

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 1 April 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

AGENDA

1. Retiring Members

To pay tribute to the following Members, who are not seeking re-election at the forthcoming Municipal Elections, for their hard work to the Council and the local community they represent: -

Councillor Charlesworth
Councillor Daniel Griffin
Councillor David Griffin
Councillor C Johnson
Councillor Murray
Councillor Phillips
Councillor Saunders

2. 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 submitted for consideration at this meeting).

3. Minutes (*Pages 7 - 34*)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 4th and 25th February, 2021.

4. Communications

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

Item for Decision

5. Appointment to Outside Bodies - Shaw Lands Trust

Proposed – Councillors Mitchell, Hayward, Richardson and Williams and Mr T Sheard.

6. Date of Annual Council Meeting

Proposed – that the Annual Council Meeting be held at 3.00 pm on Thursday 20th May, 2021 (moved from 6.00 pm on Friday 21st May, 2021)

Recommendations to Council

All reports detailed below are subject to Health and Well Being Board and Cabinet

recommendation and are available to download from the Council's website. The chair of the Health and Well Being Board and Cabinet Spokesperson for the Service in question will respond to any comments or amendments concerning these minutes.

Health and Well Being Board – 4th February, 2021

7. Health and Well Being Board - Updated Terms of Reference (*Pages 35 - 44*)

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the revised Terms of Reference be approved.

Cabinet – 24th March, 2021

8. Council Plan 2021-2024 and Associated Performance Framework (Cab.24.3.2021/9) (*Pages 45 - 62*)

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL:

- (i) That the publication of the new Council Plan be approved; and
- (ii) That the approach for the revised accompanying performance framework be agreed.

9. Implementation of the 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement (Cab.24.3.2021/11) (*Pages 63 - 80*)

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL that approval is given to implement the 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement contained at Appendix 1 with effect from 1 April 2021.

Minutes of the Regulatory Boards

- 10. Audit and Governance Committee - 20th January, 2021 (*Pages 81 - 94*)
- 11. Planning Regulatory Board - 23rd February, 2021 (*Pages 95 - 96*)
- 12. General Licensing Panel - Various (*Pages 97 - 98*)
- 13. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various (*Pages 99 - 100*)

Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- 14. Health and Wellbeing Board - 4th February, 2021 (*Pages 101 - 108*)

Minutes of the Scrutiny Committees

- 15. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream) - 9th February, 2021 (*Pages 109 - 114*)
- 16. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (People Achieving Their Potential Workstream) - 9th March, 2021 (*Pages 115 - 120*)

Minutes of the Area Councils

17. Central Area Council - 11th January, 2021 (*Pages 121 - 126*)
18. Dearne Area Council - 18th January, 2021 (*Pages 127 - 134*)
19. North East Area Council - 28th January, 2021 (*Pages 135 - 138*)
20. North Area Council - 1st February, 2021 (*Pages 139 - 144*)
21. Penistone Area Council - 11th February, 2021 (*Pages 145 - 152*)
22. South Area Council - 12th February, 2021 (*Pages 153 - 158*)

Minutes of the Cabinet Meetings

23. Cabinet Meeting - 27th January, 2021 (*Pages 159 - 160*)
24. Cabinet Meeting - 10th February, 2021 (*Pages 161 - 166*)
25. Cabinet Meeting - 24th February, 2021 (*Pages 167 - 168*)
26. Cabinet Meeting - 10th March, 2021 (*Pages 169 - 172*)

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

27. 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.

28. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 11th January, 2021 (*Pages 173 - 184*)
29. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Draft) - 22nd February, 2021 (*Pages 185 - 204*)
30. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority (Draft) - 21st January, 2021 (*Pages 205 - 212*)
31. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Authority Combined Authority Board (Draft) - 25th January, 2021 (*Pages 213 - 224*)

32. Police and Crime Panel (Draft) - 3rd February, 2021 (Pages 225 - 240)

33. 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.

(a) Councillor Eastwood

'We know the weather is very unpredictable, and the gritters have been out more than usual and filling the yellow bins, they are doing a fantastic job keeping us safe on the main roads.'

'Do we have enough salt to keep the roads safe, and enough finances to keep going throughout the winter months?'

(b) Councillor Wilson

'There has been a huge rise in dog ownership across the country since the start of the pandemic. This has undoubtedly led to increased use of the council's dog waste bins by responsible dog owners.'

'What is the council's policy when these waste bins need replacing?'

(c) Councillor Lodge

'Could the Cabinet Member responsible provide an update on the progress of a Borough-wide poverty needs assessment?'

(d) Councillor Fielding

'The Noise Assessment for the Penny Pie Park Gyrotory was published in September 2018 and identified that 56 homes around the former park would suffer such significant adverse effects of noise from the operation of the new gyrotory that they would be legally entitled under the Noise Insulation Regulations for noise mitigation measures to be provided by the Council.'

'Can the Cabinet member please advise, two and a half years after this assessment was published, how many residents of the affected houses have been informed that their homes will suffer significant adverse effects of noise or consulted about what mitigation measures they will be entitled to and told when they can expect the mitigation measures such as additional glazing and mechanical forced ventilation to be installed in their homes?'

(e) Councillor Frost

'I regularly cycle on the TPT to Oxspring and on to Dunford Bridge but the trail is usually inaccessible in Winter due to the amount of standing water and mud. After the recent dry spell, I travelled up the TPT and found that from Wigfield Farm to the M1 bridge extensive works had been carried out to improve the drainage, prune trees and lay hardstanding. This meant not only cycles could travel more easily but people with disabilities as well.'

Are the improvements to be continued to the Silkstone Tunnels and what other areas are to be improved in this way in the borough?’

(f) Councillor Lodge

‘A recent survey of social workers across the UK, found that 70% of respondents believed that the Covid-19 Pandemic has had an impact on their mental health. What support has been put in place locally to support social workers in Adults and Children’s services?’

(g) Councillor Kitching

‘There have been tragic news headlines recently about the abduction and murder of Sarah Everard while she was walking home. I recognise the fear felt by most women when walking dark streets alone at night.

While I appreciate that the police and central government have a huge role to play, what specifically is this Council doing to protect women in the borough and ensure they not only feel safe but are safe when walking our streets?’

(h) Councillor Hunt

‘What plans does the council have to increase the levels of enforcement of parking restrictions outside of Barnsley town centre?’

(i) Councillor Greenhough

‘January 2021 was the coldest for 10 years. The effect on the roads in my ward is very evident. What impact has the extremely cold weather had on the roads across the borough?’

Question by a Member of the Public - for Information Only

To note the following questions received from a Member of the public together with the responses provided by the appropriate Cabinet Spokespersons.

1 Mr J R - Staincross



Sarah Norman
Chief Executive

Wednesday, 24 March 2021

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MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 4 February 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson)

Central Ward

- Councillors Bruff and Dyson

Cudworth Ward

- Councillors Hayward, Houghton CBE and Wraith MBE

Darfield Ward

- Councillors Markham, Saunders and Smith

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 and C. Johnson

Dodworth Ward

- Councillors P. Birkinshaw, Fielding and Wright

Hoyland Milton Ward

- Councillors Franklin, Shepherd and Stowe

Kingstone Ward

- Councillors Murray and Williams

Monk Bretton Ward

- Councillors Felton, 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, David Griffin and Kitching

Rockingham Ward

- Councillors Andrews BEM, Lamb and Sumner

Royston Ward

- Councillors Cheetham and McCarthy

St. Helen's Ward

- Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall

Stairfoot Ward

- Councillors Bowler, Gillis and W. Johnson

Wombwell Ward

- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and Daniel Griffin

Worsbrough Ward

- Councillors Carr, Clarke and Lodge

73. Act of Remembrance

The Mayor, Councillor Makinson, asked members to observe a minutes silence to reflect on the terrible milestone of 100,000 Covid-19 deaths nationally and more than 675 deaths in Barnsley. In addition, she commented that many more had died and suffered from the wider impact of the pandemic.

She also asked Members to mark the sad passing of Captain Sir Tom Moore as well as local war veteran Mr Tom Hicks a Royston resident aged 101 who both sadly died recently.

Mr Hicks had lived in Royston until his sad passing last week. He had served as a Royal Engineer and was attached to the 1st Para Squadron. He fought in North Africa, Sicily and in the Battle of Arnhem where he was parachuted in on the 17th September, 1944. After days of intense fighting he, along with many comrades, was sadly captured and forced to work in lead mines until the war was over. Tom lived to an amazing age of 101, was still actively playing tennis locally until the age of 99. He was an active member of Barnsley Breakfast Club for veterans and to celebrate his 99th birthday he had been invited by the then Mayor, Councillor Steve Green, to the Town Hall for a party in the Mayor's Parlour. For his 100th birthday his friends from Barnsley Breakfast Club arranged a special party at the Darfield Road Working Men's Club in Cudworth. There would be many residents across the borough who had fond memories of Tom and the Mayor had no doubt that he would be missed by many.

74. Declarations of Interests

The Mayor, Councillor Makinson, declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 78 'Housing Revenue Account' in her capacity as a Board Member of Berneslai Homes.

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no 78 'Housing Revenue Account' in view of him being a tenant of Berneslai Homes.

The Mayor, Councillor Makinson, and Councillors Andrews BEM, Cherryholme, Ennis OBE, Gardiner, Hayward, Sire Steve Houghton CBE, Leech, Platts, Richardson, Tattersall, Wraith and Wright declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 103 'No cuts in Universal Credit – Let Families keep the £20 increase' in view of them being members of Unite. Councillor Leech declared a non-pecuniary interest in this Minute in his capacity as a Branch Secretary for Unite. Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in this Minute in his capacity as a national representative of Unite.

75. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 26th November, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

76. Communications

Barnsley Cultural Services

The Chief Executive was delighted to inform Members of the Council that Barnsley's Cultural Service had received national recognition in particular for their exemplar

practice in digital engagement and also in supporting the Covid response to the digitally excluded and most vulnerable in the borough.

The Local Government Association had highlighted this national best practice and as a result, Barnsley was the only case study presented at the LGA Member's Leadership Essentials Seminar on the subject of innovation last month. Officers had also been asked to lead a national seminar on the subject in March.

The National Archives had also highlighted the excellent work of the Archives Service in response to the pandemic in a best practice case study and Officers had also been asked to present at a national seminar for this. The success was underpinned by Barnsley's Digital First Strategy.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport had asked Barnsley Museums to provide digital content to showcase their work during the pandemic to Ministers and the Museums Service had also been asked by the NP 11 (the Group of the 11 Local Enterprise Partnerships from across the North of England) to provide a case study for a campaign using social media and PR to showcase the importance of heritage, arts, culture and nature in debate about northern economic renewal post Covid-19.

The Chief Executive was sure that Members would agree with her that having this great success of the Cultural Services highlighted in this way was a great plaudit for Barnsley.

Councillor Cheetham, Cabinet Member of Place (Regeneration and Culture) echoed the words of the Chief Executive and he asked to place on record his personal thanks to Sue Thiedeman, (Head of Culture & Visitor Economy) and to the whole team for the fantastic work they did. He highlighted the importance of the cultural assets of the borough which not only had an economic impact but also, the service involvement with everyone, including the vulnerable, in bringing people into gallery displays, performances and events.

The Service had been taken forward in an unexpected way and the digital first strategy was one of many initiatives that had enabled the Council to support digital investment and working in new ways. The Managers at all Levels Strategy had encouraged staff to take on issues, to be innovative and to bring forward their own ideas and it was from these strategies that the cultural initiatives referred to had come from.

The Cultural and Visitor Economy Team had been doing a fantastic job and the Cabinet Spokesperson had been saying so at every opportunity and this was recognised by all Members. It was also commendable that the Team were being supported in doing so by the wider Council. The Cabinet Spokesperson and Sue Thiedeman had been asked to speak at the LGA event to talk about how the Council had managed to achieve both national and world recognition for some of the work that had been done and it was amazing to see how many other Councils were not doing things such as developing their staff and giving them the freedom to innovate in the kind of ways that had brought so much to the borough, its residents and visitors over the last few months.

In concluding, he asked to thank not just the Cultural and Visitor Economy Team but the wider management of the Council as a whole.

The Mayor also echoed these comments and added her own personal congratulations to the Team. She stated that the work undertaken had been recognised worldwide and she had also received many comments from local residents who had logged on to look at some of the virtual exhibits/material that was available online.

77. Appointment to Outside Bodies

Moved by Councillor Howard – Seconded by Councillor Cherryholme; and

RESOLVED that the following appointments be made to the Outside Bodies detailed:

Shaw Lands Trust – Councillor Pickering

Safer Barnsley Partnership Board – Councillor Cherryholme

78. Housing Revenue Account - Draft 2021/22 Budget and Investment Proposals 2021-26 (Cab.13.1.2021/8)

Moved by Councillor Cheetham – Seconded by Councillor Frost: and

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as set out in Section 4 of the report submitted be noted;
- (ii) that the Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget for 2021/22 be approved, as outlined in Section 5, including the proposed revenue investments and savings, as outlined in Section 6, with any final amendments/additions being delegated to the Cabinet Spokespersons for Place and the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesman for Core Services and the Service Director - Finance (S151);
- (iii) that a rent increase in line with the Government's rent policy be approved;
- (iv) that it be noted that there is no proposed change to non-dwelling rents, service charges and heating charges for 2021/22;
- (v) that the 2021/22 Berneslai Homes Management Fee at paragraph 7.7 be approved, with any final amendments/additions delegated to the Cabinet Spokespersons for Place and the Service Director, Regeneration and Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesman for Core Services and the Service Director - Finance (S151);
- (vi) that the 2021/22 Berneslai Homes Management Fee for both Gypsy and Traveller Sites be approved and in respect of the ESF Grant, both of which are charged to the Authority's General Fund, detailed at paragraphs 7.8 and 7.9 respectively;
- (vii) that approval be given to the commitment to the decarbonisation of the Council house stock with an initial investment of £1.9M in 2021/22;
- (viii) that approval be given in principle, the proposed emerging capital

priority schemes as detailed in Section 8, subject to individual reports as appropriate, in line with the Council's governance arrangements;

- (ix) that the Core Housing Capital Investment programme for 2021/22 be approved and that the indicative programme for 2022/23 through 2025/26, outlined in Section 8, be noted.

Note: Councillors Birkinshaw, Carr, Felton, Fielding, Gillis, Greenhough, Hunt, Kitching, Lodge and Wright voted against this item and a request was made for these votes to be recorded.

79. Planning Regulatory Board - 24th November, 2020

Moved by Councillor Richardson - Seconded by Councillor T Cave; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on the 24th November, 2020 be received.

80. Audit and Governance Committee - 2nd December, 2020

Moved by Councillor Lofts - Seconded by Councillor Barnard; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on the 2nd December, 2020 be received.

81. General Licensing Panels - Various

Moved by Councillor Wraith, MBE – Seconded by Councillor Clarke; and

RESOLVED that the details of the General Licensing Regulatory Board Panel held on the 12th January, 2021 together with its decision be received.

82. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various

Moved by Councillor Shepherd – Seconded by the Mayor (Councillor Makinson); 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.

83. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Strong and Resilient Workstream) - 1st December, 2020

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by Councillor Newing; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Strong and Resilient Communities Workstream) held on the 1st December, 2020 be received.

84. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 12th January, 2021

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by Councillor Newing; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 12th January, 2021 be received

85. Central Area Council - 2nd November, 2020

Moved by Councillor Williams - Seconded by Councillor Lodge; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Central Area Council held on the 2nd November, 2020 be received.

86. Dearne Area Council - 16th November, 2020

Moved by Councillor Gardiner – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Dearne Area Council held on the 16th November, 2020 be received.

87. North Area Council - 23rd November, 2020

Moved by Councillor Leech – Seconded by Councillor Tattersall; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North Area Council held on the 23rd November, 2020 be received.

88. North East Area Council - 26th November, 2020

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

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North East Area Council held on the 26th November, 2020 be received subject to the addition of the work 'Dodd' after the word 'Lawrence' in line 2 of Minute No 8 'Staffing Update'.

89. Penistone Area Council - 3rd December, 2020

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 3rd December, 2020 be received.

90. South Area Council - 18th December, 2020

Moved by Councillor Markham - Seconded by Councillor Stowe; and

RESOLVED that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the South Area Council held on the 18th December, 2020 be received.

91. Cabinet Meeting - 18th November, 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 18th November, 2020 be received.

92. Cabinet Meeting - 2nd December, 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 2nd December, 2020 be received.

93. Cabinet Meeting - 16th December, 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 16th December, 2020 be received.

94. Cabinet Meeting - 13th January, 2021

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 13th January, 2021 be received.

95. 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.

96. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 12th October, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

97. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 23rd November, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

98. Police and Crime Panel - 10th November, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

99. Police and Crime Panel (Draft) - 14th December, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

100. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Board (Draft) - 16th November, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

101. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 10th December, 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes be noted.

102. 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.

(a) Councillor Wilson

'South Yorkshire Municipal Waste Strategy - One of the key priorities of the Strategy is to encourage our residents to recycle more. When is the Council going to be in a position to allow residents to recycle more plastic waste? At present we only recycle plastic bottles'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Wilson for raising what was a very important question given the climate and environmental crisis facing the planet. In starting to answer this question he asked to give his thanks to all of the Waste and Recycling Teams that had been operating throughout the borough particularly in the last 12 months during the Covid pandemic and also during the inclement weather since the New Year. He felt that people would have noticed that in order to catch up on rounds the Teams had been out on Saturdays and Sundays collecting waste across the borough.

In terms of addressing the specific question raised, he stated that the Council was exploring how it could improve the recycling offer to residents and this issue was currently being discussed with the current contractor.

It was hoped that discussions would be concluded shortly and that, as a result, it would be possible to extend the range of plastics that were able to be accepted at the kerbside. The aim was that this would commence in the new financial year 2021/22.

This year, the South Yorkshire Municipal Waste Strategy was to be reviewed. This would consider and incorporate advancements in the government's environmental strategies.

Sheffield City Region budgets would be allocated to the regions' priorities and evaluated against key criteria. Key infrastructure such as household waste and recycling centres would be reviewed in line with the government's Resources and Waste Strategy.

It should also be noted that the Resource and Waste Strategy for England was currently under consultation and would potentially result in several large-scale changes to the way local authorities collected waste from 2023. This Strategy would focus on waste minimisation alongside increased recycling and other schemes such as deposit return schemes. In addition, this Strategy may change what the Council collected and how often it was collected.

Councillor Wilson thanked Councillor Lamb for his response and also thanked the Waste and Recycling Teams for all their hard work particularly during the current inclement weather. His supplementary question was going to relate to whether the

City Region Budget could be used to improve investment into waste management infrastructure, and this had been answered in the original response.

(b) Councillor Lodge

'In November 2019, the Cabinet Member for Place (Regeneration and Culture) advised Members that the Council had launched an energy tariff to support residents at risk of fuel poverty. At the time, the partner energy provider was experiencing financial difficulties and despite these difficulties, residents were still encouraged to sign up. Since then, what has been done to ensure residents aren't out of pocket with their energy transfer to a Big 6 Supplier and support residents at risk or experiencing fuel poverty in the future?'

Councillor Cheetham, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Regeneration and Culture) thanked Councillor Lodge for his question. He stated that when Centrica took over the Robin Hood Energy portfolio, they guaranteed that each customer would retain their existing Robin Hood Energy tariff terms and conditions. No one was out of pocket as a result of the transfer.

In addition, the Council's Sustainability and Climate Change Team had contacted all of the borough's Robin Hood Energy customers, by phone call and letter, to make sure that they understood the process, and provided extra support if they needed it. As a result of this, 111 households had been referred to the Warm Homes Team for further switching advice.

Councillor Lodge thanked Councillor Cheetham for his response and noted the welcome news that some tenants had taken up the offer from the Warm Homes Team. He then asked, as a supplementary question, what the process would be for ensuring that residents were not left out of pocket once the tariff 'ran out' with the new supplier.

Councillor Cheetham responded by stating that the Warm Homes Team were adept at this process and in finding the best deal and would indeed do so once that tariff ran out. There would, of course, be some work to do in identifying what the best tariff would be.

In reference to the discussion on the Housing Revenue Account and the costs of heating for residents earlier in the meeting, he reminded Members that Robin Hood Energy had been established by Nottingham City Council as a way of addressing the issue of energy costs for residents but ultimately the company had collapsed. This had been financially damaging both for the Council and residents. This was delicate area and one that was currently in the process of change. Many Members would be aware that many energy companies were experiencing some astronomical losses as a result of the pandemic and this would, therefore, prove to be a challenge in being able to identify which companies were providing the best tariffs and costs going forward. Members should be assured, however, that the Team would be looking at these issues very closely in order to ensure that they did their best for the borough's residents.

(c) Councillor Kitching

'Please can the Cabinet Member for Core Services supply a month-by-month breakdown of:

- a) *The amount of Council Tax arrears*
- b) *The amount of Berneslai Homes rent arrears*

since the start of the pandemic in March 2020?

Councillor Gardiner, Cabinet Member for Core Services, stated that he had a breakdown of the data which he would supply after the meeting. Referring to the headline figures he stated that in April 2020 the closing forecast balance for the Council Tax Arrears was £5.737m and at December 2020 this was at £5.173m.

With regard to rent arrears, a breakdown would also be provided but in summary, in March 2020 gross rent arrears were £1.853m and in January 2021 this stood at just over £2m.

Councillor Kitching thanked Councillor Gardiner for his response and she stated that she looked forward to receiving the more detailed figures. As a supplementary question she asked whether the Council was doing anything different to usual in terms of trying to recoup the lost income.

In relation to Council Tax arrears Councillor Gardiner stated that the Council was undertaking various actions to try to recoup these losses. There was no statutory collection or enforcement activity between March and August 2020. However, the Council had set up a dedicated Covid-19 Financial Support line to provide financial advice and guidance to residents. People had been proactively signposted to all the available government and local support schemes and a targeted communications campaign had been undertaken to reach out to people in arrears and to encourage contact and engagement. Payments deferrals had been agreed for up to three months where residents were experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the pandemic.

With regard to rent arrears he commented that Berneslai Homes had provided additional support to tenants focusing on prevention followed by early intervention to stop arrears from escalating. Income and benefit entitlement assessments were completed, and voluntary sustainable repayment plans were encouraged to avoid legal action and costs.

Skilled officers in the Rents and Tenants First Team provided advice and practical assistance with benefit claims, utility bills and problems with Universal Credit. The Council also funded a Money Advice Worker post within the Citizens Advice Bureau to support those people with multiple debts or complex issues.

During the pandemic, staff had been proactive in monitoring accounts for signs of financial pressures and contacting people to discuss the issues they were experiencing. To date, the Council had assisted 92 families, secured £82,757 in funding from the hardship fund that had helped to reduce arrears accrued. Tenants First had supported 927 families in this period and 117 had received in depth advice from the Money Advice Worker.

(d) Councillor Lofts

'If we are to enable residents to get out of their cars and choose alternative transport, we must ensure they are safe to travel on our roads. Whilst Barnsley has many

kilometres of safe off-road cycle ways; how many kilometres of safe, dedicated cycle lanes are there on Barnsley's roads?'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Lofts for his question the points raised therein being very close to his own heart.

The question was, however, quite complex as consideration had to be given as to whether or not it concerned the whole highway or the carriageway as well as on road and off road, shared footways, cycleways that followed the road alignment as well as those that didn't.

Rightly, Councillor Lofts had identified the leisure and off-road cycling offer of Barnsley and when considering that the borough had the Trans-Pennine Trail, a whole host of disused railways and former colliery land, without doubt the area had some of the best leisure cycling in the country.

There were, of course, some restrictions in terms of what could be achieved because extending the existing on-road offer did have limitations for example, the width of space available to extend was limited in some cases with narrow roads and streets. To give more space would require demolition of properties. In addition, the depth of services and utilities in footways was less than in the highway carriageway and any extension could result in these requiring to be moved.

There were, therefore, a number of issues and complexities facing the Council but not everything was bad news. Some of the recent developments had included a cycling link between Canal Street near Asda, Barnsley to Woodstock Road/Smithies Lane, the Pontefract Road cycleway, Junction 38 to the Town Centre cycle route, Park Springs Road to Broomhill cycle route, Great Houghton to Park Springs cycle route, Burton Road to Cundy Cross, Gilroyd to Broadway, Keresforth Hill to Keresforth Hall, Pogmoor Road to the Town Centre, Darfield to Goldthorpe cycleway and the Ardsley to Darfield cycleway. Taking all of these routes into consideration a conservative estimate was that there was 13 kilometres that aligned with the carriageway.

The long-term aspiration for safe, active travel through and around Barnsley was being developed at pace through the dedicated Strategic Transportation Team. It should also be noted that currently a review was underway which it was hoped would provide additional capacity and expertise in order for the Council to attract more funding to deliver new safe cycling routes.

To date, most of the historic improvements in cycling infrastructure had been centred around improvement works to the well-used Trans-Pennine Trail. The Council was now working with its Partners at the Sheffield City Region Combined Mayoral Authority and the Barnsley Cycle Forum to deliver the recently adopted Local Cycle Walking and Infrastructure Plan setting out the long-term aspiration for an enhanced active travel network in Barnsley.

Through the Transforming Cities Fund and Active Travel Fund, the Council had a target to deliver 6km of safe on and off-road cycle provision over the next 18 months.

Councillor Lofts thanked Councillor Lamb for the response, and he stated that he looked for ward to safe cycleways coming forward on Barnsley's roads in the future but he declined to ask a supplementary question.

(e) Councillor Lodge

'Given the change in working habits, there has been a significant increase in recyclable and non-recyclable waste in households across the Borough. In order to limit the impact of this increased waste, is it now time look at increased waste collection?'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Lodge for the question which was exercising the minds of many people at this moment.

The Council's current offer allowed households to recycle and dispose of multiple different waste streams conveniently at the kerbside. Although there had been an increase in household waste due to the impact of Covid-19 and people being at home, there was little understanding of what this would look like moving forward.

The Waste and Recycling Team was closely monitoring the changes in tonnages based on this. Should it become apparent that the trend was not temporary, the Council would be in the best position to tackle the issue.

As mentioned earlier in the response to Councillor Wilson's question, the Resource and Waste Strategy for England was currently under consideration and would potentially result in several large-scale changes to the way local authorities collected waste from 2023. The Strategy focused on waste minimisation alongside increased recycling and other schemes such as deposit return schemes. This strategy may change what the Council collected and how often it was collected.

A combination of these two factors could mean that the Council would need to look at the current model, however, until more data and guidance was available from the government, it was difficult to give any specifics on how this might look.

Councillor Lodge did not ask a supplementary question.

(f) Councillor Greenhough

'Has there been a drop off in the number of foster carers taking on short term and emergency placements since the start of the pandemic in March 2020? This has been reported elsewhere due to foster carers shielding and anxieties about bringing others into the household.'

Councillor Bruff, Cabinet Member for Children's Services thanked Councillor Greenhough for his question. She stated that Barnsley had been successfully accommodating children with in-house foster carers through the pandemic. The Council had appropriately matched children's needs to foster carer's skills, knowledge and experience with continued success.

The number of children placed with Barnsley foster carers during the pandemic increased from 159 in February 2020 to 185 in December 2020.

The Council firmly believed that there was a strong sense of commitment from the community of foster carers. There was no evidence of in-house foster carers reducing their care capacity for Barnsley children in their homes.

During the pandemic, the number of children placed with external agencies had reduced and this was now in line with Barnsley sufficiency targets.

This was supported by the introduction of The Mockingbird Family Model in November 2019, which delivered a high level of virtual training and supervision support.

Councillor Greenhough thanked Councillor Bruff for the response and he very much welcomed the figures. He also placed on record his thanks to the Executive Director Children's Services and her Team and all foster carers for the amazing work they did but he declined to ask a supplementary question.

Councillor Bruff stated that the Council was still recruiting foster carers and anyone listening on the webcast of the meeting who wanted to come forward could do so by accessing the information on the website or by contacting Children's Services of any Member of the Council.

(g) Councillor Hunt

'How many reported incidents of fly tipping have there been in the last year, and how does this compare to previous years?'

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Hunt for his question

He stated that unfortunately there had been an increase in fly tipping across the borough. Except for animal carcass waste, all other areas had seen an increase between 2019 and 2020.

In 2019 (Jan-Dec) there had been 3,893 reports

In 2020 (Jan-Dec) there had been 5,254 reports

This represented an increase, year on year, of 35%

He stated that he would provide a table of data for waste tipped in 2019 and 2020 after the meeting.

A large proportion of the increase in fly tipping was attributable to waste generated from households. Most instances are small loads and more than likely come from a single household.

Hotspot data showed a significant increase in tipping in urban areas such as backings between streets/roads. Examples of hotspot areas were Blenheim Road and St Georges Back Road, Castle Street and Day Street Back Road, Clarendon Street and Racecommon Road Back Road and Doncaster Road and Osborne Street Back Road

The Council had been historically been strong at reducing the levels of fly tipping. Teams would be brought together from within the authority and external partners to work together to reduce the rises seen over 2020.

Some of this work has already started. The Council would continue to offer the Bulky Collection Service. Demand had increased with the Service receiving 31.54% (1869) more orders in 2020 than 2019. A dedicated task force had tackled fly tipping in a cluster of streets in Goldthorpe. With the aid of a valuable fly tipping tracker and the fantastic job Neighbourhood Services were doing, waste was still collected within the five day service level agreement (following the receipt of the report).

Councillor Hunt thanked Councillor Lamb for his response and he commented that he was not surprised to see the increase in fly tipping across the borough. He then asked as a supplementary question if the Council would consider joining around 40 other local authorities including York City Council in adopting the Keep Britain Tidy 'Crime Not to Care' Campaign which focused on helping residents to understand that they had a legal responsibility, when handing over waste to another person, to ensure that such persons had the necessary waste carriers licence and to make a note of the number. The failure to undertake this simple task could lead to the imposition on a householder of a fine and a criminal record if the waste was fly tipped and it was traced back to them.

Councillor Lamb stated that this information about waste carriers' licences was something that the Service was involved with within the borough not only via the Council's Communications Team but also with the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership. Having said that, he was always keen to look at anything that may indeed help and may raise the awareness of the public in terms of the responsible disposal of any waste. He, therefore, gave an assurance that he would raise and discuss the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign with Service Managers.

(h) Councillor Kitching

'How many children have been deregistered from schools since they re-opened in September, 2020?'

Councillor Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson for Children's Services thanked Councillor Kitching for her question. She stated that in total, there had been 238 children whose parents had notified schools of their intention to electively home educate since September 2020.

In this same period, 25 children had either returned to school or moved out of the area, therefore, leaving the Electively Home Educate Register in Barnsley.

113 of these notifications had been received in September 2020, which was double the number of children who were de-registered and transferred to electively home educate in September 2019.

This increase had been seen regionally and nationally, and the increase in Barnsley was lower than the regional average of 125 for September.

Not all of the 113 notifications cited Covid-19 as the reason, but it appeared as a factor in most cases. Parents had cited concerns about the health of vulnerable extended family members and fear of their children transmitting the virus.

Extensive work had been undertaken with families to reduce anxiety throughout the summer months in preparation for the return to school.

The Education Welfare Service worked with schools to identify families that were feeling anxious in respect of the return to statutory school attendance. This resulted in targeted whole family working to reduce anxiety and manage the transition from remote working to school setting.

The Communications and Marketing Team also ran a campaign to provide support to parents in addressing any concerns they or their children had been experiencing.

Councillor Kitching thanked Councillor Bruff for her response which was much as she had anticipated. She then asked, as a supplementary question, how the Council was balancing its obligation around this against the concerns that some of these children had only been de-registered because of anxiety around Covid. She was aware that when families declared they were to home educate their children there was only so much that the Authority could do in terms of monitoring and intervention.

Councillor Bruff felt that Barnsley kept in contact more with children and families who were home educating than many other authorities. Once Councillor Kitching received the response to her next question she would see some of that information outlined. Councillor Kitching was right, however, that the Council was limited in what it was allowed to do. At one time, schools kept these children on their register in the hope that they would eventually come back to school. The Council had been informed, however, that this was no longer permitted.

The Authority did have Education Welfare Officers attending the homes of such children and the Council was obliged to check if those pupils were still on Elective Home Education on a yearly basis and to seek assurance that they were receiving the right type of education relative to their age. The Council did, however, keep in contact with families whose children were home educated but a lot of the information that Councillor Kitching was seeing was contained within the response to her next question.

In accordance with Standing Order 11(2)(d), the time limit of a maximum of 30 minutes permitted for Member questions having been reached, the Mayor stated that a written response to all outstanding questions would be circulated to all Members of the Council.

103. No Cuts in Universal Credit - Let Families keep the £20 increase

Notice of Motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order No 6

The following motion which aimed to maintain the income of low- and middle-income families was:

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by Councillor Cherryholme:

That this council notes:

- Next April the Government plan to cut the benefit level for millions of claimants by ending of the time limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent) announced by the Chancellor on 20th March as part

of his pandemic response package.

- The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits were not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. Exactly because that increase was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low- and middle-income families living standards, its removal will be a huge loss.
- Pressing ahead would see the level of unemployment support fall to its lowest real-terms level since 1990-91, and it's lowest ever relative to average earnings. Indeed, the basic level of out-of-work support prior to the March boost was – at £73 a week (£3,800 a year) – less than half the absolute poverty line.
- The increase in benefits have had a positive effect on the lives of thousands of local claimants who are better able to pay for life's essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.
- The local economy has also benefited from the increase in benefit levels as claimants spend their money locally thereby supporting local businesses and jobs.

RESOLVED that the Council

- (i) Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits; and
- (ii) Work with other local government organisations to form a coalition to pressure the government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.

.....
Chair

MEETING:	Full Council
DATE:	Thursday, 25 February 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson)

Central Ward

- Councillors Bruff

Cudworth Ward

- Councillors Hayward, Houghton CBE and Wraith MBE

Darfield Ward

- Councillors Markham, Saunders and Smith

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, Shepherd and Stowe

Kingstone Ward

- Councillors Williams

Monk Bretton Ward

- Councillors Green and Richardson

North East Ward

- Councillors Cherryholme and Ennis OBE

Old Town Ward

- Councillors Lofts, Newing and Pickering

Penistone East Ward

- Councillors Barnard, Hand-Davis and Wilson

Penistone West Ward

- Councillors Greenhough, David Griffin and Kitching

Rockingham Ward

- Councillors Andrews BEM, Lamb and Sumner

Royston Ward

- Councillors Cheetham and McCarthy

St. Helen's Ward

- Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall

Stairfoot Ward

- Councillors Gillis and W. Johnson

Wombwell Ward

- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and Daniel Griffin

Worsbrough Ward

- Councillors Carr, Clarke and Lodge

104. Declarations of Interests

Councillors Lodge and Noble declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items relating to Berneslai Homes in view of the fact that they were tenants.

The Mayor, Councillor Makinson, declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items relating to Berneslai Homes in her capacity as a Board Member.

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items relating to Berneslai Homes or Barnsley Premier Leisure in her capacity as a Board Member of both organisations.

105. 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.

106. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 - 2023/24 (Cab.10.2.2021/6)

- (A) 2021/22 Budget Recommendations**
- (B) Council Tax 2021/22**

The 2021/22 Budget Proposals and the proposed Council Tax 2021/22 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 that this has been an unprecedented year that no one could have ever imagined, and acknowledges with thanks the hard work of the finance team in again bringing forward a balanced budget. Despite the challenges brought by the ongoing Covid crisis we recognise that this is a financially well managed council and that prudent decisions made by the finance team have allowed the Council to remain in good financial shape.

Our amendments therefore do not seek to undermine the budget as a whole, but to bring focus to some key priority areas which we – and the communities we serve - believe require more investment going forward, even against the backdrop of recovery from the Covid pandemic.

We seek to implement a borough wide road safety programme with a focus on introducing 20mph zones in all residential areas; to invest in local, community based youth services; to introduce a borough-wide snow warden scheme.

1. 20 MPH residential zones

- i. Barnsley's rates of Killed and Seriously Injured casualties are significantly higher than the national average and have increased every year since 2016.
- ii. While we welcome the proposed pilot "Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiatives" it is clear these do not go far enough to tackle this effectively.
- iii. Research done by the Liberal Democrat group has shown that a highly effective way to make Barnsley's streets safer is to implement 20mph limits in all residential areas and outside all schools.
- iv. We propose a phased programme over 3 years at an estimated cost of £433,000 p.a.
- v. This is based on data from Calderdale Council who spent £821,000 to implement 20mph limits across 525km of residential roads; Barnsley has 727km of "urban" roads, on a pro rata basis, plus allowing for inflation, this would estimate the cost at approximately £1.3m.
- vi. Appendix 2e of Section 3c of the budget identifies £1.42m of unallocated capital reserves available to invest. Given the clear need to prioritise road safety initiatives we propose allocating these monies to this project, while simultaneously applying for external funding opportunities.

2. Community focussed youth services

- i. The proposed town centre "Youth Zone" is widely considered to be an inappropriate strategy to deliver youth services, which should be community centred and locally delivered for maximum engagement and accessibility.
- ii. We would therefore cease all plans for the centralised Youth Zone, freeing up £3 million of capital budget and £300,000 p.a. of revenue spend.
- iii. The £3 million will instead be invested directly into youth work in communities, creating a programme of refurbishment, improvements and new youth centres across the six Area Councils.
- iv. This would be accompanied by an ambitious plan to attract match funding, grant contributions and charity input in order to maximise the possibilities of community-based youth services.
- v. The proposed £300,000 p.a. yearly revenue spend would be spent on 10 new WTE youth workers committed to delivering these community-based services (based on average salary of approx. £21,500 plus on costs).

3. Snow wardens

- i. This winter has brought unprecedented cold weather and snow across the borough, causing disruption for residents and increased workload for council teams.
- ii. We recognise that it is not possible for the teams to grit every single road in the borough – especially residential estates and side streets.

- iii. The Liberal Democrat group celebrates the contribution of community champions who do their bit to help keep their local area clear of snow, and wishes to support them to do so.
- iv. We would therefore expand on, formalise and actively promote the borough wide “Snow Warden” scheme, providing 100 registered volunteers with a snow shovel, a high viz jacket and one tonne of grit.
- v. This scheme is estimated to cost approximately £30,000. This would be funded by reallocating part of the grass cutting budget, allowing for the rewinding of more grass verges around the borough.

After a lengthy and full and frank discussion it was:

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

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Standing Order No 13(12)(e), the question be now put.

The Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services waived his right of reply.

The Amendment was then put to the vote and was lost.

Voting on the Amendment was as follows:

In favour of the amendment, present at the time of voting

Councillors Fielding, Greenhough, Hunt, Kitching and Lodge.

Those against the amendment, present at the time of voting

The Mayor, (Councillor Makinson) and Councillors Andrews BEM, Barnard, Birkinshaw, Bruff, Carr, A Cave, T Cave, Charlesworth, Cheetham, Cherryholme, Clarke, Danforth, Eastwood, Ennis OBE, Franklin, Frost, Gardiner, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Daniel Griffin, David, Griffin, Hand-Davis, Haywood, Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Howard, C Johnson, W Johnson, Lamb, Leech, Lofts, Markham, McCarthy, Newing, Noble, Phillips, Pickering, Platts, Richardson, Saunders, Shepherd, Smith, Spence, Stowe, Sumner, Tattersall, Williams, Wilson, Wraith MBE and Wright.

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

A) 2021/22 BUDGET PROPOSALS

RESOLVED

- a) 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 21/22 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 from ‘Our Be Even Better Strategy’ that ensure the Council’s ongoing financial sustainability in 22/23 and beyond;

- b) that the revised Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget Forecast for 21/22 to 23/24 contained at **Section 3** (supported by the suite of background papers in **Sections 3a – 3f**) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS;
- c) that the specific ongoing investment in relation to the Glassworks and the resources set aside to address the anticipated ongoing service pressures caused by COVID 19 highlighted in **Section 2** are considered and approved;
- d) that the proposed efficiency savings in 21/22 highlighted in **Section 3** and detailed at **Section 5a** be approved for implementation and that the 22/24 efficiency savings stemming from 'Our Be Even Better Strategy' at **Section 5b** be noted with final approval to take place as part of the 22/23 budget setting process;
- e) that the £12.7M of one-off resources identified following the 21/22 local government finance settlement highlighted in **Section 3** be set aside to support the ongoing COVID recovery and to provide additional financial resilience to deal with any challenges posed by the UK's exit from the European Union;
- f) that the Council's updated reserves position at **Section 3c** be noted;
- g) that the Capital Investment Strategy at **Section 3d** be approved;
- h) that the proposed changes to the 21/22 fees and charges policy and accompanying schedule of charges set out at **Section 3f** be approved;
- i) to submit to Council for approval the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure for 21/22 of £186.2M as highlighted in **Section 6a**;
- j) to consider the budgets for all services and approve, for submission into Council, the 21/22 – 23/24 budget proposals presented at **Sections 6a – 6c**, subject to Cabinet receiving detailed implementation reports where appropriate;
- k) to consider and approve the changes to the schools funding formula including the transfer of funding from the schools block to the high needs block and approve the proposed 21/22 schools block budget as set out at **Section 6d**;
- l) that the capital investment schemes totalling £6.8M (**Section 7 Appendix 1**), be included within the capital programme and released subject to receiving further detailed business cases where appropriate;
- m) to note the capital investment proposals of £116.6M (**Section 7 Appendix 2**) which are currently the subject of live external funding bids/specific Government announcements and thereafter to receive regular updates on their progress;
- n) that the capital investment proposals totalling £96.4M (**Section 7 Appendix 3**) be progressed for further detailed feasibility work/business case development;
- o) that the Aggregated Equality Impact Assessment (**Section 9**) of the budget proposals be noted and the proposed mitigation actions in the report be approved;

- p) 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 21/22 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above;
- q) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of all approved saving proposals;
- r) 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;
- s) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 21/22 budget;
- t) 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; and
- u) that the budget papers be submitted for the consideration of the full Council.

