensive nature of the report. He stated that in relation to the collection fund, the Covid-19 reserve had been built in, as the impact would start to be felt on the collection fund accounts during this financial year. It was a question as to what extent the funding would be under threat, and the potential that collection funds could move into a deficit position. The Service had been optimistic in profiling the capital programme, specifically with regard to the refurbishment of its properties, the rebuild of Barnsley Fire Station and the refurbishment works at the former CPC sites. During the course of the year the optimism had been reduced to a more realistic level due to the delays experienced i.e. at Barnsley Fire Station due to planning issues. Some re-design of the new fire station had been needed to ensure it was fit-for-purpose for both staff and the communities it will serve. The Covid-19 pandemic had also attributed to a number of delays with the need to reschedule works at the four CPC sites. Therefore, only two of the four CPC sites had been completed during the financial year. Works at Aston Park Fire Station were now due to commence at the end of June 2020 and the works at Tankersley Fire Station were anticipated to commence in September 2020. Delays had been encountered with the heating and ventilation works at Fire Headquarters and the Estates condition works, which had been split in Phase 1, 2 and 3. Phases 1 and 2 were now complete, but Phase 3 remained outstanding, largely due to the delays incurred from the Covid-19 pandemic and to ensure that the package of works was as comprehensive as possible to address all of the legacy issues that had been identified from the condition survey works. Work was underway to better understand the capital programme, which was moving in the right direction. S Booth anticipated that, subject to the Covid-19 restrictions, which continued to impact upon the programme, by July 2021 the majority of the programme, which currently showed as an underspend or where not all of the money had been spent that had been expected to be spent, that the Service would be back up to speed and back on target. He considered that the Service was currently 12 months behind where it had expected to be. He anticipated that the outcomes to be achieved in 2021 would be very positive. The Service had made a claim under the Bellwin scheme (to which the Service would have to stand the first £105k). Any eligible costs that were over and above that amount could be claimed back from the Government, and it was hoped that that the costings would be received into the Service today.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Approved and endorsed the positive revenue operating outturn position of £0.042m underspend when compared to the budget, funding and movement on reserves.
- ii) Agreed the capital expenditure outturn of £4.660m.
- iii) Approved the proposal to establish a new reserve (COVID-19 Recovery Reserve - £0.970m), in line with the Treasurer's recommendation, to help shield the Service from any financial turbulence resulting from a reduction in future revenues generated and collected from both business rates and council tax as a result of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 as set out in Section C to the report.
- iv) Approved the proposal to use £0.604m of the existing General Reserve and the 2019/20 underspend of £0.042m (total £0.646m) to establish a new reserve to support Continuous Improvement in the Service as set out in Section C to the report. The Treasurer supported this proposal as he considered the remaining Minimum Working Balance of £5.000m to be adequate at this stage.
- v) Agreed the summary Statement of Reserves (Section C) which showed total useable reserves of £19.123m, split Earmarked Reserves £14.123m and General Reserves of £5.000m for the year ended 31 March 2020 subject to Recommendation d) being approved.
- vi) Approved the budget carry forward requests as set out in Section D of the report of £0.270m into 2020/21.

11 ANNUAL CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2019/20

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive/Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented to provide Members with information on how SYFR had performed against the Local Performance Indicators (LPis) during 2019/20, to enable Members to comment on the performance and explore in more detail the work behind the statistics. The report would also be presented to the Performance and Scrutiny Board meeting on 16 July 2020, for more detailed discussion and review.

DCFO Kirby introduced himself to those Members that he had not yet met since joining SYFR. He referred to the performance benchmarking undertaken across similar types of organisations to SYFR, which were generally Metropolitan fire and rescue services of a similar size, with a similar community profile, in order to provide an indication of how the Service performed. He was pleased to observe that Members were interested in the functionality of Power Bi, which would enable them to be provided with 'real time' performance information following completion of a training programme and the setting-up of access.

Members noted that there had been 71 fewer primary fires in 2019/20 in comparison to 2018/19. During 2019/20 there had been 70 fewer accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 2018/19, with an outturn figure of 472 for 2019/20, which was the lowest figure over the previous 11 years. From the benchmarking undertaken with other similar fire and rescue services, SYFR had performed the best within the reporting period, with just under eight of those types of these incidents per 10,000 dwellings. Cooking related fires equated to almost half of the number of accidental dwelling fires, and continued to be one of the most significant causes of dwelling fires within South Yorkshire. Members were referred to the preventative activity undertaken by the Service to address cooking related incidents, in order to further reduce the statistic.

During the period there had been 236 fires in non-domestic premises; it was critical to continue to address these issues in order to reduce the number of commercial property fires. The Service would always endeavour to work with commercial property owners and building managers within the Fire Protection Programme, in order to improve fire awareness. Sadly, during 2019/20 three people had died in accidental dwelling fires across South Yorkshire. There had been nine fatalities in 2018/19, five of which had involved accidental dwelling fires. The Service's Prevention and Protection Programmes, specifically for prevention in the home, were aimed towards identifying the most vulnerable, with the intention to reduce the fire risk through intervention measures i.e. the installation of smoke alarms. The total number of accidental dwelling fire injuries in 2019/20 was 34 in comparison to 57 in 2018/19; only four out of the injuries were thought to have been serious and had required hospital intervention.

Members noted a significant improvement in the number of secondary arson fires in comparison to previous years, with a drop of around 26% in deliberate secondary fires. There was a concerning trend in the increase of the number of deliberate vehicle fires, which had impacted on the primary fire and overall arson targets. A significant amount of this increase was attributable to gang related activity. Over the period 2019/20 there had been a significant reduction in the number of false alarms, road traffic collisions and the accident statistics looked positive, when comparing the data specifically to 2018/19. There had been a 15% improvement to the proportion of days lost to sickness absence during the period in comparison to 2018/19.

Members noted the vast amount of ongoing campaigns within the Service's dedicated Protection and Prevention Teams, involving operational crews and the Corporate Communication Team. DCFO Kirby gave credit to the Service's teams for their efforts to reduce the figures.

Councillor Richards referred to the number of deliberate vehicle fires within the east of inner Sheffield, one of which was the Ward she represented. The matter was now being reviewed by the joint chair of the ASB and Acquisitive Crime Group to gain an improved understanding. She queried when this information would be reported to Members as it would be useful to know the cause of this worrying trend. She also queried whether this related to 'Taking Without Owner's Consent' (TWOC).

DCFO Kirby stated that deliberate vehicle fires was a difficult indicator for the Service to influence specifically, as it related to gang and criminal activity. He would request the Sheffield District Commander P Heffernan to provide Councillor Richards with an update on the ongoing discussions to reduce some of the activity. He added that the number of deliberate vehicle fires could also relate to the increase in scrap metal prices. There were many external factors that could influence an increase or decrease of deliberate vehicle fires.

Councillor Ayris referred to the graph within the report, which indicated a downward trend for all performance indicators during February 2020, due to the Covid-19 lockdown together with an indication that there could be an increase, which could be a matter of concern as the lockdown period was eased. He queried whether this was a role for the Joint Community Safety Department.

DCFO Kirby commented that the Joint Community Safety Department was currently considering a range of performance indicators. He considered that the downward trend for all performance indicators in February 2020 could have been weather related, as this was prior to the Covid-19 lockdown. There were many initiatives in place to review over the border crime, and work was undertaken across the Joint Community Safety Department to identify trends that could be addressed through educational messages and campaigns.

Dr Billings welcomed DCFO Kirby to the meeting, and wished him a long and happy career with SYFR. He queried the reason why the Service's sickness absence levels were so high. He considered DCFO Kirby's verbal comments to be helpful in comparing the Service's performance against other similar Metropolitan fire and rescue services, and he requested that Members be provided with further performance comparisons in the future. He added that the easing of the lockdown period would enable the resurgence of gangs, which would result in an increase of criminal activity. SYP were taking steps to address the issue. Dr Billings would raise the arson issue with SYP, and he would pursue the matter further. He had visited residents following the flooding incident that had occurred in Doncaster in November 2019, and they had spoken very highly of the work undertaken by SYFR.

DCFO Kirby commented that the Service recognised the high sickness absence levels. A challenging target had been set in an attempt to try to reduce the sickness absence levels through a range of initiatives from a health and wellbeing perspective both internal and external. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, staff had adhered to the guidance from a local station perspective in respect of cleaning and hygiene arrangements, together with the general restrictions within their personal lives, which had resulted in a significant reduction in sickness absence. It was anticipated that the sickness absence figures would improve once the policies were implemented following consultation and negotiation with the representative bodies. Cleveland Fire and Rescue Service had recently captured data in relation to sickness absence in comparison to other fire and rescue services. Whilst it was recognised that the Service continued to have sickness absence challenges, it was pleasing to note the improvements being made and that figures were moving in the right direction. In respect of vehicle fires, DCFO Kirby felt it would be very challenging to gather evidence if a fire had burnt a significant amount of the vehicle; CCTV and other I factors would be relied upon to provide any intelligence. SYFR's

influence in relation to such crimes and gangs was limited, and evidence would be reliant on conversations with partners.

Councillor Hogarth referred to previous corporate performance reports which had referred to ageing vehicles that had cost more to maintain in comparison to newer vehicles. He queried how there could be almost 100% availability on whole time pumps.

DCFO Kirkby commented that this related to both the availability of the vehicle and the crew to staff the vehicle. The Service's vehicle fleet was around 10 years old. Members noted that the more modern vehicles were able to travel further with the new technology and types of engines now available. The Service also had a resilience fleet which would enable a replacement fire engine to be made available whilst another fire engine was being repaired. In the event of a routine maintenance issue, a spare fire appliance would be sent to the local fire station before the fire appliance was taken away for mechanical work, therefore a fire appliance would always be available. The wholetime fire stations were all staffed 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. The only occasion when the wholetime fire stations would be unavailable was when there was a four firefighter rota in place, and one of the firefighters was on sick leave. In this instance an additional firefighter would immediately be sent over to the station, which would result in the appliance being taken off of the run for a very short period of time.

Councillor Haith gave thanks to all SYFR staff for their hard work. She referred to the recent Pulse Survey which had reached a 25% completion rate, and queried what could be done to increase further staff participation.

DCFO Kirby commented that the Pulse Survey was a short survey that was issued to staff on a frequent basis. In terms of the low response rate, this could be due to 'survey fatigue'. Staff are encouraged to complete the surveys, with a commitment in respect of regular consistent feedback on areas of concern to address suggested improvements. The Pulse Surveys were well advertised through the weekly staff newsletters and bulletins.

CFO Johnson stated that a cultural survey would be launched either this year or in 2021, to include a campaign to achieve as many responses as possible. Although the number of responses to the Pulse Survey were not as high as would be preferred, this was not unusual. That said, the responses which had been received were positive and helpful.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Endorsed the contents of the report.
- ii) Scrutinised and commented on the information presented in the report.
- iii) Noted that eight out of the nine performance measures that were measured using tolerance levels, were within tolerance.

- iv) Noted that there were 70 fewer accidental dwelling fires in 2019/20, than in 2018/19.
- v) Noted that there were 95 more primary arson incidents in 2019/20 than there were in the previous year.
- vi) Noted that there were 1.44 fewer days/shifts lost to sickness during 2019/20 than in the previous year.

12 CLOSE PROXIMITY CREWING (CPC) - UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to provide Members with an update in relation to the resourcing of SYFR's remaining Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) stations, Aston Park and Tankersley Fire Stations.

Members recalled the High Court ruling made in May 2018, which had determined that SYFR's CPC duty system was non-compliant, unless a collective agreement with the representative bodies could be made. Following a non-collective agreement, works had progressed to phase out the whole CPC duty system.

CFO Johnson provided Members with reassurance that SYFR was complying with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) requirements. To date, three out of the four fire stations had returned back to the 2-2-4 duty system, with Tankersley Fire Station being the outstanding fire station to be reverted, which could be delayed into 2021. On 1 June 2020, Aston Park Fire Station had been reverted back to the 2-2-4 duty system, with four wholetime shifts. Liaison continued with the HSE to keep them advised of the progress made. A number of the training courses i.e. water rescue training held in Wales had been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but it was envisaged to resume training as soon as practicably possible. Work was underway to ensure that the correct staff and recruits were in place at the appropriate stations.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Endorsed the ongoing, positive progress and improvements made so far to return the remaining stations back to the traditional 2-2-4 duty system.

13 SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE COLLABORATION

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to inform Members that since the last collaboration update with South Yorkshire Police (SYP), the collaboration had seen the start of the construction work at Eastwood workshop, Rotherham for the Joint Vehicle Fleet Management project and the development of the Outline Business Case for Estates and Facilities Management collaboration. The regional Fire and Rescue collaboration had progressed a Command Support Unit business case, an agreement and progression of regional command and support packs, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for regional Gold Command resilience. CFO Johnson,

Chief Constable Watson, the Police and Crime Commissioner and Councillor Taylor would meet shortly to further discuss the collaboration opportunities. The Police and Fire Collaboration Board continued to meet virtually.

DCFO Kirby referred to the ongoing regional collaboration projects, and the plans to progress regional command support involving a number of strands. A consistent template was now in place for the command support packs, which supported the incident command arrangements when arriving at a station, and would also provide support in assisting in over the border incidents. Discussions continued regarding the opportunity to share the command units. A draft MoU had been produced, in terms of a regional Gold Officers' rota, which involved the senior command officers that were committed to the Gold rota. He was impressed with the level of collaboration that was already underway. The Joint Community Safety Department had a shared facility at the Lifewise Centre, which involved numerous joint initiatives and campaigns where the resources could be pooled together, together with data intelligence sharing. SYFR had received an outline business case for the shared management of the respective estates and facilities, which had been discussed by both SYFR's and SYP's senior leadership teams. Members noted a number of efficiencies that had been achieved through the collaborative work i.e. the sharing of basic training courses. Regional fire and rescue collaboration would continue to be considered, together with a project to consider personal protective equipment (PPE) across the region, rather than being undertaken by each fire and rescue service.

DCFO Kirby referred to the HMICFRS inspection undertaken in 2019 which had highlighted, in addition to the collaborative work, a requirement to improve the amount of evaluation in this area. SYFR would shortly go out to tender to procure an independent evaluation of the work already undertaken, to provide assurance that improvements were being made in the delivery of services, whilst generating efficiencies with the collaborative activity that was underway.

Dr Billings was pleased to note DCFO Kirby's comments regarding the level of collaboration that was already underway in South Yorkshire. He considered that collaborative work was important and he emphasised the need for this to continue. He was pleased to note the financial savings that would be achieved for both organisations through sharing the basic training courses, and that it was necessary to make it absolutely clear that SYFR contributed much to the collaboration that SYP could not in terms of their experience and expertise. Both organisations had been able to benefit in many ways from the collaboration including efficiencies, effectiveness and general improvements.

DCFO Kirby thanked Dr Billings for his comments. He added that, since joining SYFR, he had been very impressed with the range of collaborative activity, and the amount of work already undertaken. He suggested that the Service should take a pause on matters to review the collaboration, whilst utilising the services of an independent company to undertake an evaluation of the existing work.

Councillor Taylor sought clarification on Recommendation B to the report.

DCFO Kirby stated that this related to the comments on the report presented at today's meeting, to ascertain Members' views on some of the activities currently being undertaken, any conversations undertaken by Members within their local authorities or respective surgeries, or any comments, observations or ideas that were generated from the public and could be fed into the collaboration programme. He considered that it was important for Members to feel that they had an opportunity to feed into the collaboration agenda.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the progress for the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) collaboration programme.
- ii) Feedback on the report prior to the Fire and Rescue Authority.

14 COVID-19 UPDATE: SYFR'S RESPONSE, RECOVERY AND LEARNING

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented to provide Members with an update of SYFR activity in relation to Covid-19. The report outlined SYFR's response strategy to date, the approach to recovery and how SYFR had contributed to the wider Local Resilience Forum (LRF) actions and assisted those within the community.

CFO Johnson referred to the daily bulletins and briefing notes that Members had received in relation to Covid-19. The Service continued to focus on employee health and wellbeing whilst maintaining its essential response services throughout the response phase. She considered that the Service's response to the Covid-19 pandemic had been good, with business continuity plans in place and a pandemic flu plan, supported by the Business Continuity Team actions. CFO Johnson chaired the Local Resilience Forum (LRF), assisting M Gladstone, Executive Director with Barnsley MBC. She had found this to be interesting in respect of how other organisations had responded to the pandemic. The Service's response activity had not been affected due to the pandemic, with sickness absence levels being at its lowest for a number of years. During the period, it had not been possible for the community safety officers to undertake the usual community visits, although engagement had continued by telephone with the most vulnerable. In relation to Business Fire Safety, the protection officers had adapted to the changing risks within the communities, and they had spent more time communicating with care homes and supermarkets both in person and via telephone. Over 300 telephone calls had been made throughout the period, to ensure that those companies were operating in a safe manner.

Members noted that most of the work had been undertaken in line with the national tripartite agreement, between the NFCC, the employers and trade union representatives. The Service had widened its work with partners i.e. the community safety officers had delivered food parcels and prescriptions to the most vulnerable within South Yorkshire. Teams had been based at the Nightingale Hospital in Harrogate, and individuals were on standby to return to the hospital if it was deemed necessary. The Service had also undertaken face fit testing for masks at Doncaster Hospital and at a number of hospices. A total of 2.5m pieces of PPE

had been received into the Training and Development Centre, which had been sorted by staff and redistributed across South Yorkshire. SYFR had been involved in 'gaining entry' into those homes where it was believed that Covid-19 was present. The Communications Team continued to ensure that key safety messages were shared through their social media platforms, and the ICT Team had enabled homeworking for staff wherever possible.

DCFO Kirby stated that he was leading on the internal recovery group, which consisted of representatives from all internal departments. A draft recovery plan had been developed for the Service, together with a local outbreak plan which the LRF's had specifically requested each local authority to produce. The Service also considered it beneficial to have a recovery local outbreak plan, in the event of a spike in cases in a fire station or building. The recovery local outbreak plan had been tested at one of the fire stations which had involved the operational staff being relocated whilst external contractors deep cleaned the station. The station had been reoccupied within 12 hours. Individual departmental recovery plans and reoccupation plans were also in place. One of DCFO Kirby's key priorities was to ensure that some of the support departments, where the majority of staff were currently working from home, were provided with an opportunity to start to reoccupy SYFR premises when the lockdown restrictions eased. It was not intended to rush the process, but to ensure that staff were confident to return to work, after having received the appropriate guidance and instruction. SYFR recognised the caring responsibilities and child care issues of some members of staff.

The Service was also linked to the National Fire Chiefs' Council which had established a recovery co-ordination group. DCFO Kirby sat on the Local Recovery Group which met on a weekly basis. Throughout the pandemic the operational firefighters and Control staff had attended work, albeit with changes made to their general cleaning and hygiene regimes, with social distancing implemented whilst accepting some calculated risks in attending emergencies. Strict re-occupation planning would be undertaken, and the joint Facilities and Estates Management Team had undertaken risk assessments of the buildings which had the predominance of support departments, and the Health and Safety Team was undertaking reviews. Individual equality impact assessments would be undertaken for staff returning to work, whilst recognising that staff from BME backgrounds or older members of staff may be more at risk to Covid-19. Learning would be captured from hosting virtual meetings, which would reduce travel costs and the impact on the carbon footprint.

Dr Billings referred to the final debrief report that would be produced to capture the lessons learnt from the pandemic. He queried whether the report would be made available to the public, and whether the lessons to be learnt from this lockdown period should be implemented immediately rather than in the longer term.

CFO Johnson stated that it would be a decision for the Members to determine whether the final debrief report should be made available to the public. A good response had been received from a review undertaken on the LRF. The Service recognised that a flexible approach was required around how staff worked; a number of employees had been permitted to return to work due for a variety of reasons. The Service also recognised the demand on office space, and the need

to determine the actual office space required. A review would be undertaken after the easing of the lockdown, to ensure that the decisions made were fact based.

Councillor Ayris expressed his thanks for the report presented. He considered that it was important that the learning from responding to the crisis should not be lost together with the links made with other the stakeholders during the response, and the involvement of staff representative bodies in drawing up the report. He queried how SYFR's local outbreak plan linked to each local authorities' outbreak plan.

CFO Johnson stated that it was important for SYFR to have its own local outbreak plan which, in the event of an outbreak, would immediately be reported to the LRF. The representative bodies were included in all matters where appropriate to do so.

Councillor Richards gave thanks to the Service for the assistance provided within her ward and some of the other wards in the delivery of notices to the community, which had been helpful. She welcomed the report, and queried whether there should also be Member input regarding the difference the response had made to Members of the Authority. She commented that she found virtual meetings difficult, and cautioned against completely losing physical meetings. She suggested that it would helpful to have a Member report to detail how matters would progress moving forward.

