

<b>MEETING:</b>	Full Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 31 March 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## AGENDA

### 1. Retiring Councillors

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 Bruff  
Councillor Cheetham  
Councillor Gollick  
Councillor D. Higginbottom  
Councillor Noble  
Councillor Spence

### 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.

### 3. Minutes (*Pages 7 - 38*)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, and 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

### 4. Communications

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

## Substantive Items

### 5. Appointment to Outside Bodies

#### Barneslai Homes Board

Proposed – Councillor Makinson – extension to the term of office until September 2023

## Recommendations to Council

*All reports detailed below are subject to Cabinet recommendation and are available to download from the Council's website. The Cabinet Spokesperson for the Service in question will respond to any comments or amendments concerning these minutes.*

6. 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement (Cab.23.3.2022/9) *(Pages 39 - 56)*

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-** That the 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement contained at Appendix 1 of the report be approved.

### **Minutes of the Regulatory Boards**

7. Planning Regulatory Board - 15th February, 2022 *(Pages 57 - 58)*
8. General Licensing Regulatory Board - 16th February, 2022 *(Pages 59 - 62)*
9. Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board - 16th February, 2022 *(Pages 63 - 64)*
10. General Licensing Panel - 8th March, 2022 *(Pages 65 - 66)*
11. Statutory Licensing Board Sub Committee - 16th March, 2022 *(Pages 67 - 68)*
12. Appeals, Awards and Standards - Various *(Pages 69 - 70)*

### **Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

13. Health and Wellbeing Board - 3rd February, 2022 *(Pages 71 - 76)*

### **Minutes of the Scrutiny Committees**

14. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Sustainable Barnsley Workstream) - 8th February, 2022 *(Pages 77 - 82)*
15. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Growing Barnsley Workstream) - 8th March, 2022 *(Pages 83 - 86)*

### **Minutes of the Area Councils**

16. Central Area Council - 2nd February, 2022 *(Pages 87 - 90)*
17. Dearne Area Council - 17th January, 2022 *(Pages 91 - 94)*
18. North Area Council - 14th March, 2022 *(Pages 95 - 100)*
19. Penistone Area Council - 10th February, 2022 *(Pages 101 - 110)*

### **Minutes of the Cabinet Meetings**

20. Cabinet - 26th January, 2022 *(Pages 111 - 116)*
21. Cabinet - 23rd February, 2022 *(Pages 117 - 118)*
22. Cabinet - 9th February, 2022 *(Pages 119 - 124)*
23. Cabinet - 23rd February, 2022 *(Pages 125 - 126)*
24. Cabinet - 9th March, 2022 *(Pages 127 - 130)*

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

25. 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.*

26. Police and Crime Panel - 4th February, 2022 (Draft) (Pages 131 - 144)
27. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 21st February, 2022 (Draft) (Pages 145 - 156)
28. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 10th February, 2022 (Draft) (Pages 157 - 162)
29. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority - 24th January, 2022 (Pages 163 - 174)
30. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority - 4th March, 2022 (draft) (Pages 175 - 180)
31. Questions by Elected Members

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

a) Councillor Fielding

*“The proposed new Free School to be built on Broadway intended to open for the September 2023 intake has been further delayed due to an inadequate bat survey and an incomplete traffic assessment preventing the granting of planning permission. The opening of the permanent accommodation will now be delayed by at least 12 months meaning that further temporary accommodation will have to be provided to ensure the Council fulfils its statutory duty as the LEA.*

*Given the clear financial and educational interest of the Council in this matter what steps were taken by the Council to avoid this delay and the consequent further unnecessary disruption to students education and how much will this further delay cost the Council.”*

b) Councillor Hunt

*“For the 21/22 financial year the council allocated a budget of £90,000 for neighbourhood road safety schemes. A total of 49 requests were received from Ward Members, giving an estimated total scheme value of £517,000. Each*

*suggestion was given an initial assessment following which 15 schemes were taken forward for further investigation by the Traffic team. An initial cost estimate of each scheme was undertaken for the 15 schemes, which gave a total works cost of £197,000. Please list the locations of these 15 schemes.”*

c) Councillor Hunt

*“Please list the sites where neighbourhood road safety schemes will be undertaken using the £90,000 budget allocated for the 21/22 financial year.”*

**Notices of Motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order No. 6**

**32. The War in Ukraine**

Proposer – Councillor Greenhough

Seconder – Councillor Wray

**That this Council:**

Notes with shock and horror the deeply upsetting and concerning situation within Ukraine, and believes that Vladimir Putin’s attack on Ukraine is an unprovoked, unjustifiable outrage and a heinous violation of international law that is having tragic consequences on the people and nation of Ukraine;

Takes a stand in complete solidarity with the Ukrainian people as they bravely resist this invasion;

Notes the horrific ordeal facing many as they flee to safety and who now face an uncertain future that they could never have imagined;

Notes that for many years Barnsley has been twinned with the City of Horlivka in Ukraine and we have a well-established Ukrainian community in our region, and believes we must stand with them and against the bullying tactics of Putin’s Russian State and the military aggression that Ukraine is facing;

Notes that this is not a war waged by Russian citizens but by its President and his high-ranking military officials, and notes that many Russians have made Yorkshire their home;

Notes that there are many in Russia who are standing up for what is right and making their voices heard against their own Government, and these people must be commended, and notes that due to brutal police crackdowns on freedom of speech it is dangerous to voice anti-Putin sentiments with tens of thousands having been arrested so far;

Believes that Barnsley is a town of sanctuary, and we should be proud of that fact. We can and should provide a safe place to people in their time of need and that, though ultimately immigration and asylum matters are for the national government, we will always willingly and openly take our fair share of people in need.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'SN', followed by a long horizontal line.

Sarah Norman  
Chief Executive

Wednesday, 23 March 2022

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Full Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 3 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	The Assembly Room - The Civic

## MINUTES

### Present

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson)

Central Ward	- Councillors Bruff and M. Dyson
Cudworth Ward	- Councillors Hayward, Houghton CBE and Wraith MBE
Darfield Ward	- Councillors Markham, Osborne and Smith
Darton East Ward	- Councillors Crisp and Hunt
Darton West Ward	- Councillors A. Cave, T. Cave and Howard
Dearne North Ward	- Councillors Cain and Gollick
Dearne South Ward	- Councillors Coates, Danforth and Noble
Dodworth Ward	- Councillors Fielding and Wray
Hoyland Milton Ward	- Councillors Franklin, Shepherd and Stowe
Kingstone Ward	- Councillors Mitchell, Ramchandani and 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 Kitching and Lowe-Flello
Rockingham Ward	- Councillors Andrews BEM, Lamb and Sumner
Royston Ward	- Councillors Cheetham
St. Helen's Ward	- Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall
Stairfoot Ward	- Councillors Bowler, K. Dyson and Gillis
Wombwell Ward	- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and J. Higginbottom
Worsbrough Ward	- Councillors Bowser, Clarke and Lodge

## **162. Declarations of Interests**

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson), and Deputy Mayor (Councillor Tattersall) both declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 167 in relation to their positions on Berneslai Homes Board.