B) COUNCIL TAX 2021/22

RESOLVED

That the contents of **Section 3b** (21/22 Council Tax options) be noted and that:

- (i) in respect of the Council Tax 2021/22 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 2021/22;
 - (b) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s services be set at £1,586.04 which includes the cumulative special precept earmarked specifically for Adult Social Care of £158.26; and
 - (c) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s area be set at £1875.15 including the Police and Fire precepts* as set out in (ii)(c).
- (ii) that, in respect of the Council Tax 2021/22 declaration:
 - (a) that it be noted that at its meeting of its Cabinet on the 13th January 2021 the Council made the following calculations for the year 2021/22 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 65,226.24 (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	97.00	92.15	1,531.00	16.61
Cawthorne	617.90	587.01	23,144.00	39.43
Dunford	251.10	238.55	8,346.00	34.99
Great Houghton	653.50	620.83	23,169.00	37.32
Gunthwaite and Ingbirchworth	298.30	283.39	5,736.00	20.24
High Hoyland	69.10	65.65	-	-
Hunshelf	163.80	155.61	5,000.00	32.13
Langsett	111.30	105.74	3,736.00	35.33
Little Houghton	183.50	174.33	4,169.00	23.91
Oxspring	465.90	442.61	19,310.00	43.63
Penistone	4,407.90	4,187.51	189,059.00	45.15
Shafton	942.70	895.57	36,658.00	40.93
Silkstone	1,213.10	1,152.45	74,759.00	64.87
Stainborough	164.00	155.80	4,917.00	31.56
Tankersley	690.50	655.98	18,180.00	27.71
Thurgoland	756.90	719.06	11,465.00	15.94
Wortley	304.20	288.99	7,796.00	26.98
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	57,268.50	54,405.01	-	-
Total	68,659.20	65,226.24	436,975.00	

- (b) that the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2021/22 in accordance with Sections 31-36 of the "the Act":-
- (1) £187,025,111 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) £79,936,760 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) £103,888,351 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) £1,592.74 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) £436,975.00 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) £1,586.04 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;

TABLE 2	
Section 34(3) Calculation :	
Part of the Council's Area	
Parish of :-	£
Billingley	1,602.65
Cawthorne	1,625.47
Dunford	1,621.03
Great Houghton	1,623.36
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,606.28
High Hoyland	1,586.04
Hunshelf	1,618.17
Langsett	1,621.37
Little Houghton	1,609.95
Oxspring	1,629.67
Penistone	1,631.19
Shafton	1,626.97
Silkstone	1,650.91
Stainborough	1,617.60
Tankersley	1,613.75
Thurgoland	1,601.98
Wortley	1,613.02
This table represents the Council Tax for Barnsley MBC plus Local Parishes for Band D only	

- (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:-

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	890.36	1,068.43	1,246.51	1,424.57	1,602.65	1,958.79	2,314.94	2,671.08	3,205.30
Cawthorne	903.04	1,083.65	1,264.26	1,444.86	1,625.47	1,986.68	2,347.90	2,709.12	3,250.94
Dunford	900.57	1,080.69	1,260.80	1,440.91	1,621.03	1,981.26	2,341.49	2,701.72	3,242.06
Great Houghton	901.86	1,082.24	1,262.62	1,442.98	1,623.36	1,984.10	2,344.86	2,705.60	3,246.72
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	892.37	1,070.85	1,249.33	1,427.80	1,606.28	1,963.23	2,320.19	2,677.13	3,212.56
High Hoyland	881.13	1,057.36	1,233.59	1,409.81	1,586.04	1,938.49	2,290.95	2,643.40	3,172.08
Hunshelf	898.98	1,078.78	1,258.58	1,438.37	1,618.17	1,977.76	2,337.36	2,696.95	3,236.34
Langsett	900.76	1,080.91	1,261.07	1,441.21	1,621.37	1,981.67	2,341.98	2,702.28	3,242.74
Little Houghton	894.41	1,073.30	1,252.19	1,431.06	1,609.95	1,967.71	2,325.49	2,683.25	3,219.90
Oxspring	905.37	1,086.45	1,267.52	1,448.59	1,629.67	1,991.82	2,353.97	2,716.12	3,259.34
Penistone	906.21	1,087.46	1,268.71	1,449.94	1,631.19	1,993.67	2,356.17	2,718.65	3,262.38
Shafton	903.87	1,084.65	1,265.42	1,446.19	1,626.97	1,988.52	2,350.07	2,711.62	3,253.94
Silkstone	917.17	1,100.61	1,284.04	1,467.47	1,650.91	2,017.78	2,384.65	2,751.52	3,301.82
Stainborough	898.66	1,078.40	1,258.14	1,437.86	1,617.60	1,977.06	2,336.54	2,696.00	3,235.20
Tankersley	896.52	1,075.83	1,255.14	1,434.44	1,613.75	1,972.36	2,330.98	2,689.58	3,227.50
Thurgoland	889.99	1,067.99	1,245.99	1,423.98	1,601.98	1,957.97	2,313.97	2,669.97	3,203.96
Wortley	896.12	1,075.35	1,254.57	1,433.79	1,613.02	1,971.47	2,329.92	2,688.37	3,226.04
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	881.13	1,057.36	1,233.59	1,409.81	1,586.04	1,938.49	2,290.95	2,643.40	3,172.08

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 2021/22 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	4,961,760	42.26	50.71	59.17	67.62	76.07	92.97	109.88	126.78	152.14
South Yorkshire Police Authority	13,821,440	118.36	142.03	165.70	189.37	213.04	260.38	307.72	355.07	426.08

- (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 2021/22 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	1,050.98	1,261.17	1,471.38	1,681.56	1,891.76	2,312.14	2,732.54	3,152.93	3,783.52
Cawthorne	1,063.66	1,276.39	1,489.13	1,701.85	1,914.58	2,340.03	2,765.50	3,190.97	3,829.16
Dunford	1,061.19	1,273.43	1,485.67	1,697.90	1,910.14	2,334.61	2,759.09	3,183.57	3,820.28
Great Houghton	1,062.48	1,274.98	1,487.49	1,699.97	1,912.47	2,337.45	2,762.46	3,187.45	3,824.94
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,052.99	1,263.59	1,474.20	1,684.79	1,895.39	2,316.58	2,737.79	3,158.98	3,790.78
High Hoyland	1,041.75	1,250.10	1,458.46	1,666.80	1,875.15	2,291.84	2,708.55	3,125.25	3,750.30
Hunshelf	1,059.60	1,271.52	1,483.45	1,695.36	1,907.28	2,331.11	2,754.96	3,178.80	3,814.56
Langsett	1,061.38	1,273.65	1,485.94	1,698.20	1,910.48	2,335.02	2,759.58	3,184.13	3,820.96
Little Houghton	1,055.03	1,266.04	1,477.06	1,688.05	1,899.06	2,321.06	2,743.09	3,165.10	3,798.12
Oxspring	1,065.99	1,279.19	1,492.39	1,705.58	1,918.78	2,345.17	2,771.57	3,197.97	3,837.56
Penistone	1,066.83	1,280.20	1,493.58	1,706.93	1,920.30	2,347.02	2,773.77	3,200.50	3,840.60
Shafton	1,064.49	1,277.39	1,490.29	1,703.18	1,916.08	2,341.87	2,767.67	3,193.47	3,832.16
Silkstone	1,077.79	1,293.35	1,508.91	1,724.46	1,940.02	2,371.13	2,802.25	3,233.37	3,880.04
Stainborough	1,059.28	1,271.14	1,483.01	1,694.85	1,906.71	2,330.41	2,754.14	3,177.85	3,813.42
Tankersley	1,057.14	1,268.57	1,480.01	1,691.43	1,902.86	2,325.71	2,748.58	3,171.43	3,805.72
Thurgoland	1,050.61	1,260.73	1,470.86	1,680.97	1,891.09	2,311.32	2,731.57	3,151.82	3,782.18
Wortley	1,056.74	1,268.09	1,479.44	1,690.78	1,902.13	2,324.82	2,747.52	3,170.22	3,804.26
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	1,041.75	1,250.10	1,458.46	1,666.80	1,875.15	2,291.84	2,708.55	3,125.25	3,750.30
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 Police and Fire Authorities respectively (Table 4).									

- (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 2021/22, that Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year 2021/22 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.

- iii) additional support be provided to all working age claimants of Local Council Tax Support in the form a flat payment of £125 per claimant.

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 106 (A) and (B) refers)

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

The Mayor, (Councillor Makinson), and Councillors, Andrews, Barnard, Birkinshaw, Bruff, Carr, A Cave, T Cave, Charlesworth, Cheetham, Cherryholme, Clarke, Danforth, Eastwood, Ennis OBE, Franklin, Frost, Gardiner, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Daniel Griffin, David Griffin, Hand-Davis, Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Howard, C Johnson, W Johnson, Lamb, Leech, Lofts, Markham, McCarthy, Newing, Noble, Phillips, Pickering, Richardson, Saunders, Shepherd, Smith, Spence, Stowe, Tattersall, Williams, Wilson, Wraith MBE, and Wright.

Those against the motion, present at the time of voting

Councillors Hunt, Kitching, and Lodge.

C) TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND POLICY STATEMENT 2021/22

Moved by Councillor Gardiner – Seconded by Councillor Franklin; and

RESOLVED that the 21/22 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement (included in the main papers at Section 3e) be approved and specifically:

- a) the 21/22 Treasury Management Policy Statement (**Section 3e Appendix A**) be approved;
- b) the 21/22 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (**Section 3e Appendix B**) be approved;
- c) the 21/22 Borrowing Strategy at Section 3e including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (**Section 3e Appendix C**) be approved; and
- d) the 21/22 Annual Investment Strategy at **Section 3e** be approved.

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Chair

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Item 7

REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

February 2021

The Terms of Reference of Barnsley's Health and Wellbeing Board

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To make members aware of proposed changes to the Health and Wellbeing Board, most notably to the Membership.
- 1.2 To seek endorsement from Members in order for the Board to recommend that the revised terms of reference be approved at the Full Council meeting on 1st April, 2021.

2. Delivering the Health & Wellbeing Strategy

2.1 An effective Health and Wellbeing Board is integral to the drafting and approval of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and associated documentation. Ensuring the Health and Wellbeing Board functions efficiently will also help enable delivery against the strategy and management of performance.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the revised Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board are endorsed, and that these be recommend for approval by Council Members at the next appropriate meeting of Full Council on 1st April, 2021.

4. Introduction/ Background

4.1 Following a period of approximately 15 months working in shadow form, the establishment of Barnsley's Health and Wellbeing Board was approved by Full Council in February 2013, with it becoming formally established in April 2013. Its role is set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

4.2 During 2016 a review was undertaken into the operation of the Board, and subsequently a number of changes were made to its terms of reference and membership. The revised terms of reference were approved in October, 2016, with a suggestion that these be reviewed regularly.

5. Reviewing the Health and Wellbeing Board

5.1 As a result of development sessions undertaken in late 2018/early 2019 to review the role and operation of the Health and Wellbeing Board, a number of changes were proposed. These were considered by the Board at its meeting in April

2019 and it was suggested that these be approved, subject to further consideration around its Membership.

5.2 As a result of the unfortunate cancellation of a number of meetings in late 2019, and the hiatus of the board in early 2020 due to Covid-19, the proposed changes further consideration of Membership was delayed and therefore the revisions to the Terms of Reference have yet to be approved.

5.3 Since the reinstatement of the Health and Wellbeing Board following the approval of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No.392, there has been continued development work undertaken, which has included revisiting the review of the Terms of Reference to ensure they are appropriate. This has culminated in the revised terms of reference document attached in Appendix 1.

6. Conclusion/ Next Steps

6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board does not have the authority to approve its own terms of reference, and therefore if the board is content with the revisions, it is recommended that these be referred to Full Council for approval.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications of amending the terms of reference.

8. Consultation with stakeholders

8.1 There has been consultation with officers in Public Health and Governance, and with existing and proposed board members.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference for Barnsley’s Health and Wellbeing Board February 2021.

10. Background Papers

10.1 Establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Board in Barnsley February 2013
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/Data/Full%20Council/201302281030/Agenda/Item12%20Establishment%20of%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board%20in%20Barnsley%20-%20Report.pdf>

10.2 Cabinet Report October 2016
<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s14477/Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board%20-%20Review%20of%20Terms%20of%20Reference%20and%20Membership.pdf>

10.3 Health and Wellbeing Board current terms of reference

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s73941/Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf>

10.4 Health and Wellbeing Board 9th April 2019 terms of reference report-

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s47927/HWB%20Report%20Draft%20Terms%20of%20Reference%209th%20April.pdf>

And subsequent minutes

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g5264/Printed%20minutes%209th-Apr-2019%2016.00%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board.pdf?T=1>

Officer: Peter Mirfin

Date: 25th January, 2021

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BARNSELY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

February 2021

1. Purpose and Background

- 1.1 Barnsley's Health and Wellbeing Board (the Board) is established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 as a statutory committee of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (the Council) and has been in place since April 2013.
- 1.2 Whilst the Board is formally a committee of the Council, it operates as a multi-agency board of equal partners.
- 1.3 The Board believes in a healthier future for Barnsley and will develop and maintain a vision for the borough to be free from inequalities in health and wellbeing, taking a view of the whole population from pre-birth to end of life.

2. Role and Function of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- 2.1 The Board is statutorily required to carry out the following functions:
 - a) To undertake a Joint-Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA);¹
 - b) To undertake a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA);²
 - c) To develop and publish a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) for Barnsley;³
 - d) To provide an opinion on whether the Council is discharging its duty to have regard to the JSNA, and the JHWS, in the exercise of its functions;⁴
 - e) To review the extent to which the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has contributed to the delivery of the JHWS;⁵ to provide an opinion to the CCG on whether their draft commissioning plan takes proper account of the JHWS;⁶ and, to provide an opinion to NHS England on whether a commissioning plan published by the CCG takes proper account of the JHWS;⁷
 - f) To support joint commissioning and encourage integrated working and pooled budget arrangements⁸ in relation to arrangements for providing health, health-related or social care services;
 - g) To discharge all functions relating to the Better Care Fund that are required or permitted by law to be exercised by the Board; and
 - h) To receive and approve any other plans or strategies that are required either as a matter of law or policy to be approved by the Board.
 - i) To carry out any new functions as requested by the Secretary of State and as advised in issued guidance.

¹ Section 116 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the LGPIHA 2007)

² Section 128A National Health Service Act 2006 (the NHA 2006).

³ Under Section 116A LGPIHA 2007

⁴ Under Section 116B LGPIHA 2007

⁵ Under Section 14Z15(3) and Section 14Z16 NHA 2006

⁶ Section 14Z13(5) NHA 2006

⁷ Section 14Z14 NHA 2006

⁸ In accordance with Section 195 Health and Social Care Act 2012. This includes encouraging arrangements under Section 75 NHA 2006.

- 2.2 In addition to these statutory responsibilities, the Board will also oversee how all organisations across the Borough function together in order to deliver the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2.3 The Board will agree, own and oversee the strategic vision for health and wellbeing in Barnsley and it will hold all partners and organisations to account for delivering against this vision, by taking an interest in all associated strategies and plans and when appropriate requesting details on how specific policies or strategies help to achieve the aims of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2.4 The Health and Wellbeing Board will develop a strategic health and wellbeing outcomes framework, which will be based on the objectives outlined in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The outcomes framework will be used by the Board to assess progress against the JHWS.

3. Membership

3.1 The Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Board brings together political, clinical, professional and community leaders in Barnsley. The membership consists of a mixture of mandatory members, who are required under statute to be members of the Health and Wellbeing Board and some additional members who have been invited to join the Board. The membership is as follows:

- Deputy Leader of Barnsley MBC
- Council Cabinet Spokesperson – Adults and Communities
- Council Cabinet Spokesperson – Children’s Services
- Barnsley Council Director of Public Health
- Barnsley Council Executive Director – Adults and Communities
- Barnsley Council Executive Director – Children’s Services
- Chair, Barnsley NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- Accountable Officer, Barnsley NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- Director of Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships, Barnsley NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- Chief Executive, Berneslai Homes
- Chief Executive, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Chief Executive, South & West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- A senior representative from NHS England
- Chair of Healthwatch Barnsley Strategic Advisory Board
- Chief Superintendent (Barnsley District), South Yorkshire Police
- Chief Executive, Barnsley CVS
- Chief Executive, Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce
- Other representatives from the wider health and wellbeing community across Barnsley may be invited to attend the Board from time to time to contribute to discussion specific issues; including officers from partnership organisations to present reports to the Board.

3.2 In addition, the Health and Wellbeing Board will be supported by Barnsley Council’s Service Director for Governance, Member and Business Support and by Barnsley Council’s core Public Health team.

4. Role and Responsibilities of Health and Wellbeing Board Members

- 4.1 All members of the Board, as a statutory committee of the Council, must observe the Council's code of conduct for members and co-opted members.
- 4.2 Board members are expected to attend all board meetings whenever possible and fully and positively contribute to discussions, reading and digesting any documents and information provided prior to meetings.
- 4.3 Where Board members cannot attend, they should endeavour to send a deputy to represent their organisation at Board meetings. This is to ensure unfettered engagement of all partner organisations in achieving the Board's vision.
- 4.4 The membership of the Board is constructed to provide a broad range of perspectives on the development of strategy and tackling health inequalities in Barnsley. With this in mind, members are asked to bring the insight, knowledge, perspective and strategic capacity they have as a consequence of their everyday role, and not simply act as a representative of their organisation, but with the interests of the whole borough and its residents at heart.
- 4.5 Fully and effectively communicating outcomes and key decisions of the Board to their own organisations, acting as ambassadors for the work of the Board, and participating where appropriate in communications/marketing and stakeholder engagement activity to support the objectives of the Board.
- 4.6 Contributing to the ongoing development of the Board, including ensuring that appropriate items are brought to the Board's attention and added to the Board's forward plan, where relevant.
- 4.7 To act as system leaders and inspire others, including within their own organisations, networks of associates, other partnership groups, and service users to contribute to the delivery of the vision/ strategy for a healthier future for Barnsley.
- 4.8 Contribute to the development and delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy; holding the system to account, highlighting and celebrating our achievements and challenging performance against the strategy where necessary.
- 4.9 Seek and consider diverse opinions as a process for driving innovation, maximising assets and making best use of available resources.
- 4.10 Act in a respectful, inclusive and open manner with all colleagues to encourage debate and challenge.

5. Governance and Accountability

5.1 Chair: The Board will be co-chaired by the Deputy Leader of Barnsley MBC and the Chair of Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group, with the chairing of meetings generally alternating between them.

5.2 Attendance and deputies: In order to maintain consistency, it is assumed that Board members will attend all Board meetings. Where a Board member cannot attend a meeting, they should endeavour to send a deputy in their place, as mentioned above.

5.3 Quorum:

The quorum or minimum attendance for meetings will be one quarter of its membership and should include at least one Council Cabinet Spokesperson and one representative from the Clinical Commissioning Group.

5.4 Decision making and voting:

The Board will operate on a consensus basis. Where consensus cannot be achieved the matter will be put to a vote. Decisions will be made by simple majority: the Chair for the

meeting at which the vote is taken will have the casting vote. All votes shall be taken by a show of hands unless decided otherwise by the Chair.

5.5 Relationship to other multi-agency partnerships:

The Board will work collaboratively with other strategic partnerships and working groups within the system to harness collective action for a healthier future for Barnsley. The Health & Wellbeing Board Chair will invite matters of exception to be reported from the Chairs of other partnerships, where there is a shared agenda. When matters of exception are reported, the Board will consider and take agreed action.

5.6 Accountability and Scrutiny:

For the purpose of the Health and Social Care Act and Borough wide governance arrangements, the Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Board will be regarded both as a committee of Barnsley MBC and as a strategic partnership. As a Council committee, the Board will be formally accountable to the Council. Its work may be subject to scrutiny by any of the Council's relevant scrutiny committees.

5.7 Engagement:

The Board will ensure that the voice of Barnsley residents, including that of Children and Young People, is heard and represented on issues affecting health and wellbeing in Barnsley.

6. Meeting Arrangements

6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board will meet in public every four months, interspersed with private strategy and Board development sessions. There will be no fewer than two public meetings per financial year.

6.2 Agendas and papers will be circulated to all members and be available on the Council's website 5 clear days in advance of any public meeting.

6.3 The Board's meetings are open to the public and both the Council's Standing Orders and the highest ethical standards of public service will apply to its proceedings.

7. Probity and Transparency

7.1 A member of the public may ask a question at a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board that, in the opinion of the Council's Executive Director, Core Services, is relevant to the business of the Board and has been notified to the Council Governance Unit in writing or by email no less than 10 clear days in advance of the meeting in question.

7.2 Questions relating to items on the agenda for a specific meeting of the Board may be submitted by 7.00 pm on the day after the agenda's publication. Questions shall be no longer than 100 words.

7.3 If required, support will be made available by the Council Governance Unit for members of the public who have literacy difficulties to formulate their question for the consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

7.4 All questions shall be answered by the relevant Board member, who may reserve the right to indicate that the answer is given within a specific paper on the Board's agenda or reply in writing after the meeting.

7.5 The Executive Director, Core Services reserves the right to reject questions that are libellous or vexatious, or simply repeat questions answered at previous meetings.

7.6 Each member of the Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Board is subject to the Ethical Standards requirements of Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011. Members will ensure the registration of any personal, professional or pecuniary interests with the Monitoring Officer and declare at meetings any relevant interests in any matter being considered by the Board. Members are

required to complete a declaration of interests form which will be published on the Council's website.

8. Review

8.1 The Board will review these Terms of Reference annually.

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Item 8

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has been included in the relevant Forward Plan

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CORE SERVICES TO CABINET, 24 MARCH 2021

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2024 AND ASSOCIATED PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to publish the new Council Plan and agree on the revised performance framework

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet approve the publication of the new Council Plan and agree on the approach for the revised accompanying performance framework

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The existing Corporate Plan and associated performance framework will be concluded on the 1st April 2021 and a new Council Plan is required to set out the ambitions of the Council for the next 3 years from 2021 through to 2024.
- 3.2 The new Council Plan has been influenced from the work that has taken place for the Barnsley 2030 project, through the questionnaire to every Barnsley household, the workshops with key partners and business owners and internal consultation with every service area.
- 3.3 The influence of the Barnsley 2030 project has resulted in the re-use of the 2030 vision, "Barnsley the place of possibilities" and associated themes which will become the new Council Plan priorities; Healthy, Learning, Growing and Sustainable Barnsley.
- 3.4 An additional priority, Enabling Barnsley, will include our continued work to be a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing Council.
- 3.5 The associated performance framework will report quarterly to Cabinet on the progress of the Council Plan, focusing on the 12 Outcomes (3 for each of the 4 new priorities).

4. PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICATION

- 4.1 The Council is required to produce a plan to set-out it's ambitions for the next three years and to track the progress towards delivering against the priorities and vision for the Council.

- 4.2 The associated quarterly performance reporting provides a structured, accountable framework where areas for improvement and areas of achievement can be highlighted and challenged through a robust process before being shared with the public.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

- 5.1 Not having a vision, set of priorities and outcomes to focus the delivery of services to the population we serve.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE/SERVICE USERS

- 6.1 The availability of a robust Council Plan and associated performance framework reporting on the progress for delivering against the priorities and outcomes to make us accountable to the people we serve.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Resource time to produce the plan and continued delivery of the performance framework (already accounted for through the Business Improvement and Intelligence Team).

8. EMPLOYEE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Employees can focus on the agreed priorities and associated outcomes to deliver the overall vision.
- 8.2 Each outcome will have a number of critical success factors that will be driven through teams delivering effective, efficient services and employees can see the contribution of their work on the successful delivery of the overall vision for the council.
- 8.3 The Council Plan and performance framework are integral in the delivery of the Leadership Programme, so all managers are aware of the importance of an over-arching plan and how every employee affects the overall success of the plan against the named priorities, outcomes and associated critical success factors.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report. The Local Government Association strongly recommend that all Councils have a structured plan and performance framework in place.

10. CUSTOMER AND DIGITAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Council Plan and associated performance framework need to meet the required accessibility criteria, and this is managed through working with the digital team to ensure accessibility of the report meets the required standards.

11. COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Quarterly reporting updates are presented through Cabinet and published on our website, with an associated communications release to highlight the areas of improvement and achievement.

12. CONSULTATIONS

- 12.1 The Council Plan has been heavily influenced by the wide range of engagement and consultation undertaken through the Barnsley 2030 project including a questionnaire to every household in the borough and workshops with partner agencies and council teams, resulting in the four themes established for the Barnsley 2030 project being adopted as the new Council Plan priorities.
- 12.2 The Council Plan performance framework has been taken to every directorate management team to align the delivery of priority outcomes over the next three years, aligning with the input from the Barnsley 2030 consultation.

13. EQUALITY IMPACT

- 13.1 Not applicable. An Equality Impact Assessment is not a legal requirement. The key requirement is that the Council pays 'due regard' to the three aims of the Duty and this can be demonstrated.
- 13.2 In this instance, the Council Plan is derived from evidence and feedback gained from the Barnsley 2030 consultation work. Our employees, Councillors, residents, businesses and partner organisations, offered their views about the future of Barnsley. This involved engaging with residents and communities from different backgrounds and with different protected characteristics. This feedback has been used to influence this Council Plan through using the Barnsley 2030 themes as our new priorities for the Council.
- 13.3 Therefore a separate Equality Impact Assessment was not required for the Council Plan as an EIA was conducted for the overarching Barnsley 2030 project.
- 13.4 However, Equality Impact Assessments will be required and produced for the work-streams that arise from the Council Plan.

14. THE CORPORATE PLAN AND THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

- 14.1 This document is the new Council Plan for 2021-2024 and will replace the existing Corporate Plan and the performance framework

15. TACKLING THE IMPACT OF POVERTY

- 15.1 The Council Plan reporting framework includes outcomes directly related to

the impact of poverty, so progress in reducing poverty across the borough will become a key part of the quarterly reporting update cycle.

16. TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES

16.1 The Council Plan reporting framework includes outcomes directly related to the impact of health inequalities, so progress in reducing health inequalities across the borough will become a key part of the quarterly reporting update cycle.

17. REDUCTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

17.1 The Council Plan reporting framework includes outcomes directly related to the impact of people feeling safe, so progress in reducing crime and disorder will be a part of the quarterly reporting update cycle.

18. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

18.1 A risk section is included in the Council Plan.

18.2 Effective and efficient risk management is critical to the success of any organisation alongside a robust Council Plan performance framework. It is an important tool for senior management to ensure that the organisations Priorities and Outcomes are achieved, and its responsibilities discharged.

19. HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESILIENCE ISSUES

19.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

20. COMPATIBILITY WITH THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

20.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

21. CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

21.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

22. GLOSSARY

Not applicable.

23. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Financial Implications


24. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council Plan 2021-2024

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

Report author: Malachi Rangecroft

Financial Implications/Consultation



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(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer)

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Our Council Plan 2021 – 2024



1. Welcome

Welcome to our Council Plan for 2021 to 2024.

We've created our Council Plan based on our fundamental purpose of working together with our communities and organisations, including the public, voluntary, community, and private sectors, to improve our residents' services and quality of life.

You've helped us to develop this plan through what you said you wanted in 2030, and these themes have shaped our new council priorities. We're extremely grateful to everyone who has played their part in this.

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit Barnsley hard, and over the next three years to 2024, we want to build our borough back better and fairer. However, it has also brought out the best in our communities, and we look to the future with enthusiasm and optimism. We've got ambitious plans for change, improvement and growth to allow everyone to be the best they can be because our borough is a place that fosters and grows ambition.

We know that this plan will help us make sure our work makes a real difference for you, how we deliver services better and ensure that we deliver a balanced budget. We want to build and drive forward our role as a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council.

It's time to believe in the possibilities of Barnsley. Everyone has an important role in working together to achieve our vision of Barnsley's future and our long-term ambitions. We're excited to take you on the journey towards achieving our Barnsley 2030 ambitions and what that will mean for us all.

If you love Barnsley as much as we do, you'll be keen to find out about the work we're doing and what we want to achieve by 2024. Read on to find out more.



Leader of the Council
Cllr Sir Steve Houghton
CBE



Chief Executive
Sarah Norman

2. Our story so far

The vision for Barnsley Council is making Barnsley the place of possibilities. We will achieve this through a range of activities and initiatives over the next three years, as well as looking further forward into our future possibilities working alongside our key partners.

The Barnsley 2030 project

In January 2020, we asked people what their future Barnsley could look like by the year 2030, the challenges you feel you may face, and your ambitions for the borough where you live, work or visit.

Our employees, councillors, residents, businesses and partner organisations, offered their views about the future of Barnsley. This feedback has been used to influence this Council Plan through using the Barnsley 2030 themes as our new priorities for the Council.

The Barnsley 2030 vision, 'Barnsley the place of possibilities' builds on our past which has influenced the fabric of the borough and experiences of many Barnsley residents, and the borough's success over recent years. We will also use the vision for the Council Plan to demonstrate our commitment to making it happen.

Our residents and organisations across the private, public, voluntary and community sectors have an important role in working together to achieve this vision of Barnsley's future and our long-term ambitions. By 2030, we want everyone to benefit from, and contribute to, making our borough a thriving place of possibilities.

More information on the Barnsley 2030 project will become available in summer 2021 but be assured that the influence of the project is being felt throughout our new Council Plan.



COVID-19 Recovery

We cannot ignore the impact that COVID-19 has had on our communities, businesses, our partners and our own organisation. This Council Plan will reflect the recovery work underway to ensure Barnsley is a place of possibilities as we build back better and fairer.

We are working with colleagues and agencies across South Yorkshire to undertake a phased return from the pandemic, to understand how we will all live and operate in a borough where lots of things have changed around public health, the economy and our communities.

A phased recovery framework has been developed that all public sector partners will work towards in living with COVID-19 from 2021 and building back fairer.

More information can be found on our COVID-19 advice and guidance webpage, at barnsley.gov.uk/covid-19-advice-and-guidance



3. Our plan for the next three years

The Local Government Association (LGA) undertook a peer challenge review of Barnsley Council in March 2019 and the opening line from the report says:

'Barnsley Council is a high-performing council with clear and tangible ambitions for its residents, communities and stakeholders.'

Our **Be Even Better Strategy** will provide the focus for all our staff to work together as our ambition to be even better never stops. Now it's time to look forward and move into a new phase of our organisation's improvement journey where we strive to be even better.

We have already set out our new priorities based upon the engagement with our communities, residents, businesses and employees from the Barnsley 2030 project and they are:

Barnsley - the place of possibilities

Healthy
Barnsley

Learning
Barnsley

Growing
Barnsley

Sustainable
Barnsley

Enabling
Barnsley

We are a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council



Across these new priorities, we have set out the outcomes that describe our intentions for the next three years, to ensure that we focus on Barnsley as a place of possibilities:

Barnsley - the place of possibilities			
Healthy Barnsley	Learning Barnsley	Growing Barnsley	Sustainable Barnsley
People are safe and feel safe.	People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.	Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all.	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.	People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.	Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy.
We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough.	People have access to early help and support.	People are supported to have safe, warm, sustainable homes.	Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking.

Enabling Barnsley

We are a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council

Enabling Barnsley is driven by our **Be Even Better Strategy**, which gives staff the tools and resources to ensure we meet our own stretching targets. In doing this, we hold ourselves accountable in making sure we work together towards making Barnsley the place of possibilities.

Our employees will continue to use the **Values** that are deeply embedded within the culture of the organisation:

			
We always say what we mean. Most of all we're reliable, fair and true.	We all work together towards the same goal – to make Barnsley a better place for the people.	We work hard to provide the best quality and value for money for the people of Barnsley. Only our best is good enough.	We're dedicated to making Barnsley a better place. We take pride in our work.

Our **People Strategy** will support delivery of the Council Plan by ensuring we develop the right supporting organisational culture and behaviours and a modern, agile, healthy, engaged, skilled and innovative workforce to support the delivery of our strategic ambitions, improvements and efficiencies.

As we work towards delivering this Council Plan it's important that we have a set of consistent organisation design principles and design enablers which will help to provide the foundations to build and guide our **Be Even Better Strategy**, as set out in the **Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)**. The **MTFS** is a key tool in understanding our financial position and in formulating our ongoing financial strategy and staff are aware of their need to think commercially when designing services, with support from our **Commercial Strategy**.

When undertaking improvement and efficiency reviews or service re-design, our services will refer to **Design Principles** as they develop and design their business case for change. Some of the principles include enabling more people to help themselves, rationalising council buildings, seeking income generation opportunities, create the conditions for economic growth and recovery and consider the needs of communities. Together with the **People Strategy** it is key to identifying how we will align our existing and future resources with **Barnsley 2030** and the priorities and outcomes within the new Council Plan. This will provide us with the framework to deliver a balanced council budget from 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 (with only a modest gap remaining to be addressed in 2023-2024).

Digital thinking and innovation are a key enabler for our **Be Even Better Strategy**, and a series of continuous digital improvements are being addressed through the **Digital Barnsley** strategy. To support this, the **People Strategy** will help to develop our staff's digital skills so that we can fully utilise the new tools, solutions and innovative technologies such as Microsoft Office 365, robotics, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things as set out in the **Digital Barnsley** programme. A key ambition for Barnsley is to become a digital leader and a digital enabled inclusive economy.



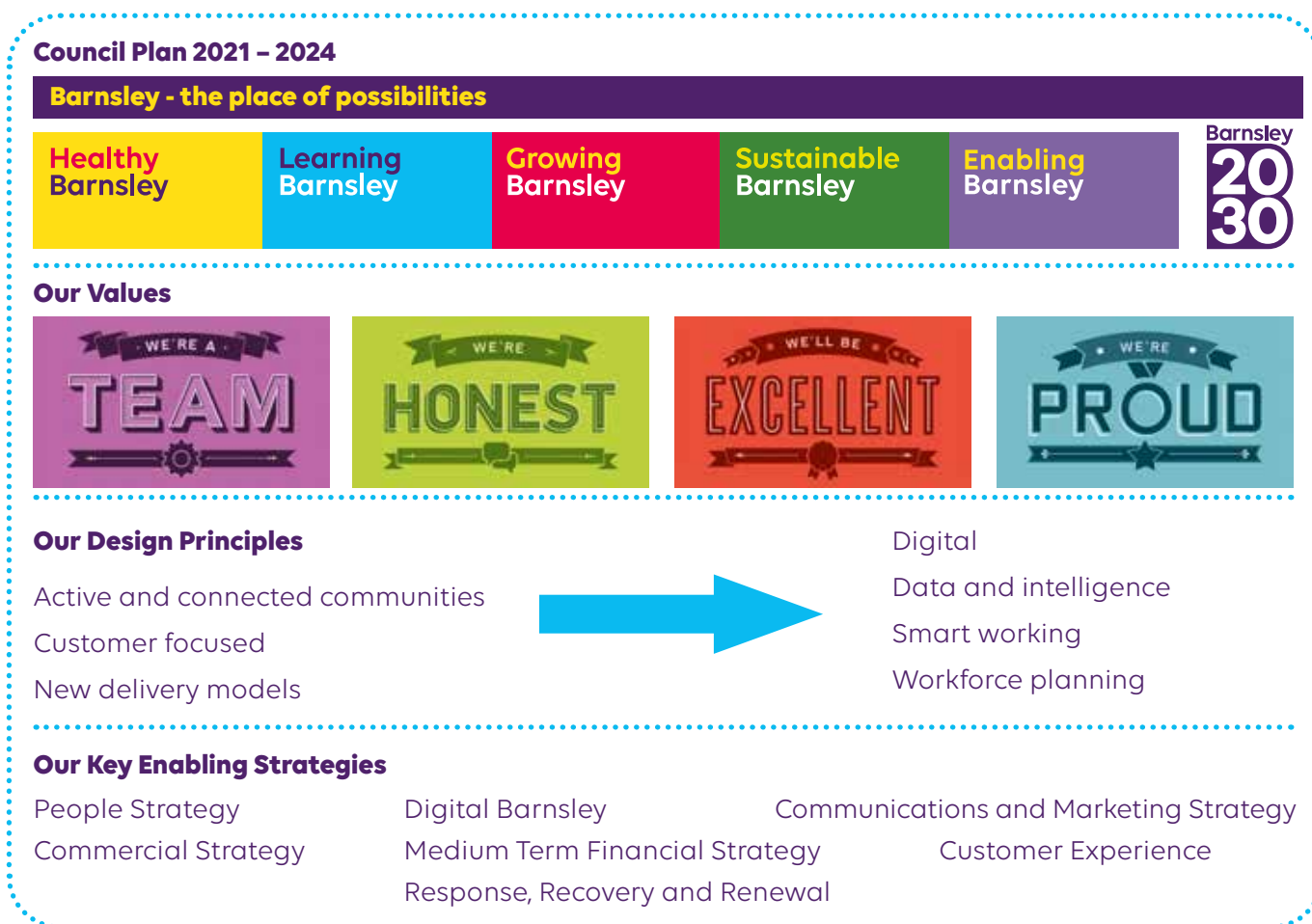
The **Response, Recovery and Renewal** programme is focused on building back better and fairer from the pandemic whilst our **Customer Experience** strategy looks to ensure we provide the best possible experience for all our residents and businesses, however they deal with the council. We listen to what they need and use people process and technology to try and meet their expectations.

And if you love Barnsley as much as we do, you'll be keen to find out about the work we're doing to make it an even better place. Our **Communications and Marketing Strategy** is key to making this happen. All our communications and marketing activity aligns with our priorities, ensuring that we concentrate on providing services where they're most needed and will have the most impact.

Our communications and marketing activity helps you understand what services the council provides you with, how they support you and how you can access them. It also helps showcase Barnsley as a great place to live, work and visit.

So how do all these innovative strategies fit together? The diagram below presents the golden thread across all these plans and strategies.

Our Be Even Better Strategy



In addition to the range of activities taking place within the council, we will also be working with partners to contribute to a more equitable, just and sustainable economy. We will develop a framework and approach with our public, private and voluntary sector partners towards building and holding wealth in our communities and places, sharing the benefits of our economy with everyone, and to using our natural resources sustainably.

This is called our Inclusive and Sustainable Economy Framework, and will shape all our decision making and future investments. Our partners will be encouraged to adopt a similar co-designed approach to their own investment decisions and expenditure.

4. Equalities

The Equality Act 2010 protects people from discrimination in society and in the workplace. It sets out ways in which it is unlawful to treat someone.

The Act also sets out a range of duties that public bodies, like the council, must adhere to. These duties make up what is called the Public Sector Equality Duty. The three aims that state the council must strive to are to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic¹ and those who do not, and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic.

The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 requires public bodies to prepare and publish one or more objectives that will help them to achieve any of the things mentioned in the three aims of the Equality Duty. Authorities must publish objectives at least every four years and these objectives must be specific and measurable.

Our equality objectives are integrated throughout our **Council Plan**. Our Plan is supported by a range of work we will deliver in order to meet our equality objectives and this means our objectives will be monitored and regularly reviewed and are at the heart of everything we do. We undertake Equality Impact Assessments to understand the needs of people and the impact of our work. These assessments are a structured way of predicting what impact our activity might have on equality. We then use evidence from the assessment to help us to design services and our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and across Barnsley is described in our Equality Policy.

We have four equality related objectives which are linked to the appropriate outcomes as described in the 'Our plan for the next three years' section. We also have an inward facing equality objective that relates to our workforce taken from our **Enabling Barnsley** priority; 'We are a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing council'. We will publish an annual Equality Report to show how we are achieving our equality objectives.

The four equality objectives:

Healthy Barnsley	People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.
Learning Barnsley	Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.
Growing Barnsley	People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.
Sustainable Barnsley	People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.

1. Protected characteristics are types of characteristics that could potentially lead to people being discriminated against. These characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

5. Risk management

Risk management is the process by which risks, concerns and issues are identified, evaluated and controlled. It is a key element of the council's Governance Assurance Framework and is a key part of business processes to deliver improvement.

Effective and efficient risk management is critical to the success of any organisation alongside a robust Council Plan performance framework. It is an important tool for senior management to ensure that the organisation's priorities and outcomes are achieved, and its responsibilities discharged. How organisations deal with risk can have a major impact on the achievement of the key business goals and organisational outcomes.

Local Government Association (LGA) undertook a peer challenge review of Barnsley Council in March 2019 and recommended that the corporate risk register should be reviewed to ensure that the risks within it truly reflected the key issues relating to the council's business and future development. The peer challenge presented an opportunity to consider the council's approach to strategic risk management, but also to consider the wider process of risk identification and management.

A new approach to risk management has been developed, which uses existing and familiar systems to employees in the council. The new risk management approach focuses on an assessment of confidence, unlike traditional risk systems which focus on the avoidance of failure.

Alongside the Council Plan and associated performance framework, our **Be Even Better** and **People Strategy**, council employees will have the most effective tools to ensure the organisation works together making Barnsley the place of possibilities.



6. How will we measure success?

Our Council Plan will reflect the recovery process through the critical success factors that will make the plan a success, and we will track progress on recovery through quarterly reviews with senior officers in the council, cabinet members and then share the results with you, the public, through our 'How we measure performance' web page.

We will also publish snippets of information through our social communications each quarter when we release our latest report. This makes us accountable to you, the public we serve.



7. Tell us what you think

Produced by the Business Improvement and Intelligence team.

Email: BusinessImprovement&Intelligence@barnsley.gov.uk

Website: barnsley.gov.uk

Telephone: (01226) 770 770 and ask for the Business Improvement and Intelligence team.

Address: **Westgate Plaza One, Barnsley, S70 2DR.**

Thank you for reading our Council Plan.

Please visit [barnsley.gov.uk](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk) to find out more.



@BarnsleyCouncil



@BarnsleyCouncil



barnsleycouncilofficial



Item 9

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has been included in the relevant Forward Plan

Report of the Service Director Business Improvement, Human Resources & Communications

Implementation of the 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to implement the Council's 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement in accordance with section 38 to 43 of the Localism Act 2011.

2. Recommendations

That approval is given to implement the 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement contained at Appendix 1 with effect from 1st April 2021.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 Local Authorities are required under section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011 (the Act) to prepare a Pay Policy Statement. The statement must articulate the council's policy towards the pay of the workforce, particularly Chief Officers and lowest paid employees.
- 3.2 The Act requires that Pay Policy Statements are produced annually, are considered by full council and are published on the council's website.

4. Proposal and Justification

- 4.1 The 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement has been reviewed in accordance with the Act and has been updated with the following:
- Paragraph 2.5 has been updated to reflect the updated School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document 2020 and Executive Directors job title change to reflect Children's Services.
 - Paragraph 3.1 has been updated to reflect the lowest pay point and hourly rate.
 - Paragraph 4.1 has been updated with the median average and highest paid salaries and pay multiple.
 - Paragraph 8.2 has been updated to remove any reference to SVER for Teachers.

5. Consideration of Alternative Approaches

- 5.1 An alternative option would be to not produce a Pay Policy Statement. However this would contravene section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011. Consequently this is not a realistic option.

6. Implications for Local People/Service Users

6.1 There are no implications for local people and service users arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications for the council as a result of this report.

8. Employee Implications

8.1 The proposed Pay Policy Statement applies to all employees except those employed in locally managed schools and brings together a number of existing policies and local agreements in one document.

9. Legal Implications

9.1 The Pay Policy consolidates a number of existing policies that have previously been reviewed by Legal Services.

10. Communications Implications

10.1 To comply with mandatory requirements the Pay Policy will be published on the council's website.

11. Consultations

11.1 The Senior Management Team was consulted on 23rd February 2021.

11.2 The Pay Policy was circulated to the Trade Unions on TBC and was discussed at the Employee Relations Forum on TBC

12. Promoting Equality and Diversity and Social Inclusion

12.1 The implementation of this policy will ensure that any issues relating to pay are applied fairly and consistently.

13. Risk Management Issues

13.1 The recommended policy provides information on how the council remunerates its employees and as such provides a standard framework to be applied to employee remuneration therefore reduces the risk of inconsistencies in this area.

14. Glossary

DCLG – Department for Communities and Local Government.

15. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – 2021/22 Pay Policy Statement.

16. Background Papers

16.1 DCLG Guidance: Openness and Accountability in Local Pay February 2012.

16.2 DCLG Guidance: Openness and Accountability in Local Pay Supplementary Guidance February 2013.

16.3 DCLG Local Government Transparency Code 2014.

16.4 Localism Act 2011

These documents are contained in working files in Human Resources and are available for inspection.

Officer Contact: Anne Marie Tolan

Date: 28 January 2021

Financial Implications/Consultation



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(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer where no financial implications)

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PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

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PAY POLICY FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

- 1.1 At Barnsley Council we value diversity and are committed to equality within our workforce. Our ambition for Barnsley Council is to be a place where everyone is valued, respected, treated fairly and with dignity. The approach we take to equality and diversity is informed by our Vision and Values and seeks to address the challenges we face, and to learn from the progress and achievements we have made so far.
- 1.2 Pay fairness is an important part of this commitment and as well as defining our policy on pay and related allowances, as a council, we are working on actions identified to tackle our gender pay gap.
- 1.3 In addition, Section 38 - 43 of the Localism Act 2011 (as supplemented) requires Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (referred to as the Council) to produce a policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the Council's employees.
- 1.4 It details the arrangements for the determination of salary, how salary levels are determined, the method for pay progression (where applicable) and the payment of allowances. It should be noted that the policy does not apply to employees within locally managed schools.
-

2.0 DETERMINATION OF PAY

2.1 Chief Officers

The Council's policy on remunerating Chief Officers is set out below and in Annex A. For the purpose of the policy a Chief Officer is defined as the Chief Executive and Executive Directors. The terms and conditions of employment for such Chief Officers are as specified in the Joint National Committee for Chief Executives and Joint National Committee for Chief Officers as supplemented by Local Agreements.

2.1.1 Salary on Appointment

The post will be advertised and appointed to at the agreed approved salary unless there is good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision making process.

2.1.2 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts. Beyond this the Council would not make additional payments outside

those specified in the contract of employment.

2.2 NJC Grades 1 to 17

The Council uses the National Joint Council (NJC) Job Evaluation Scheme and has a pay structure consisting of 17 Grades which can be found in the link below.

[17 Grade Pay Structure](#)

The grading structure currently covers all staff on NJC terms and conditions up to Heads of Service level.

The pay grades for positions on NJC terms and conditions are determined utilising the NJC Job Evaluation scheme which is implemented jointly with the respective Trade Unions.

2.2.1 Salary on Appointment

Employees appointed to positions on NJC Grades 1 to 17 will normally be placed on the first point of the grade for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

2.2.2 Salary on Promotion/Secondment

On promotion or secondment employees should normally be placed on the first point of the grade for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

2.2.3 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations.

2.2.4 Pay Progression

Pay progression for employees on NJC Grades 1 to 17 is as outlined in the Incremental Pay Progression Guidance attached in the link below.

[Pay Progression](#)

2.3 Service Directors

Service Directors will be paid on the same fixed salary determined through pay benchmarking.

2.3.1 Salary on Appointment

Appointments will be to the agreed fixed salary for Service Directors unless there is

good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision making process.

2.3.2 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts. Beyond this the Council would not make additional payments outside those specified in the contract of employment.

2.4 Soulbury Officers

2.4.1 Salary on Appointment

The Soulbury Committee provides a voluntary collective bargaining machinery in respect of the salaries and service conditions of the following categories:-

- a) Educational Improvement Professionals
- b) Educational Psychologists

An employee appointed to one of these positions for the first time shall be placed at the minimum of the scale deemed appropriate by the Council. Where the employee has had previous experience which the authority considers should be regarded as equivalent value to service, the Council shall determine a higher incremental point up to the maximum.

2.4.2 Educational Improvement Professionals

A salary scale for Educational Improvement Professionals should consist of no more than 4 points (subject to additional points needed to accommodate discretionary scale extensions or SPA points).

Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 8.

Senior Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 13

Leading Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 20.

[Education Improvement Professionals Pay Scale](#)

2.4.3 Educational Psychologists

Trainee Educational Psychologists in their second and third year of training should be paid on a point selected from the 6 point Trainee Educational Psychologist pay scale. While Trainee Educational Psychologists will be employed on the basis that they will be available for work for 3 days per week in the second year and 4 days per week in the third year of training, it is not intended that their pay rates should be applied on any

pro rata basis

Assistant Educational Psychologists are paid on the Assistant Educational Psychologist pay scale and should not remain on this scale for more than 4 years. Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on an individual 6 point pay range on Scale A which will be 1-6, 2-7 or 3-8 based on an assessment of recruitment and retention and other local factors. Managers have the discretion to appoint above the minimum of the selected scale.

Senior Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on a 4 point pay range on Scale B

Principal Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on a 4 point pay range on Scale B with a minimum starting point of point 4.

Educational Psychologists paid on Scales A/B are also eligible for up to 3 Structured Professional Assessment (SPA) points

[Educational Psychologists Pay Scale](#)

2.4.4 Salary on Promotion/Secondment

On promotion or secondment employees should normally be placed on the first point of the range for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

(The Council should provide a career structure for Educational Psychologists and further details can be obtained from The Report of the Committee on Salary Scales and Service Conditions of Inspectors and Advisory Officers of Local Education Authorities).

2.4.5 Incremental Pay Progression

The pay awards for Advisors, Inspectors and Psychologists are effective from 1st September each year subject to six months service in the post, until the maximum of the grade is reached.

Soulbury staff also have the opportunity to apply for up to 3 further points on the salary scale (in addition to their 4 point range) and these are called Structured Professional Assessment points (SPA's). A copy of the application for Structured Professional Assessment Points Guidance notes can be found in the link below:-

[Structured Professional Assessment Guidance](#)

Centrally Employed Teachers

2.5

The pay policy for Centrally Employed Teachers falls under the terms of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (referred to as the Document).

[School Teachers Pay and Conditions 2020](#)

The Council will review every qualified teacher's salary with effect from 1 September each year. Reviews may take place at other times of the year to reflect any changes in circumstances or job descriptions that will affect pay.

The statutory pay arrangements give significant discretion over the awarding of allowances and the criteria used by the Council to determine the application of the discretionary elements. Decisions on the way these discretions will be used are the responsibility of the Executive Director, Children's Services.

2.6 Adult Education Tutors

2.6.1 Following the cessation of the (Silver Book) a Local Agreement for Adult Education Lecturers was agreed and implemented in September 2002. The Agreement covers staff employed as Lecturers (Qualified and Unqualified), Curriculum Co-ordinators, Lead Tutors, Curriculum Support and Information Officers Learning /Project Co-ordinators.

[Adult Education Tutors Pay Scales](#)

2.6.2 Salary on Appointment

A new employee to the Service would normally be appointed at the bottom of the relevant pay scale although additional increments may be considered for previous relevant experience or continuous service in establishments recognised under the Redundancy Payments (Modification) Order 1999.

2.6.3 Pay Progression

The pay awards for employees covered by the Local Agreement for Adult Education Lecturers 2008 are based upon the percentage pay increase awarded to JNC Youth and Community Workers. Any such awards are effective from 1st September each year.

During employment annual increments shall be awarded on 1st September each year subject to six months service in the post, until the maximum of the grade is reached.

2.7 Agenda For Change

The Agenda for Change pay structure is applicable to staff within the extended remit of the NHS Pay Review Body (NHSPRB). The pay spine is divided into 9 pay bands (pay band 8 is subdivided into 4 ranges) and positions were assigned to a pay band in accordance with the NHS Job Evaluation Scheme.

2.7.1 Salary on Appointment

Upon commencement to a post staff were normally appointed to the lowest pay point of the agreed band with the exception of staff appointed on Band 5 who have accelerated progression through the first two pay points in six monthly steps providing management are satisfied that they meet the required 'standard of practice'. This 12-month period is known as the 'Preceptorship'. Employees affected by TUPE transferred on the same terms and conditions applicable pre-transfer. The Council reserves the right to evaluate and appoint to all new posts in accordance with the NJC terms and conditions for Local Government Employees.

2.7.2 Salary on Promotion

Pay on promotion should be set either at the minimum of the new pay band or, if this would result in no pay increase, the first pay point in the band which would deliver an increase in pay. However, as stated in 2.7.1, the Council reserves the right to evaluate and appoint to all posts, including promotion opportunities, in accordance with the NJC terms and conditions for Local Government Employees.

2.7.3 Pay Progression

Progression through the individual pay bands is by annual increments on the anniversary of appointment to the post. This progression is dependent upon satisfactory performance in the role and demonstration of the agreed knowledge and skills appropriate to that part of the pay band as detailed in the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework.

3.0 LOWEST PAID SALARY

3.1 The lowest pay point in this Council is Grade 1 point 1 which equates to an annual salary of £17,842 and can be expressed as an hourly rate of pay of £9.25.

3.2 The Council is committed to tackling low pay and has committed to pay a low pay supplement equivalent to the Foundation Living Wage rate.

3.3 The pay rate is increased in accordance with any pay settlements which are reached through the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and through increases to the Living Wage as advised by the Living Wage Foundation.

4.0 HIGHEST PAID SALARY

4.1 The highest paid salary in this council is currently £179,812 which is paid to the Chief Executive. The median average salary in this council (not including schools) is £23,836. The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 7.54:1. The authority is conscious of the need to ensure that the salary of the highest paid employee is not excessive and is consistent with the needs of the Council and as such the Council takes the view that the pay multiple acts as a control element which will be monitored and reported annually as part of the review of this Pay Policy.

4.2 The Council is required to publish Chief Officer salaries on an annual basis as part of the Statement of Accounts. Details can be found at:

[Statement of Accounts 2019/20](#)

5.0 OTHER PAY RELATED POLICIES

A number of other pay related policies are outlined below which are applicable to all employees except centrally employed school teachers, whose statutory pay and conditions of service fall under the terms of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document. The information contained below provides a summary of allowances and must be read in conjunction with the relevant 'Conditions of Service' document/Local Agreement.

The Council also has a protocol which allows changes to working practices to be agreed and implemented. As a consequence, the agreements relating to premium payments, shift allowances and standby payments may have been varied from the standard agreement.

5.1 **Allowances**

5.1.1 **Bank Holiday Working**

- Employees required to work on a public or extra statutory holiday shall, in addition to the normal pay for that day, be paid plain time rate for all hours worked within their normal working hours for that day. In addition, at a later date, time off with pay shall be allowed as follows:
 - Time worked less than half the normal working hours on that day - half day
 - Time worked more than half the normal working hours on that day - full day

5.1.2 **Overtime/Additional Hours**

- Overtime rates – Employees who are required to work overtime/additional hours beyond their working week are entitled to receive enhancements on the following basis
 - Monday to Sunday - time and half

The Council has a Planned Overtime Policy which applies to employees of Grade 7 and above who undertake overtime. Full details of the provision can be found at: [Planned Overtime Policy](#)

- Part-time employees will only be paid overtime rates in circumstances where an equivalent full time employee would receive them e.g. for a part-time employee who normally works Monday to Friday, work up to 37 hours per week will be paid at plain time, thereafter and at weekends overtime rates will be payable.

5.1.3 **Weekend Working**

- Employees who are required to work on Saturday and/or Sunday as part of their normal working week are entitled to the following enhancements:
 - Monday to Sunday - time and half

5.1.4 **Night work**

Employees who work at night as part of their normal working week are entitled to receive an enhancement of time and half for all hours worked between 10pm and 6am, Monday to Sunday i.e. no additional enhancement is payable for weekend working.

The night rate shall be payable in addition to the enhanced rates of pay for additional hours (overtime) worked on a Monday to Sunday night between the hours of 10pm

and 6am e.g. an employee working Saturday night as overtime will receive time and half for hours worked Saturday plus an additional 50% of the hourly rate due to working at night (between 10pm and 6am).

5.1.5 Alternating Shifts

- An enhancement of 10% will be payable to employees working alternating shifts providing all of the following criteria are met:
 - The total period covered by the shifts is 11 hours or more
 - There are at least 4 hours between the starting time and the earliest and latest shift

5.1.6 Rotating Shifts

- An enhancement equivalent to:
 - 10% of salary for three shifts on a rota basis including a night shift over 5 or 6 days, or
 - 10% of salary for three shifts on a rota basis including a night shift over 7 days will be payable to employees working rotating shifts providing all of the following criteria are met:
 - ◆ The total period covered by the shifts is 18 hours or more
 - ◆ At least 4 hours worked between 7pm and 7am.

5.1.7 In addition to the above mentioned the Council has a number of local agreements covering areas such as:

- Car Mileage Allowance - employees who use their private car whilst undertaking official business in the course of their employment, mileage will be reimbursed at the Approved Mileage Allowance Payments (AMAP) rates as specified by HM Revenue and Customs.
- Recruitment and Retention Procedure - provides a series of payment options to assist with recruitment and retention issues.
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Payments - The Council has a statutory duty to undertake assessments under Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS). A payment will be made in accordance with the local agreement.
- Laundry Allowance - additional payment to recompense employees for cleaning allocated uniforms.
- Standby/Call out - An employee who is contractually required or volunteers to be available on a standby/call out basis will be recompensed by payment of an amount determined locally.
- Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHP) allowance - Is an annual allowance paid over 12 equal monthly instalments to AMHP's who undertake this role in addition to their post.

The above is not an exhaustive list of local agreements.

6.0 PROFESSIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

6.1 This payment of fees currently applies only to employees of Legal Services who are Solicitors and are required to hold a practising certificate and for Social Care Workers

who are required to be registered by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

Payment will not be made for membership of any other professional organisation, whether or not membership is a requirement of the appointment.

7.0 REMUNERATION COMMITTEES

- 7.1 The Council does not utilise a Remuneration Committee to determine grading of posts. The evaluation of posts is a complex issue requiring use of specialised trained panels to recommend grades for posts as determined by the appropriate evaluation process. Recommended grades are subject to approval by the agreed Council decision making process i.e. Delegated/Cabinet Reports.

8.0 SELECTIVE VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT/VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE POLICY

- 8.1 The Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance schemes enable the Council to reduce the size of its workforce in line with prevailing economic conditions, whilst at the same time compensating eligible employees by either immediate payment of pension benefits and/or a redundancy payment. The Council's Policy relating to all employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme can be found at:
- [SVER and VS Policy](#)
- 8.2 Where the level of severance pay/redundancy pay is calculated in accordance with the Council's policy and the resultant payment is more than £100,000 then approval must be sought by Council prior to agreement to release the payment.

9.0 EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF A PENSION OR REDUNDANCY/ SEVERANCE PAYMENT

- 9.1 The authority is under a statutory duty to appoint on merit and has to ensure that it complies with all appropriate employment and equalities legislation. The authority will always seek to appoint the best available candidate to a post who has the skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities needed for the post.
- 9.2 If a candidate is an employee in receipt of a pension (this includes ill health pensions) from a public sector organisation including local government, civil service, teachers pensions, police (Civil or Warranted Officers), armed forces, or any other covered by the Modification Order or a redundancy/ severance payment as a result of being made compulsory redundant this will not rule them out from being employed by the authority.
- 9.3 The re-engagement of public sector employees can, provide practical solutions to specific workload/project staffing needs due to their previous knowledge and experience.
- 9.4 The authority will consider applications from persons in receipt of pensions and there is no barrier to such a person being appointed. Pensions Regulations have provisions to reduce pension payments in certain circumstances of those who return to work within local government service. Should an applicant in receipt of a pension be

successful, they should be advised that commencing employment with the authority may affect their pension entitlements and they should therefore seek advice from the relevant Pensions Authority

- 9.5 The authority will also apply the provisions of the Statutory Redundancy Payments Modification Order regarding the recovery of redundancy payments if this is relevant and appropriate.

10.0 **PENSION SCHEMES**

10.1 **Local Government Pension Scheme**

Eligible employees automatically become a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) if they have a contract of employment for at least three months. Where the employee has a contract for less than three months, the employee may elect to join the scheme. However, LGPS scheme regulations are superseded by pension's auto-enrolment legislation which requires all employees to automatically pay pension contributions where the earnings level is above the threshold. Employees may choose to opt out of auto-enrolment. The LGPS is a tax approved occupational pension scheme set up under the Superannuation Act 1972. The contribution rate depends on the level of earnings but is currently between 5.5% and 12.5% of pensionable pay.

The Council pays the balance of the cost of providing benefits in the LGPS currently 26.12%. Every three years an independent review is undertaken to calculate how much the employer should contribute to the Scheme. Increases or decreases in the cost of providing the scheme may, in future, need to be shared between members and employers, in accordance with government guidance.

Full details of the LGPS can be found at:

[South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - Homepage](#)

10.2 **Teachers Pensions Scheme**

For Centrally employed teachers or posts that the Council decides are eligible for membership of the Teacher's Pension Scheme (TPS) new appointees will automatically become scheme members.

The TPS is a contributory scheme administered by Teachers' Pensions (TP) on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). It is a defined benefit 'final salary' scheme providing a lump sum and pension after retirement. Members of the TPS contributions rates range from 7.4% to 11.7% depending on the level of earnings. The Council pays a further 23.68%.

Information relating to the TPS can be found at:

[Teachers Pension Scheme](#)

10.3 **NHS Pension Scheme**

Some employees in Public Health roles have pension protections and continue to contribute to the NHS Pension scheme.

Information relating to the scheme can be found at:

[NHS Pension Scheme](#)

11.0 AMENDMENTS TO THE POLICY

- 11.1 It is anticipated that this policy will not need to be amended further during the period it covers i.e. 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, however if circumstances dictate that a change of policy is considered to be appropriate during the year then a revised draft will be presented to full Council for consideration.
-

12.0 POLICY FOR FUTURE YEARS

- 12.1 The policy will be reviewed each year and will be presented to full Council each year for consideration in order to ensure that a policy is in place for the Council prior to the start of each financial year.
-

13.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

- 13.1 This policy has been impact assessed by Human Resources, if on reading this policy you feel there are any equality and diversity issues, please contact your Directorate Human Resources Business Partner who will if necessary, ensure the policy is reviewed.
-

14.0 INCOME TAX AND NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

- 14.1 Sections 682-702 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 (ITEPA) impose a duty on an employer to account for PAYE on employment income paid to employees. PAYE applies to all payments of income within the charge to tax under ITEPA 2003.
- 14.2 There are three classes of national insurance contributions (NICs) which are payable by or in respect of employees:
- Class 1 contributions, which are earnings related. Primary contributions are paid by “employed earners” secondary contributions are paid by employers.
- Class 1A contributions, which are payable annually by secondary contributors only, based upon taxable value of benefits reported on forms P11D.
- Class 1B contributions, which are payable annually by secondary contributors only, based on the tax borne under a PAYE Settlement Agreement (PSA).
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Annex A Chief Officer Remuneration

Aspect of Chief Officer Remuneration	BMC Policy
Recruitment	The post will be advertised and appointed to at the appropriate approved salary for the post in question unless there is good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision making process.
Pay Increases	The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts subject to approval by the appropriate decision making process.
Additions To Pay	The Council would not make additional payments beyond those specified in the contract of employment.
Performance Related Pay	The Council does not operate a performance related pay system as it believes that it has sufficiently strong performance management arrangements in place to ensure high performance from its senior officers. Any areas of under-performance are addressed in accordance with Council Policy.
Earn-Back (Withholding an element of base pay related to performance)	The authority does not operate an earn-back pay system as it believes that it has sufficiently strong performance management arrangements in place to ensure high performance from its senior officers. Any areas of under-performance are addressed rigorously.
Bonuses	The Council does not pay bonus payments to employees.
Termination Payments	The Council applies its normal redundancy payments arrangements to senior officers and does not have separate provisions for senior officers. The Council also applies the appropriate Pensions regulations when they apply. The Council has agreed policies in place on how it will apply any discretionary powers it has under Pensions regulations. Any costs that are incurred regarding senior officers are published in the Council's accounts as required under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.
Transparency	The Council meets its requirements under the Localism Act, the Code of Practice on Data Transparency and the Accounts and Audit Regulations in order to ensure that it is open and transparent regarding senior officer remuneration.
Employment of persons in receipt of a pension or redundancy/severance payment	Refer to Section 9.

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MEETING:	Audit and Governance Committee
DATE:	Wednesday, 20 January 2021
TIME:	4.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

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

20. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

21. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd December, 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Written responses to questions arising from the Minutes by Member of the Committee were provided as follows:

- Meetings had been held between the Service Director Finance and the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance with one Independent Member to discuss specific issues. It was noted that Independent Members still had no access to the Council's intranet nor unfettered access to all BMBC information. This matter was to be explored further with the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Executive. It was noted, however, that this matter was still being pursued but had been delayed because of the Covid pandemic. In addition, a SharePoint site would also be available for Members, but this had also been delayed
- It was not clear what plans were in place to reduce debt as loans were reaching maturity and appeared to be replaced by new loans. Whilst appreciative of the Medium Term Financial Strategy with 70% fixed rate debt and 30% interest rate risk debt there was concern at the overall debt level and when and how this would be reduced. It was acknowledged, however, that the reserves position was healthy and needed to be taken into account when looking at debt levels
- Reference was made to the current position with regard to pension liability which it was noted, due to stock market movement, was now in a surplus position and questions were asked with regard to the possibility of plans being introduced to lock in this surplus. It was also pointed out that this Committee had not undertaken an overview of the governance, controls and risk management of this domain and neither was it know whether any internal audit work had been undertaken in this area
- In relation to the Glassworks it was noted that the External Auditors had suggested the need for the Committee to be kept informed of progress on the

scheme. It was suggested that members of the Committee should have access to Project Board monthly meeting minutes as this would enable it to fulfil its responsibility for the development and monitoring of Corporate Governance. It was noted that the Service Director Finance had scheduled a number of meetings over the next six months to take these matters forward

- It was suggested that pre-meetings of the Committee should be held with Members only to discuss issues. This would enable the Committee to develop a team approach and prioritise time more effectively. It was noted that this was the approach adopted by the majority of FTSE 250 Audit Committees
- In relation to questioning on the impact on Council finances of the third national lockdown, it was reported that the current estimated net cost of dealing with Covid was around £15m. The forecast was revised almost on a daily basis to reflect the ever changing circumstances and new government guidance. The main financial impact arising from the current lockdown was a further reduction in income from the Council's fees and charges which had been recovering prior to the latest restrictions (car parking income etc.)

22. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROCESS

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing an update of the Annual Governance Review Process that had been determined for 2020/21 and which would be used to influence and assist in the preparation of the Council's Statutory Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21.

The report outlined in detail the work that would inform the Annual Governance Review process. The Committee was also reminded that the Local Code of Corporate Governance provided the overall statement of the Council's corporate governance principles and commitments which had been approved at the meeting on the 29th July and by full Council on the 24th September, 2020.

The preparation of the Annual Governance Statement was undertaken in accordance with CIPFA/SOLACE guidance. The Framework referred to therein defined the principles that should underpin the governance structures of the organisation and also provided an opportunity to test existing governance structures and principles against those set out the guidance framework

The proposed timescales for the Annual Governance Review Process were outlined but it was noted that there was still ongoing discussion nationally about the timescales for the publication of the Statutory Accounts and, therefore, the AGS in 2021 due to the ongoing impact of the Covid pandemic. Early indications were, however, that this would probably be the 30th September, 2021.

Mr G Mills, representing the External Auditor, commented that as part of the wider approach to the Value for Money conclusion for 2021 they would be liaising closely with the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance on some of the other external reviews that the Council already had as this would inform their judgement on the Council's overall arrangements for 2021. In relation to the accounts and audit deadlines for this year, whilst nothing had been agreed yet, he too commented that there had been a suggestion that the deadline may be the end of September. Across the country there were a significant number of Local Authority audits for 2019/20 that were still ongoing and given the pool of public sector auditors was relatively small it was highly unlikely that the deadline would move back to the end of July this year or

indeed any other year particularly given the increased expectations around audit quality and audit documentation. Once the new deadline had been agreed, the External Auditor would be in contact with the Service Director Finance and the Head of internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance as well as other colleagues to plan the audit approach for 2020/21.

The Chair noted the comments about other authorities still having outstanding audits and he commended External Audit and Local Authority Staff for the way in which they had ensured that the Barnsley audit had been completed ahead of the deadline which was a tremendous achievement.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Annual Review Process for 2020/21 be noted;
- (ii) That the new Local Code of Corporate Governance previously approved at the Committee on the 29th July 2020 be noted; and
- (iii) That the outputs from the Annual Governance Review process for 2020/21, which will be reported to the Committee later in the year, be noted and used to inform the development of the Annual Governance Statement.

23. RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing an update on the development of the new Risk Management Process (a presentation upon which Members were given prior to the meeting), and summarising the current risks on the Strategic Risk Register.

The report outlined:

- the current position with regard to the development of the new SharePoint system
- the work being undertaken to develop the supporting risk management strategy, policy and procedures,
- the way in which the Risk Management System would be populated with the latest risks
- The work being undertaken over the next few weeks to expand on the strategic concerns and areas of focus
- The timetable of reporting being developed to ensure that the Senior Management Team and Business Units were managing risks and ensuring necessary escalations as well as the reporting of risks to Cabinet
- The intention to submit regular management updates on progress to this Committee in order to provide assurances that the new arrangements were effective

The new system would be launched from 1st April and, in addition, Members of the Committee would have the opportunity to periodically choose to explore certain risks in more detail by inviting risk owners to attend meetings to talk through the actions and assurances. Once fully developed, all Members of the Committee would be

provided with a link to access the Risk Dashboard so that they could see for themselves the risks identified, and the actions being taken to ameliorate those risks.

Written responses to questions asked by Members of the Committee were provided as follows:

- In principle the new SharePoint system would be accessible to all employees to see, however, through the access permissions, only staff with the relevant access permissions would be able to change anything
- There was the functionality to keep a 'risk' limited to certain Business Units or Head of Service but this was likely to be very much the exception than the rule
- The system was very simple as it used functionality that most staff were familiar with and the PowerBI Dashboard (which was the window to the system) was very simple. In addition, a guide would be made available and possibly a staff training tutorial on the staff intranet training module

RESOLVED that the report and update be received and noted.

24. INTERNAL AUDIT PLANNING CONSULTATION PAPER FOR 2021/22

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report outlining the annual audit planning process and seeking the Committees views with regard to the potential projects for inclusion within the draft Internal Audit Plan for 2021/22.

The report, in outlining the background and timetable for the Annual Internal Audit Planning Process, detailed the actions to be undertaken, key factors to be considered and areas of work to be identified.

Specific reference was made to the following:

- The audit of the financial systems (which was completed on a 3-year cyclical basis unless circumstances dictated something different). This approach had been agreed with the Service Director Finance as part of the annual planning process for 2020/21
- The need to ensure sufficient overall coverage was provided across all Directorates to enable the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance to give an annual opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's Control, Risk and Governance arrangements and, in addition, where possible, to have capacity to provide advisory support to management
- The need for the audit planning process to identify all areas of work that Internal Audit were concerned about and were, therefore, seeking assurance on. In this respect, this Committee and management would need to be satisfied that where areas of assurance extended beyond resources and/or capacity of Internal Audit, alternative sources of assurance were identified and resourced
- It was important to ensure that the work of both Internal and External Audit was used to the benefit of both organisations. This would be both mutually beneficial and more cost effective
- Members of the Committee were asked to consider key risk and areas of concern where Internal Audit coverage might be appropriate and to pass suggestions to the Chair for collation and notification to the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance

- The Indicative Plan would be prepared for consideration at the March meeting, however, the difficulties of setting a plan for a 12-month period were referred to and particular reference was made to the circumstances of the past year. It was proposed, therefore, to adopt a quarterly 'flexible' approach to the Plan for 2020/21 as this would enable the Plan to be more responsive to changing needs and requirements. An assurance was given, however, that because of the liaison arrangements in place with Directorates and Senior Management Team, the Plan would be kept constantly updated to keep it relevant throughout the year. Revisions and changes would then be incorporated into the quarterly progress reports submitted to this Committee
- It was felt that the engagement of Senior Management was extremely good and demonstrated a culture of openness and commitment to improve

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

- It was noted that prior to the meeting a number of suggestions for items to be considered for inclusion within the Plan had been submitted. Whilst it was acknowledged that not all these would be able to be incorporated within the Plan, a request was made that when the Plan was next submitted for approval an update could be provided on all the specific issues that had been raised by members together with reasons as to why any items had not been included. The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance stated that it was his intention to submit such a list against which would be a rationale as to why issues had not been included within the Plan. If, however, an issue was raised, against which there was required to be a level of assurance which could not be included within the Plan, then management would have to outline how assurance was to be achieved. This should assist in developing an holistic approach to assurance
- Referring to the above, the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance referred to how the PowerBI dashboard would record risks together with how assurances were obtained against each risk. It was noted that in the event that Internal Audit were not able to give assurance on any particular item, there would, nevertheless be a random sample taken to ensure that management were obtaining adequate assurance against such risks

Written responses to questions asked by Members of the Committee were provided as follows:

- In relation to potential projects for 2021/22 , it was noted that almost all areas of the council had, to some degree, been exposed to financial risks as a result of Covid 19. The specific areas of priority would come out of further discussions with the Senior Management Team and with individual Business Units, however, every piece of Internal Audit work would consider the Covid 19 implications/impact
- The following projects would all be included for consideration
 - Procurement – Partnership Contracts – the approval and validation of contracts – it was noted that Partnerships was an area being looked at from a governance perspective already
 - Validity of Covid 19 grants/grant regimes and business rate relief given to local businesses – the Corporate Anti-Fraud Team would have oversight of the Business Support Grants on an ongoing basis

- Data Protection – this would always be covered in some way by Internal Audit and the Data Protections Officer
- Business Continuity Plan/ Counter Fraud Work – this linked very much to the Covid-19 response work
- Glassworks risk management and financial controls – this would continue to have an Internal Audit oversight
- Exploration of efficiencies (different ways of working including reduced levels of office and other accommodation, technology, working from home etc.) – this was included within the new ‘Our Even Better’ Strategy as part of the 2021/2024 Medium Term Financial Strategy process. An update on this would be provided in due course
- Exploration of different ways of providing services (libraries)
- It was noted that a key part of the planning process was to ensure sufficient overall coverage was provided across all Directorates to enable the Head of Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance to provide a service. Questions were asked as to whether or not there were currently enough audit staff to provide this. It was reported that the breadth and depth of Internal Audit coverage was an important factor for consideration but also taking risks into account. The Head of Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance was not unduly concerned about not being able to do enough work
- Referring to engagement with Senior Management, there was not much more that could be done to bring about further improvements as Internal Audit had clear and unfettered access to management. Whilst liaison and communication was essential, that needed to be managed to ensure Internal Audit’s objectivity and independence was preserved
- There had not been an increase in suspected fraud activity as, if anything, there had been a dropping-off of referrals. Fraud activity was down generally apart from the increase in work around the Business Support Grant work as part of the Covid-19 response

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the report and potential projects for consideration in the Internal Audit Plan 2021/22 be noted;
- (ii) That nominations of items for possible inclusion in the Internal Audit Plan be passed to the Chair for consideration by Internal Audit; and
- (iii) That insofar as this Committee is concerned, the proposed planning process be approved on the grounds that it is satisfied that the process is sufficiently robust and will enable a value-added Audit Plan to be produced that is informed by risk through consultation with appropriate Senior Management.

25. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2020/21

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance submitted a report providing a summary of the Internal Audit activity completed and the key issues arising from it for the period 16th November to 31st December, 2020.

The report, which was presented by Mrs S Bradley (Audit Manager), outlined, amongst other things:

- The progress of the Internal Audit Plan delivery up to the 31st December, 2020 analysed by the number of plan assignments producing a report and the audit days delivered by Directorate/Service. It was reported that 79% of the Internal Audit and Corporate Anti-Fraud Plans had been delivered. Including the external clients, the assurance work and the DPO role, 72% of the planned work had been delivered to date. This should give Members assurance that the Service was on track in terms of planned delivery for this time of the year
- A total of 5 reports had been issued in the period with 24 being issued in the previous reporting period. All the reports issued had resulted in a positive assurance opinion. One of the reports, a DPO Assurance Review, had a high implication in terms of categorisation in view of the need to remind staff who the Data Protection Officer was together with the purpose of that role. This action had now been discharged
- The work that was currently ongoing together with the status of that work
- Information about the quarter 3 Performance Indicators. It was pleasing to note there were no concerns to raise, however, whilst productivity was slightly down on target, this was largely due to the profile of annual leave being taken at this time of the year and the Service was confident that the Plan would be delivered
- Based on the audits reported in the period an overall reasonable assurance option was considered to be appropriate

A written response to a question asked by Members of the Committee was provided in relation to the outcome of the Information Governance Awareness surveys and the awarding of a 'high' management action. As previously reported, there was a lack of awareness/misunderstanding of who the Data Protection Officer was and what the remit of that role was. This matter had been actioned via the issuing of a corporate communications newsletter

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the issues arising from the completed internal audit work for the period along with the responses received from management be noted;
- (ii) that the assurance opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Authority's Internal Control Framework based on the work of Internal Audit in the period to the 31st December, 2020 be noted;
- (iii) that the progress against the Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21 for the period to the 31st December, 2020 be noted; and
- (iv) that the performance of the Internal Audit Division for the period be noted.

26. EXTERNAL AUDIT - ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER

The Council's External Auditor (Grant Thornton) submitted their Annual Audit Letter summarising the key findings arising from the work undertaken for the Council and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31st March, 2020, detailing the reports issued including those submitted to Council on the 26th November, 2020 and to this Committee on the 28th October, the audit fees charged (including the way these had

been calculated) and outlining the scope of the audit and the arrangements for undertaking additional work for which separate fees were applicable.

Mr G Mills, representing the External Auditor, explained the following:

- this was a high-level summary of the ISO 260 report previously submitted and was indeed the last annual audit letter that would be submitted as, because of a change in the way audits were to be undertaken, it was to be replaced by an auditor's report
- a clean unqualified opinion had been issued on the Council and the Group's financial statements on the 30th November, 2020. This was particularly pleasing given that over half of Local Authority Audits had not been signed off by the deadline date
- there had been an emphasis of matter paragraph included within the report in respect of the uncertainty over the valuations of the Council's land and buildings and the Authority's share of the pension funds property investments given the Coronavirus pandemic. This was, however, fairly typical of a number of audits undertaken throughout the year
- in relation to the Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) review, this was still ongoing the work for which was now largely completed. It was hoped that these would be completed by the end of the month, but this was dependent upon the resolution of an IT issue which was preventing the accounts being uploaded. This was a national issue rather than being Barnsley specific. He also reported that it was fairly typical for the WGA audit to be undertaken a month or so after the main audit. Once this was concluded the audit certificate would be issued which would formally close the 2019/20 audit. The External Auditor was satisfied, however, that the WGA work had no bearing on the opinion issued on the main accounts and the Value for Money Conclusion
- the Auditors were satisfied that in relation to Value for Money arrangements the Council had put in place proper arrangements to ensure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources
- the Appendices highlighted a summary of the reports issued together with the overall audit fee and the variation for the 2019/20 year.
- Arising out of the above, there was a discussion of the fees and additional charges within the context of the additional work that had been undertaken.
 - An explanation was provided of the way in which fees were set together with the rationale for the amounts charged.
 - In relation to the variations of fees against the PSAA scale fee, these were discussed with the Service Director Finance/Section 151 Officer who could either agree or disagree with the proposal. Grant Thornton then smutted them to PSAA informing them whether or not the Section 151 Officer agreed or disagreed. Ultimately, PSAA reached a view on whether to approve or reject the fee variation. Whilst the fee variations looked significant, Mr Mills believed that these needed to be considered in the context of where scale fees were now compared to 5-10 years ago – on average 50% lower. Additionally, in the last 3-4 years the expectations from the Financial Reporting Council (the External Auditors Regulatory) on audit quality and documentation had rightly increased significantly. This had resulted in significant levels of audit challenge and work done particularly in respect of Property, Plant and Equipment and Pension balances in the accounts. Again, this was set

out in the Redmond Review report. It was also pointed out that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government had recently made £15m available to support local authorities with expected increases in audit fees for 2020/21. In relation to the 2020/21 audit fee, it was anticipated that similar levels of variation would apply given the Financial Reporting Council's continued focus on Property Plant and Equipment and Pensions, increasing areas of focus in respect of other estimates and judgements (the new ISA540), testing for fraud and also the revised Value for Money Conclusion audit work. The fees would be discussed with the Service Director Finance/Section 151 Officer shortly

- It was anticipated that a formal decision on the variation of fees would be made towards the end of February. Grant Thornton and most other auditors within the sector had been highlighting the additional work undertaken and PSAA had been discussing with CIPFA and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government the implications of that.

Mr Mills asked to place on record this thanks and appreciation to the Service Director Finance and his staff for the work they had undertaken in order to meet the deadline of 30th November, 2020. The Chair reminded Members that he had made similar comments at the Council meeting on the 26th November, 2020 when he had commented the work of both Council Officers as well as that of the External Auditor.

Written responses to questions asked by Members of the Committee were provided as follows (where not referred to above):

- The fact that well over 50% of Local Authorities had not had their accounts signed off by the required deadline reinforced the view that Grant Thornton had performed to a very high standard in terms of the timetable
- In relation to training provided on financial statements and annual reporting, it was noted that annual accounts and financial reporting workshops were held for local authority clients. Separate ones were provided for NHS clients. These typically took place in February and were attended by client contacts at Deputy Section 151 Officer and Chief Accountant level and were well received by clients. BMBC colleagues were invited and were always well represented. Invitations for the 2020/21 client workshops had been issued and it was anticipated that BMBC staff would once again be in attendance
- The national 2020/21 accounts and audit timetable hadn't been finalised yet, however, given the backlog of 2019/20 audits still ongoing, the impact of home working, the small pool of public sector auditors to draw from (all issues highlighted within the Redmond Review Report), it was very unlikely that the audit date would return to 31st July. There was a suggestion that this could be 30th September as reported above. Clearly Grant Thornton would do their best to work to whatever deadline was issued, however, this would be dependent upon their overall resourcing position as a national public sector team, their ability to perform appropriate audit planning by the end of April across the client base and the delivery of the NHS audits, prior to commencing the local government year-end audits (again, all the challenges flagged by the Redmond Report)

RESOLVED that the Annual Audit Letter be received.

27. EXTERNAL AUDIT - UPDATE REPORT

The Council's External Auditor (Grant Thornton) reported on recent work undertaken and on future developments anticipated.

The External Auditors had met the Executive Director Core Services and the Service Director Finance last week to discuss the 2020/21 audit work. This had been an extremely useful meeting and such meetings would continue, possibly including the Chief Executive, on a quarterly basis. A meeting had also been held with the Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance to commence work on the changed approach to Value for Money work. External Audit would also continue to liaise with officers to provide training/awareness sessions for Members of the Committee on some of the key issues impacting on local authorities recently and particular reference was made to the issuing of a couple of public interest reports, one at Nottingham City Council in relation to their Energy Company and, more recently, in relation to the London Borough of Croydon and their interaction with their Housing Development Company.

The Housing Benefit Audit was being finalised and work was continuing on the pooling of Housing Receipts Grant which meant that work on the 2020/21 audit would commence before Easter.

In response to questioning, Mr Mills reported that the expectation was that the revised approach to Value for Money Work would probably require 10-20% more time compared to previous years which would largely be at a Manager and Engagement Lead level as the work required was highly specialised requiring liaison with senior staff within Local Authorities and NHS bodies. This would, of course, impact on the workload allocation within the External Audit Team and steps were taken to ensure that resources were appropriately allocated.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

28. BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT, HUMAN RESOURCES AND COMMUNICATIONS GOVERNANCE DOMAIN UPDATE REPORT

The Service Director Business Improvement, Human Resources and Communications submitted an information report giving an overview of the functions of the Business Improvement, Human Resources and Communications Business Unit together with information about the progress against the assurance programme in the areas of Performance Management and Equality and Inclusion.

The report outlined the seven broad functions of the Unit, the areas of responsibility in relation to the Annual Governance Statement and focused on Business Improvement, Intelligence and Equality and Inclusion.

Particular reference was made to the work and operation of the Business Improvement and Intelligence Team which was responsible for delivering the Corporate Plan Performance Report. This was submitted on a quarterly basis to the Senior Management Team, Cabinet and, when required, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Team was currently preparing the next Council Plan for 2021-24 which would go live from April and at the same time and to the same timescales was preparing the Barnsley 2030 Place based Plan.

The Team was looking to reduce, streamline and sharpen the number of Performance Indicators so that they incorporated more relevant critical success factors.

With regard to Equality and Inclusion it was noted that the Business Unit was driven by the Public Sector Equality Duty and the work undertaken in this area undertaken within the last 12 months was outlined within the report.

The report then went on to outline other improvement activities in which the Unit were involved, and particular reference was made to the activity entitled 'Success Factors' which would provide an opportunity to improve the demographic data of employees.

The report concluded by outlining the work that was ongoing to support the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 Action Plan.

Written responses to questions asked by Members of the Committee were provided as follows:

- It was reported that the Service performance was measured against the Business Unit Performance Indicators on a quarterly basis. These were internal Performance Indicators and were not made public, however, they were challenged at Business Unit Management Meetings and subsequently at the quarterly Core performance session by peer Service Directors and the Executive Director Core Services. Quarter 3 performance was currently being collated but quarter 2 showed that the Team were rated amber for income generation and red for customer self-servicing for information on the website. This was due to new rules on website accessibility and documents had to be removed due to non-compliance. Two Performance Indicators were not currently rated due to being new indicators based on internal Power BI usage and data management
- As previously reported, the Council Plan for 2021/24 was due to be implemented from the 1st April. The Plan would be made public and presented to Cabinet on the 24th March, 2021. The Barnsley Plan 2030 was due to be made public in Spring 2021 (the exact date being determined by the Purdah period when known) and consideration would also have to be given to the continuing impact/prevalence of Covid at that time. This time-frame was, therefore, being kept under review

RESOLVED that the report be received, and performance of the Service be noted.

29. LGA RECOVERY AND RENEWAL PANEL FINDINGS

The Executive Director Core Services submitted, for information, a report submitted to Cabinet on the 16th December, 2020 on the findings from the Local Government Association (LGA) Recovery and Renewal Panel that took place on the 20th August, 2020.

The Executive Director outlined the background to the review and indicated that the findings had been very positive. The Panel felt that the Authority had shown great leadership in terms of the way it had responded and in particular the way it had

demonstrated very clear leadership of Place, the way local businesses had been supported, good communications, the early payment of business grants as well as the proactive advice given through Enterprising Barnsley.

The Partnership arrangements had also been recognised, particularly the Area Teams as well as the partnership with schools. It was noted that within Barnsley the approach and relationship with Academy schools was excellent and this had not changed from when they had been local authority schools.

Recognition had also been given to the 'one Council' organisational response and the very quick development of smart working plans, IT provision and the rapid movement to virtual council, cabinet and other meetings. The way that Members and Officers had embraced technology and the wider focus on staff health and well-being was also recognised.