M McCarthy stated that a report would be brought back to the Authority to seek Members' opinion; he was currently in discussions with Barnsley MBC on the matter. The LGA had commissioned Counsel's Opinion around the scope for hybrid meetings, whereby a meeting could be attended by some of the Members, whilst others who would prefer to attend virtually could still take participate. The response received from the LGA had been circulated to all local authorities, which had indicated that the legislation did not currently allow for this arrangement; but this was not to say that the legislation could not be amended to accommodate this in the future. He added that Microsoft Teams and other platforms had, in the main, worked extremely well to host virtual meetings.

Councillor Taylor suggested that the report be referred to the Performance and Scrutiny Board for further scrutiny as the Covid-19 pandemic progressed, and for it to form an additional recommendation to the report.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report, enabling discussion on SYFR's approach to date and the proposed recovery.
- ii) Agreed that the report be referred to the Performance and Scrutiny Board for further scrutiny as the Covid-19 pandemic progressed.

15 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 MAY 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 27 May 2020.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To provide Members with feedback from the dedicated comprehensive spending review team for the sector.	When complete	CFO Johnson	
2	To include a revised update on the reserves profile within the Outturn Report.	FRA 22-06-20 (Ordinary)	S Booth	Item discharged
3	To provide Members with a briefing note to provide further clarity on the installation of the sprinkler systems – to include the role and responsibilities of Government, SYFR, local authorities, builders developers etc.	ASAP	R Brason	A presentation will be made to the next Stakeholder Planning Board Meeting on 22 July 2020
4	To present information to Members over the next 12 months to enable the Performance Management Framework to be shaped, prior to Authority approval.	CAG (timescales to be determined)	ACO Carlin	On the CAG agenda (provisionally) for Autumn 2020

5	To provide Members with an update on Power Bi at a future CAG meeting.	CAG (timescales to be determined)	J Patrick	
6	To provide sufficient detail on apprentices within the Financial Performance Reports.		S Booth	
7	To provide Councillor Richards with an update on the ongoing discussions to reduce the number of deliberate vehicle fires within the east of inner Sheffield.	ASAP	AM P Heffernan	Update provided. Item discharged.
8	To provide a report to seek Members' opinion on virtual and hybrid meetings.	Future FRA Meeting	M McCarthy	
9	The Covid-19 Update report be referred to the Performance and Scrutiny Board for further scrutiny as the Covid-19 pandemic progresses.		GM S Nicholson	Performance and Scrutiny Board meeting on 10 September 2020.

CHAIR

Please follow the link below for further information on the updates of the actions arising from the Fire and Rescue Authority meetings:-

<https://meetings.southyorks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD1250&ID=1250&RPID=402996&sch=doc&cat=13039&path=13039&zTS=D>

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

RECEPTION ROOM, TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, BARNSELEY, S70 2TA

2 DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillor D Nevett (Doncaster MBC) (Chair)

Councillor S Sansome (Rotherham MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: M Cook (Sheffield City Council), J Grocutt (Sheffield City Council), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), J Otten (Sheffield City Council), P Short (Rotherham MBC) and S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Mr A Carter and Professor A James

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, M Clements, S Parkin and K Wright
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M McCarthy, L Noble and A Shirt
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor M Dyson (Barnsley MBC) and Councillor K Mitchell (Barnsley MBC)

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Nevett welcomed Professor Adrian James, the Panel's newly appointed Independent Co-opted Member to his first meeting.

Councillor Peter Short was also welcomed back to the Panel.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Nevett congratulated Councillor Sansome on his appointment to Vice-Chair of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels.

The appointment had been made at the recent Annual Police, Fire and Crime Panels Conference held in Warwick on 18th - 19th November 2019.

4 URGENT ITEMS

None.

5 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

7 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

7A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

7B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND SEPTEMBER 2019

Councillor Sansome commented that Members of the Panel had previously raised concerns about the inadequacies of the 101 service. He added that, for some residents the 101 and 999 service was the only route to report crime and anti-social behaviour.

At the November Public Accountability Board, Chief Constable Watson had confirmed that the Force had almost completed their own internal review of the 101 service.

Councillor Sansome asked if Panel Members could receive a copy of the Force's report when this was available, as this would impact upon the achievability of the priorities contained within the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

Furthermore, he felt that the Panel should have input into the Force's review and/or the independent review being carried out by the OPCC to enable the Panel to fulfil its scrutiny role.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 2nd September 2019 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

9 MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT (JULY - SEPTEMBER 2019)

A report of the Commissioner was submitted to present the Quarterly Report for the period July-September 2019, produced from the developing Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Police and Partners Performance Framework.

The report also aimed to provide information around how the police and partners, as well as the Office of the PCC (OPCC) are working to achieve the outcomes and priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire.

A copy of the Quarterly Performance Report was presented at Appendix A to the report for Members' information.

The Commissioner reported that:

- The recorded level of Anti-Social Behaviour had been steadily decreasing. The levels so far during 2019-20 were lower than the same period in the previous year.
- The recorded level of Stop and Search had increased, primarily as a result of the Force receiving Surge funding to specifically tackle organised crime gangs.
- The number of 999 and 101 calls had shown an increasing trend since January 2019.

In response to Councillor Sansome's earlier comments around 101, the Commissioner stated that there were alternative means for residents to contact the Police other than the 101 service.

The Commissioner explained that caller demand continued to rise on a daily basis. On an average day, the Force receives 2,383 telephone calls. Of this 1,624 were to 101 and 759 were, 999 calls.

Up to the 26th November 2019, the average wait time for a 101 call to be answered was 8 minutes, with the bulk of calls being answered more quickly. The average wait time for a 999 call to be answered was 13 seconds.

The Commissioner had asked the Force how many 101 calls were answered within a few minutes and the answer provided was that, 68% of 101 calls are now answered within two minutes and 83% are answered within three minutes by the switchboard.

The Commissioner went on to state that, although this is not a satisfactory position, it was much better than the public perception. The Force now has 'call back assist', used at busy periods to allow callers to leave their details for a return call later. In the New Year, a new function would be released, whereby people would hear recorded messages with a full menu of options, allowing callers who know who they need to speak to bypass call handlers.

Councillor Wilkinson queried the length of the recorded messages, suggesting that people would abandon their call if it was too long.

The Commissioner agreed to raise this with the Chief Constable.

In relation to the data collected for call times, it was confirmed that the 'clock' only starts after callers have heard the recorded messages, which added 90 seconds to the length of the call.

Councillor Sansome stated that, although he could not challenge the accuracy of the figures provided by the Commissioner, the feedback he had received from the public suggested a different experience. The figures provided did not include abandoned calls. He suggested that the 'call back assist' function be extended to 24 hours a day to get trust and confidence back in the call handling system, and reduce the number of people abandoning calls.

A Carter paid tribute to the work undertaken by the call handlers at Atlas Court. From recent Panel visits to Atlas Court he had been impressed with the professionalism of the call handlers who were very conscientious and empathetic in dealing with the public.

Professor James commented that providing information on average waiting times was not a helpful measure. The actual figures were being distorted with occasionally very long waits. He asked if there might be other measures that could be looked at that might present a more accurate picture of the waiting times.

The Commissioner acknowledged Professor James' comments. He replied that he was nervous about using another way of measuring waiting times, when the Force had been consistently using the same set of measurements. He added that he would ask the Force to look at the median value.

In response to a question from Councillor Nevett, the Commissioner assured the Panel that they would be involved in the reviews of the 101 service.

Professor James highlighted that the number of referrals for restorative justice appeared remarkably low. He asked what scope there might be for increasing referrals for restorative justice and if there were any figures available that would show, for example, gender of those referred and the offences for which they were referred etc.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request. He replied that restorative justice was relatively new, and for it to work, it required the consent of both the offender and the victim.

Councillor Otten referred to 'Protecting Vulnerable People' and identifying "cuckooing" of victims. He asked if there was a joined-up approach with partner organisations to ensure that intelligence was passed to the Police.

The Commissioner replied that there were some areas in South Yorkshire where the Police, local authority and partners' work very closely with each other, however this was different in each area. He acknowledged that this was an area which required improvements, in respect of organisations passing information to the Police.

Councillor Otten added that, due to current demand on the 101 system, there was a risk of intelligence not being received by the Police in a timely manner. He asked if the Force had made any progress in implementing the online reporting system.

K Wright replied that the online reporting system was now fully operational. He agreed to obtain information from the Force to show how many reports had been made to the Police via the online reporting system.

Councillor Garbutt asked if future reports could include the long-term performance trends.

The Commissioner agreed to the request.

Councillor Grocutt asked if there was any information available on the outcomes of Stop and Search. She asked if a breakdown could be provided on the age and ethnicity of those individuals who had been subject to Stop and Search, the number of Stop and Searches that had been undertaken as a result of surge funding and the number of Stop and Searches that had been undertaken routinely by officers on patrol.

Furthermore, she asked if information could be provided on the results obtained from the Stop and Search online feedback form and if there had been any complaints received.

The Commissioner acknowledged the requests for information. He added that no complaints had been brought to his attention in respect of Stop and Search.

M Buttery tabled a University College of London diagram to contextualise what the Commissioner had reported in terms of increasing demand. The diagram explained that, in five years crime-related demands on the Police had almost doubled.

K Wright reported that the OPCC would be running a Workshop early in the New Year to engage with Panel Members around setting measures for the Police and Partners Performance Framework.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to raise with the Chief Constable the Panel's concerns regarding the length of the recorded messages which would detail the full menu of options being released in the New Year.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to ask the Force to look at the median value in respect of call waiting times.
- iv) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide Professor James with details on the gender of those referred for Restorative Justice and the offences for which they were referred etc.
- v) Noted that K Wright had agreed to obtain information from the Force to show how many reports had been made to the Police via the online reporting system.
- vi) Noted that future reports would contain a long-term performance trends.

- vii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide Councillor Grocutt with information on the outcomes of Stop and Search, a breakdown on the age and ethnicity of those individuals who had been subject to Stop and Search.
- viii) Noted that the Commissioner had also agreed to provide Councillor Grocutt with a breakdown in relation to the number of Stop and Searches that had been undertaken as a result of surge funding and the number of Stop and Searches that had been undertaken routinely by officers on patrol.
- ix) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide Councillor Grocutt with the results obtained from the Stop and Search online feedback form.

10 USE OF RESOURCES - QUARTER 2 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2019/20

The Commissioner introduced a report which provided Members of the Panel with a summary of the forecast financial position for the period 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019. The report covered the budget managed by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police force and budgets managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

As at 30 September 2019, the projected year end outturn position was a £427k underspend on the Chief Constable's budget, and a forecast underspend of £112k on the PCC and OPCC budget.

Members were informed that the main reasons for the quarter two forecasted variances related to pay and overtime. A summary of the forecasted underspends were set out in the report for Members' information.

Councillor Otten asked if the 2019/20 budget contained a certain amount of catch-up which was undelivered in previous years.

M Clements replied that the original 2019/20 approved budget did contain an element of catch-up from previous years.

Councillor Sansome asked if the Panel could be provided with information on the Force's savings targets which had been achieved. He also asked if information could be provided on the last 3 years' of underspends showing the impact on reserves.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request.

Councillor Sansome asked what savings had been achieved from the PCSO review.

The Commissioner replied that the PCSOs review was not an exercise in making savings; any savings that were released as a result of the review would be re-applied to strengthen Neighbourhood Teams.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Scrutinised the reports and noted the forecast revenue and capital financial positions as at Quarter Two (period ending 30 September 2019).
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide the Panel with information on the Force's savings targets which had been achieved.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide information to the Panel on the last 3 years' of underspends showing the impact on reserves.

11 SOUTH YORKSHIRE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BOARD

A report of the Commissioner was submitted to provide a brief overview of the priorities of the South Yorkshire Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) and to provide Members with an update in relation to forthcoming changes in relation to the provision of Probation services.

Members noted that the South Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board had reviewed its progress in relation to local delivery plans during 2019-20 when it met in October, within the context of locally agreed priorities. Progress in relation to criminal justice measures, that are publicly available, featured within the report at Item 9, 'Quarter 2 - Performance Report against the Police and Crime Plan'.

M Buttery stated that she would make enquires with L Mayhew to ascertain if a further report could be presented to the Panel on the 2019/20 performance year, given much of the data collected is not publicly available.

Members noted the forthcoming changes in relation to the provision of Probation services, which were expected to be fully implemented by late spring 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Noted that M Buttery would make enquires with L Mayhew to ascertain if a further report could be presented to the Panel on the 2019/20 performance year.

12 HEALTH AND WELLBEING - SUPPORT PROVIDED TO SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE OFFICERS AND STAFF

The Commissioner introduced a report to provide Members of the Police and Crime Panel with information on the work taking place to support the health and wellbeing of South Yorkshire Police officers and staff.

Members noted the measures implemented by the Force to support police officer and staff wellbeing.

Councillor Grocutt stated that she welcomed the measures implemented by the Force, but felt that the term 'improving absenteeism' as set out in the report could be taken out of context.

Furthermore, Councillor Grocutt asked if the Panel could receive a report at a future meeting on the Force's Workforce Strategy.

The Commissioner acknowledged Councillor Grocutt's comments. M Buttery added that she would work with L Noble on the timescales for providing a report to the Panel.

M Buttery reported that she would provide feedback to the Force in relation to the language used around improving absenteeism. It was suggested that "supporting good attendance" would be more appropriate.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that M Buttery would work with L Noble to identify the timescales for providing a report to the Panel on the Force's Workforce Strategy.
- iii) Noted that M Buttery would provide feedback to the Force in relation to the language used around improving absenteeism. It was suggested that "supporting good attendance" would be more appropriate.

13 HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY, FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) UPDATE

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members with an update on the latest South Yorkshire HMICFRS inspection reports.

The Commissioner circulated a document which provided the Panel with a table of results detailing the Force's PEEL: Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy 2018/19 report published on 27 September 2019.

HMICFRS had rated the Force as "Good" in all 3 areas and in the particular areas of developing an ethical culture and tackling corruption, the Force had been rated as "Outstanding".

Councillor Sansome asked if Panel Members could be provided with narrative around HMICFRS recommendations published in 2015, and the progress against these.

The Commissioner replied that the recommendations from 2015 had now been closed off, but agreed to provide the Panel with the information requested by Councillor Sansome.

Professor James highlighted that, in relation to protecting vulnerable people, he had noted that, 'officers need to spot less obvious signs of vulnerability more consistently'. He asked what measures were being taken to ensure high levels of consistency.

The Commissioner suggested that Members be referred to the HMICFRS report in regard to this particular area and the Chief Constable's response.

M Buttery added that the Force kept a database of all recommendations that had been issued by HMICFRS and the progress tracked against those. From an assurance perspective, K Wright (OPCC) works in liaison with the Force to ensure that recommendations are being discharged in a timely manner, and that risks are understood. In addition, there was a monthly meeting of a Performance Group, Chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable where HMICFRS actions are discussed.

In relation to paragraph 23 of the report, Councillor Wilkinson noted that one of the areas highlighted as a 'cause for concern' was in respect of the Force not consistently meeting the requirements of PACE, code C of its codes of practice, or section 31 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933, which requires that all detained girls should be in the care of a woman. She asked if this related to a female police officer or a social worker.

The Commissioner replied that the cause for concern had arisen from an unannounced inspection of the Custody Suites in Doncaster, Sheffield, Rotherham and Barnsley. He was of the impression that a female police or detention officer should be available for a female detainee.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide narrative around the Force's HMICFRS recommendations published in 2015, and the progress against these.

14 HOME OFFICE FUNDING UPDATE

A report of the Chief Finance and Commissioning Officer was submitted to provide Members with further information on additional Home Office funding received in 2019/20, specifically relating to tackling serious violence and increasing police officer numbers.

The Commissioner highlighted that there were challenges associated with the Violence Reduction Unit monies and Surge funding due to there being no confirmation yet that the Home Office grant would continue to be received in 2020/21.

The Home Office had confirmed the national funding allocation for VRUs of £35m would continue in 2020/21. It was noted that South Yorkshire's share of this would not be confirmed until bids had been submitted.

In relation to the uplift in police officer numbers, the funding share for South Yorkshire in 2020/21 would not be known until the funding settlement is received, and this is now expected to be in January 2020 due to the General Election.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

15 COMPLAINTS UPDATE

A report of the Deputy Clerk was submitted to provide the Panel with a regular update on complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) during the period April to November 2019.

Members noted that one complaint had been received by the Panel in relation to the PCC. The complaint was considered by the Panel's Legal Adviser as non-recordable. A letter was issued to the complainant and no further correspondence had been received.

Councillor Nevett noted that the complaint had been received in July, but a reply had not been issued until October. He asked what the standard reply time was for responding to complaints.

L Noble replied that there had been a delay in responding due to the previous Legal Adviser leaving Barnsley MBC and a change-over taking place. Discussions would take place with Legal Services to ensure that complaints are responded to in a more timely manner.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Noted the synopsis of complaints received.

16 POLICE INTEGRITY REFORMS - COMPLAINTS REFORM

A report submitted to the Public Accountability Board (PAB) held on 7th October 2019 was presented to provide Members with details of forthcoming changes to the police complaints system and the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) within that.

Members noted that the legislation provides three possible models for adoption. Model 1 being the mandated model, with further more enhanced roles for PCCs described in Models 2 and 3.

On 15th August 2019, the PCC decided to adopt Model 1 and not to extend his role beyond the minimum required by the new legislation. It was noted that the PCC would revisit this decision in the future, once the new regulations are implemented and the impact of the changes are more clearly understood.

Members noted that preparations were currently underway to implement this decision.

The Independent Ethics Panel (part of the OPCC's governance structure) would provide assurance in respect of the implementation of this decision.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the Complaints Reforms as reported to the PAB on 7th October 2019.

17 GATHERING THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

A report was presented to provide the Panel with an overview of the main areas of activity undertaken by the Commissioner in fulfilling their statutory duty to consult with the public as well as holding South Yorkshire Police to account for making arrangements to consult.

Members noted that in respect of gathering the views of the public, Police and Crime Commissioners have a statutory duty to:

- Consult with the public and the Police and Crime Panel on the level of council tax precept for policing.
- Consult with the public and the Police and Crime Panel in order to set the priorities outlined in the Police and Crime Plan.
- Hold the Chief Constable to account for making arrangements to obtain the views of local people.

The report provided Members with a brief overview of some of the main areas of activity undertaken to comply with this statutory duty.

Professor James referred to the 'Your Voice Counts' survey delivered to around 7,000 randomly selected households. He asked if this was an accurate description of the methodology applied and if the survey was helpful in terms of receiving feedback. He also asked if a representative survey would be more useful that actually represented the demographic make-up of South Yorkshire.

K Wright replied that the 'Your Voice Counts' survey was undertaken by the Force; he was unsure how the Force's random sample was undertaken. Generally, the Force had experienced difficulties in obtaining responses to the survey.

It was noted that the OPCC had undertaken a survey previously to obtain the views of hard to reach individuals, which showed a different perspective to the Your Voice Counts survey.

Professor James added that it would be reassuring to know that the views from rural communities in South Yorkshire were being obtained.

The Commissioner replied that some of the OPCC's postal survey returns would have been from rural communities.

Councillor Nevett asked what the response rate had been from the 7,000 surveys issued.

K Wright agreed to obtain details and provide Members' with an update after today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:

- i) Noted the contents of the report.

- ii) Noted that information would be provided by the OPCC on the response rates to the Your Voice Counts survey.

18 PCC DECISIONS

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members of the Panel with information on the decisions taken by the Commissioner since the last meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

19 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

Since the September Panel meeting, three new Members, Councillor Cook, Councillor Short and Professor James had joined the Panel and received formal inductions.

Professor James asked that his thanks be placed on record to the Commissioner and to the OPCC for providing his induction. He also thanked L Noble and A Carter for the support they had provided to him.

Four Panel Members and L Noble had attended the Annual Police Fire and Crime Panels conference in Warwick on 18th – 19th November 2019. A summary of the key points and presentations from the conference would be circulated to Members shortly. A link would also be circulated to details of the Strategic Policing Review in England and Wales and how Members' could contribute.

A Carter suggested that the Panel may wish to consider a co-ordinated (Panel) submission to the Strategic Policing Review rather than individual responses. Any submissions should be sent to L Noble who will ensure a collated response by 20th December 2019.

Councillor Cook provided the Panel with her observations from the Annual Police Fire and Crime Panels conference.

A Panel visit to Atlas Court was scheduled for 4th December 2019. A visit to the SARC would be arranged for the end of January 2020.

In relation to future events, Members noted that an Annual Session with Frontline Consulting to review the Panel's activities over the year and discuss any issues / plan for 2020/21 was provisionally scheduled for 6th April 2020 (this is currently in the work programme as a Panel meeting, but was dependent on the date of the PCC elections and purdah).

Councillor Wilkinson informed the Panel that she had attended a Doncaster Domestic Abuse Conference at the beginning of November, which had been a

fantastic event. Councillor Wilkinson asked that her thanked be passed onto the event organisers.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Provide suggestions for future learning and development.

20 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2020 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and / or holding the Commissioner to account.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge.