Councillors Lodge and Markham declared non-pecuniary interested in minute number 167 in relation to their position as tenants of Berneslai Homes properties.

Councillor Ennis declared a pecuniary interest in minute number 164 due to his position as non-exec director of Barnsley Healthcare Federation.

Councillor J Higginbottom declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to any item within the minutes insofar as this related to his employment for Dan Jarvis MP.

## **163. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **164. Communications**

### **(a) Barnsley Healthcare Federation**

The Chief Executive reminded Members that the last 18 months had been a challenge for each and every resident in Barnsley. Local Primary Care services had continued to remain available and able to support patients; this had been made possible through the hard work and dedication of staff at Barnsley Healthcare Federation. Staff at the Federation had worked tirelessly to ensure Primary Care remained open and resilient to all the challenges posed by the pandemic. Throughout this period the Federation had achieved the following:

- Understanding the pressures at the beginning of the pandemic BHF made a bulk purchase of PPE, that was unavailable to individual Practices. All PPE was stored centrally and distributed out at the time of need and without delay, ensuring the health and safety of all its workers.
- Created the Covid-19 clinic to support all symptomatic patients. This Primary Care Hub provided a viable alternative to A&E. As a direct result all Barnsley Practices remained as 'cold sites' meaning GP Practices had not seen COVID-19 symptomatic patients, keeping Practice staff and patients safe. The COVID Clinic was centrally located in Barnsley to enable all patients across the Borough to have access, supported by Home Visitors for housebound patients.
- The Covid Vaccination Programme comprised of 3 hubs and 32 pop-up clinics which were available to any Barnsley resident. This had enabled residents to be vaccinated ahead of government targets. At full capacity Priory Campus was the largest site in South Yorkshire. The model was truly Barnsley wide.
- As more and more young people suffer with mental health issues stemming from the pandemic the Federation started working with schools and young



people in Barnsley to offer social prescribing. This service is tailored to young people to support their unique needs linking in with family support.

- They have continued to offer, through extended hours, a central cervical screening programme, to reduce the potential for late cancer diagnosis. Over 1,000 women have had a cervical screening examination through this central service.

The team at Barnsley Healthcare Federation is led by three individuals James Barker; Andrea Parkin and Thomas Croker, with Andrea and Thomas in attendance at the Council meeting. These individuals excelled in their dedication to Barnsley and its residents.

It was stressed that it was also important to reflect that all the achievements of the Federation had only been possible as a result of the hard work of each member of staff, and that it was a proud moment for Barnsley Healthcare Federation and all Barnsley Primary Care teams.

The Chief Executive, on behalf of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, gave praise and thanks.

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE noted the difficulties over the past two years and the work done to protect people from Covid and all other health challenges faced across the borough. He said it was a proud moment for Barnsley, recognising the work of the team, including the work around cancer and cancer screening. The plans for a cancer screening unit as part of The Glassworks were noted. He expressed his thanks for the team and their work with the Council and for all that the Federation has done.

The Mayor added their thanks for the fantastic work they had done across the borough.

(b) Strong Life Care

The Chief Executive spoke about Thornhill House care home, a nursing home situated in Darfield, owned by Strong Life Care who operate two care homes in Barnsley.

In 2021 Strong Life Care were nominated and won a number of awards including the Caring UK Awards Best Care Home in the UK overall winner.

The home, managed by Christian Whiteley – Mason and his team, has worked tirelessly throughout the Covid pandemic to ensure that both staff and residents were kept safe and that maintaining their health and well-being was at the centre of anything the home has done.

To keep spirits high, Christian and the team organised a number of events for staff and residents, and the home has continued to fundraise for the local community, raising over £14,000 as well as arranging the collection and delivery of Easter eggs and Christmas gifts for other care home residents across the borough.

The home had more recently developed a Covid memorial garden where family members and staff can sit and remember loved ones.

In recognition of Christian and the team at Thornhill's efforts throughout what had been an exceptionally difficult time for the care sector, Christian was recently nominated by colleagues in the authority to attend 10 Downing Street for a Prime Minister's reception, held in recognition of the contribution of care workers.

Christian was in attendance at Full Council to pass on thanks, not just to him, but to all care workers who continued to support the most vulnerable members of the community.

Councillor Markham acknowledged the significant improvements made since 2010 when the home was taken over and said that Darfield was proud of them. They had set an example, with no Covid cases throughout the pandemic, and had undertaken amazing charity work. Their work to establish a memorial garden, organise live events and raise funds for charity were noted. Thanks were given for all the work undertaken.

Councillor Platts added her congratulations and thanks for the work staff had undertaken during the pandemic and support they continued to provide every day. It was wonderful for Members to see the work undertaken. Thornhill house was rightly deserving of the awards, and of the invitation to Downing Street.

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE noted that winning any national award was worthy of recognition, but to do so in the pandemic was particularly noteworthy. Thanks were given to all staff at Strong Life Care, and to all those involved in providing residential and domiciliary care throughout the borough during the pandemic.

The Mayor added her congratulations on the award and praised the hard work of all the staff.

(c) Public Health Nursing Service CQC Inspection Rating: Outstanding

The Chief Executive was extremely proud to announce that the 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service, who provide health visiting and school nursing services, had been rated as Outstanding in a recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection. This was the first CQC inspection the service had received since transferring from the NHS into Barnsley Council, under the direction of our Public Health service in 2016.

During the inspection, the CQC found the following outstanding practice:

- Staff were consistent in supporting people to live healthier lives and put children, young people, and families at the centre of their care.
- Staff had innovative solutions to providing care, working well with other teams and partners. It was noted that they did this particularly well during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Services were tailored to meet the needs of individuals and staff treat children, young people and their families with compassion and kindness.
- Staff were highly motivated to offer care that promoted peoples' rights and upheld their dignity.
- People who use the service were at the centre of safeguarding and staff had a proactive approach to anticipating and managing risk.

- Feedback from service users was consistently positive and people thought the support they received exceeded their expectations.

It was acknowledged that the Public Health Nursing Service was universal; provided to all children and young people aged 0-19 years, or up to 25 for anyone with a disability. Teams work with children, young people, and their families to improve health and wellbeing, help families make informed health choices and identify additional support needs early.

Congratulations were given to Alicia Sansome, Tracy Letchford and Karen Clayton and everyone in the Public Health Nursing Service for this huge achievement.

Councillor Andrews BEM added his congratulations, noting that there was some nervousness within the staff when the service transferred from the NHS to the Council. Thanks to the leadership of Julia Burrows and work of Alicia Sansome, the service had gone from strength to strength.