A number of areas had been identified for consideration and these were outlined within the report together with comments, reflections and proposed actions and particular reference was made in this respect to Jobs-led Recovery ambitions, the use of volunteers and the need to be sufficiently prepared for the magnitude of the changes in the retail and office markets.

In the ensuing discussion the following matters were raised:

- Reference was made to the importance of the use of volunteers and the number that had come forward to assist which was very much welcomed
- Staff within Enterprising Barnsley were doing a significant amount of work on the numbers of jobs lost and retail businesses that had closed. This information would be shared once it became available. It was suggested that some staff currently on furlough may be on 'deferred redundancy'
- Strategically in terms of retail and the leisure sectors it was particularly important that the Council became a facilitator to drive improvements forward and questions were asked, therefore, what plans were in place and what organisations would be involved. The Executive Director stressed that work was currently underway to do just that and had commenced in the Summer. The Executive Director Place had been working with a number of colleagues including the Chamber of Commerce to ensure that plans were in place and to pre-empt some of the challenges that were likely to be faced. It was also pointed out that the Place Directorate had commissioned various pieces of work looking at the forecasting and trends for both Barnsley Town Centre and for all the principal towns in the Borough. This would ensure that the economic impact of the pandemic was minimised

Written responses to questions asked by Members of the Committee were provided as follows:

- It was noted that the Council had engaged the Local Government Association to undertake the review in order to ensure the approach the Council was taking was as effective as it could be
- It was acknowledged that this was an excellent report that gave assurance that the Council was being proactive in its response to the pandemic and, as

stated earlier, the partnership and liaison arrangements and with academy schools was excellent

- A strategy for the use of vacant retail and commercial properties in the Town Centre was currently being developed and could be brought to a future meeting

RESOLVED that the report be received.

30. **AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

The Committee received the indicative Work Plan for the period 3rd June 2020 to 14th April, 2021.

The Head of Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud and Assurance briefly commented upon the programming of reports from services about the wider aspects of Governance. It was confirmed that an assurance report on governance would be submitted to each meeting.

Arising out of the above, reference was made to the current position with regard to the municipal elections scheduled for May 2021. The position was currently unclear as to whether or not they would go ahead but in the absence of firm information otherwise, plans were still being made by the Council for them to proceed although it was recognised that there would be difficulties and particularly in the event that the lockdown was extended into March/April.

RESOLVED that the core work plan for meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee be approved and reviewed on a regular basis.

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Chair

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MEETING:	Planning Regulatory Board
DATE:	Tuesday, 23 February 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	VIRTUAL

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Richardson (Chair), T. Cave, Danforth, Eastwood, Fielding, Frost, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Greenhough, David Griffin, Hand-Davis, W. Johnson, Leech, Makinson, Markham, McCarthy, Noble, Phillips, Smith, Spence, Stowe and Wright

9. Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of Non-Pecuniary interest were made with respect to items on the agenda:

Councillor Leech declared a Non-Pecuniary interest with respect to application 2021/0015 as he is related to a member of the public who was scheduled to speak in opposition to the application.

Councillor Cave declared a Non-Pecuniary interest with respect to application 2021/0015 as he is the Cabinet Support member for children's services.

Councillor Frost declared a Non-Pecuniary interest with respect to application 2020/0999 as he is the Cabinet Support member for Culture.

Councillor Johnson declared a Non-Pecuniary interest with respect to application 2021/0015 as he is a Governor of Barnsley Academy.

10. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2020 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11. Land to the east of Sheffield Road, Hoyland, Barnsley - 2020/0999 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2020/0999 - Earthworks to create plateaus for the creation of football pitches and an archery range and associated changing facilities, vehicular access, car parking, drainage works and boundary treatments, at land to the east of Sheffield Road, Hoyland, Barnsley

RESOLVED that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation, including the proposed amendment to the wording of condition 6 and in addition Members resolved that a Tree Preservation Order should be designated on suitable trees that are shown to be retained on the approved plans.

12. Land off Keresforth Close , Barnsley - 2021/0015 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2021/0015 - Erection of Temporary Secondary School and associated works including access road, parking and external play areas at land off Keresforth Close , Barnsley

Ms Michelle Davies addressed the Board and spoke in favour of the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

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

13. Land at Hall Gardens, Brierley, Barnsley, S72 9HT - 2019/1530 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2019/1530 - Residential development of 36 no. dwellings and associated works including associated garages and parking at land at Hall Gardens, Brierley, Barnsley, S72 9HT

RESOLVED that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation, subject to the completion of a S106 Agreement in accordance with the terms set out in the report. In addition Members resolved to seek controls through the S106 on the actions of the management company e.g. in relation to maintenance charges, in line with the advice given by the Senior Legal Officer.

14. Planning Appeals - December 2020 to January 2021

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

The report indicated that 13 appeals were received in December 2020 and January 2021, none were withdrawn and 7 appeals were decided. It was reported that 31 appeals have been decided since 01 April 2020, 27 of which (87%) have been dismissed and 4 of which (13%) have been allowed.

RESOLVED that the appeals update be noted.

15. Member Consultations - November and December 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 Planning Regulatory Board meetings scheduled for November and December 2020.

RESOLVED that the consultation report be noted.

Chair

Item 12

NOTES OF GENERAL LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD PANEL

26th January, 2021

Present: Councillors Wraith MBE (Chair), Birkinshaw and Hayward together with Councillor Green (Reserve Member).

Members of the Public and Press were excluded from these 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 – Determination – Mr A S

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 A S.

Mr A S attended the meeting virtually and gave evidence in support of his case.

After considering all the information and representations made the Panel determined that the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence held by Mr A S be revoked in accordance with Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 on the following grounds:

- The primary consideration for the Panel was the protection of the travelling public. The Panel would have serious concerns for the travelling public and for the protection of passengers if Mr A S was allowed to continue to drive a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle given the incidents as now reported
- Mr A S admitted the actions he had been accused of and he should have taken appropriate action to address his concerns
- He used a derogatory, insulting and offensive hand gesture to describe a passenger and whilst he claimed that this was to himself, he eventually accepted at the hearing that the use of this gesture was inappropriate
- These incidents occurred within a few metres of a school reception area and were clearly at variance to the safeguarding training which he had undertaken
- The Panel did not feel that Mr A S presented sufficient extenuating circumstances and, given that for the majority of the hearing he did not accept responsibility for the incident, there was insufficient justification to warrant him being allowed to retain his licence.

The decision of the Panel was not unanimous.

9th February, 2021

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

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

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 R.

Mr R R attended the meeting virtually and gave evidence in support of his case. He also submitted witness statements which he asked to be taken into account in determining his licence.

After considering all the information and representations made the Panel determined that there was sufficient justification for Mr R R to be allowed to retain his Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence subject to:

- Him being required to undertake a Council Approved Driver Awareness Course at the earliest opportunity possible (once they become available) and at his own expense
- Him being issued with a Written Warning which will be kept on file for 12 months as to his future conduct

The decision was made on the following

- The manner in which he presented himself and his acceptance that he had committed the offences
- The explanation of the circumstances surrounding the incidents
- The genuine remorse shown at the offences committed
- The assurance given that those offences would not occur again
- The fact that he had been a licenced driver for over 30 years and had never been subject to a complaint
- The six exemplary character references submitted
- The confirmation from the Licensing Service that he had a conscientious nature when dealing with vulnerable passengers and the fact that, over the years, he had contacted the Service on several occasions to report incidents he had dealt with to ensure that he had acted in accordance with his safeguarding training at all times
- The fact that he had provided sufficient extenuating circumstances to convince the Panel that he was a fit and proper person to hold such a licence

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

Item 13

APPEALS, AWARDS AND STANDARDS REGULATORY BOARD

(a) School Admission Appeals Panel – 11th February, 2021

Kirk Balk	1 Allowed 1 Withdrawn
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(b) School Admission Appeals Panel – 23rd February, 2021

Cawthorne	1 Refused
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The Hill	1 Allowed
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(c) School Admission Appeals Panel – 18th March, 2021

Outwood Academy Shafton	1 Allowed
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Holy Trinity	1 Refused
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Wombwell Park Street	1 Refused
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Wilthorpe Primary	1 Refused
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Appeals withdrawn prior to the allocation of a date

Astrea Dearne	2 Withdrawn
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Barnsley Academy	2 Withdrawn
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Birkwood Primary	1 Withdrawn
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Chery Dale Primary	1 Withdrawn
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Cudworth Churchfield	1 Withdrawn
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High View	1 Withdrawn
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Kings Oak	1 Withdrawn
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Park Street	1 Withdrawn
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MEETING:	Health and Wellbeing Board
DATE:	Thursday, 4 February 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present

Councillor Jim Andrews BEM, Deputy Leader
 Councillor Margaret Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson - Childrens
 Councillor Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson - Adults and Communities
 Dr Nick Balac, Chair, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group
 Wendy Lowder, Executive Director - Adults and Communities
 Julia Burrows, Director of Public Health
 Mel John-Ross, Executive Director – Children’s Services
 Sue Barton, South and West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
 Adrian England, Healthwatch Barnsley
 Chris Edwards, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group
 Jeremy Budd, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group
 Bob Kirton, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
 Amanda Garrard, Berneslai Homes
 Andrew Denniff, Barnsley and Rotherham Chamber of Commerce

1 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

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

2 **Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 8th October, 2020 (HWB.04.02.2021/2)**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th October, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a true and correct record.

3 **Key points from the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group held on 17th September and 17th December (Draft), 2020 (HWB.04.02.2021/3)**

The meeting considered the minutes from the Children and Young People’s Trust Executive Group held on 17th September and 17th December, 2020.

At the 17th December meeting, the Trust welcomed Jeremy Budd to give an overview of the Integrated Care System. Feedback had also been provided on the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Group, their priorities and their workstreams.

RESOLVED that the minutes be received.

4 Key points from the Safer Barnsley Partnership held on 30th November, 2020 (HWB.04.02.2021/4)

The meeting considered the minutes from the Safer Barnsley Partnership held on 30th November, 2020. The meeting had been well attended and had considered a case study regarding a problem area in Barnsley. This which brought to life the approach taken in working with local people to deliver sustainable change.

The meeting had also discussed the performance of the Youth Justice Team, with excellent work taking place to ensure first time entrants to the justice system were diverted from court.

RESOLVED that the minutes be received.

5 Public Questions (HWB.04.02.2021/5)

The meeting noted that no public questions had been received for consideration at the meeting.

6 Covid Intelligence Update - Presentation by Andy Snell/ Joe Minton (HWB.04.02.2021/6)

Dr. Andy Snell, Consultant in Public and Global Health was welcomed to the meeting to provide an overview on Covid-19.

Members heard how variations had been seen throughout the globe, with the US having experienced turbulence, and France previously seeing a significantly high peak. However, the UK rates and deaths per 1 million residents were currently high globally. This was attributed to winter and less tight controls, alongside the UK variant, which had resulted in rises in cases, deaths, and significant pressures on care.

However, it was suggested that the UK was seeing cases drop and was now over the peak. Members also heard that the rates of vaccines per million people was significantly high.

It was noted that in December/January that Barnsley had low case rates compared to other areas nationally. This could be attributed to areas with fewer restrictions and the more transmissible variant leading to high case rates in those areas. However, lockdown had contributed to reducing variations throughout the country.

Members heard that the 7-day case rate for Barnsley was 226/100,000, which was relatively low nationally, but significantly above rates in the summer and September. Though it was expected that the vaccine would have an impact, but Barnsley still had high rates of death, with it ranking 4th in the country. Pressure was also still being felt in Primary Care. The reasons behind high death rates, which included a high density of care homes, an older than average population and high rates of social and economic deprivation were discussed. It was suggested that Covid had starkly highlighted health inequalities, with an opportunity to address these in recovery and renewal, building back fairer.

With regards to vaccination, it was noted that the vast majority of over 75s has been vaccinated, with increasing numbers of those aged over 70. In addition, the majority of social care, primary care and related workforces had also been vaccinated.

Members noted the emergence of new variants, but there was evidence that the vaccination did help to reduce the spread of the virus. Also noted was the additional social and economy impacts of the pandemic and the need to work together to address these.

RESOLVED:- that thanks be given for the presentation, and that the update be received.

7 Report from the Health and Wellbeing Board Development Session (10th December, 2020) and Updated Terms of Reference - Presentation by Diane Lee and Ben Brannan (HWB.04.02.2021/7)

Ben Brannan, Senior Public Health Officer provided a presentation which gave feedback from the development session held on 10th December, 2020.

Identified were clear strengths, which included being good at communicating key messages, having a clear vision, having committed frontline staff and a strong understanding of data. It was noted that whilst Covid had presented significant problem, partnership working to address this had improved. There was civic pride in Barnsley, with a will to improve things. This had been seen in the recent forming of the Mental Health Partnership. Members acknowledged that the forthcoming refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy offered an opportunity to drive improvements and tackle inequalities in health.

Members noted a number of actions emanating from the workshop which included a 'left shift' towards prevention, and strengthening partnership working.

It was suggested that the ultimate aim was to increase healthy life expectancy and narrow gaps in life expectancy across the borough. As this was a longer-term aspiration, a number of measures were suggested in order to consider the impact in the more immediate term, including employment levels, housing conditions and school readiness.

Questions were raised about the length of term the refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy would cover and it was noted that this would be defined by Members. It was acknowledged that that many of the issues highlighted by the pandemic were relevant prior and would be subsequently.

The need to ensure the refreshed strategy dovetailed with the Barnsley 2030 work and vice versa was also acknowledged.

With regards to the revised terms of reference it was suggested that discussions take place in order to engage young people in the work of the Board, perhaps inviting Members of the Youth Council.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the revised Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board be endorsed and be recommended to Full Council for approval, subject to the inclusion of further youth participation;
- (ii) That a cross-system (including the Integrated Care System) workshop is held at an appropriate time, which focusses on how we can achieve greater value for money in Barnsley;
- (iii) That Board members actively contribute to the development and delivery of the updated Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy; that they take ownership for delivering on the strategy and advocate the work of the Board within their own organisation and at partnership meetings (as per the updated Terms of Reference);
- (iv) That the Strategy is translated into clear and measurable outcomes and the Board hold the system to account in achieving these outcomes;
- (v) That a template for the Board is updated and agreed for all reports to the Board which includes questions for the Board, recommendations and SMART actions for the Board, and identifies which outcomes of the refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy the reports aligns with.

8 Tackling Excess Winter Deaths and cold related illnesses - Jen Macphail and Julie Tolhurst (HWB.04.02.2021/8)

Julie Tolhurst, Public Health Principal, and Jen McPhail, Senior Health Improvement Officer were welcomed to the meeting.

Work started in 2018 to plan in order to support a reduction in excess winter deaths. Over several years, work has been undertaken with partners to consider what actions can be collectively undertaken.

Members were reminded of the affect of the cold, which was linked to health inequalities and was also related to deprivation and other social economic factors. It was noted that Covid-19 was amplifying risk factors associated with the cold.

The Barnsley 2018-19 excess winter deaths rate was 17.7% which was not statistically different to England, however Barnsley is joint 6th highest when compared to neighbours. It was noted that other measures rather than excess winter deaths were being considered in light of Covid-19.

A review of the Excess Winter Deaths Plan had commenced in December 2020, aiming to review actions taken and map support available.

Members noted progress made, including establishing a single point of access for warm homes; Better Homes Barnsley improvements in private sector housing; safe and well checks; and work supported by Area Councils to promote winter warmth and falls prevention. It was also noted that seasonal flu vaccine uptake was higher than average across age groups.

Members were made aware of current support available and were asked to circulate this information through their networks.

A full review of the Excess Winter Deaths plan was planned in Summer 2021 which would also help to understand resource implications going forward.

It was noted that the plan fed into Zero Carbon work, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and work to alleviate poverty. Questions were raised about where this work would best sit strategically.

Those present discussed the geographical variations in excess winter deaths across the borough, noting the relatively small statistics. Discussions had taken place with Area Council officers to help understand variations, but it was suggested that this was multifactorial. It was acknowledged that a greater understanding would help target resources more effectively.

Members discussed the impact of the behavioural change required in addition to increasing warm homes, especially with the use of new technologies such as air source heat pumps in social housing.

The link between digital exclusion and excess winter deaths was raised, and it was suggested that further work was needed to understand how work in each area could be mutually supportive.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the review of the 2018-21 and the work done to address excess winter deaths in Barnsley be noted;
- (ii) That Members agree to raise awareness of current guidance and support locally to address excess winter deaths this winter and beyond;
- (iii) That a review of the plan going forward in to 2021, taking account of the evidence from the Covid-19 pandemic and the zero-carbon commitment be supported;
- (iv) That further consideration be given to where Excess Winter Deaths would best strategically fit.

9 Better Care Fund - Wendy Lowder and Jeremy Budd (HWB.04.02.2021/9)

Wendy Lowder, Executive Director, Communities, spoke to the item and referred to the delayed publication of the Government's approach to the Better Care Fund (BCF) and it was noted that the intention was for minimal change. There was no obligation to submit the BCF plan for approval but, there were a number of requirements such as reviewing expenditure on social care and having an agreement of the plan in writing

It was noted that there were no plan targets, but this had not hampered partnership work which had helped to prevent delayed discharges despite challenges. Thanks were given to all staff involved.

Members heard that 2021 spending plans were largely a roll forward of previous years, with additional spending commitments. In addition, there were proposals for an uplift amount for 2021 and also commitments to the business cases in relation to developing an Older People Health and Wellbeing Service and Community Reablement Support.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the content of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That the 2020/1 Better Care Fund planning template including additional spending commitments, be approved.

10 Mental Health Partnership - Verbal update from Adrian England (HWB.04.02.2021/10)

Adrian England, Independent Chair of the Mental Health Partnership, provided an update following the inaugural meeting of the body which was held on 27th January, 2021.

An overview was given of the topics discussed, which included the terms of reference and membership. It was noted that these would be reviewed again in a few months to ensure the partnership was fit for purpose.

Members heard that the partnership was originally to meet every quarter, but as part of its establishment would meet every two months in the immediate term.

An exercise had commenced to map all key strategic mental health meetings, which would be shared, and Public Health officers would meet all partners to discuss priorities and governance arrangements prior to the next meeting of the partnership.

A presentation had been received on data and intelligence, and further work was being undertaken to understand suppressed need as a result of the pandemic. It was noted that data and intelligence would be a standing agenda item.

The partnership had considered suicide and information from 'deep dives.' Actions resulting included the development of a multiagency approach to communication in relation to mental health, suicide and young people.

The meeting had also discussed learning disabilities and mental health needs, and this would feature on future agenda.

Members noted that the notes of the meeting would be circulated to the Health and Wellbeing Board once available.

Questions were raised around whether homelessness or substance misuse and mental health had been considered, and it was agreed that these would be discussed in the future.

Noted was the impact of the pandemic on mental health including on the workforce and on children and young people.

Questions were raised about how the Mental Health partnership may arrive at its priorities, and a suggestion was made to engage Steve Bedser through the LGA, as had happened with the board.

Members were reminded that the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Board included Early Years and Parenting, which had links with mental health, especially when taking into account the impact of the pandemic. It was suggested it may be useful to focus a development session on the priority.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the report be noted;

- (ii) that thanks be given for all those involved in the establishment of the partnership;
- (iii) that the notes of the Mental Health Partnership be circulated when available.
- (iv) That a future development session of the Board focuses on Early Years and Parenting.

Chair

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MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Thriving and Vibrant Economy Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday, 9 February 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	This Meeting Will Be Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bowler, Carr, Clarke, Fielding, Gillis, Gollick, Green, Hayward, Hunt, W. Johnson, Lofts, McCarthy, Newing, Richardson, Smith, Sumner, Tattersall and Wraith MBE 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

Members of the Committee made declarations of non-pecuniary interest in connection with the items on this agenda as follows:

Cllr Tattersall - Cabinet Support Member (Place)

Cllr Richardson - Trustee of Cooper Art Gallery, vice-chair of Northern College, Heritage Champion and involved in the Eldon Street project.

Cllr Smith - sits on the Maurice Dobson Committee Trust.

Cllr Lofts volunteered at Hemmingfield pit for many years.

7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12th January 2021 were received by Members.

8 Barnsley's Culture and Visitor Economy Offer

Members were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services and the Executive Director Place in respect Barnsley's Culture and Visitor Economy Offer including the impact of Covid-19.

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Matt Gladstone, Executive Director-Place, BMBC

Kathy McArdle, Service Director, Regeneration & Culture, Place Directorate, BMBC

Sue Thiedeman, Head of Culture & Visitor Economy, Place Directorate, BMBC

Lynn Dunning, Group Leader, Heritage & Arts, Place Directorate, BMBC

Matt Mitchell, Events & Logistics Manager, Place Directorate, BMBC

Devinia Skirrow, Communications & Marketing Manager, BMBC
Cllr Cheetham, Cabinet Spokesperson, Regeneration & Culture

The Head of Culture & Visitor Economy, Place Directorate, introduced the item, highlighting Barnsley's culture and visitor economy offer, including the impact of Covid-19. It was explained that Barnsley has a relative abundance of heritage assets which form the backbone of Barnsley's visitor economy. Barnsley has five museum sites which are BMBC managed and which along with heritage assets make a positive impact on people's lives, particularly the vulnerable, and also enhance civic pride. The situation with Covid has been exceptionally challenging but Barnsley has still managed to win various national awards and accolades. Barnsley has also supported independent artists and freelancers during this difficult and challenging period. There is no doubt that the forthcoming year will continue to be very challenging.

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

It was reported that the Worsbrough Wetlands Project received £100,000 of funding just before the Covid outbreak to conserve and enhance habitat sites at Worsbrough (particularly those of the harvest mouse and the willow tit), focusing on biodiversity and care for the site, balanced with the needs of the public and the access they require. A Cultural Recovery Grant of £160,000 was received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support post-Covid recovery work at Worsbrough Mill to enlarge the shop, café and offices and to undertake emergency works to the mill machinery which has seen a four-fold increase in demand for flour during the pandemic to fulfil orders from bakeries and retail customers. The current layout of the accommodation makes it difficult to socially distance.

Although attendance at Worsborough has fallen by 8%, it appears busier than ever and is clearly important to the local community. However there has been a negative impact on the site in terms of litter, maintenance of footpaths, and issues and repair work which will need to be addressed in the future. The next year will focus on what further investment can be brought in for Worsbrough and a masterplan exercise is currently underway. There are plans for a new micro bakery, a new shop and an enhanced café business.

In terms of wider recovery plans, Experience Barnsley will reopen with new content, extra investment has been made, some high profile exhibitions have been rescheduled and some exhibitions have been held on line. Events will be reinvigorated and held 'in person' to increase footfall in the town centre when it is safe to do so. The schools offer will be adapted and changed. Some volunteering programmes have continued. The Sheffield City Region (SCR) have a new Director in post for the arts, culture and heritage and hopefully will lead to increased funding. The Welcome to Yorkshire offer has been refreshed but at the moment it is not possible to promote travelling to the area. Culture has been vitally important during Covid, with unprecedented numbers during lockdown but the future is still uncertain about reopening. Events will present a challenge and social distancing could be in place for years. However, the team is very creative and innovative and will continue to look at different opportunities.

Barnsley MBC has worked very closely with the Maurice Dobson Museum in Darfield and other local heritage groups, with grant support from the National Lottery Heritage Emergency Fund for equipment and materials needed to help with Covid recovery and small discretionary grants. The Maurice Dobson Museum received business rates relief in the first tranche of Covid and smaller grants to help with the cost of PPE, signage etc., post Covid. Barnsley was very proactive with discretionary grants, with money placed directly in to bank accounts by the finance team.

A report in 2017 referred to the Visitor Economy Strategy in Barnsley and a vision for Barnsley to be one of the UK's emerging visitor destinations by 2020. It was highlighted that the Visitor Economy strategy is due to be refreshed in line with the 2030 plans. There have been some successes but there are weak areas, one of which is governance, linked to the fact that most of the attractions are run or supported by the Council and there is a weaker offer from external partners. The pandemic has also affected partners' abilities to engage, with furlough schemes etc., being used, although great strides have been made with Welcome to Yorkshire. The Visit Barnsley platform will be replaced and will be made more relevant to the current situation, linked to the town centre. The big events previously held put Barnsley on the global map and this continues, albeit virtually, and helped to change people's perceptions. A professional high-quality film will be used to promote Barnsley, in conjunction with Welcome to Yorkshire, both nationally and internationally, once the Glassworks project is officially launched.

Elsecar attracted Great Place Funding from the Arts Council and National Lottery Fund, one of the aims of the programme was to support the development of a high quality, brand new tourism proposition for England linked to Wentworth Woodhouse and Wentworth Castle Gardens. Funding will need to be secured and a masterplan and options appraisal is being worked up alongside partners with the railway as a complementary and integrated tourism offer. It was explained that the Elsecar Railway Trust surrendered the lease back to Barnsley Council in August because of various issues, exacerbated by the pandemic. Barnsley is working closely with the Trust with a view to getting the railway up and running as soon as possible, although at the moment there is a lot of work to be done and investment will need to be secured.

There are a number of railway interest and volunteer groups across the Borough, such as the Hull and Barnsley Railway group and the fledgling Community Rail partnership (which covers the whole of the Borough). The team is happy to promote and facilitate joint working amongst these groups once the pandemic is over. Hemmingfield pit is located at the end of the Elsecar railway line and is an integral part of the Elsecar project due to its historical and cultural importance. Volunteers at the site have been supported with lottery funding and have been put forward for discretionary grants.

Barnsley is responsible for wetlands and biodiversity projects alongside Natural England, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the Environment Agency and neighbouring Local Authorities to look at biodiversity across the Dearne Valley and the Region. The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is involved in the Fleets site in Barnsley, but this project has stalled recently due to staff absences and other factors. Natural England is currently looking at the Borough as a whole with a view to securing Sites of Specific Scientific

Interest (SSSI) status. The consultation document for this will be shared with Councillor Lofts, who is involved with the canal to the west of the Fleets.

Barnsley has many heritage sites such as Wortley Top Forge, Monk Bretton Priory and Rockley Abbey. These attractions are an important part of Barnsley's heritage and have received grants during the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic work was underway with English Heritage and friends groups looking at improved facilities for the public, possibly linked to the principal towns project. It was highlighted that Monk Bretton Priory is in a flood risk area and a large part of the area is classed as a high rated flood zone with the Environment Agency. Part of the investment for floodwork along Lang Avenue is being done with a view to reclassifying this status.

The impact of the pandemic has been huge and has put enormous financial pressure on the Council. Survival of cultural organisations is critical but there is a need to be realistic and prioritise the sites which can attract match-funding for investment. Wentworth Castle Gardens is now led by the National Trust. Cannon Hall and Cannon Hall Farm have made admirable efforts during the pandemic. Hotel provision across the Borough needs to improve but the team is working hard to develop this.

Some of Barnsley's attractions, such as Cannon Hall, are inaccessible to families who do not have their own transport, with an expensive and infrequent bus service. Discussions have taken place with partners around public transport and campaigns to enable families to access travel in school holidays for a special rate has been promoted. However, issues will continue to be raised. Active travel routes are being explored but this also brings difficulties. It was felt that the future success of visitor attractions is important for regeneration and should be referred to the Mayor of the Combined Authority. The bus review highlighted the need for investment, but funding is currently being used to bail out bus, rail and tram services etc., which are around 70% down compared to pre-Covid. There is a need to look at more creative options such as an 'uber' style service and use of electric vehicles to help with the carbon footprint. There are difficult issues to confront but there needs to be an affordable option going forward.

Barnsley Museums is now responsible for Barnsley Main Colliery whilst the Parks Department looks after the park area. The building is part of the Council's planned maintenance programme and there is a good system for responding to repairs and looking at long term potential usage for the site alongside active volunteer groups. Important structural work has taken place to the head gear to conserve it for the future and it is now a grade II listed building. It was also noted that Helen and Richard Totty have contributed voluntary work led on the Barnsley Main Heritage site and have been instrumental in keeping the site looking good throughout the pandemic.

The Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) is difficult to access in some areas (around Wickes) but is no longer the responsibility of the Culture and Visitor Economy Team, as it now falls under strategic Transportation within the BMBC structure. Various upgrades are planned, funding is being sought for improvements and volunteers work along many of the sections. It was felt that there had been a large increase in littering along the TPT (and at Worsbrough) since the pandemic began, with a need for more litter bins. Tracey Brewer now has responsibility for the TPT and will be informed of this.

It is essential that children and young people are involved in taking the culture and visitor economy forward, as this is their future. It was suggested that the young Mayor could take a lead on this. Barnsley's first ever Children's Festival is planned for September 2021, with a key theme of Regeneration 2030 and encompassing future town design, future housing etc.

It was reported that just over 100,000 come to Cannon Hall in a year, with 500,000 visiting the park and outdoor green space. The £4m Parks for People project is just coming to an end and did have a focus on encouraging people to visit the museum. It was reported that 60% of visitors to the museum are from outside the Borough. Lots of work has been done to make the Hall more interesting and child friendly; the Hall has been showcased digitally during lockdown, which has led to an increase in interest which should lead to an increase in visitors once lockdown ends.

Councillor Ennis felt that as lockdown eases an opportunity should be taken to promote 'staycations' rather than planning holidays abroad and that Barnsley has much to offer in terms of visitor attractions and this will be an opportunity to encourage overnight stays in Barnsley, which will help with recovery. Promotional planning is already underway on this agenda along with partners such as Welcome to Yorkshire, the City Region and Visit England.

Members felt that volunteers, friends' groups and charities across the Borough have worked very hard during the pandemic and that they should be commended for their contribution, which has included litter picking, housekeeping, interpretations, workshops, consultations, future service planning and promotion. Many essential things could not have been done without the goodwill and support of volunteers.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Representatives be thanked for their attendance, contribution and for the success in achieving various national awards and accolades
- (ii) Volunteers be officially thanked, once the pandemic is over, for their unstinting work across the Borough;
- (iii) Lynn Dunning be tasked with contacting Barnsley College with a view to taking forward the Fleets project
- (iv) Natural England consultation document to be shared with Cllr Lofts;
- (v) Cllr Green to be put in touch with the Community Rail Partnership that covers the whole of the Borough;
- (vi) Issues regarding provision of public transport to cultural and heritage sites to be raised with the Mayor of the Combined Authority by the committee;
- (vii) Lynn Dunning to raise issues regarding signage on the TPT to Monk Bretton Priory with Tracy Brewer;
- (viii) Members provide details of specific litter bins needed at Worsbrough to Lynn Dunning and along the TPT to Tracy Brewer; and
- (ix) The young Mayor be invited to participate in the Children's Festival regarding culture and heritage to promote this amongst young people.

Chair

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - People Achieving Their Potential Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday, 9 March 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Carr, T. Cave, Frost, Hayward, W. Johnson, Makinson, McCarthy, Newing, Phillips, Pickering, Smith, Tattersall and Williams 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

Members of the Committee made the following declarations of non-pecuniary interest in connection with the items on this agenda.

Gemma Carter (Parent Governor Representative) as she is currently the Director of an Alternative Therapeutic Provision in the Barnsley area.

Councillor Smith as he sits on the Maurice Dobson Committee Trust.

Councillor Newing as she works for CAMHS

Councillor Tattersall as she is a Governor at Springwell and Greenacre schools.

7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2021 were received.

8 Children & Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) in Barnsley

Members of the Committee were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services in respect of Children and Young People's Mental Health Services in Barnsley.

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

David Ramsay, Deputy Director of Specialist Services, SWYPFT

Kate Jones, Barnsley CAMHS Service Manager, SWYPFT

Dr Ovidiu Sandica, Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist and Medical Clinical Lead for Barnsley & Wakefield CAMHS, SWYPFT

Lucy Hinchliffe, Commissioning and Transformation Manager, Barnsley CCG

Lauren Nixon, Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Transformation Lead, joint appointment for BMBC Public Health and Barnsley CCG

Lesley Pollard, Managing Director, Chilypep

Chloe Whitham, Volunteer, Chilypep

Dave Ramsay introduced the report, providing a detailed report to the background to the performance of Barnsley Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) from 2014 to date. It was highlighted that the report also covers the work of Chilypep (children and young people's empowerment project) together with MHST (Mental Health School Team), previously provided by Mindspace, but now Compass. A previous OSC raised concerns around long waiting times and the increasing pressures around ADHD cases. There have been a number of key improvements since then, including a 7 day crisis response service with intensive home-based treatment available, a 24-hour response into BHNFT for young people in crisis, work around strengthening pathways and strengthening of the school support service. Covid has brought challenges but has also provided an opportunity to look at new ways of working digitally, which has been well received by children and families. In Sept 2019, 330 children and young people were waiting for treatment, with 230 waiting for more than 12 months. Currently, the waiting list is 66, which means that now no child waits more than 12 months for treatment. Next steps include securing the funding envelope for the new service with the CCG; agreeing priorities for development and a further development of the single point of access to ensure the service is responsive to every request for support. Some of the new ways of working which have developed during Covid will be retained going forward. Lesley Pollard explained that Chilypep has been heavily involved in the waiting list reduction initiative alongside CAMHS and Mindspace. Funding has been extended for one of the programmes (BRV work with boys), albeit some of the programmes were difficult to deliver virtually such as groupwork. The number of referrals received for BRV were double those contracted for during Covid, and there is now a waiting list which is being worked through. A project around personal health budgets was very successful and supported a reduction in the waiting list or prevented young people from being added to the waiting list, but funding for this has not been extended.

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

It was acknowledged that work has been done in developing the crisis service, although there remains a gap in the system, with children having to attend A and E outside of hours. There is an ambition to develop the service up to age 25 included within the specification over a period of time (resource dependent) and also strengthening support to Children in Care up to age 25 on a phased basis. Chilypep are the lead provider for the Wellbeing hub, which may develop differently following lessons learned through Covid.

In terms of transitions, there are transition clinics available for young people transitioning to adult mental health services from the age of 17 1/2 which should help to alleviate anxieties and give a view as to what future adult provision will look like.

The Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Hub will be developed to provide a single point of contact to access appropriate services, extending into CAMHS and other emotional wellbeing services to support children and young people in Barnsley. The site for the hub has been secured on the second floor of the YMCA building in the town centre, with the lease signed prior to the lockdown. The new-build Youth Zone won't be around for a few years but all the developments

around the town centre will be linked together to avoid duplication of existing services, with 'spokes' in the community. The Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Group is looking at developing workstreams to drive forward service improvements, looking across the whole system to engage young people, particularly those not in mainstream education settings. Dave Ramsay confirmed that CAMHS will support the development of the Hub.

Work is being done by all partners including CAMHS and Educational Psychology around the post-Covid situation. This includes providing training to ensure all staff (including school staff) work in a trauma informed way to support children and young people. CCG funding is being sought to make services permanent. The MHST contract began on 1st February working with schools, and is a key partner in joining up the lower level offer with the CAMHS service, making referrals everyone's business and making links with other early intervention services to ensure a robust offer. Compass, the new provider for MHST's, and Chilypep also have a role to play in supporting schools to embed a positive emotional wellbeing approach across schools, providing training, support and toolkits. Barnsley will be bidding for a share of the £79m of funding for mental health services for children and young people which was recently announced and in particular how funding could be used to support the most vulnerable.

It was acknowledged that it is important to ensure staff emotional wellbeing is supported. This is done through regular supervision, review of caseloads and 'protected time' to enable staff to attend a variety of wellbeing sessions. Occupational Health support and training and development is also available for staff to ensure they have the skills to deliver. Chilypep and Compass staff are supported through staff assessments, action plans, regular team meetings and virtual social gatherings. Staff are doing the best they can in difficult times.

The post of Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Lead was created to look at the current landscape of children and young people's emotional wellbeing services. A report will be prepared by the end of March which will identify strengths, gaps, funding requirements and will include promotion of service offers. Although there is lots of support available, this can be difficult to navigate and the system needs to be consolidated. Smaller pieces of work (such as TADs) are often commissioned by Area Councils and schools. Rachel Payling has information about Area Council funding as it can differ by area. It was felt that this should be discussed at Area Council Chairs' meetings.

Barnsley has just set up a pilot bereavement service with Compass to support children and young people with bereavement, which will be going Borough wide from 1st April. Within Public Health a 12 month post is being created to support trauma informed practice across the Borough, helping those with adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and pulling on all services across Barnsley.

Outcomes for young people using Chilypep or Compass services are monitored in a variety of ways. If it is felt that a service isn't working for a young person they can be re-referred to CAMHS. Funding has recently been secured for two trainee Wellbeing Practitioners for 1 year by Chilypep. Development of the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) should also help improve support for young people. The South Yorkshire Eating Disorder Association (SYEDA) deliver a low level intervention for children and

young people with eating disorders and body/self-esteem issues. The current CAMHS service doesn't include eating disorders although referrals for this are increasing in Barnsley and specialist inpatient treatment beds are not staffed up for this because of Covid.

There has been an increase in some children and young people experiencing increased anxiety and depression, particularly those with other neurological problems such as ADHD. The stopping and starting of school arrangements has also been unsettling for lots of young people. Chilypep have seen young people presenting with anxiety, isolation, and stress and worry around the financial impact of Covid on families. It is hoped that the needs of all children and young people will continue to be met, although the wider service developments will take time.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution;
- (ii) Information on what each area council commissions regarding emotional wellbeing services be circulated to all members;
- (iii) Services ensure they are promoted via printed literature, as not everyone has access to online facilities, and
- (iv) Services ensure that when they apply for funding for mental health services, they should also incorporate funding to support staff wellbeing.

9 Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) Provision in Barnsley

Members of the Committee were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services and the Executive Director Children's Services in respect of SEND provision in Barnsley.

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Mel John-Ross, Executive Director – Children's Services, BMBC

Nina Sleight, Service Director – Education, Early Start & Prevention, BMBC

Darren Dickinson, Interim Head of Barnsley Schools Alliance, BMBC

Amber Burton, SEND Service & Strategy Manager, BMBC

Alex Taylor, SEND Participation Officer, BMBC

Councillor Margaret Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson – Children's Services, BMBC

Nick Bowen, Executive Principal of Horizon Community College and Joint Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance

Nichola Smith, Head Teacher, Meadstead Primary Academy and Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance Leadership Sub-Group

Yvonne Gray, Headteacher of Cudworth Churchfield Primary School and Joint Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance Board

Nina Sleight Introduced the report, highlighting the significant improvements that have been made in respect of SEND provision in Barnsley. Performance is well above national average on a number of indicators. The report sets out the priorities which form the basis of the improvement programme. Significant investment has been made to improve access and support with a focus on how children, young people and families experience the service. The engagement and participation strategy has recently been launched and there is a strong SEND youth forum. Two

priorities at the moment are being really focused on and include the preparation for adulthood strategy and SEND placement sufficiency. There has been a strong partnership response to the impact of the pandemic.

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

The Educational Psychology (EP) service has operated at full capacity throughout the pandemic, albeit virtual in the main. Educational Psychologists have visited on site when possible, in accordance with Covid guidelines. There has been an increase in (virtual) front line contact with increased accessibility as there has been no need to travel. There are issues around capacity because of people leaving and the challenges in recruiting to their posts. There should be a full team in place by September. A new programme of delivery for the EP service is currently being developed, with a better offer for schools and settings targeted at areas of higher deprivation, to be implemented from September. EHCPs written during the current period will still be accurate. There is some confusion about the EP assessment and what it entails and the service is working closely with partners to communicate this. Evidence suggests that quality of assessments remains high. Schools are advised to contact either the EP service or Amber Burton, SEND Service & Strategy Manager, if there are any access issues or concerns around EHCP assessment.

The Strategy and improvement plan is closely monitored and evaluated at all levels. There is a quarterly review of key indicators reporting into Council, Cabinet and the CCG Governing Body. The SEND Oversight Board brings all key partners together. There is a monthly performance meeting which looks at key indicators (quantitative) and is paired with qualitative information which is used to make changes to continually improve the service. The SEND Impact multi-agency group looks at key indicators and areas of biggest impact and where attention should be focussed. There is a range of sub-groups with a particular focus on a specific priorities and regular sessions are held with families who are experiencing the service. All the information obtained, both quantitative and qualitative, is used to ensure the service is on track and is making a real difference to children, young people and their families. A range of outcomes will demonstrate if children's needs are being effectively met through the right support at the right time and within the Borough.

Early identification of educational difficulties can be more challenging if the child doesn't attend pre-school settings and some families experience a range of emotions and difficulties when learning that their child may have some difficulties. More children have been home schooled during the pandemic but there is no indication that there has been a rise in formal Elective Home Education (EHE) for this group of children in particular, although this is being monitored and addressed. A SEND toolkit has been developed for use with the early years sector and some settings support children's needs really well. A good transition into school is essential. Lots of work has been done with the Public Health team around the integrated 2-year health check and a review process is in place for 3 and 4 year olds. Early identification of speech and language needs is crucial as it could impact children throughout their education (including post 16), and we know that if these needs are not met it can lead to poorer outcomes.

Schools and settings have developed much more skill in identifying needs at all stages of a child's education, with lots more specialist interventions as a standard offer. For example, a child on a youth justice trajectory will be picked up much earlier than before. Children with multiple vulnerabilities will be tracked using a range of risk indicators and resources targeted as required.

Members were advised that if a child under 5 attending a setting, presents with some difficulties, parents should talk to a SENCO in that setting. There is also a health notification system which notifies the Local Authority if a child has been identified as potentially having a special educational need through any health processes. When a child is in school, the SENCO should be contacted. Information is shared between early years and school so that the transition into education is watertight. Public Health nursing, family centres and maternity services also have a role in identifying families who are having a baby and building trust through building good early relationships. Statutory timescales for EHC needs assessment are measured by the Department of Education (DfE). In Barnsley 88% of referrals are carried out within timescales, which is better than the national average and has improved over the last 2/3 years. An EHCP does not always result, but the process is kickstarted in an efficient manner.

RESOLVED that witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

Chair

MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 11 January 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

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

8. Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute 10 due to his wife being chair of Barnsley YMCA.

9. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 2nd November, 2020 (Cen.11.01.2021/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 2nd November, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 2nd November, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

10. Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.11.01.2021/3)

Andrea Battye and Emma Turton from Barnsley YMCA were welcomed to the meeting to speak about the Unity Project. This had been commissioned by the Area Council to help young people improve their resilience and promote positive emotional health and wellbeing. Members noted the programme of activities delivered with partners, which included schools. Members were reminded of the original organisation of the project, which aimed to deliver two sessions every week in each ward within the Central Area and also provided specific provision within school holidays. The sessions were led by young people and the service also offered opportunities for peer support and volunteering.

Those present heard of the changes necessary due to restrictions in place to address the pandemic. However, positive relationships had been maintained and nurtured throughout. Where possible lunchtime clubs in schools continued, as well as detached street-based activities, and virtual online sessions amongst others arranged in Covid safe ways.

Despite lockdowns, the service had delivered 211 sessions and reached 213 children and young people in 2020/21 with other performance targets also being met.

Members received case studies from the work undertaken in each Ward and praised the work of the service, continually adapting delivery in order to meet the needs of young people. Members acknowledged the significant challenges, and thanks were

given for the continuity the programme provided for young people who had been affected by the pandemic.