Councillor Nevett referred to the PAB meeting scheduled for 7th February 2020. He asked if a visit to Doncaster's Custody Suite could be arranged for Members, prior to, or at the conclusion of, the PAB on 7th February 2020.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the 2020 Work Programme.
- ii) Noted that (if possible) arrangements would be made for Members to visit Doncaster's Custody Suite on 7th February 2020.

21 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Thursday 6th February 2020, 1:00 pm in Meeting Room 14, Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley (this date had been moved from 3rd February 2020 due to the late announcement of the budget settlement).

A Budget Familiarisation Session for Panel Members will be held on Wednesday 29th January 2020, 2:00 pm in Meeting Room 3, Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley.

CHAIR

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MEETING ROOM 14, TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, BARNSELEY, S70 2TA

6 FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor D Nevett (Doncaster MBC) (Chair)

Councillor S Sansome (Rotherham MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J Grocutt (Sheffield City Council), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), K Mitchell (Barnsley MBC), J Otten (Sheffield City Council), P Short (Rotherham MBC) and S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Mr A Carter and Professor A James

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, M Clements, S Abbott, S Parkin, F Topliss and K Wright (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

A Frosdick, L Noble and A Shirt (Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from M McCarthy (Barnsley MBC)

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Nevett welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the Police and Crime Panel. An extended welcome went to A Frosdick, Monitoring Officer to the Panel.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Nevett reported that Panel Member Councillor Michelle Cook had recently stepped down as a Councillor from Sheffield City Council. It was noted that, Sheffield City Council's Labour Group were currently carrying out a selection process to appoint a new representative to the Panel.

Members' were also informed that, Councillor Martin Dyson from Barnsley MBC had resigned from the Panel. A replacement would be appointed at Barnsley MBC's full Council meeting today.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Nevett thanked Councillors Cook and Dyson for their contributions.

Councillor Nevett informed the Panel that, today would be Michael Clements last meeting, as he would shortly be leaving the OPCC to take up a position with North Yorkshire Police.

Members' paid tribute to the work undertaken by Michael at the Panel's Budget Working Group, which had been very much appreciated.

4 URGENT ITEMS

Councillor Wilkinson referred to the outbreak of the Coronavirus in China. She asked the Commissioner if the Police were prepared if there was an outbreak. Furthermore, she asked the Commissioner if he was confident of the security measures in place at Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

The Commissioner replied that, he did not have any specific information around the Airport, however, the Police were well-sighted on this. There was a Group co-ordinating the work at the Airport and they adhere to Home Office advice.

The Commissioner added that he had been in dialogue with the Director of Public Health at Sheffield City Council who had advised him that, it was almost impossible to not stop the virus entering the UK. Assurance was provided to Members that, all agencies were well sighted and well prepared.

5 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

7 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

7A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

7B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND DECEMBER 2019

Professor James thanked the Commissioner and his staff for preparing figures around Restorative Justice, which were most helpful to him.

Professor James added that, it was gratifying to note that there was a fairly high proportion of female offenders who were referred to the Restorative Justice system. However, the figures provided did not make clear what the offences were. He asked if there was a strategic approach to identifying women offenders who might be referred to Restorative Justice. Additionally, he asked if the Force had in place a Women Offenders' Strategy, which was recommended by the Ministry of Justice in its 2018 report.

The Commissioner thanked Professor James for his questions and agreed to provide answers following today's meeting.

M Buttery added that, from her recollection, she was not aware that South Yorkshire Police had a dedicated strategy. However, the recommendations from the guidance and the report highlighted had been permeated through a number of workstreams. To provide further assurance, discussions around the low referral numbers had been addressed with the Force; future reporting would hopefully show an improved pattern.

Professor James raised concern that there may not be a Strategy in place. Additionally, he highlighted that the report recommended a multi-agency approach with regards to Restorative Justice, and asked if the OPCC had any plans to pursue this.

The Commissioner replied that he would follow-up with the Force and provide a reply following today's meeting.

Councillor Nevett thanked the Commissioner and the OPCC for organising a visit to the Custody Suite at Doncaster scheduled for 7 February 2020.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 2nd December 2019 be agreed as a correct record.
- ii) That the Commissioner would provide answers to Professor James' questions around Restorative Justice as set out above.

9 PROPOSED REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT FOR 2020/21

A report of the Chief Finance and Commissioning Officer, OPCC was presented to notify the Police and Crime Panel of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Council Tax precept for 2020/21.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with context to his proposal, he stated that, ten years of austerity was now coming to an end with essentially nine years of cuts to Police Grant year-on-year and reductions in police officer numbers. Last year's decision to increase the precept quite significantly began to make a contribution towards increasing police officer numbers in South Yorkshire, with the Force planning an increase of 220 by 2024. Just before the General Election all political parties, agreed an increase in police numbers by at least 20,000, which was welcomed.

As a consequence of the fall in officer numbers the Force had seen an increase in organised crime gangs, particularly those which were dealing with drugs, child criminal exploitation and county lines. South Yorkshire had also been highlighted alongside 17 other police force areas as having the most numbers of knife-related crime stabbings as recorded by hospital data. There were also correlations between the number of police officers and the growth in serious crime rates.

The Commissioner stated that he was pleased to see the number of police officers rising, however, it did raise issues for him around recruitment, training, equipment, on the job training and placing new officers alongside experienced officers.

The Commissioner made reference to the fact that he was aware South Yorkshire was not a wealthy part of the country and was, in fact, amongst the poorest parts of the country and Europe. Furthermore, he was also well aware that people within the communities in South Yorkshire were struggling financially, which he had to balance with the needs of the Force and therefore, his proposal was to levy an annual increase in the Council Tax precept of 2%.

M Clements provided Members with key highlights contained within the report.

Members noted that the Force had made considerable progress on its journey to outstanding. In 2016 South Yorkshire Police was ranked 43rd out of 43 forces. In the latest rankings it was now ranked joint fourth, and was the highest ranking Force in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

In relation to the 2020/21 National Funding Settlement, additional grant funding of £700m was included to help PCCs and Forces achieve the first 6,000 increase in police officer numbers by 31st March 2021. The approach to securing the government's full 20,000 'Uplift' target would be addressed in the 2020 Spending Review and incorporated into the 2021/22 budget planning process. In addition, PCCs were given the flexibility to increase the policing precept by up to £10 for a Band D property in 2020/21.

For South Yorkshire, additional 'Uplift' grant of £16.8m had been made available in 2020/21 to support an increase of police officer numbers of 151 by March 2021. Of this, the Home Office had built 75% (£12.6m) into the core policing grant and retained 25% (£4.2m) as 'ringfenced grant', payable only if the 151 additional officers are in post by 31 March 2021.

For 2020/21 financial planning, only the core grant (75%) is assumed in the 2020/21 budget, with the full value including the ringfenced grant element assumed in 2021/22 onwards.

For South Yorkshire, the Home Office's target number for new 'Uplift' officers in post by March 2021 was 151. This was in addition to the additional 73 officers already planned for 2020/21 following the significant increase in precept levied in 2019/20 to achieve 220 more officers.

In total, 274 new police officer posts will have been created and filled between April 2019 and March 2021. This is also in addition to recruiting to fill vacancies that arise from the 'business as usual' existing police officer workforce.

South Yorkshire anticipated its share of the full 20,000 'Uplift' officers would be 487 by 2023, although the Home Office's approach to grant funding the further 14,000 after 2020/21 would not be confirmed until the Spending Review is published.

The estimated costs of achieving the full Uplift target for South Yorkshire of 487 officers by March 2023 had been built into the Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS), but the government grant funding was reflected at 2020/21 levels (i.e. for 151), which created a cost pressure that would need to be addressed.

The proposed budget of £277.6m included investment to support a further increase in police officer posts of 194 (73+121). Also included was investment into Atlas Court (£1.1m full year), the Crime Review (£1.1m) and £1.6m into the estate to support the increased workforce through Uplift.

Savings of £4.5m were reflected and the overtime budget had been reduced.

Legacy issues were forecast to be £129m to 2023/24, requiring £19m of resources to fund the expected shortfall in Special Grant receivable under current Home Office rules.

The Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) assumed a 2% precept increase each year to 2024/25. The MTRS also reflected the full increase in police officer numbers to 3,056 by March 2023 i.e. the 220 from existing Precept plus the 487 further Uplift officers. However, pending certainty through the Spending Review, the level of Uplift grant was maintained at 2020/21 levels i.e. only funding the first 151 of the full Uplift increase in officers for South Yorkshire.

Members noted that the PCC's proposal was to levy an increase in Council Tax precept of 2%, equivalent to £3.88 per annum on a Band D property. The annual increase for a Band A property would be £2.59, and £3.02 for Band B.

Members were informed that further information had been received to update some key elements of the proposed 2020/21 budget. It was noted that the proposed increase in policing precept of 2% for 2020/21 remains the same.

On 30th January 2020 the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners issued a circular indicating that the National Police Chiefs Council was proposing a 2.5% pay award for 2020/21 and a multi-year pay deal thereafter. 2.5% had now been reflected in the proposed 2020/21 budget and MTRS, adding c.£750k in 2020/21 and a further £1.1m per annum thereafter.

In addition, information had also been received to state that there was likely to be increased charges for the national air service (NPAS), which includes police helicopters, of £178k for South Yorkshire. The Home Office had also indicated that an increase in charges to forces in 2020/21 for national IT projects was imminent, estimated at £780k. Both of the increased charges were now reflected in the 2020/21 budget.

The report set out a number of key risks and uncertainties, which were noted by Members.

If the precept was increased by 2% for the year, the proposed budget position for 2020/21 would be a £300k surplus, slightly increasing reserves. The 2019 Reserves Strategy would be refreshed for approval at the PAB meeting on 25th February 2020.

Appendix A to the report reflected the reserves position over the life of the MTRS to 2024/25, maintaining a level of general reserve at or above 5% of the net revenue budget until 2023/24.

Councillor Grocutt referred to the Force's target of recruiting 151 police officers. To provide her with some assurance, she asked how many individuals apply for police officers posts.

In addition, Councillor Grocutt asked the Commissioner and M Clements if they had provided Members with all the necessary information to allow a sensible, reliable and well thought out precept. She also asked if there were any gaps in the information provided.

The Commissioner replied that there were no gaps in the information provided; there were uncertainties as previously outlined by M Clements and therefore, assumptions had been built into the budget.

In relation to recruitment, the Commissioner highlighted that every police force in the country was now recruiting because of the Uplift. He confirmed that he had no reason to believe that the Force would not meet its recruitment target year-on-year.

Councillor Otten commented that the report contained no information to show figures based on raising the precept to either three or four percent, and, what the extra funding could do for the people of South Yorkshire in terms of giving them a good policing service.

The Commissioner replied that there was an element of growth built into the budget, which included improvements to the police service.

Councillor Sansome asked the Commissioner to provide assurances that the Panel's Budget Working Group would continue to monitor the key areas of the budget.

Additionally, Councillor Sansome asked if the Commissioner could provide Members with assurances that plans were in place to get 151 additional officers in post by 31st March 2021, given that 25% of the funding depends on this. He also asked what the position would be if the 151 is achieved, but not until the next financial year (2021/22). Did this mean a shortfall in grant funding for 2020/21, but the full amount obtained in 2021/22.

The Commissioner replied that the informal Budget Working Group meetings would continue to enable Members to be kept informed of developments.

The Commissioner added that the Force had been recruiting for some time now, so were essentially ahead of the programme. He was fairly confident about the recruitment of 151 additional officers in the coming 12 months; currently there were no risks in not achieving the figures, in the short term.

In relation to the 2020/21 financial risk, should 151 not be recruited, M Clements stated that he had not assumed the full additional grant. 25% was dependent on delivering the 151 until 2021/22 as a backstop position.

Councillor Sansome referred to section 6 of the report, which indicated £4.5m of savings were reflected in the budget proposals, but the report did not provide any details of what those savings are.

The Commissioner replied that this figure was for efficiency savings to be achieved by the Force and would be developed as discussions with the Force take place.

Councillor Nevett stated that legacy issues were forecast to be £129m to 2023/24 requiring £19m of resources to fund. He asked how likely it would be that more grant funding could be secured to remove some of the budget pressure.

The Commissioner replied that he was in active dialogue with the Home Office to increase Special Grant to minimise the level of funding from the current policing budget to pay for South Yorkshire's legacy issues.

F Topliss provided Members with an overview of the outcome of consultation with the public regarding the policing precept. Over 2,600 residents had engaged and expressed their views, with the majority indicating they would be prepared to pay an increased precept, in return for assurance regarding value for money and greater police visibility.

Professor James commended the Commissioner and the OPCC for their considerable effort and success in obtaining feedback from the public.

The Chair, Councillor Nevett moved to accept the proposed increase in Council Tax precept for 2020/21 equivalent to 2% and this was seconded by the Vice-Chair Councillor Sansome.

A recorded vote was taken and recorded as follows:-

For accepting the proposed increase in Council Tax precept for 2020/21 - (9)
Councillors Nevett, Sansome, Grocutt, Garbutt, Mitchell, Short, Wilkinson,
Professor James and Mr Carter.

Against the proposed increase (1) Councillor Otten and abstained (0).

The proposal was approved.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel voted to accept the proposed annual increase in Council Tax precept for 2020/21 equivalent to 2%. This would be equivalent to a £3.88 increase for a Band D property to £198.04 for

the year. For Band A properties this equated to an annual increase of £2.59 and £3.02 for Band B properties be approved.

10 DIGITAL POLICING

A report of the Commissioner was presented to provide Members with the Independent Ethics Panel's report on ethical issues arising from digital policing.

Appendix A to the report provided Members with the Independent Ethics Panel's report on this piece of work which included an explanation of what is meant by "digital policing", the identification of 6 key digital ethical principles and a set of ethical questions that the Force would be able to use in order to consider the ethics of a particular digital policing technology.

At the PCC's Public Accountability Board held on 14 January 2020 the Chief Constable confirmed that the checklist would enable choices to be made around digital technology investments. Furthermore, it would be a useful benchmark for future business cases.

Councillor Otten thanked the Commissioner for the report. He commented that, there had been reports recently in the press on the use of a facial recognition technology pilot, which had reported that this technology was biased against ethnic minorities, in that, it was less accurate. He stated that he did not see any advice in the report around the use of facial recognition technology.

Councillor Otten also referred to artificial intelligence and reference in the report to a national decision making model, which mentioned making decisions on behalf of police officers which they would normally take. He was unaware of any technology in the market which would make officer decisions rather than a human being. He suggested that this was the wrong way of thinking about technology and the decision would be whether to use the technology or otherwise.

The Commissioner replied that he had tasked the IEP to take an initial look at the whole question of digital technology, which was moving very fast. He added that at present, a machine would only do what it was programmed to do. He did envisage a future in which a machine had more autonomy and independence. In addition, the Commissioner highlighted that the Force had to be prepared for digital policing and the report set out six key digital ethical principles.

In relation to facial recognition it may be that, the technology is used to identify offenders or missing people.

A Carter stated that he was pleased to note the report on today's agenda. He asked if it was the intention of the Commissioner to keep digital policing on the Panel's agenda.

The Commissioner replied that it was his intention to provide updates to the Panel on a six-monthly cycle.

Councillor Garbutt asked how thorough new technologies are tested by the Force prior to investing in them. Additionally, one of the six principles was around

'accountability'. He asked how the Force could be accountable if technology went wrong and what steps were in place to maintain personal privacy.

The Commissioner replied that new technologies were not only tested by police forces, but by other institutions for example, universities who were also carrying out testing. In relation to 'accountability', the Commissioner stated that, as digital technology develops, more and more evidence presented in Court would be digital. The report was looking at new kinds of technology that was up and coming, the questions this raises and the underlying principles that could be applied to each of the new technologies.

Professor James stated that he welcomed the report, which was very thorough and well researched. He asked what the status of the IEP's report was in relation to the application of the ethical principles in practice. Additionally, he asked if regular updates would be presented to the Panel and include, for example, an assessment against the ethical principles as new technologies are rolled out within the Force.

The Commissioner replied that he had every reason to believe that the report would be influential to the Force, and the recommendations taken on board. He would endeavour to include an assessment against the six ethical principles in future reports to the Panel.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

11 POLICE COMPLAINTS HANDLING - CHANGES TO STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES UPDATE

A report of the Commissioner was submitted to provide Members with an update on the changes to the police complaints system and the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) within that.

Members were reminded that a major overhaul of the police complaints system had been undertaken for the first time since the Police Reform Act was introduced in 2002. The reforms, under the Policing and Crime Act 2017, were designed to increase public confidence in policing and to make the whole process simpler to manage and administer.

The PCC had decided on 15 August 2019, not to extend his role beyond the minimum required by the new legislation, but this decision may be reviewed at some point in the future, once the new regulations are implemented and the impact of the changes are more clearly understood.

Members noted that the regulations to the complaints and discipline system were laid in Parliament on 10 January 2020 and come into force on 1 February 2020.

In preparation for the legislation changes staff from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had attended a number of training / awareness raising events organised by the IOPC, Home Office and the Force Information Systems Ltd (FIS) who administer the IT system used by all forces to record and handle complaints.

Whilst some analysis had been undertaken to determine the impact the new regulations will have on the workload of the OPCC, this was still relatively unknown. To ensure the new statutory obligations are met, the Chief Constable has agreed to second a member of police staff to work in the OPCC on a part-time basis. This individual will support the Head of Governance in assessing police complaint reviews and making recommendations to the PCC as the relevant review body. The arrangements would be reviewed in twelve months' time.

The PCC had asked that the Independent Ethics Panel provide both the Chief Constable and himself with assurances that legislation changes had been implemented and were working effectively.

Councillor Otten asked the Commissioner if adoption of the minimum requirements reflected a lack of enthusiasm by the OPCC for the reform.

Additionally, Councillor Otten asked if it was the Commissioner's view that the secondment from the Force to carry out this work would be a permanent arrangement, or would the OPCC take full responsibility at a later date.

The Commissioner replied that there was not a lack of enthusiasm on his part.

M Buttery added that the PCC's role was to review an earlier decision, not to re-investigate. The seconded individual had a wealth of knowledge and experience regarding the requirements and the complaints system, and this could be passed onto other members of the OPCC team when conducting a review of the complaint. It was noted that the individual would work on a part-time basis with the OPCC and also part-time with the Force. The recommendation of the PCC on the merits of the review would be made by a senior member of the PCC's staff; not by this seconded individual.

Councillor Nevett asked if there was a date scheduled when the Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) would provide the Chief Constable and the Commissioner with assurance that the legislation changes had been implemented and were working effectively.

S Parkin replied that the IEP receives a six monthly report which provides them with all the information on complaints during the last six months and identifies any trends over a 12 month period along with any lessons learnt. Additionally, a Lead Member had now been appointed on the Ethics Panel who was familiar with legislation changes. The Lead Member would, in future, be attending the Force's Champions' meeting which looks in more detail at complaints.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel are recommended to note the contents of the report and comment on any matters arising.

12 POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING DATES 2020-21

A report was submitted to set out a schedule of meeting dates for the Police and Crime Panel in 2020/21.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered and approved the 2020/21 meeting dates set out below:-

Monday 6 April 2020
Monday 8 June 2020 – Annual Meeting
Monday 20 July 2020
Monday 7 September 2020
Monday 14 December 2020
Monday 1 February 2021
Monday 19 April 2021

All meetings will commence at 1:00 pm with a pre-meeting for Members at 12:30 pm, apart from the July 2020 meeting which will start at 2:00 pm (Member pre-meeting 1:30 pm) and be held at the Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley, S70 2TA, unless stated otherwise.

- ii) Agreed to hold additional / extraordinary meetings / training events as and when appropriate / necessary.

13 PCC DECISIONS

A report of the Commissioner was presented to provide Members of the Panel with information on the decisions taken by the Commissioner since the last meeting.

In response to a question from A Carter, S Parkin confirmed that the award to Voluntary Action Sheffield was an award of contract for a service to enable the voice of people with lived experience to contribute to the work of the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit.

A Carter asked if the voluntary sector was now able to claim expenses for people who attend or assist with the work of the VRU.

S Parkin confirmed that the Commissioner had agreed to pay expenses to those community groups who were assisting with the work of the VRU.

Following a request for further information from A Carter, M Buttery provided Members with an update on the 'You're Only Young Once (YOYO) Sport programme.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

14 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

L Noble reported that, in addition to the events listed in the report, Members would be canvassed to attend the LGA's Police, Fire and Crime Panels Workshop in London on 18 March 2020.

Visits to the Sexual Abuse and Referral Centre (SARC) and Lifewise Centre were being arranged, and a visit to Doncaster Custody Suite was arranged for 7th February 2020, 9:15 am prior to the PAB meeting. Members had been notified by email.

Professor James reported that he had recently observed a meeting of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board, where there had been many positives highlighted, but not many points of criticism. He asked if this could possibly be reflected in future reports to PAB to give a more balanced picture.

The Commissioner acknowledged Professor James' observation. He queried if this would help dialogue with Force; the onus was on him to challenge the Force. The Commissioner highlighted that the PAB was not the only source of information to him; officers from the OPCC attended quarterly performance meetings with the Force and information was fed back to him on Force performance.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Provide suggestions for future learning and development.