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE also offered congratulations, and noted the rating recognised the work of the staff, but also the impact of Public Health being in the local authority. He echoed the thanks to Julia Burrows and Alicia Sansome in the service and across Public Health for all the work they and their teams did.

The Mayor also offered congratulations on the outstanding achievement.

#### **165. 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 Sumner for a 3 year term.

#### **166. Outcomes of the Joint Local Area Inspection of Services for Children and Young & People with Special Educational Needs in Barnsley (Cab.15.12.2021/8)**

Moved by Councillor Cave – Seconded by Councillor Tattersall; and

**RESOLVED** that the outcomes of the Joint Local Area Inspection, together with the next steps, including the resulting action plan, be considered by Council.

#### **167. Housing Revenue Account - Draft 2022/23 Budget and Investment Proposals 2022-27 (Cab.12.1.2022/6)**

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and

**RESOLVED:-**

- i. that the HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as set out in Section 4 be noted;

- ii. that the Housing Revenue Account Draft Budget for 2022/23, as outlined in Section 5, including the proposed revenue investments and savings, as outlined in Section 6, be approved, with any final amendments being delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson 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 of 4.1% be approved, in line with the Government's rent setting policy;
- iv. that there is no proposed change to non-dwelling rents, service charges and district heating charges for 2022/23 be noted;
- v. that the 2022/23 Berneslai Homes Management Fee at paragraph 7.11 be approved, with any final amendments delegated to the Cabinet Spokesperson for Place and the Service Director, Regeneration & Culture in consultation with the Cabinet Spokesman for Core Services and the Service Director - Finance (S151);
- vi. that the 2022/23 Berneslai Homes Management Fee for both Gypsy & Traveller Sites and in respect of the European Social Fund (ESF) Grant, be approved, both of which are charged to the Authority's General Fund, detailed at paragraph 7.12;
- vii. that the proposed emerging capital priority schemes as detailed in Section 8 of the report, be approved in principle, subject to individual reports as appropriate, in line with the Council's governance arrangements;
- viii. that the Core Housing Capital Investment programme for 2022/23 be approved, and that the indicative programme for 2023/24 through 2026/27, outlined in Section 8, be noted;
- ix. that a further report will be submitted outlining the Council's energy efficiency and de-carbonisation plans for its housing stock be noted.

**168. Youth Employment Programme to Apprenticeships - Pay Options (Cab.12.1.2022/9)**

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and;

**RESOLVED** That approval is given for those transitioning from Youth Employment Programme to an apprenticeship, do so on the same rate of pay, with cost implications decentralised to the relevant service.

**169. BMBC Lettings Policy - Homelessness Banding (Cab.12.1.2022/10)**

Moved by Councillor Cheetham – Seconded by Councillor Frost; and

**RESOLVED:-**

- i. That the proposed change to banding for Full and Relief Homeless applicants be approved;

- ii. That Berneslai Homes implement the policy change and for the Lettings Policy to be updated to reflect the banding change.

**170. Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy (Cab.26.1.2022/9)**

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and:

**RESOLVED:-**

- i. That the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy appended to the report be published in accordance with the statutory requirements and adopted by the Council;
- ii. That the Institute of Licensing Suitability Guidance be adopted in its entirety;
- iii. That the requirement for a driver medical report to be produced every year from the age of 60 be retained;
- iv. That the D4 medical reports from a company called ‘Doctors on Wheels’ be no longer accepted for the reasons detailed within the report;
- v. That the application fee charged be non-refundable on the grounds that the Council is permitted to charge for the administration involved in the processing and granting of a licence; and
- vi. That the topographical test be maintained as a means of ensuring that all licenced drivers have a good working knowledge of the area.

**171. Grant of Easement: New Foot/Cycle Bridge (Cab.26.1.2022/11)**

Moved by Councillor Cheetham – Seconded by Councillor Frost; and

**RESOLVED:-**

- i. That the Service Director of Legal Services in consultation with the Corporate Asset Manager is authorised to undertake any necessary consultation processes, serve public notices and deal with any objections in relation to the grant of easement;
- ii. That it is noted that the Charity Commission and the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) have been consulted about the Grant of Easement between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as Trustee of Pogmoor Recreation Ground to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council who have provided their written consent to the construction of the footbridge subject to conditions;
- iii. That the Grant of Easement between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as Trustee of Pogmoor Recreation Ground to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council be approved to facilitate the new Foot and Cycle bridge;
- iv. That the Service Director of Legal Services in consultation with the Corporate Asset Manager is authorised to liaise with the Charity Commission to facilitate

the formal approval of the order authorising the easement as this transaction is between connected parties; the Council as trustee and the Council as statutory authority.

**172. Barnsley Place-based Investment Plan (Cab.26.1.2022/12)**

Moved by Councillor Cheetham – Seconded by Councillor Frost; and

**RESOLVED** That the approval of the Barnsley Place-based Investment Plan be noted.

**173. Appointment of the Council's External Auditor 2023-2028 and Update on Measures to Improve Local Audit**

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard; and

**RESOLVED**

- i. That the options for the Council in respect of the routes available for the procurement of external audit services be noted;
- ii. That the Council opts into the sector led scheme for appointing auditors as detailed within option 3 outlined in the report;
- iii. That the Government's proposals to improve the local audit process be noted.

**174. Planning Regulatory Board - 21st December, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Richardson – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted to the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**175. Planning Regulatory Board - 18th January, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Richardson – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted to the proceedings of the Planning Regulatory Board held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 be received.

**176. Audit and Governance Committee - 19th January, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Lofts - Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 be received.

**177. General Licensing Regulatory Board - 22nd December, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Green – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the General Licensing Regulatory Board meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**178. General Licensing Panel - Various**

Moved by Councillor Green – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the various General Licensing Panels be received.

**179. 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.

**180. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Growing Barnsley Workstream) - 2nd November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Growing Barnsley Workstream) held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**181. Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Barnsley Workstream) - 30th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Healthy Barnsley Workstream) held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**182. Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 11th January, 2022**

Moved by Councillor Ennis OBE – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 be received.

**183. Central Area Council - 10th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Williams – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Central Area Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**184. Dearne Area Council - 15th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Noble – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Dearne Area Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**185. Dearne Area Council - 25th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Noble – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Dearne Area Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**186. North East Area Council - 25th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Hayward – Seconded by Councillor The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North East Area Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**187. North Area Council - 29th November, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Leech – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the North Area Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.

**188. Penistone Area Council - 2nd December, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Barnard – Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Penistone Area Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**189. South Area Council - 17th December, 2021**

Moved by Councillor Markham - Seconded by The Mayor (Councillor Makinson); and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the South Area Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**190. Cabinet - 17th November, 2021**

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be received.



**191. Cabinet - 1st December, 2021**

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**192. Cabinet - 15th December, 2021**

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 be received.