Questions were raised in relation to access to IT, as an increasing number of services were provided virtually. It was noted that young people did miss face-to-face contact and, now that teaching was online, felt increasingly overloaded by the use of technology. Members heard that detached sessions were still provided when possible to address this, and to include those who had poor access to digital services. It was noted that support was available those not digitally enabled, and it was suggested that the service highlights any issues they are aware of with families struggling due to a lack of IT.

The Area Managers then spoke to the report previously circulated. Members were reminded of previous discussions about the service to support new and expectant mothers. The Area Council approved the service in December 2018. Following a procurement process the service commenced in April 2019 for a year, with an option to extend this for two further periods of a year.

In year 1 it was noted that reports regarding the impact of the service were positive, however referrals were still considerably below target. Members had agreed for the service to be continued into year two, with efforts to increase the numbers being referred.

It was noted that in the second year Covid had severely impacted the service. Referrals were still below target, but the service still engaged volunteers successfully, and the impact on those accessing the service was significant.

Members discussed the service and the impact it would have in light of current restrictions which meant that new and expectant mothers were increasingly isolated. Concerns were expressed about referrals. It was noted that a significant number of referrals being made were not eligible due to individuals being resident outside the Central area, and this may have discouraged further referrals. Members discussed the service and whether it provided value for money in some depth.

The attention of Members was drawn to the service to create a cleaner and greener environment with local people. The contract had commenced in April 2019 and had since been extended for a further year. It had increasingly focused on supporting new groups and increasing volunteering. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions the service had to be flexed and had been supporting Neighbourhood Services. However, despite restrictions, the service continued to perform well against performance measures.

Members commented on the need for more environmental education, and it was noted that the service had arranged sessions with a number of local schools, but these had to be postponed.

Members then discussed the Environmental Enforcement Service delivered by District Enforcement, with a supporting Service Level Agreement provided through the Safer Neighbourhood Service. During the first lockdown the service had been flexed, and had not issued any fixed penalty notices (FPNs), but patrols can continued, which provided useful intelligence. The issuing of FPNs had since resumed, with approximately £13,000 issued within the year.

Those present discussed the service in detail, noting that the number of complaints about the volume of dog fouling and litter remained high. It was noted that Ward level information on patrolling and issuing of FPNs would be provided to Members. Members were encouraged to continue to report issues in as much detail as possible, including litter being thrown from vehicles.

Members were reminded of the Central Wellbeing Fund and the grant issued to Creative Recovery. Delivery had focused on two wards, with the extension of the project to deliver in two further wards dependent on performance. It was suggested that this be considered in more detail at the next meeting of the Area Council.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be provided to staff at YMCA for the presentation and for their continued hard work in the Central Area;
- (ii) That the overview of Central Area Council's current priorities, contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Well-being Fund projects and associated timescales be noted;
- (iii) That the financial position for 2020-21 and projected expenditure as outlined in Appendices 1 and 2, be noted;
- (iv) That the overview of Central Area Council projects approaching the end of the contracted period be noted;
- (v) That approval be given for the service for new and expectant mothers delivered by Family Lives to be continued for a further year at a cost of £50,000 from 1st May, 2021 to 30th April, 2022;
- (vi) That approval be given for the service to create a cleaner and greener environment in conjunction with local people delivered by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance to be continued for further year at a cost of £95,000 from 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022;
- (vii) That approval be given for the Environmental Enforcement Service delivered by District Enforcement Ltd to be continued for a further year at an annual cost of £45,000 from 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022;
- (viii) That approval be given for the Service Level Agreement with Safer Neighbourhoods to be continued for a further year at a cost of £13,000 from 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022;
- (ix) That approval be given for the service to build emotional resilience in children and young people delivered by YMCA to be continued for a further year at a cost of £136,500 from 1st April, 2021 to 31st March, 2022;
- (x) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Communities to negotiate necessary contract variations for the service support new and expectant mothers delivered by Family Lives, and the service to create a clean and green environment in conjunction with local people delivered by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance, following liaison with the Central Area Council Chair; and
- (xi) That the phase 2 grant for the Creative Recovery 'Uplift Project' be considered at the next meeting of the Area Council in March, 2021.

11. Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.11.01.2021/4)

The meeting received the notes of the following meetings:-
Central Ward Alliance, held on 28th October, and 25th November, 2020;
Dodworth Ward Alliance, held on 3rd November, 2020;
Kingstone Ward Alliance, held on 21st October, and 2nd December, 2020;
Worsbrough Ward Alliance, held on 26th November, 2020.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

12. Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.11.01.2021/5)

The report was received for information

RESOLVED that the report be received.

13. Covid-19 Update - Cath Bedford, Kay Tinkler and Laura Dixon (Cen.11.01.2021/6)

Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal – Communities; Kay Tinkler, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer; and Laura Dixon, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer, were welcomed to the meeting.

Members were reminded of the national lockdown which commenced on 5th January, 2021 and it was noted that the rate of infection was steadily but persistently rising with around 100 new cases per day across the borough. Rises were generally seen in the working age population, especially in those aged 50-59 and 20-39. The message of 'Hands, Face, Space' remained and Members were also reminded of the need to open windows for fresh air.

Members heard that situation report meetings were held twice a week to consider data, and it was noted that cases seemed distributed across the borough. Members were encouraged to feed in any intelligence which may result in understanding any patterns.

16 Covid Marshals had been employed and though they have no formal powers of enforcement, they will work closely with Police and Regulatory Service staff who do. Their recent observations included lack of face coverings being worn, poor social distancing, and a lack of signage in commercial premises. Also noted were recurrent gatherings of young people in outdoor public places.

Those present heard how six Neighbourhood Engagement Officers were now in post. One was assigned to each Area Council. Members also heard about the community insights work, with workshops being organised to understand behaviour in relation to Covid. Additional finance had been secure to support engagement with disabled and BAME communities.

Members noted the work to support vulnerable communities impacted by Covid, and to understand and support the management of any outbreaks.

Members heard about the Covid Support Service in place to support the national test and trace efforts, with welfare telephone calls being made and even house visits for those unable to be reached.

Details of the Community Testing Centre at the Metrodome were provided. This had opened recently with a pilot focusing on the routine testing of critical frontline workers. Members noted that the lateral flow tests used were less accurate and any individual tested positive would be referred for a more accurate PCR test.

Members noted that Barnsley currently had three testing sites for those with symptoms, and a mobile testing unit. It was acknowledged that routine testing would also be undertaken in secondary schools, but further detail on this was outstanding.

Vaccinations had commenced with sites at Priory Campus, Apollo Court and Goldthorpe Medical Centre. Members were asked to encourage residents to wait to be called for their vaccine rather than making enquiries.

Members were provided details about the role of Neighbourhood Engagement Officers. They supported compliance in businesses, and referred any issues for enforcement where necessary, working closely with Covid Marshals and Community Responders. The role also included raising awareness of financial support to businesses in the area. Members were asked to report any breaches of Covid guidance which would provide useful intelligence for all agencies supporting this effort.

It was noted that the Central Area covered more wards and a greater population than other Area Councils. Members heard how resource from the Penistone Area could be used to assist Central when required.

Members discussed capacity at testing centres, and it was noted that there were no issues with capacity at the time of the meeting. Members were asked to encourage anyone with symptoms to get tested. Members discussed the rate of positive tests, and how many of these would lead to hospital admissions. It was agreed that this information would be provided if available.

Those present discussed the impact of vaccinations and whether this would lead to complacency, noting that guidance should be adhered to even when vaccinated.

The issues around schools and congregating parents were discussed, and it was noted that Covid Marshals could be deployed to situations such as this and schools had been aware of this offer.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given to officers for the update;
- (ii) That figures relating to admission to hospital and any correlation to the rate of positive tests be provided to Members.

Chair

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MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 18 January 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson and Phillips

9 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

10 Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on 16th November, 2020 (Dac.18.01.2021/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of the Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on the 16th November, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

11 Bfriend social connectivity service - Mike Niles (Dac.18.01.2021/3)

Mike Niles representing the Bfriend Social Connectivity Service attended the meeting and gave Members an update of work currently being undertaken within the area.

He explained the background to the Service which operated with the Dearne and other areas of South Yorkshire and which aimed to reduce social isolation. As a result of the Covid pandemic the Bfriend had been required to 'revamp' its services by transferring all its Bfriending/face to face activity online or telephone (for those who did not have access to the internet). Because of the exceptionally good volunteer base it had been possible to deliver to service users' essential items such as food and medicines and this had been particularly important at the start of the pandemic.

Weekly telephone calls were made with the two groups in the Dearne, one in Bolton upon Dearne and the other in Thurnscoe and Facebook live sessions were utilised to deliver various activities. Bundles/packs of activity related material were also delivered to try to ensure such residents still felt connected even though they were unable to access any of the online sessions.

Since March the Service had supported over 80 older neighbours in the Dearne and delivered between 180-200 packs to those who were self-isolating. It was pleasing to note, however, that as the Service had been running prior to the first lockdown this had enabled it to know where to target resources, to be connected, to be a trusted friend and to make the necessary connections for 'clients' to other services within the area.

This year there had been an independent qualitative evaluation of the project with both beneficiaries and volunteers. The main findings, amongst other things, indicated that the Service had used volunteers within the area who had never previously volunteered and the Service had contributed to improved well-being. The report findings were quite extensive, and a copy was available should members wish to have sight of it. The findings were extremely positive and outlined the importance of the Service to residents particularly during the difficult circumstances currently pertaining.

In conclusion he stated that whilst much of what the service undertook had changed as a result of the pandemic, it had, at the same time, highlighted the importance of the work undertaken in reducing social isolation particularly amongst the vulnerable community.

In response to questioning Mr Niles commented on the following:

- Since the lockdown started there had been an uptake in the number of referrals and there had been an approximate four-fold increase in demand. The people Bfriend was working with were facing increased anxiety and this too had increased the staff time required too try to connect people to statutory services or other community 'offers'
- Reference was also made to the way in which residents accessing the service had responded to the lack of face to face contact. Those who had access to a Bfriend prior to lockdown had probably coped better than those who had attended social group sessions as the latter group were facing isolation/restrictions in a way they had previously not experienced. Some of the relationships formed had been crucial and people were looking forward to the re-establishment of face to face sessions when this was possible
- Anyone over the age of 65 living on their own could access the service and referrals were still being accepted. The service was exceptionally lucky in that volunteers were still signing up to offer support. If Members of the Area Council knew of anyone who needed support, they were encouraged to refer them to the Service

RESOLVED that Mike Niles be thanked for his report, for attending the meeting and for answering Members questions.

12 COVID-19 Public Health update - Craig Aubrey and Cath Bedford/Lucy Butcher (Dac.18.01.2021/4)

Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal – Communities and Craig Aubrey, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer were welcomed to the meeting.

Members were reminded of the national lockdown which commenced on 5th January, 2021 and it was noted that the rate of infection was steadily but persistently rising with around 100 new cases per day across the borough but it was hoped that this would reduce as a result of the current lockdown. Rises were generally seen in the working age population, especially in those aged 50-59 and 20-39. The public health message of 'Hands, Face, Space' remained and Members were also reminded of the need to open windows for fresh air particularly during the winter months.

Members heard that situation report meetings were held twice a week to consider data, and it was noted that cases seemed distributed across the borough. Members were encouraged to feed in any intelligence which may result in understanding any patterns.

16 Covid Marshals had been employed and though they had no formal powers of enforcement, they worked closely with Police and Regulatory Service staff who did. Their recent observations included lack of face coverings being worn, poor social distancing, and a lack of signage in commercial premises. Also noted were recurrent gatherings of young people in outdoor public places.

Those present heard how six Neighbourhood Engagement Officers were now in post. One was assigned to each Area Council. Members also heard about the community insights work, with workshops being organised to understand behaviour in relation to Covid. A Workshop had also been organised for Elected Members on the 2nd February, 2021. Additional finance had been secured to support engagement with disabled and BAME communities.

Members noted the work to support vulnerable communities impacted by Covid, and to understand and support the management of any outbreaks.

Members heard about the Covid Support Service in place to support the national test and trace efforts, with welfare telephone calls being made and even house visits for those unable to be reached.

Details of the Community Testing Centre at the Metrodome were provided. Symptomatic testing was being provided at three sites throughout the borough. In addition, a mobile testing unit was available which this week would be at the Cinema car park in Penistone. A pilot had opened recently focusing on the routine testing of critical frontline workers.

It was acknowledged that routine testing would also be undertaken in secondary schools, but further detail on this was outstanding.

Vaccinations had commenced with sites at Priory Campus, Apollo Court and Goldthorpe Medical Centre. Members were asked to encourage residents to wait to be called for their vaccine rather than making enquiries.

Craig Aubrey, then provided details about the role of Neighbourhood Engagement Officers and the work they were currently undertaking. They supported compliance in businesses, and referred any issues for enforcement where necessary, working closely with Covid Marshals, Response Co-ordinator and Community Responders. The role also included raising awareness of financial support to businesses in the area. Work was also undertaken with the community to identify and tackle issues that arose in relation to non-compliance with the Covid guidance.

Members were asked to report any breaches of Covid guidance which would provide useful intelligence for all agencies supporting this effort.

In response to questions it was explained how the Neighbourhood Engagement Officers and Covid Marshalls worked alongside Community Safety Officers and the Police to share intelligence information and ensure a seamless approach particularly

in relation to investigations and actions in respect of breaches of Covid guidance. Cath Bedford also reported on joint visits that had been organised involving Covid Marshalls and the South Yorkshire Police.

It was recognised that Covid Marshalls did not have powers of enforcement and any fines had to be issued by the Police, but they also worked closely with Regulatory Service to try to ensure appropriate compliance. It was pleasing to note, however, that the majority of residents/businesses accepted the advice issued.

Further information on the rationale for the placement of the Mobile Testing Unit would be provided but it was thought that decisions about this were largely based on identified need/hot spots.

The Chair commented that an issue that she had raised with the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer had been dealt with quickly and efficiently and the problem had not occurred again and thanks were extended to the Team for that.

RESOLVED that Cath Bedford and Craig Aubrey be thanked for attending the meeting, presenting the report and answering Members questions.

13 Finance Update Report (Dac.18.01.2021/5)

Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager spoke to the report previously circulated.

An overview of the financial position was provided. The Area Council had an opening budget of £214,720.67, which, as previously reported, was supplemented by an additional £10,000 from the hardship fund. Members had approved the Education, Environment and Volunteer Service, Housing and Migration Officer, Employability Service and Social Connectivity Service, together with an allocation of £28,000 to the Dearne Development Fund.

It was noted that £173.67 remained unallocated, however, income from NESTA to support the Social Connectivity Service had been received leaving a total of £9,663.67 unallocated.

Following the allocation of £28,000 to the Dearne Development Fund, together with £10,000 from the hardship fund, and finance carried forward from 2019/20, £41,650.68 was available to distribute. Members noted that awards had been given to DIAL, CAB, Thurnscoe Community Plaza and Highgate Outdoor Improvement Scheme and that £11,427.68 remained in the fund.

In relation to the remaining funding in the Dearne Development Fund it was noted that funding bids had to include a Covid related element in order to be eligible. It was hoped that any remaining budget not spent could be carried over into the next financial year given the exceptional circumstances.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

14 Procurement Report - Environmental, Education and Volunteering service (Dac.18.01.2021/6)

Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager spoke to the report previously circulated which sought to delegate to the Executive Director Adults and Communities responsibility to make changes to the current activities/targets of the environmental, Education and volunteer Service currently delivered by Twigg's Grounds Maintenance.

Members were reminded that at the meeting held on the 16th November, 2020 the Area Council had agreed a third-year extension of the environmental, education and volunteer contract with an option to extend for a further year thereafter. It was noted, however, that the restrictions posed by the Covid pandemic had posed difficulties for Twigg's in working with volunteers, groups, businesses and schools.

On the 14th December, 2020, Members together with the Area Manager and representatives of the procurement team had met to discuss activities and targets set for Twigg's at the start of their contract, to review those targets in the light of the pandemic and to discuss a possible variation to the contract in view of the difficulties encountered. As a result of that meeting, alternative activities and targets had been suggested with others being put on hold for the next 12 months and details of the proposals were outlined within the report.

It was noted that in the past, Twigg's had adopted an approach of working with groups and organisations (in addition to proactive and reactive work) but due to the current pandemic situation it was suggested that there would have to be much more emphasis on the reactive and proactive elements of the contract whilst, at the same time, working with volunteers and groups that were able to do so, accepting that this kind of work would be restricted. It was proposed, therefore, that a schedule would be developed for the Service to work towards for the next 12 months

The next steps in the process would be to work through the activities and targets with the provider and with the procurement team in order to develop a work schedule and a variation to the original contract. Members of the Area Council together with the Area Team and partners would continue to work to build up a schedule of activity based around reactive work. It was anticipated that this schedule would be available in early February in time for the start of the new financial year. The Service would proactively target areas that were not already within the schedule and the Area Manager would hold discussions with Neighbourhood Services to ensure that there was no duplication of work/work areas.

Arising out of the discussion, reference was made to the work currently undertaken within the area by the Shaw Foundation in association with other organisations including the Thurnscoe Tenants Association. Particular reference was made to the difficulties that were encountered when litter was picked up on private land and for which the Council had no responsibility to remove/collect. The Area Council Manager stated that she would circulate a link which could be shared with the Tenants Association which gave details of land ownership within the area. It was important, however, to ensure that there was no duplication of effort and that work was co-ordinated across the area. The Area Council Manager stressed that she would be contacting Neighbourhood Services as a matter of urgency as it was important to ensure that service worked collaboratively in order to gain maximum benefit for the residents in the area. It was also suggested that the Area Council Link Officer may be able to assist in obtaining detailed information on service provision.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be received and that the proposed changes to the current service activities and targets be noted; and
- (ii) That following the outcome of further discussions and the development of a schedule of work, as now reported, the Executive Director Adults and Communities be authorised to implement the changes proposed by way of a variation to the contract with Twigg's Grounds Maintenance.

15 Notes from the Ward Alliances (Dac.18.01.2021/7)

Members received the notes of Dearne South Ward Alliance held on 19th November, 2020. The Ward Alliance had approved a grant of £1,000 to update the resilience container with more emergency equipment to ensure that any residents in Dearne South could access grit or flood materials in an emergency. Alan George, who was a keyholder and had access to the items 24/7 and who was also a key flood warden for Bolton on Dearne also gave a full treasurers report. It was also noted that the Defibrillator was now installed in Goldthorpe.

Winter Warmer packs had been issued to the District Nurse Team and would be given out to the most vulnerable elderly in the area in conjunction with the Public Health Team.

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance held on 3rd December, 2020 which had taken the form of an informal meeting. New Members of staff had been introduced and an update had been given by Amy Calvert from the Barnsley Food Network on her role and how she could help communities deliver projects around food storage and help Fareshare in future projects in 2021.

RESOLVED that the notes from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

16 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.18.01.2021/8)

Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager, provided an update in relation to the Ward Alliance Funds for Dearne North and Dearne South wards.

Members noted that Dearne North had a balance of £12,247.12 at the start of the financial year, which included an underspend of £247.12 from the 2019/20 budget, £10,000 Ward Alliance monies for 2020/21 and £2,000 Covid support funds. To date funds had been provided for 9 projects at a cost of £12,064.20 leaving a balance of £182.92.

Dearne South Ward Alliance had a balance for 2020/21 of £16,605.12, which included an underspend of £4,605.12 from the 2019/20 budget, £10,000 Ward Alliance monies and £2,000 Covid support funds. To date support had provided funds for 9 projects at a cost of £13,901.40 leaving a balance of £2,703.72.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

17 Community Safety in the Dearne - Fiona Tennyson (Dac.18.01.2021/9)

Fiona Tennyson, Community Safety Team Leader, was welcomed to the meeting to discuss issues in the area.

Reference was made to the difficulties caused by the Covid pandemic and of not being able to meet collectively as a team within the Police Station.

The Private Sector Housing and Cohesion Officer had undertaken around 150 proactive jobs this quarter largely concentrating on Waste and Fly Tipping and Contaminated Bins. He had also concentrated on the Victoria Street Area alongside the Environmental Task Force. The Housing Enforcement Officer, who also covered Hoyland and Wombwell, had undertaken 50+ jobs within the Dearne Area and, in addition, working alongside the Salvation Army had ensured that food packages were delivered. Both officers had been extremely busy undertaking environmental as well as supportive work.

The Victim and Witness Support Officer had been involved in 9 cases across the Dearne and the Community Safety Officer had reported on 23 fly tips and 9 abandoned vehicles spread evenly across Bolton, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe.

Environmental work had also been undertaken in Elizabeth Street, Goldthorpe.

Issues in relation to Anti Social Behaviour had taken considerable resources. Work had been undertaken in association with the Police particularly within the Stotfold Drive area of Goldthorpe and the Low Grange Road area in Thurnscoe. In addition, a number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts had been issued as well as 2 pre-injunction warning letters. Preparations were also being made for the issuing of injunctions if required.

RESOLVED that the feedback and report be noted.

Chair

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MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 28 January 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	VIRTUAL

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cheetham, Cherryholme, Felton, Green, Higginbottom, Houghton CBE, Makinson, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

11 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Hayward declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 15 as he is a Trustee of Age UK.

12 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 26th November 2020

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 26th November 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 26th November 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

13 North East Area Staff Team introductions

The Area Council Manager introduced the two new members of staff working for the North East Area Team, Lawrence Dodd, Community Development Officer (CDO), and Louise Hunt, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer (NEO).

Louise Hunt introduced herself and briefly explained her role. Initially she was involved in supporting local businesses such as Licensed premises, gyms and leisure centres with risk assessments, PPE, and giving information about grants available. The NEOs and CDOs have been working with Covid Marshalls and community responder teams, matching volunteers who need help with shopping, telephone befriending etc. and are now working with Trading Standards to ensure supermarkets etc are complying with Covid guidance.

Lawrence Dodd introduced himself and briefly explained his role, explaining that he had moved from Kirklees in a similar community-based role. He will be working closely with the Area Teams and the Ward Alliances.

RESOLVED that both Louise Hunt and Lawrence Dodd be welcomed to the North East Area and be thanked for their attendance and contribution at the meeting.

14 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 recently. The following updates were noted:

Cudworth - Following the meeting on Monday Robert Street allotments was granted £500 agreed. The CCTV installation, part of the Principal Towns project, is now up and running. All Ward Alliance Members were thanked for their generous gifts to the children's fund over the Christmas. Special thanks were given to Steve Green for his hard work and John Marshall at Priory Campus. Priorities will be reviewed at the next meeting. New members are needed and opportunities will be advertised.

Monk Bretton - An application has been received from Carlton Bowling Club. Hanging baskets will be funded for the summer. The Ward Alliance is looking to set up a Facebook group. Cllr Green thanked everyone for their contributions to the Christmas fund, with in excess of 4000 presents received. This will be repeated next year. The Christmas lights were filmed and put on Facebook along with a message from Father Christmas.

North East - The Ward Alliance took part in distributing the winter warm packs. Some applications have been received, including some for hanging baskets. An application has been received from Great Houghton youth group, who do a lot of work in the ward. The defibrillator is awaited at Options but this is on hold at the moment due to the lockdown. Louise Hunt gave an overview of her role at the last meeting. Priorities are being set for next year.

Royston - The November meeting was attended by members of the Youth Participation Team to talk about the Make Your Mark engagement exercise. Over 7500 responses were received from Barnsley, which was the best response in the Yorkshire and Humber region. Priorities will be set from this exercise. Diversity and equality in school was the top for Royston, alongside transport and drugs. There is still a need to penetrate Area Council and Ward Alliances with youth engagement and Members were urged to keep youth engagement at the forefront of their plans.

The memorial bench has now installed at the entrance to St John's Church with help from Barnsley Community Build and Help4Homeless Veterans. Section 106 meetings continue to be well attended. Access steps at Rabbit Ings have been matched funded from this alongside Football Foundation money. Principal Towns Phase I is now complete and the centre of Royston is looking good. The last defibrillator has now been fitted free of charge by a local electrical company at the Grove on Station Road. Thanks were expressed to Steve Green for doing a fantastic job with the Christmas toy appeal. All those involved got a Spirit of Barnsley award. The new Christmas lights looked great and will be built on next year. Hanging baskets planned for the summer.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received and Steve Green be thanked, on behalf of the children of the Borough, for his hard work with the Christmas toy appeal.

15 Social Isolation and Dementia commission

Jane Holliday, the Chief Executive Officer from Age UK Barnsley, provided a detailed update to the North East Area Council about the work of the Social isolation and

Dementia commission. The contract began 1st July 2019 and is due to end 30th June 2021 at a contract value of £30,000 a year which includes £5,000 from Age UK Barnsley. Staffing consists of two part time workers providing 1 FTE with a team of volunteers supported by a Manager with a purpose of providing support for socially isolated older people, especially those with dementia, by developing opportunities within the community and promoting dementia friendly businesses and groups.

However, from March 2020 and the first Covid-19 lockdown the project changed quickly and involved shopping, collecting medication, emergency boxes and wellbeing boxes, contact calls, reassurance, signposting, telephone befriending, garden visits and outdoor walks. There have also been two cycles of themed home-based activities. The wellbeing boxes contained a minimum of £45 worth of goods and were very well received, with 110 distributed across the area. Hot Christmas Day dinners were delivered to homes from Chilli Grill. The project has continued to evolve with the further lockdowns, working with partners such as supermarket chains and local care homes.

Following the update, Councillors were asked to decide whether they would like to maintain, and fund, the extra service provision for the Social Isolation and Dementia initiative until June 2021.

RESOLVED that Age UK Barnsley is funded to maintain the additional service provision by the Social inclusion Workers in the North East Area communities until June 2021 at a cost of £5,000.

16 Covid 19 Pandemic

Lucy Butcher, Public Health Practitioner, was welcomed to the meeting and provided the North East Area Council with a verbal update and an actions and progress update report from Public Health about the Covid 19 pandemic.

It was reported that there has been a slight increase in transmission over the past few weeks and is being assessed by the Public Health team. Asymptomatic testing at the Metrodome has picked up around 7 cases. There have been a small number of outbreaks in care homes and work places together with an increase in household transmission, with multiple positive cases. There is a higher prevalence of new variants but the increased rates are of most concern. Joint working with partners such as South Yorkshire Police, Trading Standards and the Covid Marshals is taking place. Only Barnsley-wide raw data is available at the moment and the picture changes daily. No specific ward is showing a high case rate consistently and there is a need to consider age, levels of deprivation etc. Reports of residents visiting coffee shops and parks in high numbers have been received, with cases in all wards of guidelines not being followed, particularly in supermarkets. Members were urged to continue to follow the guidelines and be vigilant. Any intelligence around non-compliance with the guidelines should be emailed to: covvidmarshalls@barnsley.gov.uk.

Members were advised that testing starts this week at the Acorn centre in Grimethorpe, with information on the website. There are various testing sites across the Borough and all schools have testing provision.

Members were aware of a number of residents offered appointments for vaccination at Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield and Manchester, which is impossible for many people to attend and is concerning when there are local vaccination sites close by. Vaccines are being administered to vulnerable residents who cannot leave their homes and this can be arranged through GPs. Lucy will take these concerns back to Emma White in Public Health. If there are further concerns around vaccination, these should be emailed to Emmawhite@barnsley.gov.uk.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Lucy be thanked for her attendance and contribution;
- (ii) Members note the information in the report;
- (iii) Members continue to encourage local communities to get tested, especially if they have symptoms;
- (iv) Members feedback any community-based intelligence to Covid Marshalls; and
- (v) Members contact Emma White in Public Health with any vaccination concerns

17 North East Area Council Project Performance Report - update on the delivery of commissioned projects

The Area Council Manager introduced this item. Specific items of note included: Age UK are still supporting 111 residents from across the area, and have received 18 new referrals this quarter for telephone befriending. New volunteers have been recruited and volunteers have provided 288 hours of volunteer support, which equates to £4000 of social value. A number of individual case studies from the commissioned projects were provided. District Enforcement have issued 130 FPNs and 42 parking tickets this quarter.

RESOLVED that Members note the report.

18 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, reporting that the North East Area Council is on track for spend and is looking forward to the next financial year.

RESOLVED that Members note the report

19 Report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, highlighting that a number of Ward Alliance meetings will be taking place soon and that the budget can be carried forward to the next financial year.

RESOLVED that Members note the report

Chair

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 1 February 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), A. Cave, Charlesworth, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Pickering, Platts, Spence and Tattersall

10 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

11 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 23rd November 2021

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd November 2021.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 23rd November 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

12 Public Health Updates (including Covid-19) - Cath Bedford/Lucy Butcher/Leyla Brooke

Lucy Butcher (Public Health) and Leyla Brooke (Neighbourhood Engagement Officer) were welcomed to the meeting to provide an update regarding the Council's Public Health response to the pandemic. Members were reminded that given the rapid pace of change during the pandemic, the information provided was as up to date as possible.

The information provided covered a wide range of work undertaken across the Council together with a summary of actions and progress in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members were informed that specific questions on areas of work will be taken back to the appropriate lead for further detail, if appropriate.

It was reported that currently working age adults aged 50 and above have the highest rate There is a higher prevalence of the new variant. Coronavirus appears to favour cold weather. There has been a rise of transmissions despite being in a lockdown. It is not possible to provide ward specific data but public health colleagues are happy to speak to individual ward members about ward issues. No specific trends are evident and Members were urged to continue to follow the Government guidance of 'hands, face, space', stay at home as much as possible and the importance of fresh air.

There are currently 16 Covid Marshalls who work closely with the Police, Regulatory Services and Safer Neighbourhood Service and carry out daily monitoring rounds across the borough in areas of concern, particularly of licensed premises where there

have been instances of breaching of guidelines. There have been concerns around increased footfall and traffic, with reports of people travelling to parks, open spaces and coffee shops to meet with people from other households. Specific hotspots have been targeted. Spot checks take place in all supermarkets across the Borough. Work is being undertaken to understand non-compliance and non-engagement, with a campaign planned from 26th February to raise awareness. Support to vulnerable people such as homeless, substance misuse and traveller communities etc is also taking place. The Test and Trace service and support provided appears to be working very well.

Up to date information regarding symptomatic and asymptomatic testing is available on the BMBC website under mobile testing. There is a lot of capacity to do the testing and 7 positive asymptomatic cases have been picked up to date. Schools and early years settings have access to testing.

The local NHS in Barnsley is leading on the vaccination rollout. It is anticipated that 25,000 vaccinations will have been delivered by mid-February in priority order. Vulnerable people who are unable to travel will be identified by their GP and will have local vaccinations. NHS and Social Care staff are being vaccinated due to their key worker status. People need to be encouraged to continue to follow the guidance once vaccinated. Members were advised to contact Emma White (Public Health Principal) regarding any concerns around vaccination.

Members were concerned that infection levels in some Barnsley wards are continuing to rise when compared to national rates and that there has been a 31% increase in cases in Barnsley Hospital admissions over the last 7 days. The possibility of asymptomatic mass community testing for hotspots was discussed and that this could potentially be publicised over social media etc. This issue will be raised at the regular Sitrep meetings and with Hannah Bailey who is leading on Covid communications campaigns.

Individuals who may not have the main symptoms of Covid but are feeling unwell in other ways should be encouraged to attend testing, dependent on the capacity of the centre. This can be booked online through the NHS or BMBC website.

Leyla Brooke introduced herself and updated Members with the work of the 6 Neighbourhood Engagement Officers (NEOs). The NEOs work closely with the 16 Covid Marshalls (who work in pairs) and feed in to response coordination alongside South Yorkshire Police. It was explained that the NEO role is about support and guidance, not enforcement. Duties include provision of guidance and support to licensed premises; Gym visits to check Covid compliance; business support; social intelligence gathering and follow up; support with food provision for those in isolation who have tested positive and supermarket visits.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The update be noted, and Lucy and Leyla be thanked for their attendance and contribution;
- (ii) That members continue to share the importance of continuing to follow guidance;
- (iii) Any non-compliance concerns should be sent to the Public Health inbox or Covid Marshalls alerted;

- (iv) Any specific questions on areas of work will be taken back to the appropriate lead for further detail; and
- (v) Members should contact Emma White (Public Health Principal) regarding any concerns around vaccination.

13 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance

The Area Council Manager introduced this report, providing the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The North Area Council noted the existing budget position and existing funding commitments;
- (ii) The Stronger Communities Grant opportunity should be advertised and
- (iii) Funds continue to be devolved to the Ward Alliances during 2021/22.

14 Area Commissioning Performance Report

The Area Council Manager introduced this report, providing the Area Council with detailed information with regard to Area Council commissioned projects including the Anti-Poverty Community outreach project; the Clean and Green service; the work of the Housing and Cohesion Officer and Age UK.

Various projects were commended for the valuable work they have been doing in challenging times, including Twiggs, the Winter Warmth project, the work of Bradley (Housing and Cohesion Officer) and the CAB/DIAL outreach project.

The Area Council Manager confirmed that outputs and performance indicators had changed due to the pandemic but that nonetheless a fantastic job had been done, adapting and flexing contracts under challenging circumstances. CAB/DIAL have secured over £200,000 in additional benefits over the last quarter for North Area residents and have managed £16,000 of debt. The service has been a real lifeline for people. It was highlighted that the service will probably come under additional pressure as the lockdown eases and there may be different people accessing the support provision in the future. At the moment the magnitude of demand is impossible to quantify.

Members were also aware of schools being approached by parents experiencing financial hardship and Ward Alliances had agreed funding to provide healthy food parcels for the Christmas school holidays. It is likely that the Area Team will become more involved in 'people helping people' activities and are currently collating food parcels to tide families in need over the February half term. Councillors are actively involved, with many listed as volunteer Community Responders. It was highlighted that the Christmas parcels had been very well received by local residents and that the help of volunteers in delivering them had been invaluable.

RESOLVED that the update be noted

15 Stronger Communities Grant

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and outlined the Stronger Communities Grant Panel's recommendation to make the grant funding available for 2021/22 with a view to agreeing dates for advertising the grant funding opportunity. Guidance and support will be available from the Area Team for providers thinking of bidding and how they can meet the criteria, including Covid recovery. There is a need to increase the time young people in particular spend outside and away from screens but it is unclear how this could be done under this project. The opportunity will be widely shared on social media and other channels.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Members approved the recommendation to run the grants programme in 2021/22 along with the terms of reference;
- (ii) Members agreed the value of the grant funding pot for 2021/22 of £40,000 and
- (iii) Members confirmed that a Councillor from each Ward will sit on the grants panel for 2021/22.

16 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating the North Area Council on the financial position of the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2020/21 period. It was felt that community groups should be commended for the work they had been able to do during the pandemic. The Area Council Manager will check if there is any remaining hardship funding available for businesses.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Ward Alliances pay particular attention to the Ward Alliance Covid-19 Recovery Plan document when developing projects during the remainder of 2020/21, and that
- (ii) Each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2020/21, in line with the guidance on spend.

17 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances

The North Area Council received an update on the progress of the Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helens Ward Alliances. Members were reminded of the requirement for Ward Alliance minutes to be received by the Area Council.

DARTON EAST - The Ward Alliance supported the installation and removal of Mapplewell Christmas lights. 3 Christmas trees were funded across the Ward and were well received by residents. A new website will be funded and will be used to promote Mapplewell village, community activities, local businesses etc.

DARTON WEST - Parks have been reviewed to identify any essential works needed, litter picking has continued in line with social distancing guidelines. Costings have been obtained to install a water tap for outside the Church for members of the public to use. £2000 was put aside for Christmas activity packs, food parcels etc for 58 families but wasn't used due to charitable donations and will be used for similar activities during the half term holidays.

OLD TOWN - A number of funding applications have been agreed. The Ward Alliance has managed to save £3000 through Christmas tree sponsorship. Cllr Pickering reported that there have been a number of recent serious crime incidents which were not reported to either Wakefield and Barnsley Police. As a result of this, it has been agreed that major incidents across borders will now be reported by each Police force.

ST HELENS - Thanks were expressed to all ward members who had managed to attend meetings despite technical difficulties. Leyla Brook attended the November meeting and gave lots of information about what was happening in the Ward and was able to offer advice on how to go ahead with the Christmas events in line with Covid guidelines. Christmas packs were delivered across the Ward and Father Christmas was able to safely visit the Community Shop and local schools. Lots of activities are coming up over the next few months, mostly online and over the telephone but nonetheless the support has been fantastic.

RESOLVED that the updates be noted and Members, volunteers and group be thanked for their hard work and support over the past months. Members were reminded that the Area team is available for help and support alongside other officers.

Chair

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MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 11 February 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson.

7 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

8 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 3rd December, 2020 (Pac.11.02.2021/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd December, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 3rd December, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

9 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 26th November, 2020 and 21st January, 2021 (Pac.11.02.2021/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 26th November, 2020 and 21st January, 2021.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 26th November, 2020 and 21st January, 2021 be received.

10 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.11.02.2021/4)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report, drawing attention to the £20,000 annual allocation, the significant finance carried forward and the additional income from Covid Recovery funds. Though the number of applications was initially small, they had reassuringly increased over the past few months and more groups were now applying for funds. It was noted that £9,545.81 remained available for allocation, and that a number of applications had recently been received for consideration.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

11 Performance Update (Pac.11.02.2021/5)

The Area Council Manager delivered a presentation providing an overview of performance, which included that of contracted services.

Members were reminded of the current priorities, and the services funded by the Area Council, including the associated contract or grant timescales.

An overview of performance was provided, and it was noted that 10 businesses had been involved in clean and tidy activities during the year with two within previous quarter. Members noted that a number of performance measures, such as young people engaged in volunteers, were no longer being reported on due to the pandemic.

Community groups had continued to be supported by Age UK Barnsley and Twiggs Grounds Maintenance with 15 receiving support in the previous quarter. Members heard how 23 volunteers had been engaged throughout the quarter, including three who had newly volunteered, and that the community car scheme was now operation for essential journeys, with four being undertaken.

155 people had received advice and support within the quarter, contributing to a total of 570 throughout the year. Within the quarter three full time jobs had been created, and over 95% of expenditure was local.

With regards to the service provided by Age UK Barnsley, Members heard that there had been 148 service user contacts to provider support. 17 new referrals had also been received. The service had 18 active volunteers, with 5 additional micro volunteers, and they had been involved in delivering a range of activities at home, Christmas Day dinners, winter warmth packs and much more.

The service had provided information and advice to 15 new service users, with a total estimated benefit gain of over £14,000 for the quarter. 102 home based activities had been provided, and a new 'Walk for Health' group had been established, though it was noted that this would be paused during lockdown. Other groups had been supported to keep participants connected in different ways through activities at home.

Members heard of links being forged with the National Trust at Wentworth Castle and with Dial A Ride for service users to make use of the castle gardens. Also noted were efforts to establish more walking groups. The service also hoped to re-establish the pen pals project when schools reopened.

The SOPPA network had continued to meet virtually to share information and it was noted that age friendly work would be revisited at the earliest opportunity.

Despite the restrictions Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had continued to operate effectively with 11 groups and parishes supported during the quarter. The service had worked with two business and supported 24 individual projects. In the 15 litter picks conducted, 52 bags of litter had been collected. Members noted the new Team Leader in post and the recruitment of a new apprentice was progressing. The Tool Bank, funded by the Ward Alliance was now operational, but uptake had been slow.

Members heard that DIAL had moved to providing support via the telephone and online. During the quarter 110 residents had received support, which was slightly lower than in the previous quarter. Members heard that the project had supported residents to claim an additional £369,021 in benefits. Members noted that the most common query was in relation to attendance allowance, and that for every £1 the Area Council invested £76 had been brought into the area.

An update was provided with regards to the first quarter of the new contract with Citizen's Advice Bureau. 30 clients had been seen during the quarter, with a growing

trend for support with relationship and family issues. 40% of those supported had indicated they had a disability or long-term health condition. Clients had been assisted in claiming an additional £8,025 of benefits within the quarter and the service had assisted the management of £12,427 of debt. Though the service had been provided via the adviceline and through email, work to launch a video service was underway. Members noted that this was being supported through BMBC decommissioned laptops.

An update was then provided with regards to the work of the Area Team. It was noted that links had been maintained with community groups in the area, with support provided including in relation to safe operating practices and assistance to apply for lost income.

'Heathy Holidays' had been piloted with Springvale Primary school during the Christmas Holidays with fruit and veg vouchers supported by Penistone Fruit and Veg. The Children and Family Service also supported cooking at home and other activities.

Work continued with the Targeted Youth Support Service and partners to investigate what support is required for young people with a view to this being funded through the Working Together Fund.

Support had also been provided to residents to those Clinically Extremely Vulnerable through the Community Responder Service. Members noted that the team had supported the delivery of Winter Warmth packs, the further development of the Principal Towns Initiative, and had worked closely with Public Health and the Neighbourhood Engagement Officer.

Noted was the recruitment of a Project Officer within the Area Team, which was a shared resource with the Dearne Area.

Members discussed the issues with fly-tipping, litter and dog-fouling in the area. It was acknowledged that there were no easy solutions to any of the issues. Careful consideration would be given to providing covert cameras in fly-tipping hotspots, and to increasing signage and providing free dog waste bags to help reduce dog fouling.

Praise was given to the services providing information and advice in the area, and also those supporting those requiring assistance throughout the pandemic.

RESOLVED:- that the report be received.

12 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.11.02.2021/6)

The Area Manager spoke to the item, reminding Members that a further £70,000 had been allocated to a Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Grant Fund, though this had been paused and the original service had been extended. Members were made aware of the revised grant timeline. The process would commence in March 2021 with new services expected to commence in June.

As agreed previously there were no application deadlines associated with the Working Together Fund, with the Area Team working to encourage applications for post lockdown provision. In the previous quarter grants had been approved for

Citizen's Advice Bureau and DIAL. Members noted that there remained £42,776 for allocation.

Members heard about progress to utilised finance set aside to support Children and Young People, with research being undertaken in conjunction with the Targeted Youth Support Service.

Those present discussed the Clean and Tidy Service which had commenced in April, 2020. Unfortunately, the service had to be flexed due to the Covid-19 pandemic but had performed well in delivering the service. The service had been procured for an initial year, with an option to extend this for two further 12-month periods, subject to satisfactory performance, a continued need for the service and available finance. Members were asked to consider the extension of the service into a second year. It was noted that the service would usually be asked to attend a meeting to provide an update on the work undertaken, and it was suggested that this be placed on the agenda of the meeting in June.

Members were provided an overview of the current financial position. It was noted that £15,225 would remain at the end of the current financial year, which would be carried forward into 2021/22.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the update on procurement activity be received;
- (ii) That the update on contracts funded by the existing Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant fund be noted;
- (iii) That the proposed grant procurement timeline to establish future provision to support vulnerable and isolated older people in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic be noted;
- (iv) That the update and current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund be noted;
- (v) That the update on ringfenced funds within the existing Working Together Fund to establish specific activities that will support young people in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic be noted;
- (vi) That the updates on the new Clean and Tidy Contract, started in April 2020, be noted;
- (vii) That approval be given for the Clean and Tidy Service continue in to year two of the contract from April, 2021 at a cost of £100,000 and that a full update of the service to date be presented to Penistone Area Council at the meeting in June, 2021;
- (viii) That the financial year end position for the 2020/21 budget be noted.