15 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2020 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and / or holding the Commissioner to account.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2020 Work Programme.

16 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 6th April 2020, 1:00 pm in Meeting Room 14, Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley.

CHAIR



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

ANNUAL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY

8 JUNE 2020

PRESENT: Councillor D Nevett (Doncaster MBC) (Chair)

Councillor S Sansome (Rotherham MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: A Cherryholme (Barnsley MBC), J Grocutt (Sheffield City Council), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), J Otten (Sheffield City Council), P Short (Rotherham MBC), Councillor J Steinke (Sheffield City Council) and S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Professor A James

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, S Abbott, S Parkin, K Wright and F Topliss (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M McCarthy, J Field, L Noble, A Shirt and C Tyler (Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Mitchell (Barnsley MBC) and Mr A Carter (Independent Co-opted Member)

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2020/21

M McCarthy opened the meeting and invited nominations for the position of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Panel.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed:-

- i) Councillor Nevett be appointed as Chair to the Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing municipal year.
- ii) Councillor Sansome be appointed as Vice-Chair to the Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing municipal year.

2 WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Councillor Nevett welcomed everyone to the Annual virtual meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Nevett welcomed Councillor Jim Steinke to his first, albeit virtual meeting of the Police and Crime Panel and looked forward to working with him in the future.

Members were informed that Councillor Steinke had been nominated to represent Sheffield City Council on the Panel following the resignation of Councillor Michelle Cook earlier in the year.

An extended welcome went to Jason Field, the Panel's new Legal Advisor, who was taking over from Garry Kirk.

Councillor Nevett made reference to the 'Black Lives Matter' protests which had been taking place across the world following the death of George Floyd. He wished to place on record that, whilst this issue was generated from an instance in the USA, he wished to make it very clear, South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel was against racism. Additionally, South Yorkshire Police were working very hard in South Yorkshire's diverse and multicultural areas to ensure they are confronting racism and keeping people safe to achieve the outcomes and priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire.

In relation to the Coronavirus pandemic, Councillor Nevett reported that the death toll in the UK was now well over 40,000.

Members observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to NHS staff, emergency workers and residents who had passed away from this indiscriminate virus.

5 URGENT ITEMS

None.

6 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

8 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

8A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

8B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

9 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH FEBRUARY 2020

Professor James stated that, his question in relation to whether the Force had in place a Female Offenders' Strategy had been paraphrased on the Action Log and marked as 'discharged', when in fact the action was still active and the Panel was scheduled to consider the Strategy later in the year.

Professor James thanked the Commissioner's Office for the answers they had provided to him in relation to Restorative Justice.

Members' paid tribute to the work undertaken by the Force during the Coronavirus pandemic lockdown.

Councillor Sansome highlighted that, a number of actions contained on the Action Log still remained 'live' from the February Panel meeting. He asked if updates could be provided to Members.

It was agreed that the remaining 'live' actions contained on the Action Log be followed-up by L Noble after today's meeting with the Commissioner's Office.

RESOLVED –

- i) That all remaining 'live' actions contained on the Action Log be followed-up by L Noble after today's meeting with the Commissioner's Office.
- ii) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 6th February 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

10 MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 2020-21

A report was presented setting out the membership of the Police and Crime Panel for the municipal year 2020/21.

Members were informed that, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent enactment of the Covid Act, appointments to the Panel would remain as those communicated in May/June 2019, until a Constituent Council informed the Clerk to the Panel otherwise, or until annual meetings of Constituent Councils take place in May/June 2021.

Councillor Nevett welcomed Councillor Anita Cherryholme, representing Barnsley MBC to her first Panel meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the membership of the Police and Crime Panel 2020-21.

11 APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

M McCarthy reported that the report due to be presented at today's meeting in relation to the appointment of a Monitoring Officer had now been withdrawn from the agenda.

It was explained that this was due to the host Authority (Barnsley MBC) currently being in the process of appointing a new Monitoring Officer, following the retirement of Andrew Frosdick on 31st May 2020.

A report would be presented to the July Panel meeting setting out details of the new Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED – That Police and Crime Panel Members noted the update.

12 MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT (JANUARY TO MARCH 2020)

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was submitted to present the Quarterly Report for the period January – March 2020, produced from the developing Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Police and Partners Performance Framework.

The report aimed to provide information about how the police and partners, as well as the Office of the PCC (OPCC) are working to achieve the outcomes and priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire.

A copy of the Quarterly Report was presented at Appendix A to the report for Members' information.

The Commissioner reported that the latter two weeks covered in the quarterly report coincided with the Government's lockdown restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst the three priorities set out in his Police and Crime Plan for 2020/21 remained the same, the emergency situation created by the Coronavirus meant that business could not be as usual.

In order to respond to the emergency and fulfil his statutory responsibilities, the Commissioner stated that he had focused on four main areas as set out in Appendix A to the report.

Councillor Grocutt commented that, the figures contained in the report suggested take-up for the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) service was low. She asked the Commissioner to explain this. She also queried if the location of the SARC was an issue, and asked what support was available to victims who did not use the SARC.

The Commissioner replied that, the location of the SARC had been chosen due to its close proximity to the motorway network, both day and night, and the fact that it is not located in a police building. There was the option for victims to self-refer, however, the majority of referrals came from the police who escorted victims to the

SARC. In relation to support, the Commissioner stated that there were no other voluntary bodies who provided support.

K Wright added that he would provide Members with a breakdown of the source of the referrals to the SARC for each quarter after today's meeting.

Councillor Grocutt also asked if there was any data on the take-up of the 'Inspire to Change' service.

The Commissioner stated he was pleased to report that, the Inspire to Change service had been able to continue during the Covid-19 lockdown, through remote working and other means.

Councillor Grocutt made reference to the large amount of positive multi-agency work taking place with regards to missing persons. She asked if figures were available in relation to those missing from home in Sheffield, and asked if this was still an area of concern for the Force.

The Commissioner replied that he was unsure why there was particular emphasis on missing persons in Sheffield and asked K Wright to provide further detail.

K Wright replied that all four districts focused on missing persons, however, Sheffield had been the main focus in the January to March quarterly report.

The Commissioner provided Members' with a verbal update in respect of regional collaboration activity, following a request from Councillor Otten.

M Buttery agreed to provide Members with a written update on Regional Collaboration. Discussions would take place with L Noble to ascertain if this would be in the form of a Member Briefing, or a formal report to the Panel reviewing the efficiency and effectiveness of all collaborative activity.

On behalf of Councillor Wilkinson, Councillor Nevett asked if any figures were available for domestic abuse incidents and arrests made since the Covid-19 lockdown.

The Commissioner replied that, in the immediate period after lockdown, the number of domestic abuse referrals to national helplines had increased exponentially. In South Yorkshire there had not been a noticeable increase, however, domestic abuse cases were beginning to steadily increase again.

Councillor Sansome thanked the Commissioner and his staff for providing Members with a virtual briefing in May on the Force's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, crime trends and other issues.

Councillor Sansome asked if a further informal briefing could take place with Members, as the recovery stage is approached and lockdown restrictions ease.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request.

Councillor Grocutt highlighted that, levels of anti-social behaviour were down, but all crime was up by 3000, which was not attributable to drugs offences or residential burglary. She asked if it was possible to be provided with a break down by offence and detail on which crimes were increasing and a breakdown of crime by district.

The Commissioner replied that all Acquisitive crime and drug dealing had fallen dramatically when Government lockdown was introduced. As lockdown restrictions were eased, crime was beginning to return to normal levels.

The Commissioner highlighted that, due to the lockdown, there was now a large backlog of Jury Trial Court cases, both nationally and in South Yorkshire, which were tentatively due to re-commence towards the end of June 2020.

Councillor Sansome asked if Members could be provided with information on the number and types of outstanding Court cases.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request. He added that, it could be difficult to obtain the data, which he anticipated would be considerable. Furthermore, this may cause concern to the public if the information was released.

In response to Councillor Grocutt's request for a breakdown of crime by district. K Wright acknowledged the request and agreed to provide this.

He highlighted that, there would need to be a balance achieved regarding how much data was provided, against the size of the overall report. Website links were contained on the Commissioner's website to the Office for National Statistics with published data of police recorded crime for each quarter, for each police force in England and Wales and also links to websites that provided further information on Police and Crime data in South Yorkshire.

K Wright agreed to provide Members' with the website links via L Noble.

Professor James highlighted that, the number of Stop and Searches undertaken in the period January to March 2020 had increased significantly. He asked the Commissioner to provide further comment on the scale of the increase and what had happened with regards to Stop and Searches following the Covid-19 lockdown.

The Commissioner replied there were two main reasons for the large scale increase. Firstly, the change of Home Secretary and their policy with regards to Stop and Search. Secondly, the Force had received Surge funding last year which had led to more activity in Stop and Search.

The Commissioner also received assurance from his Independent Ethics Panel who were monitoring the individuals who were being stopped and searched to ensure that it was not disproportionate and positive outcomes were being achieved. During the lockdown, the Force had continued and maintained Stop and Searches reasonably well.

Noting that drug crime had reduced, Professor James asked the Commissioner to provide comment.

The Commissioner provided a detailed response. In summary, it was noted that during the Covid-19 lockdown the nature of drug dealing had changed, people were now buying drugs online rather than in the streets.

Professor James stated he had previously asked the Commissioner if he could provide information on Restorative Justice in relation to offenders referred by district, by offence and by gender, however, he had been informed that, it would be too complex to provide this information. He asked if Remedi would be able to provide this information.

K Wright replied that he would discuss Professor James' request with the Commissioning Team to re-check the data and identify if there were any gaps and the total number of referrals.

Professor James asked if there was a reason for the positive increase in the use of Restorative Justice. Furthermore, he asked if there was not a higher number of referrals given that 1,211 individuals had been trained in Restorative Justice.

K Wright replied that referrals had increased in the quarter as a direct result of the training. Additionally, for Restorative Justice to be undertaken, it needed the agreement of both parties (the victim and the offender). The numbers could be low, due to none of the parties wishing to take part. Members noted that the OPCC were programmed to carry out a scrutiny review of the Restorative Justice Service later in the year.

Councillor Grocutt asked what action was being taken by the Force to encourage more BAME communities to join South Yorkshire Police.

The Commissioner replied that the Force had made slow progress in recruiting more BAME communities to join South Yorkshire Police. He was considering asking the Independent Ethics Panel to undertake a review to understand why this was the case.

Councillor Grocutt stated she had concerns regarding Fixed Penalty Notices issued to BAME people during the lockdown. She also asked if staff in the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) had been taken from other departments in the Force, or if they were additional, or redeployed staff and if there had been any impacts on service delivery due to shortfalls in departments.

The Commissioner replied that the Force were about average in the table of police forces across the country for the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued. The Commissioner was content that this was a fair representation in very difficult times.

In relation to VRU staffing, the Commissioner confirmed that, staff were employed by the VRU, albeit one Police Officer at Superintendent level who was joint head of the unit.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that K Wright had agreed to provide a breakdown of the source of the referrals to the SARC for each quarter.
- iii) Noted that discussions would take place between M Buttery and L Noble to ascertain if an update on Regional Collaboration would be in the form of a Member Briefing, or a formal report to the Panel to review the efficiency and effectiveness of all collaborative activity.
- iv) Noted that the Commissioner had acknowledged Councillor Sansome's request to provide a further informal briefing with Members with regards Covid-19, as the recovery stage is approached and lockdown restrictions ease.
- v) Noted that K Wright had agreed to provide Members with a breakdown of crime by district.
- vi) Noted that K Wright would provide Members with the website link to the Office for National Statistics published data on police recorded crime for each quarter and for each police force in England and Wales and links to websites that provide further information on Police and Crime data in South Yorkshire.
- vii) Noted that K Wright would discuss Professor James' request with regards to Restorative Justice with the Commissioning Team to re-check the data and identify if there were any gaps and the total number of referrals.

13 CONSOLIDATED BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - DRAFT OUTTURN AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

A report was presented to provide Panel Members with information on the draft financial position based on the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

The report provided Members with a consolidated position on the budget managed by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police force and budgets managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Members noted that, based on current assumptions, the forecast outturn position for the revenue budget was an underspend of £2.893m.

As at 29th February 2020, the draft outturn position was a £1.225m underspend on the Chief Constable's budget, net of external funding.

The PCC and OPCC budget was underspent by £567k (including legacy costs). The main reasons for the underspend were presented within the report for Members' information.

A revised capital programme of £20.7m had been approved at the Public Accountability Board held in October 2019.

The draft reserves position, issues and uncertainties in the financial position moving forwards and the cost of the unexpected Covid-19 pandemic was presented within the report and noted by Members.

Councillor Nevett raised concerns that, underspends continued and the amount held in reserves continued to rise, when the Commissioner had requested the Panel in February 2020 to increase the Council Tax Precept for 2020/21.

The Commissioner replied that, over the term of the MTFS to 2023/24, a further £19m of reserves was estimated to be required to support Legacy costs. He also wished to remind Members that, the two percent increase in the Council Tax Precept was the lowest of any PCC in the country. The Commissioner added he was well aware, that South Yorkshire was one of the poorest parts of the country and due to the Covid-19 pandemic, unemployment and redundancies in South Yorkshire had increased on a considerable scale. He would look to keep the Council Tax Precept as moderate as he could for 2021/22.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the report and commented on any matters arising.

14 HOME OFFICE FUNDING UPDATE

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Panel Members with information on additional Home Office funding received or applied for in 2019/20 along with updates around funding allocated for 2020/21. The funding predominantly related to early intervention, tackling serious violence and increasing police officer numbers.

S Abbott reported that a South Yorkshire VRU application had been submitted to the Youth Endowment Fund's Covid-19 grant round for a maximum grant of £50,000.

The Youth Endowment Fund's Covid-19 grant round would fund and evaluate work which supports vulnerable young people at risk of youth violence, and which could be delivered whilst adhering to UK government social distancing and stay-at-home guidelines.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Nevett wished to thank officers for all the work undertaken to obtain extra funding to keep South Yorkshire residents safe.

Councillor Otten referred to the 'Uplift' grant which had been made available to support an increase in police officer numbers and subject to the Force meeting set recruitment targets. He asked if the terms and conditions on grant were still in place and if recruitment was being affected by the current Covid-19 pandemic.

S Abbott replied that, recruitment was still taking place. However, it was more difficult due to the College of Policing assessments currently being suspended. The College of Policing were developing new ways in which assessments could be undertaken through the Covid-19 pandemic, with a solution expected shortly. It

was noted that, due to Covid-19, the Home Office had relaxed the conditions on the grant, due to recognised difficulties with recruitment and assessment nationally.

Councillor Garbutt asked why there had been a greater number of police officers leaving the Force than originally estimated.

The Commissioner replied that, 779 officers were expected to leave the Force between now and 2024, and these posts would need to be filled. In addition, the Force also needed to recruit 487 additional officers as part of the Government's plans to recruit an extra 20,000 police officers in the UK. 220 funded from Council Tax Precept increase. There would be a lot of pressure on Central Government from all PCCs for flexibility in imposing some of the rules around funding and officer recruitment.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

15 POLICE & CRIME PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

A report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance was submitted to present the draft Police and Crime Panel's Annual Report 2019-20 for Members' consideration and approval.

Members were requested to provide comments on the contents of the Annual Report to L Noble by 19th June 2020, following which design work would be undertaken in-house to produce the report.

L Noble sought the Panel's authorisation to print the required number of copies of the Annual Report for circulation to all South Yorkshire Councillors, South Yorkshire MPs and Town and Parish Councils to help raise the visibility of the work of the Panel. A copy would also be added to the Panel's website.

The full costs for the production, printing and postage of the Annual Report would be reported to the Panel in the Autumn, but it was not anticipated that the costs would differ much for the 2018-19 costs set out within paragraph 3 of the report.

L Noble thanked Independent Member, A Carter for proof-reading the report.

Following discussion, Councillor Otten proposed that, in order to make the report accessible to members of the public, printed copies of the Annual Report be distributed to all libraries in South Yorkshire.

Councillor Otten also proposed that, an electronic version only of the Annual Report be circulated by email to all South Yorkshire Councillors, South Yorkshire MPs and Town and Parish Councils.

Councillor Grocutt seconded the proposals.

The proposals were put to the vote, all Members were in agreement.

Councillor Sansome stated that he agreed in principle with the proposals and requested that Members be notified of the costs for distributing printed copies to all South Yorkshire libraries prior to despatch.

L Noble acknowledged the request and agreed to provide Members with the information at a future Panel meeting.

Professor James expressed his reservation regarding the non-distribution of paper copies of the Annual Report to Parish Councils. He suggested it would be sensible to encourage Parish Council Clerks to circulate the electronic report on to Parish Councillors.

M Buttery stated she could make arrangements for the Panel's Report to be added to the Commissioner's website.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered and agreed to provide comments on the draft 2019-20 Police and Crime Panel Annual Report by 19th June 2020.
- ii) Agreed in principle to allocate funding to print the required number of copies for distribution to all South Yorkshire libraries, subject to Members being notified of the costs for printing and posting the Annual Report to all libraries in South Yorkshire. It was also recognised the distribution may be delayed depending on capacity within Barnsley MBC's Print Unit during the current Covid-19 restrictions.

16 PCC DECISIONS

A report of the Commissioner was presented to provide Members of the Panel with information on the decisions taken by the Commissioner since the last meeting.

Councillor Grocutt stated that, she was concerned about the Commissioner's decision to approve the release of funds to allow the Force to 'buy back' annual leave booked by individuals undertaking critical roles at a time when there was duty of care for the Force to grant leave to officers in critical roles.

She asked the Commissioner what information had been supplied to him before he made the decision, how much had been allocated to the Force, and if there were any options available to allow officers to carry over annual leave.

M Buttery replied that, a well-resourced decision paper had been presented to the Commissioner providing background information and cost implications etc.

M Buttery agreed to provide Members with further information outside of today's meeting.

Councillor Sansome asked if the schemes approved from the PCC's Community Grants Scheme had continued to be monitored through the Covid-19 lockdown.

F Topliss confirmed that applications continued to be analysed by the OPCC. She was of the understanding that, some schemes were to receive an increased grant if they had been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Some schemes had been delayed due Covid-19, but she anticipated they would be back on track once restrictions were lifted. She agreed to provide Members with details, in due course of the Groups that had been successful in receiving grants.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to provide Members with further information on the Commissioner's decision to approve the release of funds to allow the Force to 'buy back' annual leave booked by individuals undertaking critical roles.
- iii) Noted that F Topliss would provide information in due course, of the Groups that had been successful in receiving grants from the Commissioner's Community Grants Scheme.

17 LEAD / LINK MEMBERS - REVIEW

A report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance was submitted to remind Panel Members that, the Lead / Link Member arrangement had been cited as best practice for Police and Crime Panels across the country as an alternative model of delivering effective support and scrutiny for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Members' were reminded that the Panel had agreed in July 2019 to establish a Lead / Link Member model. At this time the Panel felt that, an additional Lead Member in the area of performance was required, but to review the arrangements in a year to establish if they were working well, if any changes were required, and whether the Panel would benefit from adding an additional Lead Member in another area. At this time, Councillor Grocutt was appointed Lead Member, with A Carter as Deputy.

L Noble reported that the Lead Member role for Performance was working extremely well, and requested Members to retain Councillor Grocutt as Lead Member, with Professor James officially taking over from A Carter as Deputy Member for Performance.

Members noted that there was one vacancy on the Budget Working Group from Sheffield City Council, following the resignation of Councillor Cook. Members were recommended to appoint Councillor Steinke to fill this vacancy.

Members' commented that both the Budget Working Group and Performance Sub-Group had provided them with invaluable additional information to allow them to fulfil their role on the Panel, and wished to thank the OPCC for their continued support.

Councillor Otten asked the Panel to give its consideration to appointing a Lead Member in the area of race relations.

L Noble thanked Councillor Otten for his suggestion. She highlighted that, there could be a potential duplication with the Commissioner's Independent Ethics Panel. L Noble agreed to undertake research and discuss the suggested role further with the OPCC. Feedback would be provided a future Panel meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered the current arrangements.
- ii) Agreed that Councillor Michelle Cook's replacement from Sheffield City Council, Councillor Steinke fills the vacancy on the Budget Working Group.
- iii) Agreed to the proposed change to the Deputy Lead member (Performance) as set out at paragraph 8 in the report.
- iv) Agreed to continue with the current Lead Member arrangements, and review at the next Annual Meeting in 2021.
- v) Noted that L Noble would undertake research and discussions with the OPCC in relation to a suggested Lead Member role for race relations and provide feedback to a future Panel meeting.

18 LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

L Noble reported that, due to the lockdown restrictions in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, it had not been possible to arrange two of the proposed events (Annual Session with Frontline Consulting and Engagement with Community Safety Partnerships). It was felt that both these sessions, would be more effectively delivered face-to-face, rather than virtually. Planning for the events was still taking place.