**193. Cabinet - 12th January, 2022**

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes as printed and now submitted of the proceedings of the Cabinet meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 be received.

**194. 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.

**195. South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - 9th December, 2021 (Draft)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be noted.

**196. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 22nd November, 2021**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be noted.

**197. South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - 10th January, 2022 (Draft)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be noted.

**198. Police and Crime Panel - 13th December, 2021 (Draft)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be noted.

**199. Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority (Draft) - 15th November, 2021**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be noted.

**200. 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 Osborne

*“What actions have been taken to alleviate the risk of flooding in Darfield ward, especially in Low Valley?”*

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Osborne for his question, noting that his answer would be long, but that this was right and proper given that flooding events were disastrous for many residents, including in Darfield and Low Valley.

Members were reminded of an Overview & Scrutiny Commission review of the overall approach to flood alleviation in Barnsley where Councillor Markham and Councillor Smith had raised similar queries. With specific regard to Darfield and Low Valley, approximately 227 of the surface water gullies had now been inspected.

Of those investigated:-

- 73 required low-level maintenance – of which 69 had been cleared.
- 9 were initially unable to be cleared due to parked cars – all of which had been cleared following a return visit,
- 4 required further investigation with works now planned to rectify the issues identified.
- The remainder were all free-flowing.

An additional investment was made in 2020 in an Enhanced Drainage Programme. This saw stretches of highway inspected and any blockages cleared in the area which included:-

- Nanny Marr Road (20 Gullies)
- Snape Hill Road (36 Gullies)
- George Street (18 Gullies) and
- Stoneyford Road (10 Gullies)

The reported issues with road flooding on Old Doncaster Road and Pinfold Lane had also been remedied, and an extra gulley had been installed on Quern Way to cure ponding.

In the aftermath of the floods in November 2019, the Internal Drainage Board undertook dredging and clearance work along Bulling Dyke where it passes under Station Road. Heavy mechanical equipment was used to clear the banks in this section and increase the capacity of the dyke at that point. The bridge on George Street required attention to the downstream walls. This was being dealt with by the Environment Agency and the riparian owner, the owner of land adjacent to the watercourse.

On 28th January, the Council was part of South Yorkshire's Connected By Water Plan launch and Low Valley had been identified and earmarked in the plan for a flood alleviation scheme. To accelerate the delivery of this plan, a highly experienced flood risk engineer had been appointed to a newly created Flood Risk Co-Ordinator position. The Connected By Water alliance will ensure that a collective approach to

flood mitigation and protection measures are adopted. It was noted that, for Darfield and Low Valley, the Council would be working closely with the Environment Agency, the Independent Drainage Board, and Yorkshire Water.

Councillor Lamb also advised that, having had discussions with the Internal Drainage Board, additional improvement and maintenance work had been started along Bulling Dyke from Littlefield Lane to Yorkshire Water Sewerage Plant. These works included flail mowing and desilting. It also included clearance of some sections of the watercourse bank to allow for annual maintenance to be carried out with greater efficiency and ease.

Councillor Osborne thanked Councillor Lamb for his response and said that since his election in May, there had been plenty of conversations with Ward colleagues and the Low Valley Flood Group, but he had yet to receive a reply from the Environment Agency. He therefore asked a supplementary question as to whether Councillor Lamb had any information from, or conversations with, the Environment Agency on this.

Councillor Lamb responded that Barnsley are members of the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee which has a six-year investment programme, 2022 – 2028. Through the committee, a case was made for improvements across the borough, with significant sums being earmarked. This was subject to funding being delivered by the Government, and the delivery of feasibility studies and business cases. The investment plan contained £5m of refurbishment to culverts across the borough, from which Darfield would benefit. £220,000 had been identified for Bulling Dyke in 2022-23, specifically for culvert replacements. £650,000 had been identified for Low Valley Flood alleviation in 2022-27 as previously referred to. £250,000 had also been set aside for a Darfield Bridge Study in 2023-24. Within the investment programme was also monies identified for Wombwell, Lundwood and Darton.

b) Councillor Kitching

*“At the last Full Council meeting on November 25th 2021, this council resolved to undertake its own assessment into the financial implications of bus franchising, in order to establish whether their impact on the Council’s finances and on taxpayers is reasonable.*

*Could the Cabinet member please update us on the progress of this assessment so far?”*

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Kitching, for her question. He reminded Members that, at the Full Council meeting on the 25th November 2021, it was resolved that the Administration:-

- 1) informs the South Yorkshire Combined Authority of its support for conducting a statutory assessment of franchising;
- 2) requests a Combined Authority vote to release a “notice of intent to prepare a franchising assessment” within 6 months.

The motion also resolved that these two requests only be implemented once the financial implications became clearer and their impact on the Council’s finances and on taxpayers was considered to be reasonable. Councillor Lamb confirmed that a

report had been submitted to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority on 24th January with these recommendations and in addition, a full franchising report was to be brought to full council on 24th February.

By way of supplementary question, Councillor Kitching asked for clarification that a full financial assessment had been carried out by the Council.

Councillor Lamb responded by restating there would be a report at the meeting of Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

c) Councillor Osborne

*“Following a recent spate of illegal flytipping of tyres in Darfield, waste tyres have been collected by council clean up teams. What happens to the tyres?”*

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Osborne for his question and stated that tyres were recovered to Smithies Depot and separated from other waste. The tyres were then collected and recycled to produce energy for UK construction aggregate production. Councillor Lamb stated his unhappiness at the current situation, and the need to move the material higher up the waste hierarchy and to reduce the carbon involved in the overall operation. Therefore, a review was currently underway to look at alternative reuse of the material.

He added that fly-tipping was a blight on our borough and residents could help tackle fly-tipping across the borough by taking items to the Household Waste Recycling Centres and by using licensed waste handlers.

Councillor Osborne asked if a tyre tagging scheme was being investigated, which was currently supported by the Tyre Recovery Association, and used in West Mercia, and also asked whether alternative uses for tyre waste rather than burning were being considered.

Councillor Lamb stated that he was aware of the tyre tagging scheme. This relied on the cooperation of businesses in the area but was something that would be considered. In addition, alternative uses of tyres would be investigated.

d) Councillor Fielding

*“Now that the developer of the allocated housing site adjacent to the M1 at Dodworth is proposing not to use the access point created by the Council demolishing 2 recently improved four bedroomed Council Houses in 2020 on South Road, Dodworth, can the Cabinet Member please detail the financial loss to the Council of this action? In particular can the cabinet member detail the costs of the following:*

- *The costs of rehousing the sitting tenants including the purchase of alternative accommodation;*
- *The costs of demolishing the 2 houses and making good the site afterwards;*
- *The loss of rental income from the date that the tenants were evicted to present;*
- *The loss of Council Tax income from the date of eviction to present;*

- *The value of the loss of the assets of the 2 Council Houses”*

Councillor Cheetham, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Regeneration and Culture) thanked Councillor Fielding for his question and provided some context to the response. The land to the rear of South Road was designated in the Local Plan (HS10) for housing development. Back in 2018, Persimmon Homes had made a planning application to build 146 dwellings on the private land to the rear of South Road, Dodworth. At the time, the Council entered into discussions with regards to creating access to the site, with the land to the south and west (via the existing housing estate) deemed to be unfeasible.