13 Superfast South Yorkshire - Julie Tattersall (Pac.11.02.2021/7)

Julie Tattershall, Projects and Contracts Manager, was welcomed to the meeting to provide an update on Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) and Accelerating Digital Barnsley.

Members heard how SFSY was a partnership between the four South Yorkshire local authorities, Building Digital UK, Openreach and the Local Enterprise Partnership. So far SFSY had increased availability of superfast broadband from 80% to over 90% bringing nearly 120,000 new connections. In addition support had been provided to

SMEs on how to gain the benefits of connectivity and advice relating to infrastructure had also been provided to developers and to planning departments.

Members noted the current activity being undertaken, including working with Openreach to provide fibre to the premises for 8,000 homes, inputting into digital strategies in Barnsley and the City Region and also being consulted on digital connectivity as part of the planning process.

Noted was the work undertaken in the Penistone Area with over 5,500 properties now having improved connectivity.

Those present heard of the work of Accelerate Digital Barnsley which included efforts to increase gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure from commercial providers such as City Fibre, to stimulate demand through voucher schemes, and to ensure all new residential and commercial sites were future proofed with gigabit capable infrastructure.

Members also were made aware of Internet of Things (IoT) work to utilise technology in smart ways, collecting data to be used for strategic decision making. An example of temperature sensors being used to help decide when to deploy gritters was given.

It was noted that officers worked with network providers to plan the installation of 5G provision over the next two years. It was noted that liaison included supporting the planning process to ensure smooth roll out.

Members acknowledged the strategic linkages being made and social value opportunities created, and noted the example given of utilising technology to allow video calling in care homes. The work to address digital exclusion was also acknowledged.

Questions were asked relating to 5G and whether this would replace physical connections, and it was noted that the technologies were expected to work together to provide widespread gigabit capable coverage.

Members raised questions about the support and the eligibility of properties with Huddersfield addresses but within the Barnsley borough. It was noted that all properties within the borough would be eligible for voucher schemes. Members heard of a number of options for rural areas with poor connectivity, including establishing community funded partnerships. A suggestion was made to make contact with the SFSY team with any specific enquires.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the presentation, that its content be noted, and that an update be provided to the Area Council in the future.

14 Principal Towns Update - Fiona O'Brien (Pac.11.02.2021/8)

Fiona O'Brien, Project Management Officer, was welcomed to provide an update on the Principal Towns programme in the area.

Work to weather proof the Market Barn, including glazing at the back of the barn, had been quoted for and programmed to take place. Consideration was being given to

replacement stalls, which would complement the facility. Members discussed the need to solve issues with the roof to avoid water on stalls.

With regards to the Heritage Trail, existing installations had been considered and work was being undertaken with the local history group to update information, and to provide complementary boards where appropriate.

Unfortunately, the meeting to discuss wayfinding and art installations had been cancelled but was to be rearranged. Northern Rail had agreed to fund an additional sheep for the sheep trail, and other businesses would be approached to contribute to the expansion of the trail. Costs would be circulated to Members in order for them to make enquiries.

Work with schools had been curtailed but pupils at Penistone Grammar School will be involved in wayfinding design and stone carving workshops were being considered.

In relation to Penistone Town Hall an architect had been engaged, but access to the roof was still required to assess the condition.

Match funding was being considered with a number of previously paused funds now reopening for applications. It was suggested that an ambitious investment plan for the town, similar to that developed in Goldthorpe, could be produced which could be used to attract further funding to the town as it became available.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the update;
- (ii) That details of costs to contribute to the sheep trail be circulated to Members.

15 Covid-19 Update - Lucy Butcher and Rana AlKubesi (Pac.11.02.2021/9)

Lucy Butcher, Public Health Practitioner and Rana AlKubesi, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer, were welcomed to the meeting.

Members were made aware that rates of Covid-19 were slowly decreasing though there was still the need to remain vigilant. The highest case rates were seen in the 50-59 age range and also those aged 20-29. However, it was thought that the statistics could also highlight that those aged 50-59 were more likely to get a test.

Most neighbourhoods in Barnsley had similar case rates but further analysis was being undertaken. It was acknowledged that approaches taken were boroughwide, though if more localised data indicated a different approach, relevant discussions would be taken with Ward Members.

The message of 'Hands, Face, Space' was still being given, and opening windows to allow fresh air was also being promoted.

Members were made aware of the situation report meeting which considered case data twice a week, looked at issues and assigned actions. Intelligence from Neighbourhood Engagement Officers (NEOs) was fed into the analysis, but Members were encouraged to report any intelligence to Public Health officers.

16 Covid Marshals were now in place, working in pairs across the borough. The Marshals had no enforcement powers, but worked closely with South Yorkshire Police. The Marshals had worked with NEOs and Regulatory Service to visit supermarkets to ensure compliance, providing support with queuing structures where required.

Issues with open spaces and with retail had been reported, and signage had been displayed with increased patrolling in these areas to support adherence to the guidelines.

Work to provide community insights, including a survey and workshops, were noted, with the outcome of this work to be shared when available.

Members noted the support in place to monitor Covid in vulnerable settings and provide assistance. Also noted was the support available to those self-isolating through the Covid support service, which had received positive feedback.

Those present heard that there remained capacity at symptomatic testing centres throughout the borough, and within the asymptomatic community testing facility at the Metrodome. The community testing facility had identified 11 cases which would not otherwise have been detected.

The vaccine programme was being successfully rolled out in Barnsley, with a push to ensure all those aged over 70 and those clinically extremely vulnerable receive their vaccine by mid-February.

Questions were asked regarding vaccinating the 65-70 age group, and it was noted that the focus was currently as previously mentioned but would shortly move to those aged 65-70. It was also noted that take up was very positive with only small numbers declining the vaccine.

Members heard of the six NEOs now in post. 34 licensed premises had been contacted to offer support, and visits would recommence to offer support in ensuring Covid safety compliance following the relaxation of restrictions. A number of businesses had also been referred to Enterprising Barnsley for financial support. Businesses in the area were being mapped with a view to offering more widespread support when restrictions allowed.

The NEOs had provided support to Community Development Officers and to community groups to ensure Covid safe practices. The team had also supported the delivery of winter warmth packs and also assisted the Community Responder service.

Supermarkets in the area were being visited to ensure compliance, with a positive level of cooperation being seen.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the report and its content be noted.

Chair

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MEETING:	South Area Council
DATE:	Friday, 12 February 2021
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Markham (Chair), Andrews BEM, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, Lamb, Saunders, Shepherd, Smith, Stowe and Sumner

12 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors Shepherd and Franklin each declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 20 in so far as discussion related to their positions as directors of Forge Community Partnership.

Councillors Frost and Markham both declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 20 in relation to their positions as trustees of Age UK Barnsley.

13 Minutes of the Meeting of South Area Council held on 18th December, 2020 (Sac.12.02.2021/2)

The meeting considered the minutes of South Area Council held on 18th December, 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the South Area Council held on 18th December, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

14 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Sac.12.02.2021/3)

Members received the notes from the following Ward Alliances:- Hoyland Milton and Rockingham held on 13th January, 2021; Wombwell held on 18th January, 2021; and Darfield Ward Alliance held on 21st January, 2021.

Councillor Shepherd provided a brief update in relation to the work of the Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliance. Communications had been circulated regarding the ability for people to sponsor hanging baskets. Finance had been ringfenced in order to address the issue of nuisance off-road biking in Jump Valley and discussions had taken place regarding recommencing work.

Councillor Frost spoke about the Wombwell Ward Alliance, noting that discussion had taken place around the success of the healthy holidays programme. The Ward Alliance had previously financed hanging baskets, but had more recently sought sponsorship, with all now being funded by sponsors. The Ward Alliance had also discussed Post Office provision in the area. A temporary facility was in place at Wombwell library, but a site for a more permanent fixture was being sought.

Councillor Smith updated Members on the work of the Ward Alliance in Darfield. The Ward Alliance had also been considering the sponsorship of hanging baskets. It was noted that the CCTV requested had been granted funding by the Principal Towns

Programme. The Ward Alliance had discussed the issues of quad biking, and different measures to restrict access and resolve the issue. It was suggested that the partnership work being undertaken by Hoyland Milton and Rockingham could be shared.

The Alliance had also discussed the issues of potholes in the area, and thanks were given for the efforts of highways, noting that dangerous and severe potholes were normally filled within 24 hours.

RESOLVED that the notes and updates from the Ward Alliances be received.

15 CityFibre Deployment - Natalie Ward (Sac.12.02.2021/4)

Unfortunately Natalie Ward was unable to attend and therefore the item was deferred for consideration at a future meeting if appropriate.

16 SFSY & BMBC Digital Activity Update - Julie Tattershall (Sac.12.02.2021/5)

Julie Tattershall, Projects and Contracts Manager, was welcomed to the meeting to provide an update on Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) and Accelerating Digital Barnsley.

Members heard how SFSY was a partnership between the four South Yorkshire local authorities, Building Digital UK, Openreach and the Local Enterprise Partnership. So far SFSY had increased availability of superfast broadband from 80% to over 90% bringing nearly 120,000 new connections. In addition support had been provided to SMEs on how to gain the benefits of connectivity and advice relating to infrastructure had also been provided to developers and to planning departments.

Members noted the current activity being undertaken, including working with Openreach to provide fibre to the premises for 8,000 homes, inputting into digital strategies in Barnsley and the City Region and also being consulted on digital connectivity as part of the planning process.

Noted was the work undertaken in the South Area with a total of 2,948 properties now having improved connectivity.

Those present heard of the work of Accelerate Digital Barnsley which included efforts to increase gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure from commercial providers such as City Fibre, to stimulate demand through voucher schemes, and to ensure all new residential and commercial sites were future proofed with gigabit capable infrastructure.

Members also were made aware of Internet of Things (IoT) work to utilise technology in smart ways, collecting data to be used for strategic decision making. An example of temperature sensors being used to help decide when to deploy gritters was given.

It was noted that officers worked with network providers to plan the installation of 5G provision over the next two years. It was noted that liaison included supporting the planning process to ensure smooth roll out.

Members acknowledged the strategic linkages being made and social value opportunities created, and noted the example given of utilising technology to allow video calling in care homes. The work to address digital exclusion was also acknowledged.

Members discussed the impact of the pandemic and reliance on data for work and schooling, noting the effect on those digitally excluded. The expense of connections, and the complexity of contracts used were also discussed. Work to ensure children and young people had access to laptops and affordable connections was acknowledged.

Noted was the work in the area by Openreach and other providers such as Virgin Media, which would contribute to the Government target of all properties being able to gigabit enabled by 2033.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the presentation, and that its content be noted.

17 Public Health Update - Diane Lee (Sac.12.02.2021/6)

Diane Lee, Head of Public Health, introduced the item by making Members aware of the Older People and Alcohol Toolkit developed by the Barnsley Alcohol Alliance.

It was noted that historically alcohol consumption declined with age, and the numbers of non-drinkers increased. However, the current older generation are more likely to drink, with those aged over 55 more likely to exceed guidelines for consumption. A number of factors were thought to contribute, including retirement, bereavement and loneliness. In addition, drinking had increased during lockdown.

Those present heard of the three types of older drinkers:- Early Onset (survivors), Late-onset (reactors); and Intermittent (binge drinkers). It was noted that hospital admissions due to alcohol consumption had increased due to such as cardiovascular diseases; cancer; liver disease; and slips, trips and falls.

The difficulty in discussing drinking was acknowledged and guidance on this was provided. Members were made aware of Drink Coach support, including the app, which helped track units and calories consumed, and online coaching sessions. It was noted that hard copies of the Older People and Alcohol Toolkit would be made available for distribution in the area, as would plastic glasses which served to highlight the size of measures and the alcohol content.

Members discussed the issue and the reasons behind increased consumption, which included more generous measures being poured when drinking at home and that alcohol is cheap, readily available and socially acceptable.

It was suggested that conversations could be started with residents through Sloppy Slippers events and through the Age UK provision in the area.

Questions were asked whether there would be a public health media campaign on this issue, and it was noted that one was being planned with the view to reducing the stigma associated with accessing support.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation;
- (ii) That Members agree to support conversations on the issue and promote the Older People and Alcohol Toolkit and Drink Coach resources.

18 Covid 19 Update - Cath Bedford and Kay Tinkler (Sac.12.02.2021/7)

Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal, and Kay Tinkler, Neighbourhood Engagement Officer, were welcomed to the meeting.

Members heard that there were signs of a decline in cases both in Barnsley, and nationally, but that there was still a need to remain vigilant and follow the guidance.

It was noted that case rates were most prevalent in working age adults, and that case rates were similar in all neighbourhoods, with all stable or declining.

Members noted the Covid Marshals and Neighbourhood Engagements Officers in place for advice and support. It was noted that issues of non-compliance had been identified in shops with both staff and customers not wearing face coverings, and support had been given to address this issue. Work to provide community insights had recently concluded and analysis was being undertaken to understand why some residents did not comply with regulations.

It was noted that work had been undertaken to support vulnerable communities and which included disseminating information. Members heard how there was a weekly meeting to discuss outbreaks across Barnsley including in schools, care homes and workplaces.

Noted was the work to support asymptomatic community testing at the Metrodome, and to encourage those with symptoms to get tested at the various testing sites throughout the borough.

The NHS was leading vaccination efforts, but feedback had been positive with most aged 70+ now vaccinated and those aged over 65 being called to make appointments. Members discussed issues with queueing at vaccination venues, and it was noted that efforts were being made to overcome these, including encouraging those attending not to come early.

Members heard about the work of Neighbourhood Engagement Officers (NEOs) working as part of a team to support individuals, community groups and businesses.

Community groups had been supported with advice regarding safe working. Businesses had also been supported with Covid safety information and signposted to financial support through Enterprising Barnsley. It was noted NEOs had also supported the Covid Responder service, Covid Support Service and worked alongside Covid Marshals.

NEOs had gathered intelligence on high streets and parks and monitored adherence to guidance. It was noted that residents largely adhered to guidelines but encouraged Members to feed in intelligence.

Members heard how the numbers requesting support from Community Responders had declined. Those requesting befriending support had been referred to Age UK

Barnsley, and those requiring support with shopping had been supported to order direct, which was suggested more sustainable in the longer term.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

19 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Sac.12.02.2021/8)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item referring to the finance remaining in each Ward Alliance Fund, as contained within the report. An array of projects to support Covid recovery had been funded in each area, but finance still remained for allocation to worthy causes.

It was noted that an end of year report would be provided at the next meeting of the Area Council in April.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

20 Procurement and Financial Update (Sac.12.02.2021/9)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item, referring to the service to reduce social isolation and loneliness. It was noted that the current service provided by Age UK had been funded for two years and would come to an end on 30th September, 2021.

Members noted that the service was initially commissioned with the first year designed to gain a greater insight into those socially isolated in the area. The second year was set to establish sustainable infrastructure to support the needs identified.

Members noted that the pandemic had impacted on the service, which had changed its delivery but had still worked to meet the needs of those isolated and lonely, with increasing numbers being referred to the service.

It was suggested that a workshop be arranged for Members to consider the service in detail, including its operation so far, with a view to making recommendations for any future service to the Area Council at the meeting in April, 2021.

RESOLVED that a workshop be held to consider the Social Isolation contract and discuss commissioning intentions going forward, with a report on the outcome to be presented to the next meeting of the Area Council.

Chair

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Item 23



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 27 January 2021
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 T. Cave, Cherryholme, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy and Tattersall

53. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

54. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 13 January 2021 had been called in.

55. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 January 2021 (Cab.27.1.2021/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

56. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.27.1.2021/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

57. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.27.1.2021/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Children's Spokesperson

58. Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary Schools 2022/23 (Cab.27.1.2021/6)

RESOLVED that the proposed policy for the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools for the 2022-2023 school year, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

59. Coordinated Scheme for the Admission of Pupils to Primary and Secondary to Schools 2022-23 (Cab.27.1.2021/7)

RESOLVED that the proposed co-ordinated scheme for the admission of pupils to primary and secondary schools 2022-2023, as set out in the report submitted, be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

60. Integrating the Local Area Special Educational Needs System: Barnsley Special Educational Needs Engagement and Participation Strategy (2020-22) (Cab.27.1.2021/8)

RESOLVED that Cabinet endorses the SEND Engagement and Participation Strategy for adoption in the Borough, as set out in the report submitted.

Joint Children's and Regeneration and Culture Spokespersons

61. Proposal to run a presumption competition to establish a new Primary School in the Royston area of the Borough (Cab.27.1.2021/9)

RESOLVED that the commencement of the presumption competition to establish a new primary school in the Royston area of the Borough, as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

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Chair

Item 24



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 10 February 2021
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 T. Cave, Cherryholme, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy and Tattersall

62. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Cllr Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest in the matters to be considered at minute number 67 by virtue of being a Board Member of Berneslai Homes, Metrodome, and Springwell and Greenacre Schools.

63. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 27 January 2021 had been called in.

64. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 January 2021 (Cab.10.2.2021/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

65. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.10.2.2021/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

66. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.10.2.2021/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Core Services Spokesperson

67. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 - 2023/24 (Cab.10.2.2021/6)

A) 2021/22 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 25 FEBRUARY 2021

- a) 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 21/22 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 from 'Our Be Even Better Strategy' that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability in 22/23 and beyond.

- b) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget Forecast for 21/22 to 23/24 contained at **Section 3** (supported by the suite of background papers in **Sections 3a – 3f**) be noted and monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS.
- c) that the specific ongoing investment in relation to the Glassworks and the resources set aside to address the anticipated ongoing service pressures caused by COVID 19 highlighted in **Section 2** are considered and approved.
- d) that the proposed efficiency savings in 21/22 highlighted in **Section 3** and detailed at **Section 5a** be approved for implementation and that the 22/24 efficiency savings stemming from 'Our Be Even Better Strategy' at **Section 5b** be noted with final approval to take place as part of the 22/23 budget setting process.
- e) that the £12.7M of one-off resources identified following the 21/22 local government finance settlement highlighted in **Section 3** be set aside to support the ongoing COVID recovery and to provide additional financial resilience to deal with any challenges posed by the UK's exit from the European Union.
- f) that the Council's updated reserves position at **Section 3c** be noted.
- g) that the Capital Investment Strategy at **Section 3d** be approved.
- h) that the proposed changes to the 21/22 fees and charges policy and accompanying schedule of charges set out at **Section 3f** be approved.
- i) to submit to Council for approval the cash limited budgets for each service with overall net expenditure for 21/22 of £186.2M as highlighted in **Section 6a**.
- j) to consider the budgets for all services and approve, for submission into Council, the 21/22 – 23/24 budget proposals presented at **Sections 6a – 6c**, subject to Cabinet receiving detailed implementation reports where appropriate.
- k) to consider and approve the changes to the schools funding formula including the transfer of funding from the schools block to the high needs block and approve the proposed 21/22 schools block budget as set out at **Section 6d**.
- l) that the capital investment schemes totalling £6.8M (**Section 7 Appendix 1**), be included within the capital programme and released subject to receiving further detailed business cases where appropriate.
- m) to note the capital investment proposals of £116.6M (**Section 7 Appendix 2**) which are currently the subject of live external funding bids / specific Government announcements and thereafter to receive regular updates on their progress.
- n) that the capital investment proposals totalling £96.4M (**Section 7 Appendix 3**) be progressed for further detailed feasibility work / business case development.

- o) that the Aggregated Equality Impact Assessment (**Section 9**) of the budget proposals be noted and the proposed mitigation actions in the report be approved.
- p) 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 21/22 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above.
- q) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of all approved saving proposals.
- r) 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.
- s) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 21/22 budget.
- t) 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.
- u) that the budget papers be submitted for the consideration of the full Council.

B) Council Tax 2021/22

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 25 FEBRUARY 2021

That Cabinet note the contents of **Section 3b** (21/22 Council Tax options) and that:

- a) the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31st March 2020 relating to BMBC of £3.2M be used to reduce the 21/22 Council Tax requirement, in line with statute.
- b) the 21/22 Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC services be set at 2.90% (1.4% for core Council services and an additional 1.5% for the Chancellor's Adult Social Care precept).
- c) 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 21/22.
- d) the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish / Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual parish precepts for 21/22.
- e) additional support be provided to all working age claimants of Local Council Tax Support in the form a flat payment of £125 per claimant.

C) TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND POLICY STATEMENT 2021/22

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL ON 25 FEBRUARY 2021

That Cabinet approve the 21/22 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement (included in the main papers at Section 3e) and specifically:

- a) approve the 21/22 Treasury Management Policy Statement (**Section 3e Appendix A**).
- b) approve the 21/22 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (**Section 3e Appendix B**).
- c) approve the 21/22 Borrowing Strategy at Section 3e including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (**Section 3e Appendix C**).
- d) approve the 21/22 Annual Investment Strategy at **Section 3e**.

Environment and Transportation Spokesperson

68. Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiative – Proposed Pilot 2021/22 (Cab.10.2.2021/7)

RESOLVED:- The creation of the Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiative Pilot with immediate effect, with a view to delivery of interventions commencing 1 April 2021 was approved.

69. 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>
9 (Minute No 70)	Paragraph 3

Joint Regeneration and Culture and Core Services Spokesperson

70. The Glass Works - Scheme Update (Cab.10.2.2021/9)

RESOLVED:-

1. The continued delivery of the individual elements of the Glass Works scheme was approved and the projected scheme opening date of September 2021 was noted.
2. To progress / accept external funding bids to enable the identified scheme enhancements to take place at no additional call on the Council's resources was approved.

3. The Executive Director Core services be authorised to apply for any necessary consents, license arrangements, footpath diversions, traffic regulation orders, closure orders and side road orders that may be required to complete the scheme.
4. The Executive Director Core Services be authorised to extend the Development Management contract with Turner and Townsend to reflect the revised construction completion and scheme opening dates.
5. The Executive Directors Core Services and Place, in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons for Core Services and Place, be authorised to enter into contract with external funding bodies awarding funding to support the delivery of the Glass Works project.
6. The appointment of a contractor to build the Market Gate Bridge as set out in section 5.5 to 5.9 of the report be approved
7. Progress with the leasing of the Glass Works scheme was noted and the forward strategy as set out in section 5:10 to 5:16 of the report was approved.

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Chair

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Item 25



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 24 February 2021
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 T. Cave, Cherryholme, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy, Shepherd and Tattersall

71. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

72. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 10 February 2021 had been called in.

73. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 February 2021 (Cab.24.2.2021/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

74. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.24.2.2021/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the weeks ending 5 and 12 February 20201 were noted.

75. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.24.2.2021/5)

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. Approval of Covid Memorial Sculpture and associated consultation and works
 - (i) that progress on the development of the sculpture and associated engagement programme be noted; and
 - (ii) that the sum of £450,000 net be set aside to cover the cost of the memorial and its installation.

76. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.24.2.2021/6)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

Adults and Communities Spokesperson

77. Public Space Protection Order for Dog Control (Cab.24.2.2021/7)

RESOLVED that the conditions and implementation approach documented within the report were agreed for implementation across the borough, based on the evidence and feedback from the public consultation.

Children's Spokesperson

78. School Term Times and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2022-2023 (Cab.24.2.2021/8)

RESOLVED that the term times and holiday dates for 2022-2023 outlined in Appendix 1 of the report were approved.

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Chair

Item 26



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday, 10 March 2021
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 T. Cave, Cherryholme, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy and Tattersall

79. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

80. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 24 February 2021 had been called in.

81. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 February 2021 (Cab.10.3.2021/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

82. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.10.3.2021/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

83. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.10.3.2021/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORTS

Councillor Ennis attended the meeting as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

84. Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Child Poverty (Cab.10.3.2021/6)

Councillor Newing presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding child poverty.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the Executive Director, Children Services be requested to co-ordinate a response to the recommendations in the report within 28 days.

85. Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Child Emotional Health and Wellbeing (Early Intervention and Prevention) (Cab.10.3.2021/7)

Councillor Carr presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding Child Emotional Health and Wellbeing (Early Intervention and Prevention).

RESOLVED that the report be received and the Executive Director, Children Services, be requested to co-ordinate a response to the recommendations in the report within 28 days.

86. Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Covid Response, Recovery and Renewal (Cab.10.3.2021/8)

Councillor Fielding presented the Task and Finish Group report regarding the Covid Response, Recovery and Renewal.

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 28 days.

Leader

87. Freedom of the Borough (Cab.10.3.2021/9)

RESOLVED:-

1. That the proposed amendments to the policy and guidance notes for nominations for the award of Freedom of the Borough set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report be approved; and
2. The timeline set out at Paragraph 4.8 of the report be agreed.

Core Services Spokesperson

88. Corporate Plan Performance Report - 2020/21 Quarter 3 (October - December 2020) (Cab.10.3.2021/10)

RESOLVED:-

1. That the Corporate Plan Performance report for Quarter 3 (October to December 2021) as detailed in the report now submitted, be noted; and
2. That the report be shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform and support their ongoing work programme.

**89. Corporate Finance Performance - Quarter ending 31 December 2020
(Cab.10.3.2021/11)**

RESOLVED:-

1. CORPORATE FINANCE PERFORMANCE

- (a) The current forecast General Fund Revenue overspend of £52.2M incorporating the ongoing impact of COVID-19 be noted;
- (b) The current forecast Housing Revenue Account overspend of £0.8M incorporating the ongoing impact of COVID-19 be noted;
- (c) The overall net impact (after all Government funding) of £11.9M be noted;
- (d) The financial plan / earmarking of resources to fully mitigate the current forecast deficit and any further pandemic related spend that may arise in 21/22 as set out at paragraphs 3.11 to 3.17 of the report be agreed;
- (e) The continuation of the moratorium on all non-essential expenditure and the suspension of non-urgent one-off investments originally approved to commence in 20/21 be approved; and
- (f) The write off of historic bad debts totalling £1.0M be approved.

2. CAPITAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

- (a) The forecast position on the approved Capital Programme be noted; and
- (b) The external funding position highlighted in paragraphs 4.1 of the report be noted.

3. TREASURY MANAGEMENT

- (a) The key messages from the Council's Treasury Management activities be noted.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

90. Principal Towns Investment Programme - Wombwell (Cab.10.3.2021/12)

RESOLVED that the proposed Principal Towns allocation for Wombwell, outlined at Section 4 of the report, be approved.

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Chair

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Item 28

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

11 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor R Taylor (Chair)
Councillor T Damms (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, R Frost, P Haith,
C Hogarth, C Ransome, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, DCFO C Kirby, ACO T Carlin, S Booth,
S Locking, S Kelsey, AM S Nicholson, A Mills and
GM Rowland (South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, N Copley, M Potter, L Noble and M McCoole
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Price,
Councillor S M Richards, S Norman and A Mullen

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Taylor informed the Authority of the passing of Councillor Peter Rippon prior to Christmas 2020. A number of the Members would pay their respects at his funeral to be held today.

Councillor Rippon had been a Member of Sheffield City Council for over 17 years and he had been the Lord Mayor in 2014. In 2008, he had commenced a three year term on the Authority, and he had been committed and dedicated to his role. He had attended the Local Government Associations (LGA) Annual Fire Conference on more than one occasion and he had been one of the first Members to have attended the LGA Fire Leadership Programme. The Authority was indebted to the contributions made by Councillor Rippon.

Councillor Taylor, on behalf of the past and present Members of the Authority and the Joint Authorities, wished to offer his sincere condolences to Councillor Rippon's family.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That agenda item 18 entitled ‘Sargeant Immediate Detriment’ 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

Councillor Haith expressed her thanks to DCFO Kirby and S Booth for the presentation given at the recent Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council full Council Meeting in relation to the Integrated Risk Management Plan. She also wished to thank J Patrick for the Power Bi training, which she considered would be very useful to Members.

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 23 NOVEMBER 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 23 November 2020 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 COVID-19 UPDATE

Members were provided with an update on SYFR’s response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It was noted that, with the increase of the local and national measures that had been enforced by the Government, and the hard work of SYFR staff to follow the guidance both inside and outside of the workplace, staff absences had begun to fall in the run up to Christmas 2020. During w/c 7 December 2020 the Service had less than 10 COVID-19 related absences, in comparison to more than 80 COVID-19 related absences at the beginning of November 2020. Since the Christmas 2020 period, which had included a relaxation of the COVID-19 rules on Christmas Day, there had been an increase in the number of community transmission rates. The Service had observed a slight increase in the staff profile absence numbers, but this was currently manageable. As at 11 January 2021, the Service had nine Operational members of staff with confirmed COVID-19, which had resulted in 20 members of staff having to self-isolate for various reasons.

The Service provided reports to the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) on the number of staff that had been COVID-19 tested and the number of confirmed positive cases. Through staff communication and compliance checks across the organisation, the Service continued to reinforce the key behaviours that staff were requested to follow in order to keep the organisation running throughout the winter months i.e. wearing approved face masks whilst travelling in a Service vehicle. All staff were currently required to wear a face mask at work at all times whilst in close proximity to others until further notice. General hygiene arrangements i.e. keeping hands clean and the regular washing of surfaces was also required, which were being managed and monitored through the regular compliance checks.

During the latest lockdown period, the Government had issued guidance on education and child care arrangements. Fire and rescue service staff, including support staff had been listed as critical workers and could therefore send their children to school. The Department for Education had updated the guidance on 8 January 2021, to suggest that any critical workers should continue to work from home wherever possible and to also keep their children at home. The Service would continue to monitor and follow the national guidance around the critical worker and key worker status.

The Service continued to follow a set of operational parameters which explained how prevention, protection and emergency response activities would be delivered during the pandemic. There had been little change in how the Service operated from the Tier 3 arrangements that South Yorkshire had been placed in prior to the current lockdown period. Face-to-face delivery of the home safety prevention visits had been suspended in all but the very highest risk cases. Business fire safety activity was largely being conducted remotely by the dedicated Business Fire Safety Team, but visits would continue to be carried out for high risk business premises.

The Service's 999 response remained unchanged, with the exception of slight changes to operational procedures for staff in line with the COVID-19 risk assessments. Attendance continued to every 999 emergency response call received, and restricted access continued to the Control Room. Support staff had received a further update to work from home during the national lockdown period and to continue to do so until further notice, unless it was essential for them to come into the workplace.

DCFO Kirby hosted the Service's Recovery Group which met on a monthly basis. A workshop would be held in February 2021 to discuss and agree the Service's strategic direction moving forwards regarding how the workforce would operate post -pandemic. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation had provided a list of phase one profiles of individuals that would be prioritised for the vaccine. The Service's staff had not been specifically identified for this, unless they were over a certain age or had specific vulnerabilities. It was anticipated that the whole workforce would be prioritised for the vaccine during the second phase of the pandemic. The only exception to this would be any members of staff that were seconded on a voluntary arrangement to another organisation and would be placed at a higher risk i.e. driving ambulances. Such matters were under discussion with partners at the Local Resilience Forum.

CFO Johnson co-chaired the Local Resilience Forum. Over the past few months, a number of officers had looked at various sites for mass testing and mass COVID-19 vaccinations; some of those sites were now in use. The Service had received a number of initial requests to support agencies, and a volunteer cell was available to provide support when required. In relation to the tripartite agreement, risk assessments had been reviewed and the employer would shortly make a decision. Consultation had been undertaken with the representative bodies. CFO Johnson hoped that confirmation on the new risk assessments would be received imminently.

Members noted that Sheffield City Council had made a decision not to undertake mass testing at the moment.

Councillor Taylor expressed his thanks to the Service for the sterling efforts undertaken during this extraordinary period.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

11 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021 TO 2024

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to present the final Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2021 to 2024, incorporating feedback following a twelve week consultation period that had commenced following the Fire and Rescue Authority Meeting held on 14 September 2020. The IRMP described the steps that the Service had undertaken to update its understanding of local risk for South Yorkshire, as well as introducing a new set of risk based response times for responding to emergencies across South Yorkshire.

Members had been provided with a number of IRMP updates and briefings at the Corporate Advisory Group meetings and at previous Authority meetings. It was necessary for all fire and rescue services across the country to produce an IRMP.

It was noted that the risk methodology section within the IRMP now described how the Service had revised the way in which it analysed risk throughout the county. The Service was linked in with the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) which was developing a community risk programme. DCFO Kirby was confident that the work undertaken by the Service in terms of its assessment of risk would meet and become compliant with the NFCC's community risk programme. The IRMP would be constantly under review by the IRMP Programme Board to ensure that it remained fit for purpose, to consider all relevant information in assessing risk and how the Service developed its service delivery activity in terms of the strategies.

The Service had contracted and utilised the services of an external risk management specialist in the development of the IRMP, who had commented on the risk methodology operated by the Service. This had provided confidence that the Service operated within best practice across the fire sector.

Members noted a critical change to the IRMP for the proposal of a new set of risk based response times for responding to emergencies across the county. The Service would always endeavour to arrive at all emergency incidents as fast as

practicably possible. The introduction of a set of response times, which were aligned to community risk and the severity of incidents attended, would allow the Service to monitor its performance. This would enable improvements to be made to the response times where necessary and to ensure that response resources were delivered against an agreed criteria for response. The IRMP did not propose to change any response resources within South Yorkshire.

DCFO Kirby expressed his thanks to all of the members of the IRMP Programme Board and their respective teams for the work undertaken in reaching this point. He recognised that the work had been undertaken during extreme circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also wished to thank the key stakeholders which included the Service's staff, staff trade union representatives, Authority Members and members of the public who had provided the Service with the respective challenge, feedback and engagement throughout the design of the IRMP.

A Mills commented that the Service had expected to receive a formal response on the IRMP from each of the local authority areas. Instead, DCFO Kirby and S Booth had received a series of questions at the briefing sessions that they had held at the local authorities' full council meetings, where they had provided responses.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the IRMP, risk model methodology, equality analysis and consultation outcomes.
- ii) Approved the IRMP for adoption and publication.

12 ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN 2021

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive was submitted to present the final version of the Service's Annual Service Plan for 2021. Following the corporate planning events that had involved senior leaders and Authority Members, the Annual Service Plan had been designed to identify the Service's short and medium term priorities.

Following the instruction of Members at the Authority meeting held on 14 September 2020, the Service had commenced a six week staff consultation on the contents of the draft Annual Service Plan. The consultation had not raised any feedback which would significantly change the contents of the plan.

Dr Billings referred to Priorities 8 and 10 within the Annual Service Plan. In relation to Priority 8, he queried whether reference should be made to the collaborative working with other partners across the estate i.e. South Yorkshire Police, and to also refer to the one whole public estate. He queried whether Priority 10 should reflect the changing workforce mix as a result of the very good preventative work undertaken by the Service.

AM Nicholson would liaise with A Mills on the points raised by Dr Billings, with a view to updating the Annual Service Plan.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the Service’s Annual Service Plan for 2021.

13 SERVICE IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided an update on the progress made against the actions on the Service Improvement Plan and Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) inspection activity.

GM Rowland provided Members with an updated position on the Service Improvement Plan, which was continuously reviewed and updated. A total of 106 areas for improvement had been identified through the HMICFRS Inspection report including the Service’s Grenfell Tower Inquiry report, the State of Fire and Rescue report and the Service’s COVID-19 response. Since the production of the report, a total of seven high priority areas for improvement had been identified for the Service through the HMICFRS, four of which had now been completed and three actions were on schedule. In relation to the Grenfell Tower report actions, the procurement of smoke hoods action was now complete, five actions were on schedule and one action was ahead of schedule. With regard to the State of Fire and Rescue, all three of the identified areas for improvement were on schedule, none of which had yet been completed which was largely due to the lack of legislation provided and the work of the National Fire Chiefs Council, which was taking longer than planned. All five high priority areas that had been identified through the Service’s COVID-19 Response Group had been actioned. A further twenty actions for improvement had been identified since the production of the report, and they would be presented to the Service Improvement Board, with a view to being signed off as completed.

The HMICFRS intended to restart Round 2 of the inspections during Spring 2021. It was anticipated that the Service’s field work inspection would be held during the Spring and Summer 2022 as part of Tranche 3, with the final report being published during the latter stages of 2022.

The Service had recently received the HMICFRS Covid-19 letter/report for pre-publication checks. The Service considered this to be positive and a true reflection of the current position, although the Service had requested a number of minor alterations due to factual inaccuracies or information which could mislead members of the public.

Members noted that Sir Tom Winsor had planned to publish the second State of Fire and Rescue Report in February 2021, which would result in a number of areas to be included in the Service’s Improvement Plan.

GM Rowland was pleased to report that the Service’s internal improvement plan system had now been completed and was fully utilised. The Service had recently received the evaluation undertaken by Rose Regeneration.

Councillor Ayris referred to ‘AFI: The Service should ensure it has effective arrangements for providing specialist protection advice out of hours’, and he queried whether Business Fire Safety was a matter for discussion at the Joint Liaison Forum.

GM Rowland stated that the Trades Union representatives were involved with the job descriptions for the out of hours provision as an ongoing piece of work.

Members noted that Business Fire Safety would be discussed at a future Joint Liaison Forum Meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and provided further scrutiny and support to enable continual service improvement.

14 DIGITAL AND ICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive was submitted to provide Members with a further update to the report that had been presented to the Authority Meeting held in July 2020. Following a review of the processes within the Service by Shaping Cloud (2019), and the undertaking and significant completion of Digital Transformation Phase 1 (DT1), the Service was now partly through the next phase of innovation in Digital and ICT 2020 to 2021 Development Plan.

The digital transformation programme had continued to progress throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and positive benefits for the Service had been observed.

Members noted that the Resource Management System for On-Call staff and Officers to manage availability more effectively was now 'live' and it would provide excellent availability information, standardisation and consistency across all of the systems. Equipment tracking was currently being finalised for rollout during January 2021 for asset registering and tagging all fire appliance equipment. The Fire Safety Audit + was a new procedure to transfer the Operational Risk information from the fire crews to the Mobile Display Terminals within the fire appliances.

RESOLVED – That Members endorsed the latest update of the Digital and ICT Development Plan 2020 – 2021 as a key enabler for modernising and facilitating improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of SYFR, acknowledging the benefits of DT1 and proposed DT2 benefits yet to be realised.

15 KEY ISSUES ARISING FROM THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY BOARD HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2020

Members were presented with the key issues paper arising from the Performance and Scrutiny Board Meeting held on 19 November 2020.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the key issues paper arising from the Performance and Scrutiny Board Meeting held on 19 November 2020.

16 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE COLLABORATION BOARD HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the minutes of the Police and Fire Collaboration Board held on 12 November 2020.

17 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 NOVEMBER 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 23 November 2020.

18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public 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.

19 SARGEANT IMMEDIATE DETRIMENT

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to provide Members with an update following the 2018 Court of Appeal judgement in Sargeant. An interim order had been made by the Employment Tribunal on 18 December 2019, which had provided that members who had brought claims (claimants) were entitled to be treated as if they had remained in the FPS 1992 (with further specific requirements).

RESOLVED - That members noted the content of the report and agreed to maintain the current position.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To present information to Members over the next 12 months to enable the Performance Management Framework to be shaped, prior to Authority approval.	CAG	ACO Carlin	<p>On the CAG agenda for 9 November 2020 (provisional date) <i>(NB: slipped from 8th Sept CAG due to IRMP)</i></p> <p><u>Update 24-11-20</u></p> <p>Members received a presentation on the proposed revisions to the performance management framework.</p> <p>The Service will liaise with Cllrs Buckley and Cave</p>

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
				<p>on the detail with a view to a discussion at a CAG in the New Year.</p> <p><u>Update 21-1-21</u> A further meeting with Cllrs Buckley and Cave will be held on 23 Feb 2021.</p>
2	To provide Members with an update on Power Bi at a future CAG meeting.	CAG	J Patrick	<p>On the CAG agenda for 9 November 2020 (provisional date) <i>(NB: slipped from 8th Sept CAG due to IRMP)</i></p> <p><u>Update 24-11-20</u></p> <p>Members received an update on the roll-out of Power Bi and the training for Members. <i>NB: Training for 12 Members of the FRA fixed for w/c 23rd November 2020.</i></p> <p>ACTION DISCHARGED</p>
3	To provide sufficient detail on apprentices within the Financial Performance Reports.		S Booth	
4	Digital and ICT Development Plan 2020-2021 Update.	FRA 11-01-21	S Locking	ACTION DISCHARGED
5	Workforce Development Strategy Report.	Future FRA meeting		

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
6	To present the final version of the IRMP.	FRA 11-01-21	DCFO Kirby	ACTION DISCHARGED
7	To present a final Annual Service Plan to Members for approval.	FRA 11-01-21	DCFO Kirby	ACTION DISCHARGED
8	To provide a final report on the SSCR Round 3 funding.	FRA 26-04-21 (Provisional)	M McCarthy	
9	To provide further transparency to the figures in future Procurement Service reports to enable Members to identify whether real budgetary revenue savings had been made, savings on the capital investment programme, cost avoidance or artificial savings.		S Booth and D Nichols	
10	To liaise with A Mills on the points raised by Dr Billings at the FRA 11-01-21, with a view to updating the Annual Service Plan.	ASAP	AM Nicholson	<u>Update 22-01-21</u> The Annual Service Plan has been updated. ACTION DISCHARGED

11	To discuss Business Fire Safety at a future Joint Liaison Forum meeting.	JLF 22-02-21	ACO Carlin and AM Dunker	
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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 29

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

22 FEBRUARY 2021

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, ACO T Carlin, S Booth, L Murray,
S Kelsey and AM S Nicholson
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, G Kirk, N Copley, M McCoolle, M Potter and L Noble
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

An apology for absence was received from S Norman

1 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That agenda item 22 entitled ‘Independent Member – Audit & Governance Committee – Term of Office’ to 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

Councillor Haith expressed her thanks to S Wilson, Acting Strategic Finance Manager, BMBC for the Treasury Management training session that had recently been provided, and which she considered would be very useful at Item 13 – Budget and Precept Setting.

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

Members were informed of the following questions received from Mr Neil Carbutt, Secretary of the South Yorkshire Fire Brigade's Union.

Question 1

"I would like to ask a question in relation to the inclusion of the HMICFRS COVID-19 report written by Mr Matt Parr and included in the Authority agenda pack. The question is did the service provide a response in isolation?"

The FBU asked directly to be interviewed to be able give input and context into the report. Unfortunately, HMICFRS chose to not to facilitate that request and as such we would like to point out some inaccuracies.

In particular to the category of Response. Point 19. The service didn't change its crewing models or shift patterns during this period.

This is inaccurate and misleading. The FBU on a temporary basis signed a collective agreement to modify working hours for those undertaking Nightingale work away from normal working hours which was outside of national arrangements which stated that members working outside of role but under a collective local agreement will maintain their terms and conditions and in effect be detached to YAS under firefighter T&C's.