It was noted that the Annual Session with Frontline Consulting was considered not to be time critical and could be held in 2021 if necessary. Engagement with the Community Partnerships was time-sensitive and would be held once Government restrictions were eased.

Councillor Nevett reported there would be all-out Elections in May 2021. He suggested that, the Annual Session with Frontline Consulting be held after the Panel's Annual meeting in June / July 2021.

L Noble agreed to look at the timing of the Annual Session with Frontline Consulting on the Panel's Work Programme.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.
- iii) Noted that L Noble would look to amend the Panel Work Programme with regards to the timing of the Annual Session with Frontline Consulting for June / July 2021.

19 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2020 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and scrutinising the Commissioner.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend the meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge. These are currently being held virtually and Members can obtain details to 'dial in' to the meeting.

L Noble reported that she had intended, through the OPCC, to invite the Chief Constable to the July Panel meeting. Given the current situation, this may need to be re-scheduled or arrangements made for a virtual 'off camera' session with Members. L Noble would discuss further with the OPCC as part of the agenda planning for the next meeting.

OPCC colleagues reported that they would not have all the necessary information available to present the Budget Monitoring and the Quarterly Performance update reports to the July meeting. OPCC colleagues asked that the reports be considered at a later meeting of the Panel.

L Noble acknowledged the requests and agreed to discuss the future scheduling of the reports with the OPCC.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the 2020 Work Programme.
- ii) Noted that discussions would take place with the OPCC in relation to arranging a virtual 'off camera' briefing for Members with the Chief Constable.
- iii) Noted that L Noble would discuss the future scheduling of the Budget Monitoring report and Quarterly Performance report due to be presented at the July Panel meeting.

20 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 20th July 2020 and Members notified of the arrangements for this meeting nearer the time.

CHAIR

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

23 JANUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor M Stowe (Chair)
Councillor J Mounsey (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: A Atkin, S Cox, A Law, A Murphy, C Rosling-Josephs,
A Sangar, A Teal, P Wray, N Wright and T Yasseen

Trade Unions: N Doolan-Hamer (Unison), D Patterson (UNITE) and
G Warwick (GMB)

Investment Advisors: A Devitt and L Robb

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), F Bourne
(Corporate Administrator), N Copley (Treasurer), A Frosdick
(Monitoring Officer), G Graham (Fund Director), M McCarthy (Deputy
Clerk), G Richards (Senior Democratic Services Officer), S Smith
(Head of Investments) and G Taberner (Head of Finance and
Corporate Services)

A Stone (Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Ltd)

I Colvin (Hymans Robertson)

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair introduced Ian Colvin from Hymans Robertson who were conducting a governance review across the LGPS at the request of the Scheme Advisory Board.

They were looking at different governance structures, best practice and analysing different models of how the LGPS function was delivered with a view to putting forward proposals to raise standards across the Scheme; these proposals had yet to be formalised.

He had been asked to help the Authority to be ready for the good governance proposals and to ensure that the Authority could demonstrate that they met all the requirements.

The Chair informed Members that to support Ian in his work, an effectiveness survey would be circulated to all Members for completion. One-to-one support to complete the survey would be available if required.

The Fund Director reported that this was the last meeting to be attended by Mrs Fiona Bourne who was due to retire shortly. He wished to place on record the gratitude of officers for all her work over many years in ensuring that the Authority's governance and decision making processes worked effectively.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS.

RESOLVED – That item 17, Pensions Administration Software, be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

6 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

Members from all districts reported increased pressure regarding climate change, especially around reducing CO₂ emissions.

Some districts had declared a climate change emergency and Members felt that the Authority needed to show that it was doing all it could in this area.

The Chair remarked that the Authority took climate change and responsible investment very seriously and continued to respond to all correspondents to reassure them.

The Fund Director would be happy to assist with any queries that Members received.

7 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 12 September 2019 be agreed as a true record.

8 SOUTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL PENSION BOARD CONSTITUTION

A report was considered to seek approval for an updated Constitution for the Local Pension Board.

Members were informed that the revised Constitution, which was attached as an Appendix to the report, now incorporated:

- The current agreed membership of the Board;
- The arrangements for the register of interests reflected in the Conflicts of Interest Policy, including provision for publication;
- The Board's up-to-date Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the revised Constitution of the South Yorkshire Local Pension Board as set out in Appendix A.

9 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

A report was submitted to consider the proposed schedule of Authority meetings during 2020/21.

Members noted that the meeting dates had, where possible, been checked against the meeting calendars of the four district councils.

Cllr Yasseen queried whether it would be possible to consider having a 50/50 split of daytime and evening meetings.

The Chair suggested that Cllr Yasseen submitted a formal proposal, officers could then consider the options and bring a paper back to the Authority for discussion.

Cllr Murphy suggested carrying out an equality impact assessment and commented that this had obviously not been done at a training venue she had recently attended.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the schedule of meetings for 2020/21.

10 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE

The Authority considered the Quarter 2 Corporate Performance report, noting that this was later than normal due to the cancellation of the December Authority meeting because of the General Election.

Key messages for the Quarter were that the Corporate Plan remained on target, sickness levels were improving, the funding level was above 100% (based on 2019 assumptions) and investment returns were above the benchmark.

On the downside, administration performance remained below benchmark, this was linked to a high number of staff vacancies for which recruitment was now underway and there was a large variance between the budget and the forecast outturn.

In answer to a question from a Member, the Head of Pensions Administration confirmed that interviews were being held for 12 vacant posts for both Customer Service Officers and Pensions Officers and it was hoped that they would start towards the end of February. After an initial training period, it was expected that performance levels would begin to rise.

The reasons for the forecast of a large underspend against the budget were detailed within the report including staffing costs which were expected to be a £382k underspend and expenditure on fees relating to internal and external management of investments reflecting the changes as the transition to pooling continued to progress.

Members noted that the Senior Management Team had reviewed the overall position on the budget and reserves in order to inform the financial planning for 2020-21 and the medium term financial strategy. The plans in the Corporate Strategy and supporting documents would require capital resources for the following areas:

- New core business systems.
- Re-procurement of the Pensions Administration System.
- Initial scoping of the options for long-term office accommodation which would require external specialist support.

The capital costs of these projects were expected to be in the region of several hundred thousand pounds. Therefore Members were asked to approve the suggestion to use

the current underspend (forecast at £510k) to finance the projects and thereby reduce the amount that would have to be financed from internal borrowing.

It was proposed to set up a new 'Capital Projects' reserve and to transfer the 2019/20 underspend into this reserve. Additionally, it was proposed to transfer £150,000 from the existing Corporate Strategy reserve into the new Capital Reserve to be earmarked for those projects.

With regard to the Risk Register, Members were informed that no new risks had been added during the quarter but one risk rating had been changed – the risk of failure to ensure that the Authority had appropriate access to its cash resources. The risk score had reduced as a result of the existing control measures in place including new software that assisted with cashflow modelling.

With regard to the climate change risk, the Fund Director informed the Authority that this would be reassessed following the review of the Investment Strategy at the next meeting of the Authority.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter 2.
- (ii) Approve the setting up of a Capital Projects reserve and the transferral of the 2019/20 underspend into this reserve to fund the capital projects as detailed within the report.
- (iii) Approve the transfer of £150,000 from the Corporate Strategy reserve into the Capital Projects reserve.

11 CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

A report was submitted to introduce the suite of reports covering the annual update of the Authority's Corporate Planning Framework.

Members noted that the update was being produced in the context of:

- The completion of the 2019 Valuation.
- Significant challenges to the administration on an already complex scheme from issues such as GMP reconciliation and the impact of the McCloud case.
- A continuing increase in the number of employers within the Fund.
- The ongoing process of pooling the Authority's investments within structures provided by Border to Coast.
- An increasing focus on the good governance of LGPS funds from both the Scheme Advisory Board and the Pensions Regulator.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

11A CORPORATE STRATEGY UPDATE

A report was considered which sought approval of the updated Corporate Strategy covering the next three years.

In developing the Strategy, a wider group of staff had been engaged; this had helped to target areas which were making colleague's jobs more difficult.

The Action Plan had been framed in a more practical way to allow all staff to engage with; the Action Plan and the Budget were linked closely together.

The Strategy set out expected values and behaviours which reflected how the Authority wished others to see them and which would also influence the culture of the organisation.

The Action Plan included within the Strategy was divided into four programmes or work, these were:

- Services to Scheme Members and Employers.
- Customer Service and Engagement.
- Delivering the Investment Strategy.
- Supporting the Corporate Organisation.

Some of the items in the Action Plan were small practical changes which would have a cumulative impact on efficiency, for example implementing paperless processing of investment transactions and of the custodian's bank statements.

The Strategy also contained details of the Operating Budget and provided a summary of the budget for 2020/21 and forecasts for future years.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve the update Corporate Strategy at Appendix A to the report.
- (ii) Authorise the Fund Director to revise dates for projects within the Strategy, in consultation with the Chair, in the light of changed information prior to 31st March 2019.

11B MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

A report was considered which presented the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 to 2022/23.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy set out estimates of income and expenditure and balances on the Pension Fund over the next 3-year period, as well as forecasts of operational costs of the Authority over the same timescale.

The Strategy included a framework of financial rules within which the Authority would determine its resource requirements.

In terms of the Fund forecast, Members were informed that the nature of expenditure on the Fund in terms of the number of members retiring and transfers etc., meant there

was a significant amount of variability from year to year which made it difficult to forecast, but the forecast had been produced using the best information available at the time.

The forecast had showed that there would be a need to increase the use of investment income in order to support the net cash flows.

Members noted that the graphs included within the Strategy appeared to show that SYPA's costs had increased significantly as a proportion of Fund value in 2018/19. However, it was noted that this was due to an increase in reported investment costs rather than additional costs.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020/21 to 2022/23.

11C PENSIONS AUTHORITY BUDGET 2020/21

The Authority considered a report which presented the Authority Budget proposals for 2020/21.

Members were informed that the Budget had been framed to provide the resources needed to deliver the aims and objectives set out in the Corporate Strategy.

A comprehensive line-by-line review of the expenditure had been undertaken. The budget proposals took account of some of the major changes the Authority had gone through over the last two years and also the planned direction for the organisation going forward.

The review enabled existing resources to be redirected in order to support the areas of additional investment required in areas such as IT and governance.

In total, the overall costs of the budget was proposed to stay the same as the current financial year at £5.4m.

The report also set out the movement and estimated balances on the Authority's earmarked reserves arising from the budget proposals.

RESOLVED – That the 2020/21 budget for the Authority is approved at a total of £5,554,600.

11D LEVY 2020/21

A report was considered which detailed the proposals for the 2020/21 Levy.

The 2020/21 Levy had been calculated as £415,000, a reduction of £21,000 compared to the 2019/20 Levy.

Members were informed that the estimated apportionment of the 2020/21 Levy, was based on 2019/20 Council Tax Base shares; these were detailed within the report. It was noted that the actual apportionment would be re-calculated to reflect the approved

2020/21 Council Tax Base figures for each district as soon as the information was available.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve a total Levy of £415,000 for 2020/21 in accordance with The Levying Bodies (General) Regulations 1992, to be allocated to the District Councils in proportion to their approved Council Tax Base amounts for 2020/21.

12 INVESTMENT ADVISOR MARKET COMMENTARY

Aoifinn Devitt, one of the Authority's independent advisors provided a Market Commentary which provided additional context for the following performance reports reflecting on market conditions, as well as looking back at the previous decade and examining the outlook for 2020.

The Chair thanked Ms Devitt for an informative report.

13 Q2 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

The Head of Investment Strategy presented the Quarterly Report to 30 September 2019.

For the quarter to the end of September, the Fund returned 2.8% against the expected benchmark which gave a year to date return of 6.2% against an expected return of 6.3%. The Fund valuation rose from £8,694.4m to £8,913.8m.

Looking at the Fund ex-equity protection showed an outperformance of the benchmark giving a return of 3%.

Considering the equity protection strategy, the nominal value of the portfolio which was protected rose in value over the quarter by 3.1% and the value of the options detracted by £18.4m from the value of the Fund. This effectively reduced the return to the Fund by 0.2%.

The indicative funding level at 30th September 2019 was 103.1% compared to 101.5% at 30th June 2019.

A Stone updated the Authority on Border to Coast's latest progress and performance.

Members noted that Border to Coast had:

- Launched its fifth equity fund
- Launched three alternative assets funds
- First bond fund designed and managers selected (Q1 2020 launch)
- £14bn equities under management at end September 2019
- Initial £1.75bn committed to alternatives

Members also noted the capability launch timetable up to 2022.

With regard to performance up to the end of December 2019:

- UK Listed Equity had produced marginally positive performance over the period.
- Overseas Developed Equity was 0.4% ahead of the benchmark

- Emerging market equity was 1.1% ahead of the benchmark and produced its strongest quarter since inception.

A Stone updated Members on the development of a Multi-Asset Credit offering. There had been interest from 10 Partner Funds involving around £2.5bn and Border to Coast were hoping to hit a target of benchmark + 3-4% per annum with the product. There was still a lot of work to be done; it was hoped to launch the fund in approximately 12 months.

The Authority was updated on Index Linked Bonds and the alternative fund range which included Private Equity, Infrastructure and Private Credit.

Cllr Sangar thanked A Stone for his presentation which would feed into decisions the Authority would take in March in terms of the Investment Strategy.

What was important was the information on the capability launch timetable and what the Authority wanted to invest in.

Border to Coast had a busy 2019 and 2020 and 2021 would also be very busy by which stage they would have a full suite of sub-funds that they thought schemes may want to invest in.

The question for the Authority in March would be what wasn't there. SYPA would not be able to invest in agriculture, property was obviously difficult as it would not be available until 2022. It was this information that Members needed, it was very difficult for Members to keep up to speed with everything.

Border to Coast was wholly owned by 12 Funds whose job it was make investments to pay pensions. It was vital to ensure that Border to Coast was supplying the products that the Partner Funds required. Discussion today and in March should be around where this was taking the Authority.

The Fund Director replied that Cllr Sangar had identified a session that would be included in the new Member induction in June. One of the Authority's advisors had experience of three different pools and therefore three different ways of doing things and would be able to share this knowledge.

To answer the fundamental question regarding what was missing, the only obvious asset class that was not there was Commodities and this was not the time to be investing in that asset class. With regard to Agriculture, the Authority was still to decide what was to be done in that area.

It was the intention to hold an informal session on the Investment Strategy before the meeting in March to assist with Members' understanding.

RESOLVED – That the Performance reports be noted.

14 Q2 RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT UPDATE

A report was considered which updated Members on Responsible Investment activity being undertaken by the Authority and by Border to Coast and to note the revised

partnership Responsible Investment Policy and Voting Guidelines which were approved under the Urgent Business Procedure in December.

To summarise the stance of SYPA with regard to Responsible Investment, the Authority wanted to be a good owner of good companies that encouraged those companies to improve.

The report covered how, in the quarter ended September 2019, shares owned by the Authority in Border to Coast portfolios had been voted on, highlighted some of the issues addressed and detailed the engagement activity undertaken.

There was also a focus on work Border to Coast wanted to do with Funds with regard to Responsible Investment including integrating ESG and active ownership.

The Fund Director informed the Authority that Border to Coast had formally signed up to the UN Principles of Responsible Investment within the last few days which was a very positive step.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the activity undertaken in relation to Responsible Investment issues since the last meeting of the Authority.
- (ii) Note the Border to Coast Responsible Investment Policy and Voting Guidelines which were approved under the Urgent Business Procedure.
- (iii) Endorse the approach proposed to addressing the requirements of the new UK Stewardship Code which placed additional reporting obligations on the Authority as an asset owner.
- (iv) Note the response to the Scheme Advisory Board's Draft Guidance on Responsible Investment.

15 APPROVAL OF BORDER TO COAST INVESTMENT MANDATE

A report was submitted which sought to secure approval for the Border to Coast Index-Linked Gilt product.

The report set out the details of the mandate for Index-Linked Gilts for endorsement prior to officers undertaking the work necessary to transition assets or make new investments in the new structure.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve the investment mandate for the Index-Link Gilt Border to Coast Product.
- (ii) Note that the level of commitment to this product would be determined at the time of launch by the Head of Investment Strategy having regard to the Strategic Asset Allocation under existing delegation arrangements.

16 FUNDING STRATEGY STATEMENT

A report was submitted which requested consideration and approval of the Authority's Funding Strategy Statement following consultation with stakeholders and the completion of the valuation process.

Members were reminded that the purpose of the Funding Strategy Statement was to lay out both the assumptions used to underpin the valuation process but also a range of policies about how contribution rates were set to achieve the aim of longer term stability in contributions. As a statutory document it was noted that it was a requirement that the Authority consulted with stakeholders on the policies which it proposed to implement. The report detailed those involved in the consultation process.

The key changes reflected in the draft Funding Strategy Statement were:

- Alternative Funding Targets.
- McCloud.
- Short Term Pay Growth
- Ill Health Captive
- Prepayments
- Contribution Stability
- Deficit Recovery
- Phasing of Contribution Increases
- Academies; and
- Outsourcing and Exits.

Members noted that the framework set out in the draft FSS was intended to protect the Fund and ensure the greatest possible likelihood of achieving and maintaining full funding at employer level while at the same time giving flexibility to recognise both the general financial pressures facing employers and deal with cases of particular difficulty.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- (i) Note the process of engagement undertaken around the valuation results and the Funding Strategy Statement.
- (ii) Note the comments made by stakeholders in relation to the draft Funding Strategy Statement.
- (iii) Approve the Funding Strategy Statement, attached at Appendix A to the report.
- (iv) To delegate to the Fund Director in consultation with the Actuary, authority to finalise the Rates and Adjustments Certificate in line with the statutory timetable.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

A confidential report was submitted concerning a fixed term extension of the existing licensing arrangements for the Pensions Administration Software.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the waiving of the relevant Contract Standing Order in order to extend the existing Pensions Administration Software with Civica for a fixed two-year period through a process of direct award under the crown Commercial Services and Data Applications Solutions Framework.

CHAIR

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Item 59

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

19 MARCH 2020

PRESENT: Councillor M Stowe (Chair)

Councillors: A Atkin, A Sangar, A Teal, N Wright and T Yasseen

Investment Advisors: A Devitt and L Robb

Officers: G Graham (Fund Director), M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), G Richards (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and S Smith (Head of Investments)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Cox, Councillor A Law, Councillor A Murphy, Councillor J Mounsey, Councillor C Rosling-Josephs, Councillor P Wray, N Doolan-Hamer, D Patterson, G Warwick, J Bailey, A Frostdick, A Stone and G Taberner

1 APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

It was noted that, although some Members had been unable to attend, including both Members from Doncaster, the meeting was quorate.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

G Graham informed Members that this would have been Andrew Frostdick's, the Authority's Monitoring Officer, last meeting before his retirement in May.

The Monitoring Officer wanted to convey his thanks to the Authority for all their support in his role over the years.

The Chair conveyed the Authority's thanks to the Monitoring officer and wished him well in his retirement.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS.

RESOLVED – That Item 21 'Property Debt Write-Offs' and Item 22 'Fund Directors Appraisal' be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

6 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

None.

7 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 23RD JANUARY 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 23rd January 2020 be agreed as a true record.

8 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED – That the draft minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 13th February 2020 are noted.

9 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2020

RESOLVED – That the draft minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 5th March 2020 are noted.

10 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT Q3 2019/20

The Authority considered the Quarter 3 Corporate Performance report.

The key messages for the quarter were noted as:

- The Corporate Plan remained on target.
- The Pensions Administration restructure had been implemented.
- Funding level was above 100%.
- Healthy financial reserves were now in place to support Corporate Plan activities going forward.
- Administration performance remained below benchmark – this was linked to high vacancy levels
- There was a large variance between the budget and the forecast outturn.

Members discussed the risk around the impact of climate change on the value of the Fund's investments and the difficulty of rating and mitigating the risk.

The Fund Director informed Members that the Risk Register had a monthly headline review and was discussed in detail at quarterly Senior Management Team meetings. The risk around climate change would be looked at again at the next SMT meeting. Members were reminded that the Authority was constantly looking for positive investments in terms of addressing climate change.

It was noted that the Risk Register would also be updated to take account of current events with regard to Coronavirus.

Cllr Yasseen drew Members' attention to risk G1 around Member knowledge and understanding. As a new Member she had found it challenging to understand all the documents and policies and had spent a lot of time studying to gain that understanding.

She felt that proposals should be looked at whereby Members served a term of two or three years to keep the knowledge within the Authority for longer.

The Chair replied that it was not in SYPA's gift to change how the local authorities selected Councillors to sit on the Authority; the Leaders had also made a decision to rotate the position of Chair around the districts every two years and this was certainly not on the recommendation of officers or SYPA. It had to be up to each individual to lobby to stay on the Authority.

G Graham sympathised with Cllr Yasseen, remarking that he and the Deputy Clerk wrote to the Chief Executives of the four districts each year before the annual council meetings setting out the role of an Authority Member and the time commitment involved in the hope this would influence decisions.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

11 INVESTMENT STRATEGY REVIEW

The Fund Director announced that he would be taking the Investment Strategy Review and the Responsible Investment Policies Annual Review together due to the degree of overlap between the two.