The decision to demolish the two properties on South Road to provide this access, which was a Berneslai Homes delegated decision, was made on the basis that Persimmon Homes would reimburse the Council's for the costs of demolition, as well as dispersal and professional fees, upon securing the site etc.

The Council would have received a capital receipt of approximately £0.8M from the sale of the land as well as securing the new council tax receipts and new homes bonus from the new development. Persimmon Homes subsequently withdrew their planning application. The Council's land, previously playing fields, is still designated for housing development in the Local Plan and therefore the access issue remains a Council priority.

In specific response to the question, the cost of rehousing the sitting tenants was £12,656 (dispersal compensation / home loss), the cost of the purchase of alternative accommodation, a 4 bedroomed property in Dodworth (Hawthorne Crescent), with associated works to bring up to the Barnsley Homes Standard, was a total of £140,000 which the Council funded this from its approved acquisitions programme and voids budgets respectively. It was noted that this was now part of the Council's assets.

The costs of demolishing the 2 properties and making good the site was £28,604, including service disconnections. The loss of rental income since the time of the cessation of both of the tenancies to, equated to around £24,472, but this had been offset by £12,259 from with the rent yielded from the purchase of the alternative accommodation.

The loss of council tax to the Council since the time of the cessation of both of the tenancies to the end of January 22 totalled £5,627. Both properties were written out of the Council's accounts at £46,207 each (£92,414 in total), based on the prescribed methodology under the RICS Red Book/ CIPFA Accounting Code of Practice, at its existing use value, that of social housing. This did not reflect the market value of the property as the existing use value takes into account a secured tenancy where the tenant enjoys lower than market rents and the option of right to buy.

Councillor Fielding thanked Councillor Cheetham for his answer and the information supplied. He added that there had been two developers interested in the site, neither of which had chosen to use the access. By way of supplementary question, he asked why didn't the Council come to some firm financial and legal agreement with a developer before the action to evict the tenants and demolish the properties was taken, and asked would the houses be replaced?

Councillor Cheetham responded that care must be taken not to prejudice any planning applications. Developers could apply and may not wish to use this access as part of their proposals. The action was taken under planning advice, and it was likely that access would be required through this site as the land is earmarked for development. Therefore, it would be premature to decide whether or not it was a necessary action and to describe costs as losses, as development at some time in the future would more than offset the costs. In addition, one of the properties had already been replaced with an alternative.

e) Councillor Hunt

*“At the Full Council meeting in July 2021, in response to my question, the Cabinet Support member confirmed that the Digital First project had created the capability of providing status updates to residents in relation to online requests. It was indicated that residents would start to receive these status updates by the end of last year. This timescale does not appear to have been met. Please can an update be provided?”*

Councillor Franklin, Cabinet Support Member for Core Services thanked Councillor Hunt for his question and replied that, regrettably, there has been some slippage to the launch date. Like many other services, staff had been supporting the COVID response for residents, alongside dealing with reduced staffing capacity.

It was confirmed that the rollout of the functionality was due to start by the beginning of March at the latest, initially providing updates to residents who reported fly-tipping issues online. The IT and Waste services teams had worked together to ensure that back-office systems were ready for the change and accurately show this status. The work to obtain status updates would then be rolled out to other transactions, offering residents status updates for their online enquiries.

Councillor Hunt gave thanks for the response and said that the project was much delayed and had caused frustration for residents. The roll out was welcomed and a supplementary question was asked as to when the project would be finished.

Councillor Franklin responded that the project would be monitored and that he would report back on progress.

f) Councillor Hunt

*“In 2020 the council purchased new speed indicator devices and radar boxes. Please provide the locations where the speed indicator devices have been deployed over the last 3 months.”*

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson for Place (Environment and Transportation) thanked Councillor Hunt for his question, noting that many Members had expressed an interest in having devices deployed in their wards. However, owing to a number of operational impacts, it had been difficult for officers to implement the expected programme of Speed Indicator Devices and Radar Box deployments.

The 4th COVID wave impacted many organisations across the country, and the Council was no exception, dealing with supporting the COVID response alongside reduced staffing capacity had been difficult. In addition, a number of key vacancies

within the section had also been hard to fill; there were over 100 public sector engineering vacancies just in Yorkshire alone. This has forced the Council to prioritise capacity where it was needed the most. Unfortunately, this had resulted in the Speed Indicator Devices not being deployed over the past three months.

It was reported that this was a temporary situation, which had been resolved. In the coming weeks Speed Indicator Devices would be deployed in Staincross Common (Darton East), Intake Lane (Darton West) and Racecommon Road (Kingstone), each for a period of 4 weeks. The programme of locations beyond this was being reviewed and it was noted that this would be shared with Members in due course.

Councillor Hunt thanked Councillor Lamb for his response and asked a supplementary question posing how to get greater transparency and visibility over the use of the devices going forward so all Members know where they will be used, and what the programme of deployment would be.

Councillor Lamb responded by suggesting that there were issues in creating a programme, firstly due to issues with current numbers of officers and the additional administration and bureaucracy this may entail. He added that urgent issues may occur which may require immediate deployment of devices. The latter would risk disappointing certain communities. It was therefore suggested that a full 12-month programme may not be desirable, but the concept would be considered.

## **201. Membership of Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The following Motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order No 6, and stood adjourned from the Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 in accordance with Standing Order no 41 was:

Moved by Councillor Kitching - Seconded by Councillor Hunt

### **That this Council:**

- a) Notes section 9FA of the Local Government Act 2000 which clearly states that “members of the executive\* cannot be members of a scrutiny committee”.
- b) Also notes point 25 of the Government’s 2019 document “Overview and scrutiny: Statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities” which recommends that “Authorities should ensure that, ‘as a minimum, members holding less formal executive\* positions ... do not sit on scrutinising committees looking at portfolios to which their roles relate.’”
- c) Considers that the Authority should hold itself to a higher standard than the minimum, particularly in matters of scrutiny.
- d) Feels that the presence of cabinet support members on the Overview and Scrutiny committee creates a potential conflict of interest, and therefore undermines the necessarily robust, open and transparent process of scrutiny within the authority.

### **Therefore, this Council resolves that:**

- i. Cabinet Support Members should not take up seats on the Overview & Scrutiny committee.

- ii. Amend standing order point 25 (4) to: “Neither Cabinet Members nor Cabinet Support Members will be members of the Scrutiny Committee.”
- iii. These changes will be implemented immediately.