The FBU are nationally painted as a source of frustration with regard to terms and conditions, however, locally FBU faced the same frustrations with the service. Our reps have been frustrated by the frequency of 'late requests', lack of detail and unwillingness to share workplace risk assessments from partner agencies for the proposed new work streams.

This has meant that our union structures had often to meet at very short notice to be able to consult. Often without brigade committee quoracy due to operational staffing shortfalls and the unavailability of trade union leave.

On many occasions requests were able to be facilitated, but going forward we would like to see these requests and detail of ask sooner in the planning cycle which would undoubtedly result in better outcomes.”

Question 2

“Following the decision handed down from the Employment Appeals Tribunal Friday 12th February 2021 regarding Age Discrimination 1992 FPS and 2006NFPS. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have previously refused to deal with cases where members have already retired (or should have been allowed to retire) under the terms of the pre-2015 scheme rules.

Frankly, for SYFR to continue to delay on remedy our members believe is wrong and needs addressing urgently. Further legal costs to the Authority (not government) would be borne by the South Yorkshire tax payers if further inaction and delay is experienced. Unfortunately that means that perversely our members will end up paying the price twice to obtain what they are legally entitled to.

We welcome previous efforts by the Authority to write to government, but the costs of this discrimination sit squarely with this Authority, and this Authority has within its gift the ability to enact remedy even it acts alone.

So my question is how does the Authority intend to process these members following the court’s ruling?”

SYFR provided the following responses to the questions raised:-

SYFR Response to Question 1

SYFR has no influence in who the HMICFRS requests to interview. If we can make suggestions to allow them to speak to the right personnel in relation to their areas of inquiry then we will but, ultimately, the HMI team decide who they wish to speak to in relation to their inspection interviews and fieldwork.

The temporary agreement to facilitate support for the potential for Nightingale transportation was something that was supported by SYFR. This was covered under the (then) Tripartite agreement and a local agreement pack was put together to facilitate local agreement on this activity. The fact is that although our volunteers were provided with training to undertake Nightingale transportation work, it was never actually required. Our staff did spend some time deployed into Yorkshire Ambulance Service premises for training and on standby in case it was needed.

Many services made decisions to change crewing models due to COVID-19 and SYFR considered amending crewing models to riding with 4 on each pumping appliance. This was considered due to the increased concern of transmission when staff were riding together on fire appliances. The SY FBU were strongly against this proposal and so the Service listened to their concerns and made the decision to increase PPE and control measures for staff to allow the crewing models to remain the same.

We did not alter shift patterns for our wholetime workforce. We did, however, offer a number of wholetime contracts to some of our on call (retained) staff to offer additional resilience and this was beneficial to the Service and to those individuals who took up these contracts as some were furloughed from their primary employer. The question from the HMICFRS was in relation to the Service fulfilling its statutory function only.

The fact also remains that throughout the pandemic there have been very few occasions where workplace transmission has occurred and this is testament to the control measures and infection prevention control in place throughout the pandemic.

In regards to the 'late requests', lack of detail and unwillingness to share workplace risk assessments from partner agencies, this is something that the service would have to challenge. The Service itself faced many situations where the requests for support were generated at the Local Resilience Forum and these requests had to be quickly acted upon. This is the reality of dealing with a major incident, and is a way of working that the Fire sector excel in, hence our significant contribution to the command and control of the COVID-19 response in LRFs across the country.

The position that Services found themselves in has been well documented in the HMICFRS report. A nationally agreed position on specific additional activities had to then be replicated through local agreements. Risk assessments were developed with as much speed as possible to facilitate these requests, there was a dedicated 'additional activities pack' put together for all the additional support that SYFR considered and these were shared and agreed (where possible) with all rep bodies prior to this work commencing. Indeed many packs were put together and the work was then never actually required.

To date, there have been 30 formal additional activity meetings with rep bodies to discuss the details around these requests. There is usually an informal notification process to all rep bodies immediately following any formal request into the Service, and then the formal additional activity meetings progress these discussions and show how the Service has consulted with its rep bodies on all areas that are considered outside of role.

The Service appreciates that once local requests for our support are generated, this does place demands on the local rep bodies to consider these requests. If they fell within the tripartite agreement areas, then we either adopted or slightly adapted the then nationally agreed risk assessments so they were already well documented and shared widely, but they would also be included as part of the additional activities pack for consultation and agreement.

Trade Union facilities time allows officials to request time away from normal working activity to undertake TU duties and activities and this would include attending FBU brigade committee meetings. However, these requests have to be considered against the operational demands of delivering the service and not all of them can be accommodated. SYFR has 2 full time funded FBU officials in place at present and this is very generous compared to many other similar Services who have 0-1 funded post. There also exists the opportunity for staff to still participate in

TU meetings from their normal place of work now that many meetings are taking place online (virtually). We have also offered the option for a staff member to dial into the meeting from their place of work and have offered a suitable rest period prior to and after the meeting in these circumstances.

SYFR Response to Question 2

We are awaiting advice on the outcomes of the EAT on 12 February. Until this advice is received, the FRA will retain the current position. The FRA recognises this is a very complex situation and that the uncertainty for current and previous pension scheme members is very difficult. However, to take action without full and detailed advice could be equally as costly to the FRA.

The outcome of the HM Treasury consultation is now known and we are moving towards the implementation stage of remedy. We have clarity that the choice to be offered to members for the remedied period will be on the Deferred Choice Underpin (DCU) basis, to be implemented by October 2023.

9 **MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2021**

Councillor Ayris requested that the minutes of the last Authority meeting be amended to incorporate within the Service Improvement Update section that he had asked about the progress and the terms of reference of the retained duty system review for on-call firefighters, to which GM Rowland had stated that it was hoped to report the tangible outcomes at the end of the financial year. In relation to the Sargeant Immediate Detriment, he had requested that the Audit and Governance Committee Members had sight of the job description and person specification for the additional post to deal with the potential volume of work that would be required due to the Sargeant ruling, which was due go from the Service's HR Finance Working Group as a recruitment business case.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above amendments, that the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 11 January 2021 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 **SYFR COVID-19 UPDATE**

Members were provided with an update on SYFR's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the introduction of the new national lockdown, which commenced in January 2021, the Service had been well prepared with a number of arrangements that were already in place that were designed to maintain the service delivery throughout the winter period whilst ensuring the safety of staff. The Service had undertaken a review of the Operational Parameters and had republished the document which set out how the core activities around prevention, protection and response would be delivered in relation to any local or national restrictions that may be in place at any given time. It was considered that this would be an important reference document in light of the imminent announcement expected from the Prime Minister, as the restrictions would gradually begin to be relaxed moving towards the summer period.

The Service's staff sickness absence levels continued to remain low in relation to COVID-19, which was considered to be attributable to the introduction of auditing of the infection, together with prevention and control measures. This guidance continued to be followed strictly across all fire stations, and in the Control Room. At the end of w/c 15 February 2021, the Service had no confirmed cases of COVID-19, with only 7 members of staff that were self-isolating for various reasons.

As a result of the different strains of COVID-19 that had begun to impact different parts of country, and on advice of Public Health England, the Service had introduced an additional control measure for face coverings to be worn in all areas of the workplace, especially when in immediate contact with other individuals. The control measure would continue to be reviewed.

It was noted that those members of staff that could work remotely from home had been asked to continue to do so. Regular welfare contact continued to be maintained with those individuals.

Members noted the debate around the national agreements between the National Fire Service Employers through the National Joint Council in relation to the additional activities that the fire and rescue services could support at a local level, which were deemed to be wider than the normal role of fire and rescue services, specifically in relation to providing support during the pandemic. The Service considered that it should be prepared and willing to provide support to local partners through requests at the Local Resilience Forum (LRF). In comparison to other fire and rescue services, the Service had, to date, received minimal requests in terms of the Service being asked to undertake additional activities. This was a testament to the organisation across the LRF and the partner agencies' capabilities to deliver the vast majority of work that was required within South Yorkshire. The Service had recently received a request to consider whether its organisation, command and control could be utilised to support the potential surge testing that could be required across the communities of South Yorkshire. This had now been implemented within specific areas across Leeds. One of the Service's officers had commenced work with the local authorities on the issue to begin planning for the organisation of surge testing across South Yorkshire should it be required. This may require consideration to ascertain whether the Service's 200+ volunteers would be willing to undertake support to deliver and collect testing kits from members of the community. Discussions would continue with the trade unions at the regular additional activities meetings, where the document packs were developed which contained all relevant information and any required training for the volunteers.

In early March 2021, the Service would host a workshop to seek and capture the views across the workforce as to how it would operate post COVID-19. Members would be invited to attend the workshop.

Councillor Richards queried the number of the Service's firefighters that had been eligible and able to have the COVID-19 vaccinations, and whether there had been any discussions to progress further the vaccinations for the blue light services at this time.

DCFO Kirby referred to the national requests to determine whether frontline workers within fire and rescue services could be eligible for the vaccinations. To date, the Service had not received confirmation. As a result of inclement weather, a local vaccination centre had recently informed the Service and other agencies of a number of spare, last minute vaccinations which could be administered 30 – 40 minutes before the vaccination centre closed. A number of staff from a local fire station had attended this session. A log book had been created to capture those members of staff that had received the vaccinations. The Service wished to prioritise its more vulnerable members of staff for any available vaccinations.

Councillor Hogarth queried whether there had been any incidents where the Fire Brigades' Union had blocked requests for the Service to provide assistance to other services.

DCFO Kirby stated that all requests follow a process to determine whether it was covered under the existing local agreement through the LRF. Consultation would be carried out with the respective trade unions in terms of what the request entailed and to agree an additional activities pack across the representative bodies before requesting the Service's staff to undertake the activity. In the event that a specific trade union did not agree with a particular request, the members of staff from that trade union may be precluded from participating in the activity. The majority of conversations regarding requests were either ongoing with the trades unions, or had been delivered at a local level.

Councillor Taylor expressed his thanks to DCFO Kirby for inviting Members to attend the workshop to be held in March 2021, and for the Service's ongoing efforts and the work undertaken during the pandemic.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

11 HMICFRS COVID-19 INSPECTION UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to provide an update on both HMICFRS Responding to the Pandemic national report and the Service's HMICFRS COVID-19 inspection outcome letter, together with the key findings and identified areas for improvement.

CFO Johnson was pleased and proud to report the overall positive feedback that had been received following the Service's HMICFRS COVID-19 inspection which was undertaken between 14 and 25 September 2020. The Service had been complemented on the positive and constructive manner in which it had supported the inspection process.

The key findings indicated that the Service had adapted and responded effectively to the pandemic, it had activated its pandemic flu plan immediately, and it had maintained its statutory function to respond to incidents together with the prevention and protection activities whilst providing additional support to fire communities and following the National Fire Chiefs' Council Guidance. It had also been acknowledged that the Service had managed its resources well and had dealt with a number of serious incidents throughout the pandemic. It had been recognised that the Service had not been seriously affected financially during the pandemic

and that the reserves had not been utilised. The COVID-19 grant had been utilised to cover the cost of additional activities. The key findings had also indicated that the Service had managed its staff absence well, and that the Service's sickness absence had reduced by almost 25% during the period of the inspection. The Service's client availability had remained at the same level as 2020. On-call staff had been utilised to supplement the wholetime staffing to provide resilience for sickness absence during the pandemic. Training had been provided to support staff to provide resilience to the Command and Control Centre.

The Service had also been complemented in the manner in which it had supported staff's health and wellbeing, home working and had provided personal protective equipment (PPE) in a timely manner. Staff had indicated that the Service had engaged with them well via various methods of communication.

The HMICFRS had recognised that the Authority had allowed the Senior Leadership Team to progress matters, particularly in the early stages of the pandemic, whilst continuing to provide support and governance through virtual meetings. It had also recognised the great deal of work undertaken with partners and that, whilst the tri-partite agreement had caused some delays in delivery, the Service had continued to deliver its main statutory functions. The Service had delivered PPE and essential items to the communities, and had provided assistance with the Nightingale Hospital.

The inspection had identified two areas for improvement in relation to future planning and how the Service would adapt post COVID-19. A working group had been established to progress these issues. The HMICFRS had included a statement within every fire and rescue service's report to ensure that wholetime firefighters were fully productive whilst minimising their risk to contracting the virus.

Councillor Ayris congratulated the Service on the overall positive assessment as outlined within the HMICFRS COVID-19 inspection outcome letter. He queried whether the outcome letter had suggested that the Service should review the pandemic flu plan, and if so, what plans were in place.

CFO Johnson commented that the Service's pandemic flu plan was in date, it had been activated and would be reviewed. The date of the review had been shortly after the start of the pandemic, and it would be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Dr Billings sought clarity in relation to paragraph 27 of the HMICFRS COVID-19 inspection outcome letter, which referred to the review undertaken by the Service as to how it defined premises as high risk during the pandemic, and that as a result it had added schools, GP surgeries, shopping centres and supermarkets to its list of premises that were at increased risk from fire.

CFO Johnson referred to the fact that supermarkets had changed the flow of people in and out of the buildings. Some supermarkets had blocked a number of the exits, which had potentially increased the risk of individuals not being able to escape the buildings in a safe manner in the event of a fire. The Service had reviewed those premises that had changed the way in which they had operated due to the pandemic, and had offered advice to ensure that measures were in place to

ensure that individuals would still be able to safely escape the premises in the event of a fire.

Councillor Ross congratulated the fire officers for the work involved and he suggested that the Authority should endorse the positive way in which the Service had responded to the HMICFRS inspection.

Councillor Frost congratulated everyone concerned on the very good HMICFRS COVID-19 inspection outcome letter. In particular, he was pleased to observe that the people within South Yorkshire were well supported throughout the pandemic, that the resources had been well managed, that the Service had responded to several critical fires during the pandemic, and that staff wellbeing had been a clear priority for the Service, which had been recognised by the senior leaders who had actively promoted wellbeing services and had encouraged staff to discuss any worries that they may have.

Councillor Taylor commented that this was yet another positive report for the Service which clearly showed the direction of travel, and he hoped this would long continue and be reflected within the next report.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report.

12 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2020/21

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was submitted as the third in a series of reports that Members would receive throughout the financial year to inform them of the likely financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2021. 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 were reminded of the 2020/21 approved operating budgeting of £54.850m, with a planned contribution to reserves of £0.471m. There was a net operating spend of £52.799m based upon the latest expenditure and planned contributions to/from earmarked reserves.

S Booth referred to the capital investment and the difficulties faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic to get onto site to progress the works; although good progress had been made. It was anticipated to spend approximately £9m by the end of the year from the original £11m that had been put forward in the approved capital programme. This would enable significant investments to be made in terms of refurbishment of Aston Park Fire Station, completion on the refurbishment of Tankersley Fire Station hopefully by the beginning of March 2021 and completion of the refurbishment of Rivelin Valley Fire Station which was also due to complete around the beginning of March 2021. The development of the new Barnsley Fire Station was continuing. A new fire kit and PPE had been ordered which would be a significant step forwards in terms of firefighter protection and operability, together with a technical rescue jacket. Due to the pandemic, the Service had moved to more agile working which had been achieved through

investment into ICT. The Service continued to make investments into the wildfire provision and it was now the pilot for the emergency services network for Systel.

Councillor Haith referred to the inclusion of apprentices within the support staff budget, and she was pleased to note that two of the apprentices had been successfully recruited into permanent posts during the year. In relation to the repairs and maintenance budget, she queried the overspend position and the reasoning for this.

S Booth stated that over the last 2 year period, the Service had consistently reported to the Authority the way in which the Service maintained the estate, and it had always been accepted that there would be a significant number of legacy issues to be dealt with as a result of moving to a more planned preventative approach. It had previously been anticipated that this would be completed within a 2 year period, although it was now envisaged to take 3 years due to fact that the capital investment programme had to be completed. Significant ongoing failure with the boiler, heating and ventilation systems continued to be encountered and this would continue to be reviewed as part of the new capital investment programme, which would equate to approximately £200k. The Service was extremely mindful of this and L Murray was liaising with finance colleagues on the matter.

Councillor Haith hoped that the replacement of the boilers would rectify the increase in the energy costs and that the replacement boilers would not be gas boilers but other sources of energy.

S Booth referred to the work to be undertaken at the Training and Development Centre. Work was underway to commission a company with a view to replacing the whole system in order to adopt a more sustainable strategy. The Service had recently been unsuccessful in their application to the Government's decarbonisation fund, due to it being significantly over subscribed. The Service was determined to introduce a sustainability strategy for the estate over the next 12 - 24 month period.

RESOLVED – That Members noted:-

- i) The emerging underlying estimated revenue performance which is showing a potential operating underspend of £2.878m for the financial year ended 31 March 2021.
- ii) The underlying and significant financial risks likely to be facing the Service and Sector and UK public services during the remainder of this financial year and into 2021/2022.
- iii) The latest estimated change in General and Earmarked Reserves as set out in Section C of this report and the proposed approach for transferring any surplus above the minimum General Reserve balance (£5m) to the Post Covid-19 Earmarked Reserve.
- iv) The adjusted capital programme for the financial year ending 2020/21, which is broadly in line with expectations due to Covid-19 restrictions.

13 2021/22 ANNUAL REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING

A report of the Clerk and Treasurer and Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented to approve the 2020/21 revenue budget and to set the Council Tax and Precept by the legislative deadline.

S Booth referred to the progressive plans which endeavoured to take the Service forward and to improve the service provided to the public, with a sensible level of investment in the key priority areas. This included an increase in the number of firefighters to be deployed from 530 to approximately 600 and to strengthen the Service's protection activity, to enhance the contingent resilient firefighter capacity and the continuous investment into health and wellbeing. The budget made a cautious investment and it was optimistic for the future, whilst recognising the significant financial risks and uncertainties.

In relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan and budget reduction measures, Councillor Ayris referred to the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of the reserves that were satisfactory at the point of setting the budget, but would be subject to ongoing review over the coming financial year. He queried when, and by what mechanism, this would be reported to the Authority.

S Booth referred to the financial planning, monitoring and reporting framework which included four quarterly reports to the Authority, together with a number of Corporate Advisory Group meetings to discuss financial performance.

Dr Billings referred to the transport related costs, and he queried the plans to replace the Service's ageing vehicle fleet.

S Booth commented that work had been undertaken with S Gilding, the Joint Head of Vehicle Fleet and through the Strategic Vehicle Fleet Board the business need for future vehicles and the Service's wildfire provision. This had identified that some of the vehicles did not need replacing as often as in the past. A full review of the business need for vehicles would be undertaken and the extent to which current assets currently in use should be replaced. ACO Carlin and AM Strelczenie had highlighted the need for a more resilient vehicle fleet, to enable more spare vehicles to be available. Work would be undertaken with suppliers to ascertain the extent to which the Service could refit or refurbish the more older appliances. A contract was currently out for tender to appoint a supplier to undertake a full review of the appliances, with a view to enabling the vehicles to be kept within Service to provide greater resilience, together with a further contract to obtain eight fire appliance rescue pumps, to be run over a 6 week period.

Councillor Ayris commented that he would be supportive of the recommendations within the report. He expressed concern around the general financial uncertainty in the longer term, not least in relation to the impact post COVID-19 when the support funding would come to an end. He considered that the Service was making better use of its reserves, and he remained of the view that the Council tax increases were a temporary fix rather than a long term solution to the uncertainty.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Approved the Authority's 2021/22 Revenue Budget at Appendix A.
- ii) Noted the Treasurer's Section 25 Statement (Section H – paragraphs 76-88) 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 this report.
- iv) Endorsed the proposed approach for managing reserves as set out in Section D to this Report in particular, the proposal to increase the Generally Available Reserve by any in year (2020/21) operating underspend until such time as there is greater clarity on the funding position in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic and/or the longer term Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) and to note the likely use of those useable earmarked reserves over the term of this Plan.
- v) Approved the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy at Appendix C.
- vi) Approved the fees and charges schedule for 2021/22 at Appendix D.
- vii) Approved a Council Tax Increase of 1.99% for 2021/22.

14 REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive/Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented regarding the Service's Performance Management Framework, which was reviewed annually to ensure that it reflected the Service's key priorities and to enable the related outcomes to the priorities to be monitored.

At the Authority meeting held on 10 February 2020, Members had approved the recommendation to undertake an in-depth review of the Performance Management Framework and to retain the existing framework for 2020/21, with minor amendments. A Task and Finish Group had been established to undertake the review. AM Nicholson expressed his thanks to Councillors Cave and Buckley who had sat on the Task and Finish Group throughout the process.

Members noted the proposed Corporate Level performance measures which would be introduced with effect from 1 April 2021.

Dr Billings referred to the corporate level strategic measures which would be reported to the Authority annually, and he queried whether these could also be reported to the Authority on a quarterly basis by exception. He queried whether the HMICFRS priorities could impact on the Authority's priorities. He also queried what the proposed new measure for call handling would entail.

AM Nicholson commented that consideration would be given to reporting the corporate level strategic measures to the Authority on a quarterly basis by exception. Members on the Performance and Scrutiny Board received performance reports on a quarterly basis, and this would continue even with the

introduction of the new Power-Bi reporting tool, albeit with a much shorter report Effectiveness, efficiency and people had been discussed within the Task and Finish Group. It was considered that whilst there was a potential risk for the Authority's priorities to be impacted, it was an opportunity for the Authority to align with what the HMICFRS would be likely to request to be reported upon, and it would also be beneficial to align both for the Performance and Data Team. The proposed new measure for call handling would enable the Service to performance manage in a positive and effective way in terms of the response to the public for the initial call handling phase and to the mobilisation phase to alert crews at the fire stations and the travel times.

Councillor Taylor requested that AM Nicholson determine the exceptions and the benefit of the corporate level strategy measures to be reported to the Authority on a quarterly basis, whilst being mindful of any duplication, and the availability to all Members of the Power-Bi system for 'real time' data.

Councillor Cave welcomed the report which contained both useful and innovative ideas. The Task and Finish Group had discussed in length the criteria and inspection by the HMICFRS, and aligning the performance measures.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Reviewed and approved the proposed Corporate Level performance measures for the 2021/22 - Performance Management Framework.
- ii) Agreed that the review should be undertaken in two phases.
- iii) Agreed the proposed changes to the reporting levels.
- iv) Agreed the proposal to use the HMICFRS inspection areas as categories for the performance measures.
- v) Agreed to continue using tolerance levels where appropriate.

15 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 2021/22 for consideration as required under the Localism Act 2011.

Councillor Ross wished to register his disquiet to the recent decision that had been taken by the Appointments Committee to re-employ CFO Johnson for a maximum 12 month period, as a result of the absurdities of the pensions system, which had provided a financial disincentive for continuous employment that would have been the most appropriate route for the Authority. He had expressed his concern to similar decisions that had previously been taken by the Authority.

S Kelsey commented that the pension situation, as a whole, was very unsatisfactory and unsettling, which had made it difficult for both individuals and the Service to plan.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the Pay Policy Statement.

16 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Yorkshire and Humber Employers' Association held on 21 January 2021.

17 LOCAL PENSION BOARD KEY ISSUES AND MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2021

Members were presented with the key issues paper and the draft minutes arising from the Local Pension Board meeting held on 21 January 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the key issues paper and the draft minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 21 January 2021.

18 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2021

At the Appointments Committee meeting held on 11 January 2021 succession planning had been discussed, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Fire and Rescue Authority's Constitution Part 2 Articles of Association Part 7.

Members were provided with assurance of the Service's temporary arrangements to cover CFO Johnson's service break for the period 7 April 2021 to 9 May 2021. During the period, the arrangements would be as follows:

T/CFO – C Kirby
T/DCFO – T Carlin

Following discussions with the three Area Managers, it had been agreed that AM Nicholson would become the T/Assistant Chief Fire Officer. Preparatory work for the professional discussions for the interim Area and Group Manager appointments was underway. It was envisaged that there would be a Station Manager vacancy due this being a short service break period.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 11 January 2021.

19 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 11 January 2021.

20 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPEALS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 1 DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appeals and Standards Committee held on 1 December 2020.

21 PROGRESS REPORT ON ESTATES AND FACILITIES SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided the details on progress to improve the Estates and Facilities Service.

At the Authority meeting held on 11 January 2021, Members had been informed of the intention to cease the existing management team arrangements with SYP by 31 March 2021, albeit with ongoing arrangements in specific areas. The interim structure of the Estates and Facilities Team continued to work well and it would be reviewed as part of the baseline exercise that was underway within the Service for the short, medium and long term.

In relation to projects, the steelwork had now been erected at the new Barnsley Fire Station site. Discussions were ongoing with the contractor regarding the extensions of time to the programme due to the delays in obtaining the steelwork, and Members would be provided with an update in due course. Positive negotiations continued on the cost variation to the construction contract for the requirement for more expensive retaining walls etc. Work was underway to establish the proposed onsite multi-use community building and the new training facility.

The Stations Improvement Programmes for Edlington, Lowedges and Aston Park Fire Stations were now complete. Tankersley Fire Station was on programme for completion by the middle of March 2021.

Plans were in place for a wider station improvement programme to be drawn up over the next 12 to 24 month period as part of the Estates Strategy Renewal programme, which would provide a Masterplan 'blueprint' for each station/asset. It was envisaged that the minor works contract at Rivelin Valley Fire Station would be completed by early March 2021. The heating, ventilation and cooling systems at the Central Station and Dearne Fire Station were now complete with final commissioning required to reflect the differing levels of occupation within the buildings.

The final tranche of Estate improvement works was expected to be completed by the end of February 2021. The relocation of the SYP body and paint shop facilities into the Fleet Workshop at Eastwood, Rotherham was now complete.

Work continued to ensure that all of the Service's buildings were COVID-19 secure.

The Service had been unsuccessful in their application to the Government's decarbonisation bid. However feedback had indicated that the Service had submitted a good application which would be kept on file.

Councillor Ross sought reassurance that the Service would not miss any future collaboration opportunities following the cessation of the existing management team arrangements, and that a mechanism would be in place for joint working with SYP and other agencies.

CFO Johnson provided reassurance that the Service would continue to consider and actively seek out any future potential collaborative opportunities with SYP and other agencies.

Councillor Cave requested confirmation of the anticipated completion date for the new Barnsley Fire Station, and he queried how confident the Service was that this would be achieved.

L Murray stated that the original date for the completion of the new Barnsley Fire Station was May 2021, and this currently stood at mid-May 2021. This date was being considered as part of the delay in the delivery of the steelwork, and she would provide Members with a new anticipated completion date as soon as the discussions had concluded.

In relation to the investment for boiler replacements, Councillor Frost queried whether carbon neutral and other heat sources would be considered in place of gas heated boilers.

L Murray anticipated that newer technologies for boiler replacements would be considered as part of the baseline and plans for the future, with a view to moving away from gas heated boilers.

S Booth referred to the Training and Development Centre, a building where the Service was very keen to install the latest technology. A company had been commissioned to undertake a survey of the premises to consider the available technologies.

Members noted that L Murray would shortly be leaving the Service. Councillor Taylor expressed his thanks, on behalf of the Members to L Murray for all the work she had undertaken for the Service and for the comprehensive report to the Authority, and he wished her the very best for the future.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Endorsed the ongoing, positive progress and improvements made so far in Estates and Facilities as part of the Service's improvement journey and its continuation towards being an effective and efficient support service of SYFR.
- iii) Noted the arrangements made to facilitate the cessation of the existing joint management team from SYP and the approach being taken to determine a new service delivery model for SYFR Estates and Facilities.

22 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public 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.

23 INDEPENDENT MEMBER - AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - TERM OF OFFICE

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to provide the outcome of the appraisal that had been carried out by Councillor Haith, Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee on 21 January 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed to appoint the individual to a second four year term as an Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee with immediate effect. The term would cease on 16 January 2025.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To present information to Members over the next 12 months to enable the Performance Management Framework to be shaped, prior to Authority approval.	CAG	ACO Carlin	Update 1-3-21 Cllrs Buckley and Cave continue to be consulted as part of the Task and Finish Group.
2	To provide sufficient detail on apprentices within the Financial Performance Reports.	FRA 22-02-21	S Booth	ACTION DISCHARGED
3	Workforce Development Strategy Report.	FRA 26-04-21	S Kelsey	
4	To provide a final report on the SSCR Round 3 funding.	FRA 26-04-21 (Provisional)	M McCarthy	
5	To provide further transparency to the figures in future Procurement Service reports to enable Members to identify whether	To be reported annually	S Booth and D Nichols	

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
	real budgetary revenue savings had been made, savings on the capital investment programme, cost avoidance or artificial savings.			
6	To report progress and the terms of reference for the Retained Duty Staff review which was due to be completed by the end of March 2021.	FRA 26-04-21	GM Rowland	
7	To provide the A&G Committee Members with the job description and person specification for the postholder to be recruited to deal with the additional workload in relation to the Sargeant Immediate Detriment.	ASAP	S Kelsey	<u>Update 02-03-21</u> The job description/ person specification has been drafted, and was currently being reviewed by the SYFR HR/Finance Group. Once agreed, it would be job evaluated for the grade and presented to SLT for agreement to recruit.
8	To invite Members to the COVID recovery workshop scheduled to be held in March 2021.	ASAP	DCFO Kirby	
9	To determine the exceptions and benefits of the corporate level strategy measures to be reported to the Authority on a quarterly basis, whilst being mindful of any	ASAP	AM Nicholson	<u>Update 1-3-21</u> Members to be reminded that 'real-time' performance can be accessed via the Power-Bi system. Written reports will continue to be received (quarterly)

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
	duplications.			<p>by P&S Board with a more detailed annual report to the FRA.</p> <p>A road map will be developed by the Business Intelligence Team which will include the embedding process of Power-BI, the corporate reporting framework and reporting frequency. This will be delivered to the task and finish group which includes Councillor Cave and Councillor Buckley for approval.</p>
10	To provide Members with the new anticipated completion date of the Barnsley Fire Station.	ASAP	L Murray	

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 30

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

21 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor M Stowe (Chair)
Councillor J Mounsey (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: A Atkin, S Cox, J Gilliver, A Murphy, C Rosling-Josephs,
A Sangar, A Teal, N Wright and T Yasseen

Trade Unions: N Doolan-Hamer (Unison), D Patterson (UNITE) and
G Warwick (GMB)

Investment Advisors: A Devitt

Officers: J Bailey (Head of Pensions Administration), N Copley
(Treasurer), G Graham (Director), G Kirk (Monitoring Officer),
M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), G Richards (Senior Democratic Services
Officer) and G Taberner (Head of Finance and Corporate Services)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Law and
L Robb

1 APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS.

RESOLVED – That Item 12 ‘Property Debt Write-Offs’ be considered in the absence
of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

6 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2020 be
agreed as a true record.

7 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

None.

8A CORPORATE STRATEGY UPDATE

A report was submitted which sought to secure approval of the updated Corporate Strategy covering the next three years.

Members noted that every aspect of the Authority's work over the last 12 months had been fundamentally affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. While services had been maintained and many corporate strategy projects had progressed over the year, progress had been generally slower than planned.

Given this, the update carried forward a number of projects from the previous update and rescheduled completion of some longer term projects to reflect the impact of Covid-19 on the previously planned timelines. The agenda remained broadly the same with a focus on:

- Investing in the development of staff.
- Investing in technology.
- Delivering the changes to the investment strategy including the move to a net zero target.
- Delivering the Authority's new accommodation as approved at the last meeting.

It was noted that in response to the recommendations contained in the Hymans Robertson Governance Review an additional corporate objective had been added that related to scheme funding.

RESOLVED – That the updated Corporate Strategy, at Appendix A to the report, is approved.

8B PENSIONS AUTHORITY BUDGET 2021/22

A report was considered which presented the Authority's budget proposals for 2021/22 for approval.

Members were informed that the overall aim of the budget process was to ensure that the organisation's financial resources and allocations were determined on the basis of supporting the achievement of the corporate aims and objectives set out in the Authority's Corporate Strategy.

Members were reminded that the budget for 2020/21 was prepared on the basis of a detailed review of resource requirements in order to provide the required investment in a range of areas to support delivery of the Authority's corporate priorities.

As reported during the course of the year, the impact of Covid-19 had slowed some of the progress in these areas, therefore many of the priorities remained to be carried forward into 2021/22.

It was noted that the overall budget requirement was for a total of £5,445,600 representing a freeze in cash terms on the 2020/21 budget. A table within the report provided an overall summary of the main changes proposed within the budgets for employee costs and running costs.

Members noted that there were currently two apprentices in post in Pensions Administration; in next year's budget there was provision for an apprentice within Finance and Corporate Services and also one within the IT team.

Cllr Murphy requested information on the recruitment of apprentices and what equality and diversity processes were followed including age, gender etc.

G Taberner reported that the recruitment process was done in conjunction with the learning provider. The Authority had an Equality and Diversity Strategy which was followed and had a HR Business Partner who ensured that all policies were followed.

J Bailey commented that the apprenticeship scheme was under the National Apprenticeship Arrangement which was for 16-24 year olds.

In terms of wider equality and diversity, there was more work to be done in terms of the diversity of the workforce. The Authority was compliant with the rules but it was recognised that there was more that could be done in terms of encouraging applicants from more diverse backgrounds.

There were plans to engage with an equality and diversity organisation to provide training for all staff and to provide pointers as to where the Authority could widen the net in term of recruitment.

G Graham agreed and commented that the Authority also needed a workforce that was evenly distributed across all age ranges. Although this had improved over the last few years, the average age of employees was around 45 which meant there was more work to do in this area. It was also important that the Authority's workforce reflected the diversity of scheme members.

The Authority had managed, in the last few years, to generate wider and better qualified interest in the vacancies that had been advertised and it was hoped to build on this.

Members were reminded that the funds in the Capital Projects were earmarked for the funding of projects including the Long Term Accommodation project, the replacement of Business Systems and for potential costs that would arise in relation to the Pensions Administration software. It was expected that funds would be required from this reserve during 2021/22 but, as yet, the details of the amounts required and timing were uncertain and therefore this had not been included in the budget forecast for the earmarked reserves. This would be kept under review and reported to the Authority for approval as required.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the 2021/22 budget for the Authority at a total of £5,445,600.

8C MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22 TO 2023/24

A report was submitted which presented the Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24 for consideration and approval.

Members noted that the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), which was attached as an appendix to the report, presented the financial forecasts for the Authority and for the Fund. It was designed to support the delivery of the policy position and objectives set out in the Corporate Strategy and was updated annually at the same time as that strategy so that the financial objectives aligned with the corporate objectives.

The MTFS also provided a framework of rules within which the Authority would determine the resources available to fulfil its functions. In the updated MTFS the framework remained in place and the specific measurable financial objectives and limits within it had been updated as appropriate to meet the needs and circumstances of the Authority over the next three years.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021/22 to 2023/24.

8D TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

A report was considered which fulfilled the Authority's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to "have regard to" the following guidance:

- a. The CIPFA Prudential Code of Practice (2017);
- b. The CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (2017);
- c. MHCLG Statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investments (2018); and
- d. MHCLG Statutory Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision (2018).

Members were informed that the Authority would receive reports on its Treasury Management activities including, as a minimum, an annual strategy for the forthcoming year, an annual report after year end and interim updates as part of the quarterly corporate performance reports.

The annual strategy report was forward looking and included:

- a. The Treasury Management Strategy, including treasury indicators.
- b. The Investment Strategy.
- c. To the extent that they applied to the Authority, capital plans, prudential indicators and minimum revenue provision policy statement.

Members were reminded that the responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices remained with the full Authority, and responsibility for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions was delegated to the Authority's Section 73 officer.

The report also gave details of training requirements, the Annual Investment Strategy and risk assessment and credit ratings.

RESOLVED - That Members approve:

- i) The 2021/22 Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy.
- ii) The Treasury and Prudential Indicators for 2021/22.
- iii) The Minimum Revenue Position statement as set out in the report.

9 STAFF SURVEY

A report was submitted which presented the results of the staff survey.

Members were reminded that the Authority undertook its last staff survey in 2018.

Concerns had been raised by some staff about the degree of anonymity possible in previous surveys and there were also concerns about the robustness of some of the questions. A need had also been identified to measure progress over time by creating an “engagement index” using the results of the survey. Consequently it had been decided to procure an external organisation to undertake the survey. Consultancy+ had been appointed using a national consultancy framework.

The survey had been carried out in November 2020 with the results being reported in December and shared with staff. A total of 82 responses had been received which represented approximately an 85% response rate. The detailed report was attached as an appendix to the report.

The broad results showed some improvement on 2018 although the two surveys were not directly comparable.

The three top areas identified were:

1. Treated fairly.
2. Collaborative teamwork.
3. Trusted to make decisions.

It was felt that there was room for improvement in:

1. Career path.
2. Role stimulation.

The areas highlighted as positive were all areas where there had been a significant degree of management focus over the last two years. The areas highlighted as areas for improvement had already been identified in the Corporate Strategy in the current year but progress had been impacted by Covid-19 and the need to work remotely. The areas would receive renewed focus and featured significantly in the update Corporate Strategy which was elsewhere on the agenda.

Cllr Atkin noted that although in the main responses were positive there seemed to be more negative responses from the IT Team.

J Bailey replied that the primary issue within the team was the lack of training opportunities. The issue was being addressed and would improve the resilience of the Team.

RESOLVED – That Members note the results of the staff survey and the actions incorporated in the updated Corporate Strategy elsewhere on the agenda.

10 REGULATORY UPDATE

A report was considered which provided members with an update on regulatory and policy developments.

The report detailed updates on:

- The £95k Cap.
- Employer Flexibilities.
- McCloud
- Reporting the Impact of Climate Change.
- Statutory Guidance on Pooling.
- Changes to Local Authority Audit Arrangements.

RESOLVED – That the various developments in the regulatory and policy environments as detailed in the report are noted.

11 EMPLOYER FLEXIBILITIES

A report was submitted to secure agreement in principle to the implementation of the new employer flexibilities and to the initiation of a consultation process with employers.

Members were reminded that, as previously reported to the Authority, the Government had made the Local Government Pensions Scheme(Amendment) No.2 Regulations 2020.

The regulations had introduced a number of flexibilities and the report considered whether the Authority should, in principle, seek to adopt them.

The flexibilities included:

- Reassessment of Contributions between Valuations.
- Debt Spreading Arrangements and Deferred Debt Agreements.
- Methodology for Calculating Termination Payments.

If the Authority resolved that it was minded to implement the various employer flexibilities and changes to the way in which termination payments were calculated, officers would then, in consultation with the Fund Actuary, develop policies on which employers would be consulted with a revised Funding Strategy Statement being brought to the June meeting for approval.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Agree in principle that the Authority should implement the employer flexibilities provided under the LGPS Regulations.
- ii) Agree to initiate a consultation process with employers on the way in which the flexibilities should be implemented.
- iii) Agree to initiate consultation on changes to the least risk basis for calculating termination payments.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public 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.

12 PROPERTY DEBT WRITE-OFFS

A report was submitted to request the Authority's approval to write off irrecoverable debts relating to the Pensions Fund's commercial property portfolio.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the writing off of debts amounting to £44,871.08 including VAT relating to the commercial property portfolio.

CHAIR

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Item 31

SCR - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 25 JANUARY 2021 AT 10.00 AM

VIRTUAL MEETING



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Bob Johnson	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
James Muir	Chair of LEP Board

Officers in Attendance:

Helen Kemp	Director of Business & Skills	MCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	MCA Executive Team
Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	MCA Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	MCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	MCA Executive Team / SYPTE
Mark Lynam	Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure	MCA Executive Team
Colin Blackburn	Assistant Director - Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	MCA Executive Team
Emily Hickey	Governance and Compliance Officer	MCA Executive Team
Claire James	Senior Governance & Compliance Manager	MCA Executive Team
Felix Kumi-Ampofo	Assistant Director Policy and Assurance	MCA Executive Team
Sue Sykes	Assistant Director - Programme and Performance Unit	MCA Executive Team

In Attendance

Melanie McCoole (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Councillor Chris Read	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Garry Purdy	Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC
Councillor Charlotte Cupit	NE Derbyshire District Council

1 **Welcome and Apologies**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and he introduced the Members present. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

The Mayor expressed his thanks to Councillor Julie Dore, who had now stood down as the Leader of Sheffield City Council (SCC) after 10 years of serving the people of Sheffield. Councillor Dore had lead SCC through incredibly difficult times, and she had always been a champion for the city and the people that she represented. He wished Councillor Dore and her family all the best for the future.

The Mayor formally welcomed Councillor Bob Johnson, the new Leader of SCC and Kate Josephs, the new Chief Executive of SCC to their first Mayoral Combined Authority meeting.

2 **Announcements**

The Mayor addressed the meeting in relation to Storm Christoph, and he expressed his thanks to everyone involved in the preparatory work that had recently been undertaken. The MCA was grateful for the herculean effort of more than 600 staff from across the four South Yorkshire local authorities together with South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency, local residents and the communities to reduce the threat to life and property following the multiple flood warnings that had been in place across South Yorkshire. The MCA would continue to support this important work in every possible way. The Mayor and the Leaders of the local authorities were determined to continue their work to secure the investment which would help to prevent a repeat of the devastating scenes that had occurred in the hugely damaging floods that had battered South Yorkshire in November 2019.

In collaboration with the Environment Agency, the MCA had secured £80m from the Government towards funding some of the identified flood prevention and protection schemes. The Mayor and the Leaders of the local authorities were determined to work together to secure the remaining £125m from the Government, to fully protect homes and businesses within South Yorkshire.

Members noted the emergency efforts had taken place during the ever-present dangers of Covid-19. Schools had closed to all but the vulnerable children and those of essential workers, many businesses had been forced to close and health services had been stretched to the very limit. This was a situation that would remain for the foreseeable future and required everyone to do all that they could by staying at home and to keep safe. At the moment, in comparison to some other parts of the country South Yorkshire was faring better in terms of infection rates, although South Yorkshire's rates remained too high with significant pressures on its hospitals. It was imperative to remain on guard and stay vigilant.

The Mayor was conscious of the public servants and key workers that continued to put themselves at risk, who were working harder than ever to

deliver day in and day out for the good of the communities, including those working for the NHS, social care, supermarkets, local shop staff, bus, tram, train and delivery drivers. On behalf of the MCA, the Mayor offered his thanks and gratitude for all of their continued efforts. In order to make their hard work count, the Mayor urged the residents of South Yorkshire to stay at home, to follow the rules that were in place, and to stay safe in order to lower the infection and hospitalisation rates.

The MCA was working hard to provide its own £30m business support package, which would make a difference and help to keep the businesses of South Yorkshire afloat so that they would be ready to grow again following the emergence from the crisis; further support would be needed. It was important that the Government implemented the correct support and provided the MCA and the local authorities with the necessary tools required to rebuild the economy. A detailed funding strategy was required from the Government for the levelling up.

In advance of the March 2021 Budget, the Mayor had made representations to the Chancellor to set out the support required in South Yorkshire. The Government would continue to be pressed at every opportunity.

3 Urgent Items

Members were informed of the means by which the meeting would be conducted, to be compliant with appropriate legislation and pursuant of SCR's own Constitution.

4 Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press

RESOLVED – That agenda Item 24 entitled 'Freeport Bid Submission' be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members

It was noted that Non-Constituent Members were welcome to participate in the discussion of every item on the agenda.