Members were informed that due to time sensitivity the Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) must be agreed today, although the ISS could be changed at a later date if required.

There was also a decision to be made in relation to equity protection; this would be dealt with in the private part of the agenda due to it containing market sensitive information.

The report at item 11 set out proposed changes to the strategic asset allocation which, if agreed, would start to be implemented at the beginning of the next financial year, subject to market conditions.

Members' attention was drawn to paragraph 5.12 of the report which set out the hierarchy which would be used to realise investments in order to pay benefits due to Scheme members.

The proposed implementation process would rely on products that were included within the Border to Coast Delivery Plan. This could affect the timing of the process, especially in current market conditions.

The paper at item 13a set out a number of policies in the responsible investment area that were subject to regular review; a diagram within the report set out a hierarchy of those policies.

Members discussed the ISS and RI policies in terms of climate change and the apparent lack of urgency of markets and investment houses to address the need of investors to support the ambition of being carbon neutral by 2030.

The Fund Director agreed that there was clearly a need, given Members views, for future debate on how the Authority addressed some of these issues in policy terms. In the meantime Members could send him any comments or suggestions and officers would look again at the policies in conjunction with the Chair.

Cllr Sangar commented that in terms of the Investment Strategy Statement, he would like the following words removed from the third paragraph of the social, environmental and corporate governance section on page 60 – ‘and, therefore, will not actively invest in or disinvest from companies solely or largely for social or ethical or environmental reasons’ as he felt it didn’t reflect what some Members were trying to achieve in this area. The sentence would then read: ‘The Authority believes that the pursuit of standards of best practice aligns the interest of Fund members with those of fellow shareholders and with society as a whole’.

After debate it was agreed to remove the sentence as requested.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Endorse the changes to the investment strategy set out in the report, including the changes to Equity Protection set out in Appendix B on the confidential part of the agenda.
- (ii) Approve the revised investment Strategy Statement subject to the amendment described above.
- (iii) Defer approval of the Authority’s:
 - Responsible Investment Policy
 - Climate Change Policypending further debate.
- (iv) Approve the updated Policy on Responsible Investment for Commercial Property.

12A INDEPENDENT ADVISORS COMMENTARY

A Devitt provided a market commentary plus a update on events since the report was produced.

It was noted there had already been a number of casualties due to Coronavirus and the current retail market climate.

Markets had been slow to react to the threat of Coronavirus and no-one had foreseen the global impact it would have; the markets didn’t react until there were developments in Italy.

There had been a dramatic fall in markets – the FTSE had lost 30%, European markets seemed to be taking the brunt. The European Central Bank was being proactive and the Federal Reserve had moved to cut interest rates twice in a week. Governments were also looking at other ways to alleviate the impact.

There would be testing times ahead, most commentators would say this was a temporary setback but there were still likely to be a lot of failures and bankruptcies.

Equity protection had been excellent for the Fund but the first quarter of 2020 would still show some losses. As a diversified fund, SYPA would not react in a tactical way at this time but there was an opportunity to rethink some of the Fund’s protection.

The Chair thanked A Devitt for the update.

12B FUND PERFORMANCE - QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2019

Members considered the Quarterly Report to 31st December 2019.

S Smith gave an update on events since the end of December.

At the end of December the Equity Protection had a negative impact of £149 million on the Fund. By the end of February this had turned into a positive impact of £11m and at this point year-to-date performance was still positive.

Since the end of February the situation had worsened considerably but Equity Protection had provide a positive impact of £250 million to the Fund; year-to-date performance was now down approximately 2% in value terms.

G Graham drew Members' attention to page 70 of the agenda which included a dashboard of various key investment metrics. Officers would welcome feedback on this new feature and suggestions for further information to be included would be welcome.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

13A RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY - ANNUAL REVIEW

This was dealt with at item 11.

13B RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT - BORDER TO COAST UPDATE

The Authority considered a report which gave an update on Border to Coast's Responsible Investment activities.

The update gave details on implementing their RI Strategy, the Climate Action 100+ group, engagement and voting.

Cllr Teal questioned when BP would disclose how its business strategy was consistent with the Paris Agreement. This was unknown at the moment, G Graham would circulate the information when available.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

13C RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT UPDATE - QUARTER 3 2019/20

A report was submitted which provided an update for Members on responsible investment activity during the period October to December 2019.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the activity in relation to responsible investment issues during Quarter 3 of the financial year.
- (ii) Approve continued participation in the Workforce Delivery Initiative on a fee paying basis.

14 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2020/21

Members considered the Treasury Management Strategy for 2020/21.

The report fulfilled the Authority's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to 'have regard to' certain CIPFA and MHCLG guidance.

The report was forward looking and included:

- The Treasury Management Strategy, including treasury indicators;
- An investment strategy; and
- To the extent that they applied in the Authority, capital plans, prudential indicators and minimum revenue provision policy statement.

The report also contained a list of approved investment instruments; a summary of the treasury investments held at the end of quarter 3 was attached as an appendix to the report.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve the 2020/21 Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy.
- (ii) Approve the Treasury and Prudential Indicators for 2020/21.
- (iii) Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as set out in the report.

15 PENSIONS ADMINISTRATION STRATEGY STATEMENT

A report was submitted advising Members of changes to the Administration Strategy including the intention to collect contributions from employers by direct debit from 1 April 2020.

Members were informed that Monthly Data Collection (MDC) had been successfully embedded into employer processes and officers now wished to move to the MDC process driving the collection of contributions from employers on a monthly basis via direct debit.

The existing Administration Strategy had been updated to reflect this change in process and also to update some other minor areas of the document which had become outdated e.g. the removal of references to Year-End returns which were no longer required. Appendix A showed the full Strategy document with tracked changes.

Employers were consulted on the proposed changes and some concerns were raised about the deadline to submit an MDC by the 5th day of the month following the end of the payment period.

Following discussions with the Fund's banking provider it had been possible to introduce some flexibility to the date and the deadline had been extended to the 9th, 10th or 11th of the

month depending on the month in question. This should accommodate those employers who had concerns.

The Local Pension Board had been provided with a summary of the feedback received from employers following the consultation and had expressed their support for the move to direct debit collection provided that the flexibilities referred to above were available where required.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve the changes to the Administration Strategy at Appendix A to the report which had been consulted on with employers.
- (ii) Approve the change in the contribution collection process from April 2020.

16 REVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

A report was submitted which provided the Authority the opportunity to review the updated Consultation and Communication Strategy.

The Strategy had been updated to reflect the move towards digital communication and interaction with Scheme members as well as to recognise the creation of the Customer Centre.

The Strategy had been issued to the Scheme members who made up the Focus Group and employers for comments. No comments had been made by employers; the comment from the Focus Group were included in the report.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the Consultation and Communications Strategy as set out as an appendix to the report.

17 REVIEW OF THE GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Members considered a report which asked for approval of a revised Governance Compliance Statement following changes to the Authority's governance arrangements as required by s55 (1) of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

Members were reminded that the Governance Compliance Statement was last reviewed at the Authority's meeting in June 2019 following the adoption of revised governance arrangements at the Annual Meeting. As part of the process of preparing the Authority's Annual Governance Statement for inclusion in the 2019/20 Annual Report and Accounts the Statement had been reviewed again. The principle changes related to:

- Clarifying the position in relation to representation of the wider employer base within the Authority's structures.
- Providing additional information in relation to the Local Pension Board.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the revised Governance Compliance Statement as set out in the Appendix to the report.

18 APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

A report was submitted to seek the Authority's approval to appoint Garry Kirk as Monitoring Officer following the retirement of the current Monitoring Officer, Andrew Frosdick at the end of May 2020.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approves the appointment of Garry Kirk (Service Director, Legal, Barnsley MBC) as Monitoring Officer following the retirement of Andrew Frosdick.

19 MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME

A report was submitted which introduced a scheme of members' allowances for the Authority.

Members were reminded that under the current arrangements the costs of allowances was borne by the individual district councils rather than by the Authority. Proper accounting practice would dictate that the costs of allowances solely concerned with the work of the Authority should be borne by the Authority and ultimately by the Pension Fund.

The district councils had agreed that with effect from the 2020/21 financial year the Authority should create its own scheme of allowances and meet these costs directly.

In order to create a valid scheme it was necessary for the Authority to commission an independent review so that members were not involved in setting their own remuneration. A report had been commissioned from Dr Declan Hall, an expert in the area, who had worked with each of the district councils on their own schemes. His report was at Appendix 1, with the proposed scheme reflecting his proposals at Appendix B.

Members were informed that, given the difference between the current and proposed allowances for the Chair and Vice-Chair and the fact that these members had been working to the requirements of the roles as outlined in Dr Hall's report, it was proposed that the Authority would bear the cost of the new allowances for these members for the 2019/20 financial year.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Approve the scheme of members' allowances as set out at Appendix B.
- (ii) Note the agreement of the district councils that the cost of allowances relating to the Authority's work should in future be borne by the Authority.
- (iii) Approve the arrangements for the allowances for the Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019/20 as set out in the report.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

20 INVESTMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT - EQUITY PROTECTION

Members considered a confidential appendix to the report on the Investment Strategy Statement together with updated advice from the Investment Advisory Panel indicating that market conditions had resulted in a changed climate in terms of this element of the Strategy.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the implementation of the revised advice of the Investment Advisory Panel in relation to Equity Protection.

21 PROPERTY DEBT WRITE OFFS

A report was submitted to request the Authority's approval to write off debts relating to the Pension fund's commercial property portfolio.

Members were informed that there were currently two outstanding rent debts that were now deemed irrecoverable. The details relating to each debt and the reasons for proposing them to be written off were set out in the report.

RESOLVED – That the Authority approve the writing off of debts amounting to £84,114.48 including VAT.

22 FUND DIRECTOR'S APPRAISAL

A report was submitted to receive the Fund Director's appraisal for 2019/20 and approve his objectives for 2020/21.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- (i) Note the Fund Directors appraisal for 2019/20 carried out by the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- (ii) Approve the revised role profile for the post and the re-designation of the role as Director with immediate effect.
- (iii) Approve the proposed objectives for 2020/21.

CHAIR

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Item 60

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

11 JUNE 2020

PRESENT: Councillor M Stowe (Chair)
Councillor J Mounsey (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: A Atkin, S Cox, A Law, A Murphy, C Rosling-Josephs,
A Sangar, A Teal, P Wray, N Wright and T Yasseen

Trade Unions: D Patterson (UNITE) and G Warwick (GMB)

Investment Advisors: A Devitt and L Robb

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), N Copley (Treasurer), G Graham (Fund Director), G Kirk (Monitoring Officer), M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), G Richards (Senior Democratic Services Officer), S Smith (Head of Investments), G Taberner (Head of Finance and Corporate Services) and C Tyler (Head of Governance)

Apologies for absence were received from N Doolan-Hamer (due to technical issues)

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mick Stowe be appointed as Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RESOLVED: That Councillor John Mounsey be appointed Vice-Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year.

3 MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

A report was presented regarding the membership of the Authority.

The current membership of the Authority was:

Barnsley Councillors	Doncaster Councillors	Rotherham Councillors	Sheffield Councillors
M Stowe Neil Wright	S Cox J Mounsey P Wray	A Atkin T Yasseen	A Law A Murphy C Rosling- Josephs A Sangar A Teal

RESOLVED – That the membership of the Authority be noted.

4 QUESTIONS IN MEETINGS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILS

A report was submitted to consider the appointment of representatives of the Authority to answer questions raised in meetings of the District Councils and to feedback District Council pensions issues at each meeting of the Pensions Authority.

The appointments and substitutes for 2020/21 were noted as follows:

Council	Spokesperson	Substitute
Barnsley MBC	Cllr M Stowe	Cllr N Wright
Doncaster MBC	Cllr J Mounsey	Cllr P Wray
Rotherham MBC	Cllr A Atkin	Cllr T Yasseen
Sheffield CC	Cllr A Law	Cllr A Sangar

It was noted that Cllr P Wray would resign his position as substitute Section 41 representative for Doncaster MBC when he was appointed the Civic Mayor for Doncaster and another member would be appointed.

RESOLVED – That the Section 41 appointments are agreed as detailed above.

5 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

A report was submitted to consider the appointment of the Authority's Committees and their Chairs for 2020/2021.

Membership was confirmed as follows:

Audit Committee

Cllr Alan Atkin
Cllr Steve Cox
Cllr Alan Law
Cllr John Mounsey (Chair)
Cllr Mick Stowe

Staffing, Appointments & Appeals Committee

Cllr Alan Atkin
Cllr Alan Law
Cllr John Mounsey
Cllr Andrew Sangar
Cllr Mick Stowe (Chair)

RESOLVED: That the membership of the Authority's Committees and their Chairs be agreed as detailed above.

CHAIR

Item 61

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

11 JUNE 2020

PRESENT: Councillor M Stowe (Chair)
Councillor J Mounsey (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: A Atkin, S Cox, A Law, A Murphy, C Rosling-Josephs,
A Sangar, A Teal, P Wray, N Wright and T Yasseen

Trade Unions: D Patterson (UNITE) and G Warwick (GMB)

Investment Advisors: A Devitt and L Robb

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), N Copley (Treasurer), G Graham (Fund Director), G Kirk (Monitoring Officer), M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), G Richards (Senior Democratic Services Officer), S Smith (Head of Investments) and G Taberner (Head of Finance and Corporate Services)

Apologies for absence were received from N Doolan-Hamer (due to technical issues)

1 APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

G Graham informed Members that extra meetings would be arranged in September and October to discuss the pooling process for Property and the Fund's Agriculture Portfolio.

Suggested dates would be circulated in the coming weeks.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS.

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

6 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

None.

7 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2020

G Graham informed the Authority that the Climate Change and Responsible Investment policies had been deferred until September. These policies required considerable debate which didn't sit well in a virtual format. New information from Border to Coast was also expected shortly which could affect the debate.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 19th March 2020 be agreed as a true record.

8 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 4 2019/20

G Taberner presented the Quarter 4 Corporate Performance report.

Members noted the following headlines:

- Significant progress had been made in delivering the Corporate Strategy.
- Long-term sickness absence levels were down on the previous year.
- Employer performance on data submission was improving.
- Investment performance had been hit by the Covid-19 market impact but was better than the benchmark.
- There had been a significant underspend against the budget, as detailed within the report, which was reserved for future improvements in service.

The impact of the office closure in March and the efforts to transfer staff to home working was evident in the performance figures for Quarter 4 and this was expected to continue into early 2020/21.

The Risk Register had been fully reviewed by SMT during the quarter and two risks had been revised upwards due to the impact of Covid-19.

In addition to the Corporate Risk Register, which was appended to the report, a specific risk register relating to the impact of Covid-19 on the ability of the Authority to achieve its objectives had been developed. This was included elsewhere on the agenda.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9 THE PENSIONS AUTHORITY AND THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

A report was submitted to update members on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Authority's operations.

In order to facilitate home working for all members of the Authority's staff, the ICT team had to procure, configure, issue and support the set-up of 65 laptops in a very short period of time.

In order to secure so many laptops in the required timescale it had been necessary to waive standing orders to go directly to suppliers. A waiver was also required to extend the licensing of the software that provided secure external access to the Authority's network. Subsequently, the Team had to secure an upgrade to the capacity of the Authority's internet connection and bring forward the scheduled replacement server which had become unreliable due to the increased load being placed on it as a result of

remote working. The server replacement also required an urgent waiver of contract standing orders.

The report detailed measures taken in areas such as adapting the telephone system, the use of video conferencing and communications with Scheme members and employers, the Authority and the Local Pension Board, District Council Finance Directors.

Managers were in regular contact with the members of their team to ensure they had the support they needed.

The report outlined two areas of significant operational impact.

Firstly, the number of scheme member deaths had risen significantly during March and April. In the short term, as these cases represented the highest priority type of work, the need to process them had impacted on lower priority cases.

The second area of operational impact was in relation to rent collection for the commercial property portfolio. Many businesses had seen their income dry up virtually overnight thus losing the ability to pay rents. The approach the Authority had taken, supported by Aberdeen Standard as the Authority's investment manager, had been to agree to move tenants to monthly payment on request to assist them in managing cash flow and to consider rent deferrals on a case by case basis.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- i) Note the contents of the report and the actions taken to protect the Authority's services and staff in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ii) Endorse the waiving of contract standing orders, as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report by the Director in order to protect the Authority's services and staff as a matter of urgency.

10 INDEPENDENT ADVISORS COMMENTARY

A Devitt provided a market commentary on events since the last Authority meeting.

Markets around the world had fallen dramatically in late March. They reached a low on 23rd March but since then had retraced a significant part of their lows, particularly in the US. While performance had been dominated by tech and so-called stay at home stocks, the latter half of May saw signs of life in value as well as small-cap stocks.

During the period oil prices collapsed into negative territory for the first time ever and unemployment in the UK was close to 2 million and was expected to top 3 million or 10% post furlough.

Sterling had remained under pressure throughout the period and the FTSE remained weak despite some recovery.

Central banks in the US, UK and Europe had responded to the situation quickly and governments had also responded to try and ease the burden on companies.

In terms of the South Yorkshire fund, the equity portfolio would have dropped and companies would be much less likely to pay dividend as they would want to conserve cash, therefore income from the equity markets was likely to be considerably constrained.

There would be a need to insure the fund against inflation, this could be done through real estate and property. The agriculture portfolio would be a good source of inflation hedge, similarly infrastructure would be a good long-term source of inflation hedging.

In terms of the outlook, the sheer volume of money pumped into the economy by central banks was not showing any signs of stopping. Interest rates were not expected to rise for a considerable length of time. This would affect investment decisions and there would be a need to seek out other risk areas.

The Chair thanked A Devitt for an informative presentation.

11 QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2020

Members considered the Quarterly report to 31st March 2020.

S Smith reported that for the quarter the Fund returned -7.5% against the expected benchmark of -10.2% which gave a year to date return of -3.1% against an expected return of -4.5%. The value of the Fund was just under £8.2bn, without the equity protection policy this would probably have dropped to £7.9bn.

Looking at the outcome for the year, the Fund was down just over 3% which was a very good outcome given the way the markets moved in the last quarter.

During the quarter the Investment Grade Credit portfolio was transferred to Border to Coast. This commenced in February before most of the market turmoil. The transition period lasted approximately five weeks and was an extremely difficult programme to achieve but there was a very positive outcome as transaction costs were less than expected and the portfolio outperformed its benchmark for the period.

Members noted that the equity protection had been a benefit for the Fund last year but the decision had been made to let in roll off, this had occurred during the month of April. By then equity markets had started to recover and when all the options had expired there was an overall benefit of £43m. Overall, over the two-year period the equity protection had done what it was intended to do.

The funding level had fallen to around 94% at the end of March but, looking at the position now, the valuation at the end of May was £8.8bn which was only slightly below where it was in December.

Going forward over the next one to two quarters, the Authority would be looking to take money out of UK equities and also looking at the allocation to Index Linked gilts with a view to further reducing the Fund's exposure in this area.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

12 RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT UPDATE QUARTER 4 2019/20

A report was submitted to update the Authority on responsible investment activity during the period January to March 2020.

The report contained details of the voting and engagement activity during the period.

In response to a question from Cllr Yasseen, G Graham explained that the next reports, which would cover the period to the end of June 2020 and subsequent quarters, would certainly contain information on the activity undertaken in response to the Black Lives Matter movement and other similar issues.

The report didn't pick up the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, however it referred to how some companies, particularly in Asia, had to change how they ran their Annual Meetings etc. but it didn't contain a lot of additional information on engagement given the way some companies had been behaving towards their workforces and suppliers. There would be a lot more emphasis on this in the future.

RESOLVED - That the Authority notes the activity undertaken in relation to responsible investment issues during Quarter 4 of the financial year.

13 PROCESS FOR POOLING PROPERTY INVESTMENTS

A report was submitted to set out, and gain approval for, the process leading up to decisions in relation to the pooling of the Fund's property investments.

Members were informed that, in line with the overall plan for pooling assets, Border to Coast was now developing proposals for products which would allow the pooling of property assets.

This would be a complex process and the Authority would need to make several decisions during the coming months; the process and timeline for this was detailed within the report.

Border to Coast was proposing to develop two products, a UK property fund and a Global property fund.

The UK fund would have two elements, one of which would be a traditional commercial property fund and the other would use funds to invest in specialist types of property, for example student accommodation. This would be a significantly larger direct property portfolio than SYPA had and would open up different types of assets in which to invest and should enable the Authority to improve the ESG characteristics of investments.

The Global product would be a traditional fund of funds, Border to Coast would partner with a fund manager to help select suitable products.

As detailed in the report, the modelling suggested that there would be no payback for SYPA for at least 10 years, and there were also issues around the risk/return characteristics which were currently being debated between the Partner Funds. The Partner Funds needed to agree what they wanted to enable Border to Coast to build the product.

Border to Coast would provide further background information on their proposed products in the form of a recorded webinar for members and this would be made available to members in due course.