**An amendment submitted in accordance with Standing Order No 8 was then:**

Moved by Councillor Sir Stephen Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews BEM:

The following paragraph be deleted:-

‘Feels that the presence of cabinet support members on the Overview and Scrutiny committee creates a potential conflict of interest, and therefore undermines the necessarily robust, open and transparent process of scrutiny within the authority’

And that,

- i. Be amended to read ‘Cabinet Support Members should not engage in Overview and Scrutiny matters which relate to the area of their Portfolio’
- ii. Be amended to read ‘That the constitution be amended to incorporate point i’

**On being put to the vote, the Amendment was WON.**

The Amendment was the put as the Substantive Motion and:

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

**RESOLVED:**

- i) That Cabinet Support Members should not engage in Overview and Scrutiny matters which relate to the area of their Portfolio;
- ii) That the Constitution be amended to incorporate point i); and
- iii) That these changes will be implemented immediately.

.....  
Chair



<b>MEETING:</b>	Full Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 24 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson)

Central Ward	- Councillors Bruff, M. Dyson and Risebury
Cudworth Ward	- Councillors Hayward and Houghton CBE
Darfield Ward	- Councillors Markham, Osborne and Smith
Darton East Ward	- Councillors Hunt
Darton West Ward	- Councillors A. Cave, T. Cave and Howard
Dearne North Ward	- Councillors
Dearne South Ward	- Councillors Coates and Danforth
Dodworth Ward	- Councillors Fielding, Wray and Wright
Hoyland Milton Ward	- Councillors Franklin, Shepherd and Stowe
Kingstone Ward	- Councillors Mitchell and 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, Kitching and Lowe-Flello
Rockingham Ward	- Councillors Andrews BEM and Lamb
Royston Ward	- Councillors Cheetham and McCarthy
St. Helen's Ward	- Councillors Leech, Platts and Tattersall
Stairfoot Ward	- Councillors Bowler, K. Dyson and Gillis
Wombwell Ward	- Councillors Eastwood, Frost and J. Higginbottom
Worsbrough Ward	- Councillors Bowser, Clarke and Lodge

## **202. Crisis in the Ukraine**

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE (Leader of the Council) reminded Members of the Council that since 1956 there had been links between the mining town of Barnsley and the mining town of Gorlovka in Donbas region of south eastern Ukraine. Those links had been further strengthened in 1987 when a formal twinning arrangement had been agreed. Those links had developed over many years with support from the European Union and the Council was proud to have had friends in that part of the world who had come to Barnsley and indeed many Members from the Council had also made similar visits to Gorlovka.

Unfortunately, 8 years ago a civil war had broken out in the east of the country and the links since that time had been no more. Today, very sadly, the state of Russia under Vladimir Putin had launched a full scale invasion not just of the Donbas region but of Ukraine as a whole.

His sympathy went out to the people of Gorlovka as it was the innocent, the men women and children who were not involved in the armed forces or the armed conflict who would be the biggest victims of everything that was happening today. He, therefore, sent his good wishes (if those were the right words to say) to those people and he hoped they would come through this incredibly difficult time. He condemned the actions of Russia and Vladimir Putin in doing what they were doing as there was no justification for this whatsoever and he trusted that the western allies could find ways and means of freeing the people of Ukraine from this oppression. He also hoped that our friends and colleagues in Gorlovka could once again enjoy the freedom that they deserved away from tyranny and terror and that at some point in the future such friendships could be restored.

It was an incredibly difficult time and anything that was thought to be difficult in this country, paled into significance, when compared to what the people of the Ukraine were now having to endure.

In concluding, he thanked the Mayor for allowing him to address the Council. His heart went out to the people of the Ukraine and particularly to the people of the twin town Gorlovka and he hoped that one day this matter could be resolved and the freedoms and democracy of the Ukrainian state could be reinstated as they should be.

Many other Members echoed the Leaders comments when addressing the Council on the following budget item.

## **203. Declarations of Interests**

Councillor J Higginbottom declared a non-pecuniary interest in in any matters relating to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Authority in view of his employment for Dan Jarvis MP and South Yorkshire Mayor.

## **204. Suspension of Standing Orders**

Moved by Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE – Seconded by Councillor Andrews; 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.

## **205. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-25 (Cab.9.2.2022/6)**

### **2022/23 Budget Recommendations, Council Tax and Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement**

The 2022/23 Budget Proposals, proposed Council Tax and Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement 2022/23 were:

Moved by Councillor Franklin – Seconded by Councillor Howard

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

Moved by Councillor Kitching – Seconded by Councillor Fielding:

### **The Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy Budget Proposals 2022/23**

The Liberal Democrat group acknowledges with thanks the hard work of the finance team in again bringing forward a balanced budget, despite the ongoing challenges brought the Covid crisis and lack of funding for local government.

As in previous years we recognise that this is a financially well managed council and that prudent decisions made by the finance team continue to allow 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 areas which we – and the communities we serve - believe require more investment and prioritisation going forward.

We seek to formalise the commitment to investing in road safety with a borough wide scheme of 20mph zones outside schools; to invest in on street electric vehicle charging points; to provide each ward with a delegated budget to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime via a Community Street Safety Fund; to begin to introduce segregated recycling litter bins in public spaces to improve recycling options away from the home.

#### **1. 20 MPH zones outside schools**

We note that:

- i. Road safety remains a huge priority for residents, particularly where it concerns children.
- ii. Initiatives to lower speeds and therefore reduce accidents have been a focus area of our previous budget amendments.
- iii. We therefore welcome the pilot schemes proposed over the last 12 months, including the “Neighbourhood Road Safety Initiatives” and plans for advisory 20mph zones outside 5 schools in the borough.

- iv. We also welcome the recent proposals from the Cabinet Member for environment and transport to further roll out the 20 mph advisory limits outside schools across the borough.
- v. However, it is our view that these plans should be formalised via this budget.

We therefore propose:

- a. Using some of the £2 million set aside for capital investment in Highways improvements to commit to the borough wide scheme of advisory 20mph zones outside all schools across the borough (where the school governing body or equivalent are supportive and in agreement that such a measure would be beneficial outside their school).
- b. Noting the estimated cost based on the proposed pilot; to implement this at all primary schools would cost 77 x £9k = £693k; the 13 secondary & special schools a further £117k, making a maximum spend of £810k in total.
- c. On P133 adding to the wording “Monies set aside for improvements on the borough’s highways” the wording “... including borough wide roll out of advisory 20mph zones outside schools...” into Appendix 1 General Fund.