6 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 16 entitled 'Implications of the Spending Review' in relation to the Sheffield Heart of the City Breathing Spaces Scheme, by virtue of being the Leader of Sheffield City Council.

Mayor Jones CBE declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 24 entitled 'Freeport Bid Submission' by virtue of being the Mayor of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE declared an interest at agenda Item 24 entitled 'Freeport Bid Submission' in relation to the matters to be discussed regarding Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, by virtue of being the Leader of

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

Mayor Jarvis MBE declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 23 entitled 'Mayoral Remuneration' by virtue of being the Mayor of the Sheffield City Region. The Mayor stated that he would leave the meeting for the duration of the agenda item. He commented that it was his great privilege to serve the people of South Yorkshire as the Mayor, which he had done so unpaid since he had been elected in 2018. During that time, he had worked relentlessly alongside his fellow local Leaders to complete the devolution deal, secure significant investment for South Yorkshire's people, businesses and places, and he had represented the region through the most challenging of circumstances. He stated that should the MCA approve the Independent Panel's recommendation, that he would utilise the salary to support those organisations that had helped to hold the communities together during the Covid-19 pandemic, and those that had made a valuable contribution to lives within South Yorkshire.

7 Reports from and questions by members

None.

8 Receipt of Petitions

The meeting received a 38 signature petition from Mr Paul Gwiazda. The petition was in regard to a bus stop on Handsworth Road in Sheffield where it was reported that buses failed to switch off their engines whilst waiting time. Mr Gwiazda had supplied an impact statement.

The Mayor expressed his thanks to the petitioner for bringing the issue to his attention. Members noted that air and noise pollution affected the quality of life, to which a commitment had been made to become a net-zero carbon economy by 2040, to make South Yorkshire a greener and better place to live, work and visit. He would request the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to respond to the petition directly, as he considered it to be best placed to address the issue.

9 Public Questions

A question was received from Mr Nigel Slack who addressed the Authority as follows:-

"As a Tutor for the Workers Education Association (WEA), you will not be surprised that I am interested in the content of the report at Item 13. It does however concern me that the levels of funding available for Adult Education is woefully inadequate considering the impact of Covid-19 and the now evident significant and negative impact of the Brexit Trade Agreement.

This change to devolved funding for Adult Education is concerning for the WEA as it may disrupt the ability to work with adults in communities in SCR, particularly the most disadvantaged. The WEA is well-placed to contribute to the Mayor's plans to date and is, I know, working with Local Authorities and Colleges to develop a coherent Adult Education response.

Decisions made around adult learning may mean that the WEA's flexibility and responsiveness to meet the challenges around unemployment, digital exclusion and poverty, key elements of all 4 Lots as described, are hampered, as Community Learning funding is a vital enabler of this work.

1. Has MCA talked directly to providers like the WEA and will the grant agreements with Colleges and Councils ensure that WEA and others can continue to deliver the quality courses they currently offer within that devolved programme?
2. Will the MCA Framework Agreement be sufficient to enable providers to survive this new devolved funding dynamic, considering the generally 'flexible' nature of such Framework contracting?
3. What provision is to be made for Adult Learning that is not directly aimed at the world of work but which contributes to the general wellbeing of residents through lifelong learning and particularly adult learning in the fields of Arts, Culture & Heritage?"

The Mayor stated that as part of the devolution deal that had been agreed with the Government last year, the MCA had secured the devolution of the Adult Education Budget (AEB) expected to be worth £36m per year from 2021/22 to South Yorkshire, allowing adult education provision to be tailored to meet local needs in the coming years. The MCA was presently preparing to commission provision from 1 August 2021, including undertaking a procurement process, to ensure that the funding devolved to the region was utilised to deliver the best outcomes for the residents of South Yorkshire. Given the additional challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, the MCA would clearly have welcomed a greater level of funding. The Mayor added that along with the local authority Leaders, he was in constant contact with the Government to lobby on behalf of the region to make the case for additional funding in respect of skills and education. Over the coming years, the MCA would assess the needs of the region and develop the programme of interventions to meet those needs.

10 **Minutes of the last meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 November 2020 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

11 **Working Win Extension**

A report was submitted which sought the approval of the MCA Board to accept £3m grant and approval to enter into a partnership agreement with NHS Clinical Commissioning Group to procure and contract the appropriate provider(s) to deliver the programme. The paper sought delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements required for the programme.

Members noted that the innovative health led employment trial Working Win had so far supported over 3,060 South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw residents, with mild to moderate mental and/or physical health issues to move into paid work

or to sustain employment which was at risk because of their health issue. The business case to extend the programme for a further year had recently been approved by the Department for Work and Pensions.

RESOLVED – That Members considered and accepted:-

1. The Work and Health Unit c£3m grant funding for the Working Win Programme subject to due diligence on any conditions of award.
2. To enter into a Partnership Agreement with Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in order for the Working Win programme to be procured as an NHS contract, as stipulated by the Work and Health Unit on terms to be agreed by the Head of Paid Service.
3. Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and the Monitoring Officer to enter into a legal agreement for the scheme covered above.

12 **Housing Fund (Brownfield)**

A report was presented which provided an update on the progress in developing the Housing Fund (Brownfield) 5 year programme and to seek endorsement of the Strategic Business Case for the programme. Both the Housing Fund (Brownfield) Prospectus and the Strategic Business Case for the programme had been recommended by the Housing and Infrastructure Board for approval by the MCA.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Approved the Housing Fund (Brownfield) Programme Strategic Business Case (SBC), noting the initial Early Deliverable schemes.
2. Approved the Housing Fund (Brownfield) Prospectus.
3. Noted the ongoing activity to develop the full 5 year programme scheme pipeline.

13 **Adult Education Budget Commissioning - Update**

A report was submitted which provided an update on the progress with the preparations for commissioning the Adult Education Budget provision in readiness for devolution of funding from 1 August 2021.

It was expected that the total value of AEB to be devolved to the MCA would be c£38.5m, of which c£36m would be AEB and c£2.5m would be additional money for the Level 3 provision as part of the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee. Confirmation of the exact value of AEB was anticipated to be received from the DfE in January 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the progress in commissioning skills and employment provision using the Adult Education Budget.

14 **Strategic Economic Plan**

A report was submitted which presented the final Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). The SEP had been endorsed and approved by the LEP Board and it would sit with the other MCA policies and strategies. The SEP would guide the economic ambitions for the next generation.

The Mayor commented that the development and completion of the SEP had been a long and complex process which had involved many officers and stakeholders. He expressed his thanks to everyone that had contributed their efforts to this important document.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed the Strategic Economic Plan.

15 **Programme Approvals**

A report was presented which sought approval of one Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) scheme with a total value of £2m, and for delegated authority to be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with Section 73 and the Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the scheme.

The Sheffield Heart of the City Breathing Spaces Project would enhance the city centre by creating three new spaces including a pocket park, a vibrant small square on Carver Street and expansion of the Peace Gardens between the Town Hall and the proposed new hotel on Pinstone Street.

RESOLVED – That Members considered and approved:-

1. Progression of Project 'Sheffield Heart of the City Breathing Spaces' to full approval and award £2m grant from the Transforming Cities Fund to Sheffield City Council subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table.
2. That delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with Section 73 and the Monitoring Officer to enter into a legal agreement for the scheme.

16 **Implications of the Spending Review**

A report was submitted which summarised the announcements within the Government's Spending Review as it related to the agenda of the MCA, and for Members to consider the potential implications.

The Mayor referred to the MCA submission that had been made in September 2020 to the original Comprehensive Spending Review, which had then been reduced to a one-year Spending Review. The submission had been based on the MCA Renewal Action Plan. As the priorities of the MCA had remained unchanged, the Mayor had submitted a further representation to the Treasury in readiness for the March 2021 Budget announcement, which had set out the MCA's seven key interventions to kickstart the journey towards a stronger, greener and fairer South Yorkshire.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE welcomed the input that had been made into the March 2021 Budget, although he suspected that much of this would already be in place from the Government. He considered that the revenue aspect of the spending review for the local authorities would be incredibly important, not just for the provision of services, but to ensure that the local authorities still had the staffing capacity to work up projects and programmes for the economic recovery that was hoped to be underway by Autumn 2021. It was important for the Government to also recognise the revenue and the services that mattered to areas such as South Yorkshire, together with revenue implications of building up the capacity to undertake matters. The details of a Shared Prosperity Fund and a Levelling Up Fund were still to be produced, together with the longer-term implications of the gain share funding. He considered that a programme of projects was required to be developed in line with the Strategic Economic Plan and to kickstart the recovery in the short term, with one set of projects and programmes to take the MCA and South Yorkshire forwards.

The Mayor agreed with the valid points made by Councillor Sir Houghton CBE, and he considered that his sentiments would be shared by all of the Members.

Mayor Jones CBE concurred with the comments made by Councillor Sir Houghton CBE. She considered that the short term funding did not help when pulling the capital programmes forward and that it would not be beneficial for the whole area. She added that by joining all of the different funding types together would assist all of the areas and the SCR moving forwards. It was necessary to continue to pull them together in a coherent way.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Considered the issues arising from the Spending Review as they related to the MCA.
2. Noted the letter sent from the Mayor to the Chancellor regarding the March 2021 Budget.

17

Budget and Business Plan Development 2021/22

A report was presented which provided an update on the progress towards the finalisation of an integrated MCA Business Plan and Budget for the forthcoming financial year. The report sought approval for the South Yorkshire Transport Levy and the proposal to not set a Mayoral Precept.

Members noted that every financial year the MCA Group was required to set a balanced budget alike with other public bodies and local partners. The MCA was mid-way through a Group wide integrated business planning process.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Approved the South Yorkshire Transport Levy for financial year 2021/22.
2. Approved the proposal to not set a Mayoral Precept for financial year 2021/22.

3. Noted the proposal to freeze local authority subscriptions for financial year 2021/22.
4. Noted the forecast scale of consolidated Group spending power in the forthcoming year.
5. Noted the intention to bring the final Group revenue budget and capital
6. programme for approval to the MCA's March 2021 meeting.

18 **Budget Revision 3**

A report was submitted which provided revised budget forecasts to the end of the financial year 2020/21. The report recommended the adoption of the budget estimates and adjustments to budgetary ceilings.

The economic disruption that had been caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant fiscal response from the Government had significantly changed the MCA's capital and revenue budgets over the course of the year. A third budget revision exercise had been undertaken at the end of November 2020 to ensure that the MCA's financial plans remained aligned to the business priorities.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Adopted the revised budget estimates.
2. Noted the key conclusions of the mid-year treasury report.
3. Noted the slower than forecast pace of the capital programme.

19 **Geographic Focus and brand of the MCA and future collaboration with the MCA's non-constituent authorities**

A report was presented which provided an update on the work underway with Non-Constituent Member Authorities to agree future arrangements for collaboration and engagement, and to confirm whether Members' wished in principle to begin the preparatory work for rebranding of the MCA as the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (or variant thereof).

Councillor Gilby commented that the Leaders of the Non-Constituent Member Authorities welcomed the work undertaken by Dr Smith and the other Chief Executives. She considered that it was very important to reach an effective collaboration and joint working with the MCA to ensure that the levelling up of the country as promised by the Prime Minister was delivered. North Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire were still a vital part of the SCR, to which the economic geography remained the same.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE referred to the change in the Government's stance on city regions. He considered it important to maintain the collaborative working to ensure that relationships were kept as effective as possible. The BMBC economy was split in both the north and south of the borough, which

included collaborative working with West Yorkshire. He emphasised the need to ensure that the relationships were kept as effective as possible.

The Mayor stated that it was important to ensure that effective working arrangements were in place with neighbours in every direction.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Made a decision in principle to rebrand the MCA so that necessary preparations could occur for rebranding timed to follow May's local elections.
2. Identified any issues that they would like to be considered as part of the exercise underway on future engagement with Non-Constituent Authorities.

20 **Appointment of SYPTE Non-Executive Director**

A report was presented for Members to consider the appointment of a Non-Executive Director of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive

Members noted the requirement by law for the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to have between two and eight Directors appointed by the Combined Authority. At present there were eight Directors (two PTE employed directors and six non-executive positions) with each South Yorkshire District and the SCR Mayoral Combined Authority having one senior transport officer appointed and the Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC chairing the Board.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed that Dan Swaine, the newly appointed Director of Economy and Environment of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council be appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

21 **Assurance and Monitoring & Evaluation Framework**

A report was submitted which updated the Members on the policy updates that the MCA was required to conclude prior to the end of the financial year; namely the Assurance Framework and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. The report also highlighted any known issues that were to be addressed and provided an indicative timeline which highlighted when further detailed information would be presented for Members' consideration and decision making.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Considered the documents and policies to be updated and the indicative timeline for progression to the MCA Boards and on to National Government.
2. Reviewed the draft Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and provided feedback on any additional developments that Members would wish to be considered.

22 **Delegated Authority Report**

A report was presented which provided Members with an update on the decisions and delegations made by the MCA which were in addition to those made under the Scheme of Delegation, and the decisions and delegations made by the Thematic Boards.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the decisions and delegations made.

23 **Mayoral Remuneration**

At this point in the meeting the Mayor had left the room and Councillor Sir Houghton CBE took over the role of Chair of the meeting.

A report was submitted to propose the recommended level of remuneration/allowance for the role Elected Mayor and for the MCA to determine the level of allowance payable to the Mayor. The Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority (Functions and Amendment) Order 2020 provided that the MCA could pay an allowance for the role of Mayor and Deputy Mayor following consideration of a report produced by an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP). This aligned the SCR MCA to all other MCA areas.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE reiterated that the Mayor did not intend to take the Mayoral remuneration but that instead this would be utilised to support good causes within South Yorkshire.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Endorsed the establishment of the Independent Remuneration Panel and that their reasonable time commitment be remunerated.
2. Determined the remuneration payable to the incumbent Mayor considering the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendation that the appropriate allowance payable for the role of City Region Mayor was £79,000.
3. Agreed that the allowance would be payable from 28 July 2021 being the date that the legislation allowed an allowance to be payable from.
4. Agreed that no allowance would be paid for the Deputy Mayor role.
5. Agreed that the remuneration be reviewed in April 2023 and every 4 years thereafter.

24 **Freeport Bid Submission**

PRIVATE ITEM

A report was presented to request Members to review the progress on the preparation of a South Yorkshire submission to the UK Government's Freeport

process and to seek to agree an approval process for the bid to be submitted by the deadline of 5 February 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

1. Noted the content of the report and the proposed approach to the Freeport bid.
2. Agreed to delegate final approval and submission of the South Yorkshire bid to the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Head of Paid Service.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY

3 FEBRUARY 2021

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), C Pickering (Barnsley MBC), P Short (Rotherham MBC), J Steinke (Sheffield City Council) 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, S Abbott, S Baldwin, E Eruero, S Parkin and F Topliss
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M McCarthy, J Field, L Noble, A Shirt and M McCoolle
(Barnsley MBC)

1 WELCOME BY CHAIR

Councillor Nevett welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

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 Panel.

7B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER 2020

L Noble provided Members with a verbal update on the 'live' actions contained within the Panel's Action Log.

The following updates were noted:-

Action 10 - Domestic Abuse

Members noted that the update from the OPCC had suggested that it would be an onerous task to provide additional data.

The Panel agreed that the action be marked as 'discharged' on the Panel's Action Log and referred to the Performance Lead Member meetings for further discussion around the bespoke report referred to.

Action 10 - 101 Calls

Members noted that the update from the OPCC stated that all the information around 101 calls is being provided.

The Panel agreed that the action be marked as 'discharged' from the Panel's Action Log and referred to the Performance Lead Member meetings for further discussion.

Action 14 - Lead Member / Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) issues

A detailed in the Action Log, some Members of the Panel had a meeting with the interim Chair of the Independent Ethics Panel on 2nd February.

The Panel agreed that the action be marked as 'discharged' from the Panel's Action Log.

Action 8 - Hate Crime

Members noted that the Quarter 3 performance report would be submitted to the April Police and Crime Panel meeting.

Councillor Sansome asked if information could be provided to Councillor Short and himself in relation to the number of hate crimes reported in the Rotherham locality.

Councillor Sansome also asked if the District Commander reports to the Public Accountability Board (PAB) could include issues around hate crime.

The Panel agreed that the action be retained and re-worded on the Panel's Action Log.

Action 13 - Probation Services

Members noted that information was included in the PCC's Update report.

Councillor Sansome asked if update reports presenting information on current Court delays and Government proposals to reduce numbers on a Jury to address backlogs could be presented at future Panel meetings.

The Panel agreed that the action be retained and re-worded on the Panel's Action Log.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 14th December 2020 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) That information be provided by the OPCC to Councillors Short and Sansome in relation to the number of hate crimes reported in the Rotherham locality.
- iii) That future District Commander reports to the Public Accountability Board (PAB) include issues around hate crime.
- iv) That actions contained on the Panel's Action Log in relation to Hate Crime and Probation Services be retained and re-worded.

9 PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT AND REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2021/22

For the benefit of individuals viewing the live webcast, J Field provided an explanation of the Panel's role in the budget / Council Tax precept setting process.

A report of the Chief Finance 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 2021/22.

The Commissioner thanked S Abbott, D Carrington and their respective Finance Teams for the work undertaken in producing the budget for 2021/22.

The Commissioner provided context to his proposal. He stated that, when his office could, they had undertaken face-to-face public consultation, however public consultation had been very limited this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

An online survey had been undertaken with the public in relation to the precept, with 67% of the public being supportive of the maximum £15 (Band D property increase).

The Commissioner referred the Panel to the proposal in the report at paragraph 2.1, for policing services and victim services for the financial year 2021/22.

He proposed that the Panel approved the budget and proposed annual increase in Council Tax precept for 2021/22 of £15.00 for a Band D property. This equated to an annual increase of £10.00 for a Band A property (19 pence per week) and £11.66 for a Band B property (22 pence per week). Most properties in South Yorkshire are in Band A (58%) and Band B (17%).

The Commissioner highlighted that, in South Yorkshire 75% of properties are in Bands A or B (58% and 17% respectively), 34% of Band A households, and 17% of Band B properties claim a reduction in Council Tax through the Council Tax reduction schemes.

The Commissioner said that, whilst he recognises that residents face a difficult time due to the current pandemic which was presenting financial hardship for many families, there was also extra demand on policing. If the Force was to get on top of crime, be more visible and tackle anti-social behaviour, it would need more officers.

The proposed budget would deliver an additional 228 police officers. 149 of the new officers were part of the Government's national Uplift programme (of which, 7 must go to the Regional Organised Crime Unit) and 79 were funded from local resources.

The Commissioner explained that, over the next three years, South Yorkshire Police would have recruited a total of 487 additional officers as part of its share of the 20,000 the Government wishes to see recruited nationally, plus a further 220 from local resources.

The Commissioner said that the increase in officer numbers (South Yorkshire's share of the national uplift, plus the local uplift) would restore numbers of officers cut since 2010 and then go beyond that.

By March 2023, a grand total of 1,486 extra officers would have been recruited in South Yorkshire to replace leavers and accommodate national and local uplift in the budget.

The Commissioner highlighted that, if the precept was increased by £15 (Band D property) for the year, the proposed budget would show a £5.8m deficit, which could be wholly attributed to legacy costs, but would need to be funded from reserves.

He explained that reserves were a finite resource and could only be used once. The reserves position would be monitored very closely.

The Commissioner said that the Force had made savings of £2.6m in 2021/22, but would have to find recurrent savings of £10.7m to balance the Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS).

In summing up his introduction, the Commissioner asked the Panel to look back over the last 6 years during his time as the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner. When Dr Billings commenced in post, it was in the aftermath of the Professor Jay report into Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham and the Hillsborough Inquest. South Yorkshire Police was in a poor place, morale and public confidence was low. The HMI Inspector had stated that the Force required improvement across all areas.

Six years on, the Force was not in the same place; the Force had made significant progress. In terms of performance, the Force was now rated within the top four Forces in the UK.

The Commissioner said that he wished to maintain this momentum moving forwards, and this was the reason for his budget proposals.

The Commissioner commended the budget and precept to the Panel.

S Abbott provided the Panel with the key highlights contained within the report.

The Panel was made aware that the Police and Crime Plan had been refreshed in January 2021, and a plan addendum determined which would be in force until the PCC elections in May 2021. The PCC's priorities had remained the same. A copy of the Police and Crime Plan addendum was attached at Appendix A to the report.

Paragraph 3.2 of the report provided details on the additional areas where the PCC had been focusing his attention on during the period of the Covid-19 restrictions.

The Panel noted that South Yorkshire Police had managed well during the Covid-19 restrictions. Officer and staff attendance had remained high and the Force had worked successfully with partners in the Local Resilience Forum to manage the emergency situation in all four districts.

The Panel was made aware that the Home Office national funding settlement for 2021/22 was still provisional, with the final settlement expected shortly.

The provisional settlement had announced additional funding of £720m, for local policing, with 45% of this expected to come from increased local taxation (£320m). The provisional settlement gave Police and Crime Commissioners in England flexibility to increase funding in 2021/22 of up to £15 Council Tax limit on a Band D property.

Although South Yorkshire had received a 4.9% cash increase, based on current inflation projections this represented a 1.85% real terms reduction in funding after officer Uplift is excluded, based on current inflation figures built into the budget.

Uplift funding of £67k per officer had been granted, which was in line with national assumptions. 24% of the grant continued to be ring-fenced and would be released quarterly in line with the achievement of officer numbers. It was highlighted that, although officers are fully funded for the first year of service, a gap appears after this.

The Medium Term Resources Strategy (MTRS) was presented at Appendix B to the report. The overall budget proposal was £295.6m, including investment to support a further increase in police officer posts. Also included was investment into growth areas relating to essential core and uplift delivery, enhancement of the operating model and Force priorities. This included the Digital Forensics Unit review (£1.6m), officer uplift (£1.1m), improved IT structure (£778k), the technology enabled team (£420k) and communications data review (£405k).

Legacy issues were currently forecast to be £133m to 2025/26, requiring £20m of the Force's own resources to fund the expected shortfall in Special Grant receivable under current Home Office rules. Active discussions were taking place regularly with the Home Office in relation to Special Grants.

£5.8m would be required from reserves to balance the budget in 2021/22, and a combination of savings and use of reserves amounting to £19.6m throughout the MTRS period. It was highlighted that this was not a sustainable approach, as the prudent minimum reserve balance could only be sustained until 2025/26. Further details were presented in the chart at Appendix C to the report.

Balancing the medium term financial position to ensure recurrent financial balance would require some, or all, of the following:

- Achieving clarity through the Spending Review regarding the level of grant funding to increase 'Uplift' police officer numbers beyond 2021/22;
- The Force's future integrated planning to balance demand and growth pressures and the need for efficiency savings,
- An improved deal on Legacy cost funding from the Home Office; and
- Precept flexibility.

The report set out a number of key risks and uncertainties, which were noted by Members.

S Abbott concluded her overview and said that, as the OPCC's Chief Finance Officer, she recommended that the increase in precept of £15.00 on a Band D property, is levied to support the increase in police officer numbers in 2021/22 and to allow the Force to make improvements to their existing service.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Nevett thanked the Commissioner and S Abbott for presenting all the information to enable the Panel to scrutinise and make an informed decision today.

Councillor Steinke asked what the consequences would be if the Panel did not agree to the precept increase for the year. Furthermore, he asked how secure the

Chief Finance Officer felt about making assumptions with regards to the receipt of future Government funding.

The Commissioner replied that the consequence of lowering the precept proposal would have a significant impact on the police budget. The Commissioner and Chief Constable had discussed where savings could be achieved during 2021/22 and areas to be considered in future years.

Currently, 80% of the budget related to staff; if the Commissioner asked the Chief Constable to make further savings during the 2021/22 financial year, then he would need to consider reducing staff and PCSO numbers.

S Abbott said that assumptions had been made that the level of cash from Government would continue without inflation throughout the MTRS period. In relation to the officer uplift, in the 2020/21 budget, it did not include the ring-fenced grant. On the basis that South Yorkshire had received the ring-fenced grant funding over the last few years, this had now been included the MTRS, as the Force had achieved its recruitment target.

Councillor Otten noted that some of the officer uplift would need to be funded from reserves. He asked if there was likely to be another increase in the Council Tax precept for 2022/23, and what assumptions had been built into the MTRS.

The Commissioner said that, based on calculations, there would be a budget deficit and reserves would have to be used. Furthermore, it was difficult for the Commissioner to say if there would be an increase in Council Tax for future years until the Home Office had announced its funding settlement for local policing.

S Abbott said that assumptions had been made on a maximum £15 precept increase in the MTRS for 2021/22. In future years, a 2% increase had been included in the MTRS, based on previous referendum limits.

Councillor Otten asked if there would be the correct number of officers employed at the end of the five year officer uplift programme. He also asked again if this would be the end to large precept increases to fund increases in police officer numbers.

In response, the Commissioner said that it was difficult to foresee the future. The Chief Constable was satisfied the Force would have the correct number of officers entering the Force for the next four years to meet demands and make a significant difference by utilising the precept to sustain staff and PCSO numbers in the future.

Councillor Sansome said that, under the current Government, there had been an overspend of £3.1 billion, through the Emergency Services Network (ESN) Airwaves project which would not be delivered until 2029. He was disappointed to note that the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner had been forced into a situation like this, when the Government had top-sliced money across the UK of £3.1 billion on just one project alone.

Councillor Sansome added that he was also concerned around the use of the company BlueLight Commercial which was funded by Central Government.

Councillor Sansome commended the Commissioner for the savings achieved in his Office of £1.3m.

Councillor Sansome asked the Commissioner for assurances that the Panel's Budget Working Group would continue to receive information about the precept, savings created (if any) by BlueLight Commercial and how much they are to South Yorkshire. Furthermore, he asked if the Budget Working Group could also monitor the overspend of the ESN Airwaves project.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request and agreed to provide updates to the Budget Working Group. The Commissioner added that, national projects did consume large costs; the Commissioner would continue to make representations to the Home Office and the Policing and Fire Minister.

Councillor Sansome asked if South Yorkshire's share of the 20,000 increase in police officer numbers of 487 took the Force back to the officer numbers in 2010.

The Commissioner said that 487 was slightly below what the Force should have, if they were restoring the numbers which they had lost. However, he was pleased that there was a commitment to increase police officer numbers.

The Chair, Councillor Nevett referred to the recommendation in the report which asked the Police and Crime Panel to consider a proposed annual increase in Council Tax precept for 2021/22 of £15.00 for a Band D property. This would take the Council Tax to £213.04 for the year for a Band D property. This equates to an annual increase of £10.00 for a Band A property (19 pence per week) and £11.66 for a Band B property (22 pence per week). Most properties in South Yorkshire are in Band A (58%) and Band B (17%).

A recorded vote was taken and recorded as follows:-

For accepting the proposed increase in Council Tax precept for 2021/22 – (12) Councillors Nevett, Sansome, Cherryholme, Garbutt, Grocutt, Otten, Pickering, Short, Steinke, Wilkinson, Mr A Carter and Professor A James.

Against the proposed increase (0) and abstained (0).

The proposal was approved.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime:-

- i) Voted unanimously to accept the proposed annual increase in Council Tax precept for 2021/22 of £15.00 for a Band D property. This would take the Council Tax to £213.04 for the year for a Band D property. For Band A properties this equated to an annual increase of £10.00 (19 pence per week) and £11.66 for a Band B property (22 pence per week) be approved.
- ii) Noted that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Band A (58%) and Band B (17%).

10 NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING: GATHERING THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

The Commissioner introduced a report which provided Members with an overview of the work undertaken by his Office (OPCC) in gathering the views of the public on the effectiveness of neighbourhood policing.

The Commissioner said that the key headlines from the most recent Priorities Survey undertaken from 25th October to mid-November 2020, showed that the public wished to see a more visible police presence within their local communities. The public would also like to see the Force focus on priority areas of tackling serious violence and gang activity and tackling neighbourhood crimes, including anti-social behaviour, burglary and road safety, including speeding.

In 2019/20 the OPCC had undertaken a survey of 509 residents to examine, from the perspective of the public, how well the current neighbourhood policing model in South Yorkshire addressed the points identified in the public consultation which showed the public wanted a local neighbourhood policing model that would:

- Provide a greater visible policing presence
- Provide increased accessibility
- Provide increased interactions and
- Help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour

The key findings of the survey were presented at paragraph 7 of the report and noted by Members.

The OPCC had planned to carry out a follow-up face-to-face survey around Neighbourhood Policing this year, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic this had not been possible.

Members were made aware that the Force's Trust and Confidence Group now obtained feedback around the force's Seven Strands of Neighbourhood Policing.

Through attendance at the Force's Trust and Confidence Group, the OPCC was able to get obtain an understanding and assurance of the work that is being undertaken across the Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The OPCC was then able to seek further assurance with local residents through engagement events and activities that improvement are being felt.

Professor James asked if the OPCC had any future plans to obtain opinions on neighbourhood policing from the public living in South Yorkshire's rural communities.

In response, F Topliss said that officers were trained in rural crime and the Force now had a lead and strategy for dealing with rural crimes. She added that, during the summer of 2020, a survey was undertaken specifically around rural crime. It was agreed that the results and key issues of the Rural Crime Survey be circulated to Members after today's meeting.

Members were informed that new issues in relation to rural crime were now emerging as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Commissioner said that he wished to pursue rural crime issues with both the Force and communities in the year ahead.

Professor James said that there needed to be careful consideration about making the police more visible in rural communities.

The Commissioner acknowledged Professor James' comment. He said that discussions were taking place with the Chief Constable to address how the Force could be more visible in rural communities.

Councillor Garbutt asked if the public was aware of the current low detection rates for burglary when surveys were undertaken. Furthermore, did this affect responses. He also asked if engagement was being undertaken with the Somali and Pakistani communities in Sheffield.

F Topliss said that, most often, the public were unaware of detection rates, unless they had been published in the local media. Survey results did show how the public felt if they had been a victim of burglary, or if a third party had experienced burglary and how their response had been dealt with by the Force.

It was confirmed that the OPCC had undertaken engagement with other communities via the Priorities Survey and the Neighbourhood Policing Survey. Certain demographics within the communities had been targeted. On a daily and weekly basis the OPCC did engage with numerous groups and links in communities. In addition, the Commissioner continued to meet remotely with groups within communities.

The feedback received from communities was fed back by the OPCC to the Force's Trust and Confidence Group and then circulated to the Neighbourhood Teams for the results to be actioned.

Councillor Otten commented that, when face-to-face surveys are undertaken, the public may not recognise the distinction between the Force and OPCC. He was of the opinion that, statistical conclusions should not be drawn from the results. He asked if the OPCC had considered the use of an external market research company to undertake surveys on behalf of the OPCC.

F Topliss replied that she was confident that the public did know the distinction between the Force and OPCC. A range of responses were received; some of which were not always positive. The OPCC did undertake further work to follow-up any issues obtained from the surveys via Focus Groups etc. to tease out and obtain further information. The Neighbourhood Policing market research survey undertaken in October 2019 to March 2020 was undertaken independently.

Councillor Grocutt asked if there were any plans in future to expand the number of officers in the Neighbourhood Teams as a result of the Neighbourhood Policing Survey.

The Commissioner replied that this would be an operational decision of the Chief Constable, in conversation with himself. He added that details could be provided to the Panel about the re-deployment of officers in due course.

A Carter asked if the Commissioner's Weekly Blog could be circulated to the local press and TV to highlight topics, for example, how the Force was tackling low level crime.

F Topliss confirmed that the Commissioner's Weekly Blog was circulated to the local media and did contain issues that were emerging.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Nevett thanked F Topliss for her report.

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 F Topliss had agreed to provide the Panel with the results and key issues within the Rural Crime Survey undertaken during the Summer of 2020.

11 SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME: PROGRESS UPDATE

The Commissioner introduced a report to provide Members with an update following the commissioning and assurance work carried out by his Office (OPCC) in 2019 in support of victims of crime.

Members were informed that, from October 2014, PCCs had the responsibility for commissioning local victims' services. PCCs receive grant funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to facilitate this.

In South Yorkshire the Commissioner consolidated the funding received from the MoJ Victims Fund, Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund and additional funding from the Partnership and Commissioning Budget to create a 'Victims of Crime Fund'. The total of this fund for (2019/20 was £2.8m).

The Commissioner uses this funding to commission a number of services to support victims including the Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre Service and the Victim Support Service.

The Commissioner highlighted that the Victims Code of Practice was currently being revised and was not expected to come into force until April 2021. The revised Victims Code of Practice document simplified 12 rights of victims.

From April 2021, the Commissioner would have to ensure that the Force was complying with the revised Victims Code and how it was being embedded within the Force.

The Commissioner said that, like all PCCs, he had been concerned about the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic on victims of crime and if the services who support victims were able to continue.

In an effort to ensure victims were able to access support, the PCC's Commissioning Team had secured additional external funding of £1.7m. Much of this had been secured to provide extra resource for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence support services across South Yorkshire.

Professor James asked when the findings of South Yorkshire Local Criminal Justice Board's (SY LCJB) victim assurance work would be made available and how it would be reported.

S Baldwin replied that the findings would be presented in a draft report to the April meeting of the South Yorkshire Local Criminal Justice Board for discussion and any recommendations to be agreed.

The Commissioner said that early findings would also be shared with the Panel.

Professor James asked if the introduction of dedicated Domestic Abuse Teams had been introduced in all four districts. Furthermore, he asked if the Teams would retain direct responsibility for supporting victims of domestic abuse, or if this service was contracted out to other organisations.

The Commissioner replied that all districts had specialist Domestic Abuse Teams. In addition, Domestic Abuse services were funded largely by his Office.

Councillor Steinke asked if there was any evidence of domestic abuse victims not reporting incidents, or withdrawing them due to the ongoing pandemic and current demands on the Force. Furthermore, he asked if there had been any perceived delays via the criminal justice system as a way for people to access mental health services.

The Commissioner replied that there were some crimes where people were reluctant to report, for example, hate crime. However, there was no evidence to suggest that people were not reporting crimes due to the pandemic. Domestic abuse rates had increased by 7%.

Furthermore, the Force had recognised very early in the pandemic that there was the potential for victims of domestic abuse not to report crimes due to lockdown. The Force had worked hard to implement a range of alternative services for victims to make contact with the Force.

M Buttery added that, in relation to confidence in the criminal justice process, it was important that criminal justice partners continued to communicate Court results. It was also important that trust and confidence in the system was maintained.

The Commissioner and partners were publicising how the Courts were progressing backlogs. South Yorkshire, as part of Yorkshire and Humber area, was doing very well in progressing the backlogs. Currently there were issues with Jury trials due to social distancing measures. Routine matters were being progressing through the Magistrates Courts with very little delays.

Members were informed that the OPCC had offered a presentation to the Panel from the new Head of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

The VRU was undertaking pioneering work in relation to tackling domestic abuse and other violent crimes working with neighbourhoods and South Yorkshire Police and other partners, through a problem-solving approach and a trauma informed approach.

In relation to mental health services, the Force was working with partners to understand the causes of under reporting. Communication was important to ensure repeat victims – and repeat offenders - were on their radar; through their joint approach with Probation Services and other partners. Assurance was provided that the Commissioner was monitoring the situation very closely.

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 findings of the South Yorkshire Local Criminal Justice Board's (SY LCJB) victim assurance work would be presented to the Panel in due course.
- iii) Noted that the Head of the Violence Reduction Unit would give a presentation to a future Panel meeting.

12 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING)

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members with an update on key PCC and OPCC activities since the Panel's last meeting on 14th December 2020.

The report also provided Members with information on the decisions taken by the PCC since the Panel's last meeting.

M Buttery reported that Lord Farmer had recently undertaken two independent reviews in relation to Strengthening Family Ties and Female Offenders.

On behalf of the Commissioner, L Mayhew had produced a submission to a request for progress from LCJBs from across the country examining how the Local Criminal Justice Board had made progress on Lord Farmer's 33 recommendations.

M Buttery said that she would provide Professor James and Panel Members with a copy of the South Yorkshire's submission which provided information on the progress being made in the local area against the themes.

A Carter said he welcomed the suggestion for the Panel to receive a detailed report or presentation from the Head of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) at a future meeting. He asked if elected representatives from the four districts Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) could also be invited to observe the presentation.

M Buttery replied that the Head of the VRU would be delivering a presentation at the March meeting of the Public Accountability Board (PAB), which Members were welcome to attend.

In addition, the four district Community Safety Partnerships were represented at the VRU Executive Board, which governs the VRU work as a partnership approach and therefore, CSP Members should be aware of South Yorkshire's approach to violence reduction. It was suggested that Panel Members observe the PAB presentation and then consider if there are any further issues which need to be discussed with the Head of the VRU.

Members were informed that Graham Jones would commence employment on 1st March 2021, as the permanent, full-time, Head of the VRU.

Councillor Wilkinson asked if the Commissioner was confident that the wiping of data from the Police National computer would not compromise the investigation and prosecution of criminals in South Yorkshire, particularly with regard to long complex investigations into organised crime, fraud etc.

The Commissioner said that he had discussed this matter with the Chief Constable and with the Policing and Fire Minister.

Locally, the Chief Constable had stated that, currently, he had no reason to believe that any cases in South Yorkshire would be compromised by the loss of data. Nationally, the Policing and Fire Minister had echoed the same point as the Chief Constable, and said that officers were working hard to restore the data which had been lost.

The latest update from the Policing and Fire Minister had said that data which had been accidentally wiped, should be substantially restored. The Commissioner would be meeting again shortly with the Minister where he expected a further update would be provided.

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 provide Professor James and Panel Members with a copy of the South Yorkshire Local Criminal Justice Board's submission which set out the progress being made in the local area against Lord Farmer's 33 recommendations.

13 COMPLAINTS UPDATE

A report of the Panel's Legal Adviser was presented to provide the Panel with a regular update on complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) during the period June 2020 to end December 2020.

During the period (June 2020 to end December 2020) 2 complaints were received against the PCC and considered by the PCP's Legal Adviser.

The Complaints Panel was not convened but kept informed by the Panel's Legal Adviser and Support Officer where appropriate.

Members were asked to consider receiving future complaints update reports on an annual basis. Following discussion, the Panel agreed to retain its current 6 monthly update report.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Noted the synopsis of complaints received.

14 POLICE & CRIME PANEL MEETING DATES 2021-22

A report was submitted to set out a schedule of meeting dates for the Police and Crime Panel in 2021/22.

Following discussion with the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk to the Panel, it was agreed that the Panel meeting scheduled for 19th April 2021 would remain as originally agreed.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered and approved the 2021/22 meeting dates set out below:-

- Monday 19th April 2021
 - Monday 7th June 2021 – Annual Meeting
 - Monday 19th July 2021
 - Monday 20th September 2021
 - Monday 13th December 2021
 - Wednesday 2nd February 2022
 - Monday 25th April 2022

- All meetings will take place at 1:00 pm with a pre-meeting for Members at 12:15 pm, unless stated otherwise.

- ii) Agreed to hold additional / extraordinary meetings / training events as and when appropriate / necessary.

15 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.

A summary of the events which had taken place since the last meeting were set out within the report for Members' information.

L Noble said that if there were any virtual, national or regional events that Members had received details of and felt would be helpful, then the Panel's Grant could be considered to cover any costs.

It was noted that Councillor Grocutt had also observed the PAB meeting held on 10th December 2020.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.

16 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2021/22 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.

Councillor Nevett said that he would attend the PAB meeting scheduled for 9th February 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2021/22 Work Programme.

17 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 19th April 2021 at 1:00 pm and Members will be notified of the arrangements for this meeting nearer the time.

CHAIR

Agenda Annex

17 FEB 2021

B M B C

OUNCIL GOVERNANCE UNIT

BARNSLEY

P.O BOX 609



DEAR SIR-MADAM

THIS IS A PUBLIC QUESTION FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Within each of the 22 wards in the borough, what is the population density and in the coming years, 2025-2030-2035 what is the forecast of population density in all these wards

A population increase will bring problems, there will be more pressure placed on all the public services, on health care, on education, and providing, and maintaining a safe, clean environment

The council has a master plan for building many thousands of homes in specific locations, at these locations, what problems and conditions, have been identified, and what and when will action be taken to eliminate a un-welcome impact in these communities.

Yours sincerely
A D

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Response to the Letter submitted by Mr J R – Staincross

- 1 Within each of the 22 Wards in the borough, what is the population density and in the coming years, 2025-2030-2032 what is the forecast population densities in all these wards.**

Response of the Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services

There are 21 Wards in total, however, we are unable to obtain data on future population density at a ward level as it is not available. We have checked with the Office of National Statistics and they do not produce subnational population projections at ward level.

- 2 A population increase will bring problems there will be more pressure placed on all the public services on health care, on education and providing and maintaining a safe, clean environment.**

Response of the Cabinet Spokesperson for Children's Services

Barnsley Council have a statutory duty to provide enough school places in the borough to meet the educational needs of children who live in our area.

To help us meet our statutory duty, now and into the future, we make sure that we have all the necessary information upon which to inform our decision and future planning.

Information includes analysis of demographic trends, as well as any housing development and Barnsley's Local Plan.

This ongoing analysis informs us where we may need to increase or decrease the number of school places, both in individual schools and in specific areas of the borough.

Where there is an identified need for a new school, the local authority invites proposals to establish an academy or a free school, a decision that is ultimately taken by the Department for Education.

Response of the Deputy Leader and cabinet spokesperson for Public Health

All partner organisations take a whole systems approach when planning our current and future health services to ensure they meet the needs of our local population. We have robust planning mechanisms in place that help us to assess the overall health needs of our local population and inform how these needs can be met in the most effective way currently and into the future taking into account changes to our population, such as new housing developments.

Response of the Cabinet Spokesperson for Environment and Transport

Barnsley Council have a statutory duty to provide a range on environmental services to collect household and commercial waste and recycling materials and to provide Pest control services for residents and businesses within the borough. In addition, we also provide services to ensure that land that is under the ownership or management of the

Council is kept clean and managed in terms of grass cutting, hedges and tree management.

As the borough's population increases then the services are required to support the additional households and businesses. These are reviewed on a regular basis.

Response of the Cabinet Spokesperson for Adults and Communities

Barnsley Council have a statutory duty, alongside our key statutory agencies, to address crime and disorder in order to maintain a safe borough for our residents. This work is overseen by the Safer Barnsley Partnership which undertakes an annual 'joint strategic intelligence assessment' which informs priority setting. This data-led exercise takes account of rates of crimes by population so any changes in population density would be factored in through this route.

- 3 The Council has a masterplan for building many thousands of homes in specific locations. At these locations, what problems and conditions have been identified and what and when will action be taken to eliminate an unwelcome impact in these communities**

Response of the Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation)

The development of the sites covered by Masterplan Frameworks will have a range of impact including environmental ones and the capacity of existing infrastructure. Each Masterplan therefore identifies ways of mitigating and compensating for impacts. Such measures are then expected to be incorporated into planning application submissions. You can read more on our website at www.barnsley.gov.uk/masterplanning