L Robb commented that he hoped the Authority would support the proposal for Border to Coast to recruit a Head of Property so that he/she could shape the product rather than inherit it.

The ideal solution for SYPA would be UK property that delivered high net returns and more opportunities that offered some regional and specialist opportunities and an overseas fund with good partnering with external managers to provide good returns at an acceptable level of risk.

In answer to a question from Cllr Sangar, the Director confirmed that the development costs would be shared by all Partner Funds.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- i) Approve the process leading up to a decision in relation to the pooling of the Authority's property investments as set out in the report.
- ii) Note the line on learning materials to be provided by Border to Coast.
- iii) Agree to support Border to Coast incurring further development costs in particular for the appointment of a Head of Property prior to formal approval of the product design.

14 VALUATION 2019 - REVIEW OF OUTCOMES

A report was considered that updated members on the final outcomes of the 2019 valuation process.

Members noted that the funding position as at the valuation date of 31st March 2019 showed a funding level of 99% as compared with 86% at the 2016 valuation.

The report referred to the national picture and, as the table within the report showed, there had been a general move towards 100% funding for the majority of LGPS funds.

With regard to SYPA's valuation, the table at section 5.7 in the report showed that, despite the fact that the Authority had a close to 100% funding position overall there was a significant variation between different categories of employers within the Fund.

The academy sector in particular still had low levels of funding especially where there had been issues around the timing of their conversion.

Although 148 employers had a reduction in contributions there were 317 employers whose contributions were increased.

With regard to the use of employer flexibilities, 43 employers had elected to pre-pay their monthly deficit payments, either on an annual or 3 year basis. A number of Multi-Academy Trusts were now paying a combined employer contribution rate for all the schools within the Trust.

Members were informed that 97% of employers had elected to build the expected McCloud judgement costs into their contributions from 1 April 2020. This would potentially significantly reduce the risk of underpayment and the administrative burden in terms of recouping the costs at a later date.

RESOLVED – That the Authority note the completion of the Valuation process and the range of outcomes that apply to both individual employers and to groups of employers in the Fund.

15 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

A report was submitted to secure approval for the Authority's updated Constitution.

Members were informed that a review of the whole suite of constitutional documents had been undertaken. This had included:

- Incorporating all parts of the Constitution into a single document.
- A number of internal inconsistencies had been addressed and some policy documents removed from the Constitution, although they remained part of the policy framework.
- Additional; sections had been incorporated into the Constitution:
 - Officers' Code of Conduct.
 - A Pensions Authority specific Conflicts of Interest policy.
 - Protocols on the operation of the Monitoring Officer and s73 officer roles.
 - Incorporation of the newly approved member allowances scheme.
 - The addition of a section setting out the management structure.
- The broad provisions of the Constitution remained the same. However, a number of additions had been made. These included:
 - In light of the actions that were required to deal with the response to the Covid-19 situation, the addition of specific powers for officers to take the actions required to safeguard the Authority's assets and services in the event of a civil emergency.
 - The addition of an additional lower tier in the approval hierarchy for debt write-offs.
 - The addition of the Deputy s73 officer (the Head of Finance and Corporate Services) as an officer able to sign and seal documents.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:

- i) Approve the updated Constitution as detailed at www.southyorks.gov.uk
- ii) Authorise the Monitoring Officer to make future presentational and factual amendments without reference to the Authority.

16 AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

The Authority considered its Audit Committee's Annual Report which had been produced to provide stakeholders with information on the work of the Committee during 2019/20 and to support the process of assurance gathering required in order to produce the Authority's Annual Governance Statement.

The report outlined the Committee's:

- Roles and responsibilities.
- Membership and attendance.
- Work Programme.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

CHAIR

SCR - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 27 JANUARY 2020 AT 11.00 AM

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION, 11 BROAD STREET WEST,
SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Garry Purdy	Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Julie Dore	Sheffield City Council
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
Nigel Brewster	Vice-Chair of LEP Board

Officers in Attendance:

Sarah Norman	Chief Executive	Barnsley MBC
Damian Allen	Interim Chief Executive, Doncaster MBC	Doncaster BMC
Huw Bowen	Chief Executive of Chesterfield Borough Council	Chesterfield BC
Dan Swaine	Chief Executive of Bolsover District Council/NE Derbyshire District Council	Bolsover DC/NE Derbyshire DC
Neil Taylor	Chief Executive of Bassetlaw District Council	Bassetlaw DC
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Rotherham MBC
Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Mike Thomas	Senior Finance Manager/ Deputy S73 Officer	SCR Executive Team
Noel O'Neill	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	Sheffield City Region
Fiona Boden	Policy Adviser - Mayor	SCR Executive Team
Mark Lynam	Director of Programme Commissioning	SCR Executive Team
Stephen Batey	Head of Mayor's Office	SCR Mayor's Office
Eugene Walker	Chief Finance Officer	Sheffield City Council
Tim Taylor	Director of Customer Services	SYPTTE

In Attendance

Councillor Chris Furness

Peak District National Park Authority

Craig Tyler (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Councillor Steve Fritchley
James Muir
Charlie Adan
Paul Wilson
Steve Davenport
Stephen Edwards

Bolsover DC
Chair of LEP Board
Sheffield City Council
Derbyshire Dales DC
SCR Executive Team
SYLTE

1 Welcome and Apologies

Members' apologies were noted as above.

2 Announcements

Welcoming the Members and public present, the Mayor commented on the significance of the meeting noting this is the first MCA meeting post the General Election and the final MCA meeting before the UK officially leaves the EU.

The Mayor informed the meeting he continues to impress upon the Government the importance of getting the flood response right, citing the amazing work undertaken by the Local Authorities and partner agencies to help those communities affected by flooding. It was asserted that whilst the attention of the media may have gone, these communities will not be forgotten and we will be doing all in our power to make sure we have the resources and partnerships in place to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The Mayor commented on the good progress made recently to get the Devolution Deal process moving progress that unlocks opportunities for us now and in the future and ensure we can be even better placed to deliver on priorities that are important to the SCR.

3 Urgent Items

None.

4 Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press

None.

5 Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members

It was agreed that voting rights may not be conferred on non-Constituent Members for item 11: Devolution, item 15: South Yorkshire Transport Revenue Budget 20/21 and item 16: South Yorkshire Transport Capital Programme 20/21 as the matters concern the Constituent area only.

It was agreed there were no further agenda items for which voting right could not be conferred on the non-Constituent Members.

6 **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

Mayor Jones declared interest in the matters to be considered at agenda item 18 (LGF Capital Programme Approvals) by virtue of being Leader of the respective sponsoring Authority for the A630 Westmoor Link scheme.

Cllr Houghton declared interest in the matters to be considered at agenda item 18 (LGF Capital Programme Approvals) by virtue of being Leader of their respective sponsoring Authority for the Barnsley College scheme and noting the Council is a partner organisation of the College.

Mayor Jarvis declared an interest in the matters to be considered at item 18 (LGF Capital Programme Approvals) by virtue of being the Constituency MP for the geography the college sits in.

Cllr Dore declared an interest in the matters to be considered at item 17 (LGF Programme Monitoring Update) by virtue of being the Leader of the respective sponsoring authority for the Little Kelham scheme.

7 **Reports from and Questions by Members**

None.

8 **Receipt of Petitions**

None received.

9 **Public Questions**

It was confirmed no new questions had been received.

Members were reminded there were 2 questions received at the previous meeting, the answers for which were held in abeyance due to purdah.

The meeting was reminded the question from Mr Nigel Slack was received as follows:

“With the calling of a General Election for December 12th, many issues around the SCR seem to have been further compromised. From funding bids to scrutiny boards, LEP membership to climate change and not least the finalisation of the devolution deal first struck in 2015, we will presumably see continued delay and disruption. What is the Mayor's perception of the path for the SCR/MCA going forward?”

In response, the Mayor commented on the significant progress that has been made in recent weeks to unlock the Devolution Deal. It was noted consensus has been reached with the Government and Local Authorities in South Yorkshire on a proposed way forward, the details of which are outlined in the paper for discussion today under Agenda item 11.

The Mayor confirmed his priority is to secure additional powers and long-term funding from Government to deliver our vision and ambitions for the inclusive and sustainable growth that South Yorkshire needs and at a scale not seen before. This will be key in tackling the climate emergency that we are facing and which requires urgent action by all of us, working together to rise to the challenge posed, and as we will discuss at item 12.

It was noted further updates would be provided in the coming weeks as we continue apace to secure devolution.

The meeting was reminded the public question from Mr Geoff Cox representing Extinction Rebellion was received as follows:

“People across Sheffield City Region are still bailing flood water out of their homes and salvaging what's left of their belongings. Annie Hall was killed not far away in the river Derwent. The climate crisis is lapping at our doorsteps. Will the SCR MCA radically accelerate and expand the proposals in the paper at item 15 on your agenda today? Will they commit to telling the truth about the climate emergency with a public information campaign, cutting Sheffield City Region's emissions to net-zero by 2025, and involve the public in writing a fair and just plan through a citizens' assembly?”

In response, the Mayor reminded the meeting that in November we declared a climate emergency and noted that today, we will consider a framework for responding to the climate emergency and achieving net zero emissions across South Yorkshire.

It was suggested that engaging with the public is key to addressing the climate challenges we face and the Mayor noted he wants to hear the views and ideas of residents, businesses and partner organisations on how we can work together to reduce and off-set emissions to achieve net zero.

10 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th November are agreed to be an accurate record.

11 **Devolution**

A report was received to set out the next steps to progress devolution in South Yorkshire.

It was noted this specifically recommends launching a public consultation on the draft Governance Review and Scheme to unlock the powers, resources and functions set out in its Devolution Deal with Government.

Cllr Read led Members in recording their thanks to everyone involved in bringing this matter forward in a manner that facilitates and recognises the interests of all parties.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves the Governance Review that has been prepared in accordance with section 111 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, as amended, which concludes that the exercise of the power to make an order devolving the proposed functions would be likely to improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to the area of the MCA.
2. Agrees to launch a six-week, public consultation on the proposals in the Scheme, commencing on the 3rd February.
3. Delegates to the Head of Paid Service the management of the public consultation process and the subsequent preparation of a summary of the responses received, for consideration by the MCA.

12 **Climate Emergency Response Framework**

A report was received to outline the proposed response framework to the climate emergency, following its declaration at the 18th November 2019 Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) meeting.

The Mayor thanked the officers for the work undertaking in bringing together the proposed response framework and reiterated intentions to move at pace on this matter.

Members were advised of the key points of the Framework and how this will reflect the acknowledgment that climate change must be our number one priority for the SCR going forward, suggesting our ambition to be carbon neutral by 2040 is achievable (whilst considered not challenging enough by some parties) if actions commence now, noting this precedes the government's target by 10 years.

Comment was made on the need for a just transition to ensure measures introduced to remediate climate change do not lead to greater social and economic inequalities.

It was noted the MCA would be asked to accelerate proposals wherever it is considered achievable and beneficial to do so.

It was recognised the SCR can only achieve its climate ambitions through working in partnership with the local universities, businesses, the Local Authorities and through the input and engagement of the SCR's citizens.

Cllr Dore noted all the districts share good ideas and best practice on climate change and considered what added value the SCR is best placed to contribute to that conversation, suggesting this may be in the guise of the SCR LEP and the ability to directly engage the private sector, expanding actions beyond what matters the councils can directly affect.

Cllr Purdy commented on the requirement for the Government to drive matters at a national and international level and provide a wider framework for SCR to engage with. It was noted the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire districts have identified there is a lack of officer resources needed to deliver the climate

change actions and asserted this needs to be appropriately considered by the SCR as actions are developed as part of the outline framework.

Mayor Jones commented on the devastation of the recent floods and what initiatives are in place to continue to support residents and businesses.

Mayor Jarvis reiterated his intentions to press the government on delivering the actions they need to deliver on in support of our region and ensure the right amount of investment is received locally over the forthcoming months and years.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the proposed response framework to the climate emergency and note the further work that will take place over the coming months to put in place specific interventions to deliver upon the policies set out.
2. Agrees to receive the Energy Strategy; the first component of the framework, at the March MCA meeting.

13 **Statement of Common Ground**

A report was received to present a Statement of Common Ground for endorsement by the MCA, following agreement of the Statement by local districts.

It was noted this is part of a wider work programme being pursued collaboratively by local planning authorities in the City Region.

Referring back to the previous agenda item, Cllr Dore commented on the relationship between planning policy and wider ambitions around climate change and the needs to fully understand how actions in one area can have various consequences.

Cllr Houghton referenced the need to be clear about planning related governance and decision-making structures and the need to fully understand and agree to the role and responsibility of the SCR.

RESOLVED, the MCA notes the draft Statement of Common Ground pending additional work to be completed prior to future approval.

14 **Period 8 Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report**

A report was received to provide the position as at the end of November 2019 (Period 8) for the revenue and capital programme of the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) for the financial year 2019/20.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the 2019/20 Period 8 position for the Mayoral Combined Authority's and LEPs revenue budget and capital programme

2. Approves the proposed variations to the South Yorkshire Transport capital programme.
3. Approves the acceptance of Sustainable Transport Access Fund grant extension.

15 **South Yorkshire Transport Revenue Budget 20/21**

A report was received to seek approval from the MCA for the proposed 2020/21 South Yorkshire Transport Revenue Budget.

Mayor Jones commented on the unacceptable amount of social isolation in the SCR, especially in rural areas and the need to try and address the effects of people not having sufficient access to public transport, acknowledging the need to balance budgets and other funding priorities.

Cllr Dore referenced the other factors that can lead to social isolation, including austerity, cuts to public services and a consequent lack of destinations, suggesting people will only use public transport if there is somewhere to go, which in terms impacts on the viability of the transport network.

The Mayor reminded members the draft findings of the Bus Review were due to be received in the next couple of months.

It was noted the proposal to keep the Levy at the 2019/20 level will generate £1.1m of funding not considered in the budget presented in the report. Members were asked to consider the options available for how this might be utilised and expressed a preference for investment in tendered services noting this area of service is currently under increasing pressure due to inflation and bus operator costs. It was suggested the additional funding could be earmarked to specifically support this area of activity in 2020/21 and the future and that implementing this option would enable protection of the current essential services from potential cessation.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the contents of the draft 2020/21 South Yorkshire Transport Revenue Budget report
2. Approves the proposal to retain the PTE Levy at 2019/20 levels
3. Approves the option presented at paragraph 3.1.2 for utilising the additional funding generated by keeping the Levy at the 2019/20 level

16 **South Yorkshire Transport Capital Programme 20/21**

A report was received to seek approval of the proposed 2020/21 South Yorkshire Transport Capital Programme.

It was noted the South Yorkshire Transport Capital Programme is limited geographically to the area covered by the four constituent member authorities and also funds programme activity undertaken by SYPTE. The programme

largely comprises: Transforming Cities Fund, SYPTÉ's capital programme (covering both small and large scale projects), Highways Capital Maintenance (HCM) (mainly carriageway resurfacing projects carried out by 3 of the 4 constituent member authorities), Integrated Transport Block (ITB) (a range of schemes designed to meet local transport needs and priorities) and ongoing work to develop the Mass Transit scheme beyond outline business case (OBC) stage.

Cllr Dore welcomed the inclusion of the Transforming Cities Fund in the programme and invited the government's confirmation the full amount proposed will be forthcoming. The Mayor noted representations he had made to that effect in parliament and to Ministers.

RESOLVED, that the MCA approves the proposed 2020/21 South Yorkshire Transport Capital Programme report.

17 **Local Growth Fund (LGF) Monitoring**

A report was received to provide an update on the 2019/20 LGF current forecast outturn position and an update of the current LGF programme commitments over the life of the LGF programme.

The report asked the MCA to approve one scheme (Little Kelham) to be returned to the pipeline due to significant delays in confirming other sources of funding, and for two further schemes (360 Degrees Media and Foxhill Crescent) approve that they will not be counted towards the over programming position.

The report showed there had been significant fluctuations in year from the predicted spend at the start of the year, and noted action is required to accelerate spending to mitigate the current position where we are currently forecasting a potential underspend.

It was noted the totality of the position for the LGF programme is a significant reduction in the over programming position due to the withdrawal of a number of schemes. Members were informed that further movement on the programme is likely to reduce this and may create additional headroom for schemes to progress.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the predicted 2019/20 LGF outturn position and any remedial action it would wish to see to mitigate negative impact on the LGF spend in 19/20.
2. Approves the movement of the Little Kelham scheme from approval back into the pipeline, until it can satisfy the conditions of approval.
3. Agrees to discount two schemes 360 Degrees Media and Foxhill Crescent from the over programming position, whilst retaining them in the pipeline for future funding, due to a high probability of not completing business planning and delivery within the life of the LGF window.

18 **Local Growth Fund (LGF) Approvals**

A report was received seeking approval of three schemes with a total value over all years of £12.61m Local Growth Fund (LGF) and seeking delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the S73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.

Regarding the Doncaster Sheffield Airport Passenger Capacity Extension scheme, Members were advised of discussions regarding the airport's sustainable development goals, which include being carbon neutral by 2030, and informed the project would be monitored to ensure that ambition is met.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves the progression of Doncaster Sheffield Airport Passenger Capacity Expansion to full approval and award of £5.02m loan to Doncaster Sheffield Airport Limited subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table
2. Approves the progression of A630: Westmoor Link Road to full approval and award of up to £5m grant to Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table
3. Approves the progression of Digital Innovation Hub to full approval and award of up to £2.59m grant to Barnsley College subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table
4. Agrees delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the s73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes above.

19 **Arts & Culture**

A report was received to seek the MCA's support for the development of a programme of work to further evolve the arts and cultural sectors in South Yorkshire.

The meeting expressed surprise and concern at the Mayor's report that there had been no South Yorkshire sites of artistic and cultural interest contained within the latest edition of the Lonely Planet list of 500 places to visit in the UK.

Members were presented with proposals for how perceived weaknesses with the county's cultural and artistic offer might be addressed.

Cllr Dore acknowledged the need to differentiate between visitor attractions (attracting visitors from outside the region) and local attractions (which serve the cultural and artistic appetite of local residents) and requested more be done to understand why participation rates are surprisingly low and ensure people are fully enabled to access everything that the county offers.

Members noted support for the general intentions of the strategy as presented and the need to enhance the economic and social opportunities afforded by the local and 'inward destination' arts and cultural offer.

The importance of community level arts, as well as 'big shiny things' was acknowledged, as was the need for all local residents having the ability to access all arts and cultural offers.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Agrees to support the development of a programme of work to further evolve the arts and cultural sectors in South Yorkshire.
2. Notes the Mayor's intention to explore additional initiatives to consider how the SCR can add value to the work of the Local Authorities.

20 **Contract Award - BSW Provision of Cleaning Services**

A report was received to seek approval to appoint a provider of cleaning services for the Sheffield City Region offices at Broad Street West, Sheffield.

It was confirmed the real living wage will be paid to all employees.

RESOLVED, that delegated authority is given to the Head of Paid Service to approve the award of an up to 4 year contract (3 years plus 1 year extension) in excess of £100,000 for the Provision of Cleaning Services at Sheffield City Region Offices.

21 **Delegated Authority Report**

Provided for information.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

SCR - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2020 AT 11.00 AM

VIRTUAL - ONLINE MEETING



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC

Officers in Attendance:

Damian Allen	Interim Chief Executive, Doncaster MBC	Doncaster BMC
Huw Bowen	Chief Executive of Chesterfield Borough Council	Chesterfield BC
Dan Swaine	Chief Executive of Bolsover District Council/NE Derbyshire District Council	Bolsover DC
Neil Taylor	Chief Executive of Bassetlaw District Council	Bassetlaw DC
Charlie Adan	Interim Chief Executive of Sheffield CC	Sheffield City Council
Sharon Kemp	Chief Executive of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	Rotherham MBC
Paul Wilson	Chief Executive of Derbyshire Dales District Council	Derbyshire Dales DC
Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Mike Thomas	Senior Finance Manager/ Deputy S73 Officer	SCR Executive Team
Noel O'Neill	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	Sheffield City Region
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	SCR Executive Team
Fiona Boden	Policy Adviser - Mayor	SCR Executive Team
Jeni Harvey	Press and Communications Manager	SCR Executive Team
Mark Lynam	Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure	SCR Executive Team
Stephen Batey	Director, Mayor's Office	SCR Mayor's Office

In Attendance

Craig Tyler (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Councillor Garry Purdy
Councillor Julie Dore
Councillor Martin Thacker MBE
Councillor Steve Fritchley
Councillor Tricia Gilby
James Muir
Sarah Norman
Stephen Edwards

Derbyshire Dales DC
Sheffield City Council
NE Derbyshire DC
Bolsover DC
Chesterfield BC
Chair of LEP Board
Barnsley MBC
SYLTE

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Mayor welcomed everyone to first virtual meeting of the SCR MCA.

The Mayor confirmed that whilst the meeting was not taking place at Broad Street West in the usual way, it was still being webcast.

Members' apologies were noted as above.