## **2. On street electric vehicle charging points (EVCPs)**

We note:

- i. The opportunities and challenges posed by the Council’s zero 45 target for the borough.
- ii. The efforts made by the Council to install ECVPs in various locations across the borough – including Town Centre parking spaces and across the principal towns, using match funding from Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) and the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA).
- iii. That electric vehicles (EVs) remain prohibitively expensive for many residents.
- iv. That despite this a growing number of people – particularly young people – are keen to make the change to an EV to play their part in tackling the climate crisis and reducing their own emissions.
- v. Access to EVs however is further limited for residents who do not have off road parking. This includes people who live in terraced houses and flats and affects those in privately owned, privately rented and social housing – including Berneslai Homes. This is because they are unable to charge their EV at home without running a cable across a pavement, causing a trip hazard.
- vi. The efforts made by Portsmouth Council to tackle this, who have already installed 30 on street EVCPs and have plans for another 124 (at a cost of £226,000, or £1823 per unit) in their upcoming budget. These connect to the power supply in on street lampposts and provide a charging bay for 1 or 2 vehicles.
- vii. That installation of on street EVCPs within Barnsley borough would open up the possibility of investing in an EV for residents with no off-street parking.

- viii. Responsibility for all running and maintenance costs and revenue earned could reside with a third-party contractor at no financial risk to the council – as is already the case with the existing scheme of car park based EVCPs.

We therefore propose:

- d. Using some of the £2 million set aside for capital investment in Highways improvements to commit to a pilot scheme of 50 on street EVCPs to be installed across the borough (at an estimated cost of £2000 per unit, requiring initial capital investment of £100,000).
  - e. Seeking further match funding investment from SYCMA to support this scheme (as we have reached our threshold of funding from OZEV).
  - f. On P133 adding to the wording “Monies set aside for improvements on the borough’s highways (“... including borough wide roll out of advisory 20mph zones outside schools...”)
- the wording “... and a pilot scheme of 50 on street electric vehicle charging points” into Appendix 1 General Fund.

### **3. Community Street Safety Fund**

We note:

- ix. Following a number of tragic high-profile cases in the last year, improving safety on our streets is a priority for residents.
- x. The council is currently working to tackle crime, particularly burglary, muggings and anti-social behaviour, and to make people feel safer in areas such as Locke Park, with a £115k investment into lighting and other measures.
- xi. That residents and elected members across the borough are able to identify problem areas within their own communities that could benefit from similar, smaller scale improvements.
- xii. As Liberal Democrats, we believe in taking decision making closer to the communities we serve, and wish to more fully utilise the role of the Area Councils and specific ward members in doing so.

We therefore propose:

- g. Setting up a Community Street Safety Fund which allocates a small ring-fenced budget to each ward; to be administered via the Area Councils.
- h. That recommendations for spending that fund will be led by ward members; alongside local policing teams, safer neighbourhoods, input from local residents and the area council officer.
- i. We acknowledge that these proposals will be dependent upon efficiency savings being realised during the 2022/23 financial year through proposal PL1 Town Centre Buildings Review (P108) releasing £500k of revenue spend.
- j. An allocation of £19,000 per ward would utilise £399,000 of this money.

- k. That the budget document to be amended as necessary to formalise these plans.

#### **4. Segregated recycling litter bins**

We note:

- xiii. That an ability to recycle a wide range of waste in a wide variety of locations is a growing priority for residents.
- xiv. The welcome recent expansion of the range of plastics that can be recycled in kerbside brown bin collections.
- xv. That segregated litter bins are common practice in many locations, particularly on the continent, and that the normalcy of these bins drives habit-based recycling behaviour.
- xvi. In 2021 the Youth Council requested support with a proposal for the recently improved Sugden's recreation ground in Pogmoor to serve as a trial site for recycling litter waste, via segregated litter bins.
- xvii. That this proposal has not progressed any further, but remains a priority for Youth Council members.

We therefore propose:

- l. Spending the residual £101,000 released by bringing forward the efficiency saving detailed in point i above on a trial of segregated recycling litter bins.
- m. Working with the Service Director for Environment and Transport to determine how many bins this would cover and where best to site these.
- n. A suggestion to start with the bins in the Sugden's recreation ground in Pogmoor as proposed by the Youth Council, and the newly regenerated Town Centre.
- o. That the budget document to be amended as necessary to formalise these plans.

After a lengthy and full and frank discussion the Amendment was put to the vote and was lost.

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

#### **1. 2022/23 Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax**

##### **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 2022/23 budget proposals be agreed and that the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, submit, for early consideration, detailed plans that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability in 23/24 and beyond.

- b) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget Forecast for 22/23 to 24/25 contained at **Section 3** (supported by the suite of background papers in **Sections 3a – 3d**) be noted and that these are monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS.
- c) that **£3.8M** of additional one-off funding received in the 2021 Local Government Finance Settlement be set aside pending further assessment of the emerging financial risks identified in the MTFS at **Section 3**.
- d) That provision of £10.7m to cover anticipated demographic and other cost pressures in Children's Social Care, Adult Social Care, Homes to School Transport and Waste Services be approved for inclusion in the budget as identified at **Section 3**.
- e) That additional service investment of £7.4m including Neighbourhood Services (grass cutting and clean up teams), Car Parking and the Glassworks be approved for inclusion in the budget as identified at **Section 3**.
- f) that the proposed efficiency savings in 22/23 highlighted in **Section 3** and detailed at **Section 5a** be approved for implementation and that the 23/24 efficiency savings also contained in **Section 5a** be noted with final approval to take place as part of the 23/24 budget setting process.
- g) that the Council's reserves strategy and updated reserves position at **Section 3b** be noted.
- h) that the proposed changes to the 22/23 fees and charges policy and accompanying schedule of charges set out at **Section 3d** be approved.
- i) to submit to Council for approval the cash limited budgets for each Service with overall net expenditure for 22/23 of £211.4M as highlighted in **Section 6a**.
- j) to consider the budgets for all services and approve, for submission into Council, the 22/23 – 24/25 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 22/23 schools block budget as set out at **Section 6d**.
- l) that the capital investment schemes totalling £56.2M (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 £310.8M (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 further detailed feasibility work / business case development be carried out on the capital investment proposals totalling £58.6M at (Section 7 Appendix 3)
- o) 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 22/23 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above.
- p) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of all approved saving proposals.
- q) 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.
- r) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 22/23 budget.
- s) 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.
- t) that the budget papers be submitted for the consideration of the full Council.