2 Announcements

The Mayor reported he is working to support our residents through the gravest public health emergency any of us have faced. He recognised that this is an incredibly difficult and challenging time for our local communities, people and businesses. He and other members of the Authority are working around the clock to ensure that South Yorkshire is best equipped to contribute to the fight against the Coronavirus.

It was noted the Mayor is receiving regular briefings from our Local Resilience Forum and is in daily contact with our Directors of Public Health, Local Authorities, NHS trusts, the Police and business community.

The Mayor reassured everyone that the best possible preparations are being made.

In the previous week the Mayor had brought together key regional stakeholders and anchor institutions to forge a collective economic response to the crisis through the South Yorkshire Economic Recovery Taskforce.

It was noted additional resource has been put into the SCR Growth Hub, to ensure South Yorkshire businesses can access advice and support during COVID-19. The scope for flexing the Skills Bank initiative to offer additional training for businesses that need help to stabilise and move, for example, to online operations is also being explored.

The Mayor noted he has taken steps to ensure the continued resilience of the public transport system to enable key workers to get to where they need to be

and has succeeded in getting concessionary travel to the over 65s extended to ensure they can access supermarket grace shopping periods.

It was noted the issue of workers' rights and social distancing guidelines for warehouse and distribution staff in South Yorkshire has been raised directly with the Business Secretary.

The Mayor noted that this is a worrying and stressful time for the communities that members of the Authority were elected to serve, but that we are also seeing an extraordinary and inspirational resilience from our people, many of whom are stepping up to ensure that their neighbours get the support and essential supplies they need.

The Mayor proposed that the MCA has a vital role to play, both in the response to the Coronavirus pandemic and in the South Yorkshire we rebuild – together - in its aftermath.

3 Urgent Items

The Mayor asked Steve Davenport, SCR Principal Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to explain the main points of compliance in respect of convening a virtual meeting.

It was noted this is covered by the legislation introduced through the Coronavirus Act 2020 which reduces the resourcing and administrative burden on public bodies and includes new capabilities to allow virtual public meetings, providing those meetings are webcast.

RESOLVED, that the MCA Constitution be amended to reflect the Coronavirus Act 2020 legislation, including the conferring of voting rights and inclusion in the quoracy figures for Members attending virtually.

4 Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press

None.

5 Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members

It was agreed that voting rights may not be conferred on the non-Constituent Members for agenda item 11 (Progressing the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal: Summary of the Public Consultation) as the matter concerns the constituent councils only.

6 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda

None.

7 Reports from and questions by members

None.

8 **Receipt of Petitions**

None received.

9 **Public Questions**

None received.

10 **Minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2020**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th January are agreed to be an accurate record.

11 **Progressing the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal: Summary of the Public Consultation**

A report was presented to summarise progress in the implementation of the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal

Focussed on summarising the results of the recent public consultation, the report recommended the submission of the outcomes of this process to the Secretary of State, as the next step to unlocking devolution.

The Mayor invited Dave Smith, SCR Chief Executive, to summarise the outcomes of the consultation exercise and next steps.

It was noted 675 representations and responses had been received following the six week consultation that was undertaken between February and March (summarised at Appendix A to the report).

The meeting was informed that if the MCA is minded to agree to submit the findings of the consultation, the Secretary of State would then produce a draft powers Order, which would require the consent of all Constituent Councils, the MCA and the Mayor by the 8th June to enable the order to be laid before Parliament ahead of the summer recess.

Consideration was given to two proposed amendments to the published report i. It was agreed to reference in the main body of the covering report at paragraph 4.6 the stated positions of Barnsley MBC and Doncaster MBC in respect of their intentions to join a Yorkshire-wide Authority should such an entity develop out of the current Yorkshire Leaders Group. A revised version of the cover report will be published incorporating this amendment. To seek confirmation from the government that the position adopted in 2017 in respect of the Mayor having to be in the voting majority for all new powers remains the position.

It was agreed that the published recommendations would be amended to read as follows.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the outcome of the consultation undertaken (as outlined in Annex

A and B)

2. Agrees to submit the reports on the consultation at Annexes A, B and C alongside the Governance Review and Scheme to the Secretary of State. In agreement to sign the Deal and agrees to seek in writing from the Secretary of State, that the government is continuing to uphold the position adopted in 2017 in respect to the Mayor having to be in the voting majority in the exercise of all new MCA Devolution Powers.
3. Delegates to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Mayor and the MCA Members from the four Constituent Authorities, authority to take forward and conclude the legal steps necessary to implement the Devolution Deal including consenting on behalf of the Authority to the enabling Powers Order, provided that such Order corresponds to the proposals contained in the Governance Review and Scheme, agreed by the MCA in January.

11 **Mayor's Closing Remarks**

The Mayor recognised this would be Andrew Frosdick's final SCR MCA meeting ahead of his retirement. The Mayor led Members in thanking Andrew for all his years of sterling service to the Authority, as well as to Barnsley Council.

The Mayor thanked everyone playing their part in tackling this emergency, from NHS staff to shop workers, from refuse collection workers to bus drivers, and not forgetting the staff in so many call centres helping those in need. The Mayor noted our thoughts are with those who have been directly affected by the virus and their loved ones.

The Mayor noted that the Coronavirus is the biggest challenge we face. He strongly urged everyone to continue to follow the guidance issued by the NHS and Public Health England to contain this virus and ensure we can come through this emergency together.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

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Item 64

SCR - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2020 AT 11.00 AM

VIRTUAL MEETING



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Julie Dore	Sheffield City Council
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
James Muir	Chair of LEP Board
Councillor Alex Dale (Reserve)	NE Derbyshire DC
Councillor Chris Furness (Reserve)	Derbyshire Dales DC

Officers in Attendance:

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SCR Executive Team
Noel O'Neill	Chief Finance Officer/S73	Sheffield City Region
	Officer	
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	SCR Executive Team
Mark Lynam	Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure	SCR Executive Team

In Attendance

Craig Tyler (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC

1 Welcome and Apologies

Members' apologies were noted as above.

2 **Announcements**

The Mayor invited the Monitoring Officer to inform the meeting of the appropriate legalities and practicalities associate with the convening of a remote Authority meeting (as made permissible by the Coronavirus Act 2020).

The Mayor informed the meeting that this continues to be a challenging time for our local communities, people and businesses.

It was reported that since the previous meeting, the SCR has received additional money from Government to keep public transport services running in South Yorkshire and that this relates to the opportunities afforded our active travel ambitions.

It was noted the Mayor has established an Economic Recovery Group which has brought together a wide-ranging set of institutions and stakeholders, the expertise of whom will help guide the development of strategies to help the region to recover from the pandemic.

The Mayor noted he has engaged with the Government on particular issues facing our businesses and communities, including the issue of protecting workers' rights and ensuring that social distancing guidelines are in place for warehouse and distribution staff in South Yorkshire. This has involved strong and close working with the Trades Unions.

The Mayor thanked businesses from across the region for the efforts they have made to respond to our call for help making and supplying PPE and medical supplies that are so vital for our local health and care services.

Finally, the Mayor thanked all public servants for the way they have responded to this crisis including front line staff and those who are leading the Local Resilience Forum work.

3 **Urgent Items**

None.

4 **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

RESOLVED, that item 20 (Submission of the Mass Transit Business Case to DfT) be considered in the absence of the public and press).

5 **Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members**

It was agreed that voting rights may not be conferred on the non-Constituent Members in respect of items 16 and 20 as these concern the Constituent area only.

6 **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

Mayor Jarvis, Cllr Houghton and Mayor Jones declared non-pecuniary interests

in the matters to be considered at item 16 by virtue of being representative of / Leaders of the respective sponsoring Authorities for the schemes seeking LGF funding.

7 Reports from and questions by members

None.

8 Receipt of Petitions

None.

9 Public Questions

None.

10 Decisions taken under Urgency Provisions

A report was received to provide confirmation of the decisions taken by urgency provision as defined within the Combined Authority Constitution (Part 5A, Paragraph 16).

It was reported that further to the cancellation of the Combined Authority meeting 23rd March and the offer of a grant from the DfT for Supertram support, this provision was invoked due to the need to take urgent decisions. The following urgent decisions were taken:

Group Finance Director: Following a full recruitment process an urgent decision was required regarding the appointment of Gareth Sutton as Group Finance Director as it was not feasible to wait until the next MCA meeting to make the job offer.

Transforming Cities Fund Grant: An urgent decision was required regarding the acceptance of the Transforming Cities Fund grant. The grant needed to be accepted prior to the date of the next MCA meeting as not accepting the grant could have resulted in losing the funding.

Supertram: Acceptance of operational revenue support grant for Supertram for a 12 week period from 17th March arising as a result of the impacts of Covid 19. An urgent decision was required as the grant needed to be accepted prior to the date of the next MCA meeting. Not accepting the grant could have resulted in losing the funding.

RESOLVED, that the decisions taken under the urgency provisions within the Combined Authority Constitution (Part 5A, Paragraph 16) due to the cancellation of the Combined Authority meeting 23rd March 2020 and the Grant offer to support Supertram operations made by the Department of Transport (DfT) 7th May 2020 are noted

11 Minutes of the meeting held on

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th April are

agreed to be an accurate record.

12 **2020/21 Proposed MCA/LEP Revenue Budget**

A report was received to set out the proposed 2020/21 MCA/LEP Revenue Budget, noting this has been finalised following consultation with key stakeholders and LEP Board on 5th March 2020.

It was noted the proposed budget has been developed in line with the Medium-Term Financial Strategy agreed by the MCA in November 2019 and is based upon the going concern principle and the known funding sources for 2020/21.

Members were asked to recall the context of developing the strategy was a £1m reduction in Enterprise Zone receipts because of the LEP Review, and for which it was noted that early consideration at MCA Board and management review of operational structures has helped address this gap.

The report explained how that, and other matters, have been incorporated into 2020/21 Budget proposal.

It was noted the budget does not include any allowance for monies which may be devolved to the SCR MCA in 2020/21 and that should this process be completed by summer 2020 and monies devolved, a revised 2020/21 budget report will be produced and brought back to the LEP and the MCA in Autumn 2020 for approval as part of developing a new robust 5-year financial strategy.

RESOLVED, that the MCA approves the revenue budget for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

13 **Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21**

A report was received to set out the proposed Annual Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy for the financial year 2020/21.

It was noted the intention is that the SCR Audit and Standards Committee will be used as a forum explore strategic options, prior to these options being presented to the MCA for ratification.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves the annual Treasury Management Strategy
2. Approves the annual investment strategy set out in Appendix 1 of the annual treasury management strategy and grants delegated authority to the Group Director of Finance to develop it further by investigating options for diversification in consultation with the MCA's external advisors and Audit and Standards Committee
3. Approves the capital expenditure estimates and associated prudential indicators set out in Appendix 2 of the annual treasury management strategy
4. Approves the borrowing strategy set out in Appendix 3 of the annual Treasury Management Strategy

5. Approves the minimum revenue provision policy set out in Appendix 4 of the annual Treasury Management Strategy
Grants delegated authority to the Group Director of Finance in consultation with Chief Executive to provide a financial guarantee in favour of the SCR Financial Interventions Holding Company.

14 MCA/LEP Revenue and Capital Outturn 2019/20

A report was received to provide the final revenue and capital outturn position before audit for the Sheffield City Region Group for 2019/20.

The report considered each element of the Group's outturn position and highlighted key issues in respect of the MCA / LEP revenue position, revenue programme activity, South Yorkshire transport revenue position and capital programme expenditure 2019/20.

Cllr Dore sought additional clarity regarding the Health Led Employment Trial which was referenced as 'overspent'. It was confirmed this is just a presentational issue and that as all funding for the initiative comes from central government it is an no cost to the SCR.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the revenue outturn positions of SCR and SYPTE
2. Notes the outturn of Capital programme and approve the carry forwards identified in paragraph 2.5 of the report

Notes the risks addressed by the creation of provisions and earmarked reserves and approves the actions taken.

15 Grant Acceptance and LGF 2020/21 Position

A report was received to request approval to accept the LGF Grant and DIT KAM programme grant for 2020/21 and HMG Emergency Active Travel Funding and seeks delegated authority be given to the S73 Officer in conjunction with the Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.

The meeting was also asked to consider a late request to approve acceptance of the second tramway revenue support grant to support an extended period of operation through to 3rd August 2020.

This report set out the 2020/21 LGF programme activity, noting this is the final year of the current six-year LGF programme.

It was noted a letter has been received from government stating only two thirds of the annual grant will be received up front, the remainder to be payable following a review of every LEP area in respect of their plans for the remaining programme.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves acceptance of the Local Growth Fund grant allocation for

- 2020/21, to deliver the programme outlined in Appendix A to this report.
2. Approves acceptance of the Department of International Trade (DIT) continuation funding for Key Account Management (KAM) revenue programme for 2020/21.
 3. Approves acceptance of HMG Emergency Active Travel Funding
 4. Delegates authority to the S73 Officer in conjunction with the Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer to accept the grants of £43.37m plus the allocation for Active Travel, subject to their acceptance of the terms of the agreements when these are received.

Approves acceptance of the second tramway revenue support grant to support an extended period of operation through to 3rd August 2020.

16 **LGF Programme Approvals**

In line with the agreed Assurance Framework, a report was presented to seek the approval of change requests for six projects and to seek delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the S73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves a project change request from the DN7 Unity project to re-profile £751,800 of expenditure from 2019/20 into 2020/21, to agree an extension to works completion from August 2020 to December 2020 and re-profile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales.
2. Approves a project change request from the Digital Media Centre 2 to re-profile £106,596 of expenditure from 2019/20 into 2020/21, to agree an extension to works completion from March 2020 to June 2020 and a re-profile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales.
3. Approves a project change request from the Strategic Testing Tools project to re-profile £190,196 of expenditure from 2019/20 into 2020/21.
4. Approves a project change request from M1 J36 Phase 1 Hoyland to re-profile £2,621,858 of expenditure from 2019/20 into 2020/21, agree a reduction in the total grant value of £610,009 and a revision of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised reprofile.
5. Approves a project change request from M1 J37 Phase 2 - Claycliffe to re-profile £1,376,858 of expenditure from 2019/20 into 2020/21 and the revision of conditions to enable entry into contract.
6. Approves a project change request for the Doncaster Sheffield Airport Car Park Extension Loan to extend the works completion date from April 2020 to January 2021.

Gives delegated authority to the Head of Paid of Service, in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into legal arrangements for the schemes covered in the above recommendations.

17 **Active Travel Implementation Plan**

Members welcomed the SCR Active Travel Commissioner Dame Sarah Storey.

Dame Sarah expressed her delight at having the opportunity to introduce the

draft Implementation Plan and duly provided Members with information regarding the processes used to inform the Plan's development and how it is envisaged the Plan will now be taken forward for the betterment of the SCR's active travel offer for residents and businesses. Dame Sarah suggested the speed at which the Plan had been developed was a direct consequence of the SCR Leaders' ambitions for active travel.

It was noted government now consider the SCR Active Travel Implementation Plan to be the Local Cycling and Walking Implementation Plan (LCWIP).

Cllr Gilby welcomed the acknowledgement in the Plan that active travellers move in significant numbers between the SCR's Constituent and non-Constituent areas.

Members welcomed what was described as a phenomenal amount of work achieved over such a short period of time and commented on what needs to be implemented as soon as possible to meet the active travel challenges and opportunities of the covid crisis.

It was requested mechanisms be put in place as soon as possible to ensure funding reaches the Local Authorities for on-the-ground spend as soon as possible.

RESOLVED, that the MCA endorses the Active Travel Implementation Plan.

18 **Assurance Framework**

A report was received to remind Members that each year the Sheffield City Region (LEP and MCA) is required to update and publish its Assurance Framework to ensure that robust, transparent and effective governance arrangements are in place.

It was reported the draft Assurance Framework 2020 has been further revised to incorporate the additional requirements in readiness for devolution.

It was noted the paper also seeks endorsement of the draft Assurance Framework so that it can be submitted to Government for approval as part of the devolution readiness conditions.

It was noted the Assurance Framework has been written in a manner which recognises the role of the non-Constituent Authorities where appropriate, as defined by the SCR MCA Order.

Independent review of thematic Boards part of consideration of the MCA constitution overall and in abeyance pending further discussions

Members discussed the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) in respect of LEP Board and thematic Board activities. It was affirmed the OSC does have oversight over all SCR activities and noted the OSC has access to the published agendas, reports and minutes of all Board meetings. Consideration was given to other potential actions that might be introduced to enhance OSC oversight.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Notes the key amendments to the Assurance Framework including the early release of funding to aid capital scheme development.
2. Endorses the updated Assurance Framework set out at Appendix 1, pending any amendments required by the MCA and gives consent for it to be submitted to Government for approval.

Gives delegation to the SCR Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor, to agree any final changes required by Government for them to approve and sign-off the SCR Assurance Framework.

19 **Decisions & Delegated Authority Report**

The decisions and delegated authority report was provided for information.

RESOLVED, that the MCA notes the decisions and delegations made.

20 **Submission of Mass Transit Outline Business Case to DfT**

A report was received to recommend the submission of the Mass Transit Business Case to DfT.

RESOLVED, that the MCA:

1. Approves the submission of the Mass Transit Outline Business Case to the DfT as a bid for funding for the renewal works on the basis that the previously agreed principles for progressing the scheme remain in place.

Notes that, as the principles for how the local contribution would be identified, the intention is that there will be no impact to the local tax-payer or district budgets emanating from developing the final business case, the capital build or future operating costs arising from the scheme.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

Mr J R
Staincross

27 JAN 2020

B.M.B.C
COUNCIL GOVERNANCE UNIT
TOWN HALL
BARNLEY

J R.

STAINCROSS

DEAR SIR-MADAM

PUBLIC QUESTION FOR COUNCIL MEETING 27 FEB 2020

Within the Danton East Ward, there are plans to build hundreds of new homes, and its residents, are concerned about the problems this will bring to them, should direct management action, not be taken.

- (1) Why in this ward is there a need for more homes, and what benefit will they bring into the ward.
- (2) The environment will change, with increasing air pollution, more traffic congestion, and flooding. On these three issues, how will the problems be managed, to reduce, or eliminate the risk.
- (3) More homes, means more people, which will place additional pressures on the service providers for, education, medical care, and the three emergency services, police, fire, ambulance. What consultation has taken place with these service providers, have you their assurance they will be able to provide, a service, fit for purpose.
- (4) When did a council representative engage with residents on this subject, with ward meetings, for them to have their say.

Yours sincerely

J. R.

Response provided by Councillor Frost (Cabinet Support Member for Place (Regeneration and Culture))

1. National Government Planning Policy requires local authorities to assess housing need in their areas and demonstrate that they have an adequate supply of land on which homes can be delivered to meet that need. Barnsley's Local Plan seeks to deliver 21, 546 net new dwellings during the plan period of 2014- 2033. The Local Plan is supported by evidence setting out how the housing requirement was arrived at, and has been robustly tested through the Local Plan examination. Population projections are the starting point for assessing housing need. Planning officers will be happy to assist in providing further information on where this information can be found on the Council's website. The Local Plan apportions development across the borough, focussing development in the most sustainable locations of Urban Barnsley (which Darton falls within) and the Principal Towns. Benefits of development to an area are meeting housing needs, providing investment and improvements. For example contributions from a new housing development may provide new green space and/ or improve existing space for the benefit of the whole community.

2. Planning applications for major development need to be accompanied by a host of technical reports covering individual topics including an assessment of the effects on the highway network, flood risk assessments, ones on air quality and noise, ecology and tree surveys etc. These identify the impacts likely to occur as a result of specific proposals and inform any necessary mitigation measures. The Council has the ability to refuse planning applications where harmful effects are identified and cannot be mitigated.

3. The Council engaged with infrastructure providers at each stage of the Local Plan process. An Infrastructure Delivery Plan was prepared to support the Local Plan which summarises this engagement and sets out infrastructure requirements and how they are proposed to be delivered. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan can be found on the Council's website. Planning officers will be happy to assist in providing further information on where this information can be found. In addition the Council has adopted a range of planning policies that allows us to secure financial contributions from developers towards the provision of additional school places, new greenspace provision, sustainable travel and affordable housing. These are secured through legal agreements that are attached to specific planning permissions.

4. The Council carried out public consultation at each stage of the Local Plan process, which the Local Plan Inspector in her report describes as 'full and widespread'. Main methods of publicity and consultation have been website; press notice; press releases; social media; site notices and drop in sessions. Numerous drop in sessions were held where officers were available to provide help and answer questions. They were held in Barnsley Town Centre and the Principal Towns at various times during the week and some Saturdays. Where requested at each stage officers also attended Parish Council meetings and Area Forums/ Area Councils. Consultation was carried out in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and the Local Plan regulations. All consultation events are summarised on the Council's website. Again officers will be happy to assist in providing further detail . In addition individual planning applications are subject to their own statutory publicity requirements that allows for affected residents to submit representations concerning any grounds of concern that they wish to have considered prior to the decision being made (NB It should be noted that we can only take into account of considerations that are material to the process in planning law terms).

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