## **2. Council Tax 2022/23**

### **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:-**

That Council note the contents of **Section 3a** (22/23 Council Tax options) and that:

- (i) in respect of the Council Tax 2022/23 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 2022/23;
  - (b) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s services be set at £1,641.55 which includes the cumulative special precept earmarked specifically for Adult Social Care of £189.98; and
  - (c) that the Band D Council Tax for Barnsley M.B.C.'s area be set at £1942.18 including the Police and Fire precepts\* as set out in (ii)(c).
- (ii) that, in respect of the Council Tax 2022/23 declaration:
  - (a) that it be noted that at its meeting of its Cabinet on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the Council made the following calculations for the year 2022/23 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 66,584.65 (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	97.70	92.82	1,541.74	16.61
Cawthorne	606.50	576.18	22,720.00	39.43
Dunford	254.60	241.87	8,463.03	34.99
Great Houghton	651.00	618.45	25,669.00	41.51
Gunthwaite and Ingbirchworth	308.80	293.36	5,933.00	20.22
High Hoyland	70.80	67.26	0.00	-
Hunshelf	169.10	160.65	5,000.00	31.12
Langsett	109.40	103.93	3,848.50	37.03
Little Houghton	182.50	173.38	4,145.52	23.91
Oxspring	467.10	443.75	19,930.00	44.91
Penistone	4,424.40	4,203.18	194,731.00	46.33
Shafton	933.80	887.11	36,309.41	40.93
Silkstone	1,217.40	1,156.53	75,580.00	65.35
Stainborough	164.80	156.56	4,941.03	31.56
Tankersley	729.60	693.12	19,205.00	27.71
Thurgoland	807.30	766.94	12,227.00	15.94
Wortley	311.00	295.45	7,996.00	27.06
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	58,583.30	55,654.14	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,089.10</b>	<b>66,584.65</b>	<b>448,240.23</b>	

- (b) that the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 31-36 of the "the Act":-
- (1) £211,813,240.23 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) £98,862,968 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) £109,750,272.23 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) £1,648.28 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) £448,240.23 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) £1,641.55 calculated by the Council as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special items relate being the amount at (ii)(b) (5) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (ii)(b) (6) above divided by the amount at (ii)(a) (1) (Item T in the formula in Section 31B (1) of the Act) above in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act.
- (8) the following amounts calculated by the Council as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate:-

<b>TABLE 2</b>	
<b><u>Section 34(3) Calculation :</u></b>	
<b><u>Part of the Council's Area</u></b>	
<b>Parish of :-</b>	<b>£</b>
Billingley	1,658.16
Cawthorne	1,680.98
Dunford	1,676.54
Great Houghton	1,683.06
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,661.77
High Hoyland	1,641.55
Hunshelf	1,672.67
Langsett	1,678.58
Little Houghton	1,665.46
Oxspring	1,686.46
Penistone	1,687.88
Shafton	1,682.48
Silkstone	1,706.90
Stainborough	1,673.11
Tankersley	1,669.26
Thurgoland	1,657.49
Wortley	1,668.61
<b>This table represents the Council Tax for Barnsley MBC plus Local Parishes for Band D only</b>	

being the amounts given by adding in 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**

Parish of :-	Valuation Bands								
	A-	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Billingley	921.20	1,105.44	1,289.68	1,473.92	1,658.16	2,026.64	2,395.12	2,763.60	3,316.32
Cawthorne	933.88	1,120.66	1,307.43	1,494.21	1,680.98	2,054.53	2,428.08	2,801.64	3,361.96
Dunford	931.41	1,117.70	1,303.97	1,490.26	1,676.54	2,049.11	2,421.67	2,794.24	3,353.08
Great Houghton	935.03	1,122.04	1,309.05	1,496.06	1,683.06	2,057.07	2,431.09	2,805.10	3,366.12
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	923.20	1,107.85	1,292.49	1,477.13	1,661.77	2,031.05	2,400.34	2,769.62	3,323.54
High Hoyland	911.97	1,094.37	1,276.76	1,459.16	1,641.55	2,006.34	2,371.13	2,735.92	3,283.10
Hunshelf	929.26	1,115.12	1,300.96	1,486.82	1,672.67	2,044.38	2,416.08	2,787.79	3,345.34
Langsett	932.54	1,119.06	1,305.56	1,492.08	1,678.58	2,051.60	2,424.62	2,797.64	3,357.16
Little Houghton	925.25	1,110.31	1,295.36	1,480.41	1,665.46	2,035.56	2,405.67	2,775.77	3,330.92
Oxspring	936.92	1,124.31	1,311.69	1,499.08	1,686.46	2,061.23	2,436.00	2,810.77	3,372.92
Penistone	937.71	1,125.26	1,312.79	1,500.34	1,687.88	2,062.97	2,438.05	2,813.14	3,375.76
Shafton	934.71	1,121.66	1,308.59	1,495.54	1,682.48	2,056.37	2,430.25	2,804.14	3,364.96
Silkstone	948.28	1,137.94	1,327.59	1,517.25	1,706.90	2,086.21	2,465.52	2,844.84	3,413.80
Stainborough	929.50	1,115.41	1,301.31	1,487.21	1,673.11	2,044.91	2,416.72	2,788.52	3,346.22
Tankersley	927.36	1,112.84	1,298.31	1,483.79	1,669.26	2,040.21	2,411.16	2,782.10	3,338.52
Thurgoland	920.83	1,105.00	1,289.16	1,473.33	1,657.49	2,025.82	2,394.15	2,762.49	3,314.98
Wortley	927.01	1,112.41	1,297.81	1,483.21	1,668.61	2,039.41	2,410.22	2,781.02	3,337.22
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	911.97	1,094.37	1,276.76	1,459.16	1,641.55	2,006.34	2,371.13	2,735.92	3,283.10
<b>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.</b>									

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 2022/23 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*	5,165,637	43.10	51.72	60.34	68.96	77.58	94.82	112.06	129.30	155.16
South Yorkshire Police Authority*	14,851,040	123.91	148.69	173.48	198.26	223.04	272.60	322.17	371.73	446.08

\* subject to confirmation

(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 2022/23 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	1,088.21	1,305.85	1,523.50	1,741.14	1,958.78	2,394.06	2,829.35	3,264.63	3,917.56
Cawthorne	1,100.89	1,321.07	1,541.25	1,761.43	1,981.60	2,421.95	2,862.31	3,302.67	3,963.20
Dunford	1,098.42	1,318.11	1,537.79	1,757.48	1,977.16	2,416.53	2,855.90	3,295.27	3,954.32
Great Houghton	1,102.04	1,322.45	1,542.87	1,763.8	1,983.68	2,424.49	2,865.32	3,306.13	3,967.36
Gunthwaite & Ingbirchworth	1,090.21	1,308.26	1,526.31	1,744.35	1,962.39	2,398.47	2,834.57	3,270.65	3,924.78
High Hoyland	1,078.98	1,294.78	1,510.58	1,726.38	1,942.17	2,373.76	2,805.36	3,236.95	3,884.34
Hunshelf	1,096.27	1,315.53	1,534.78	1,754.04	1,973.29	2,411.80	2,850.31	3,288.82	3,946.58
Langsett	1,099.55	1,319.47	1,539.38	1,759.30	1,979.20	2,419.02	2,858.85	3,298.67	3,958.40
Little Houghton	1,092.26	1,310.72	1,529.18	1,747.63	1,966.08	2,402.98	2,839.90	3,276.80	3,932.16
Oxspring	1,103.93	1,324.72	1,545.51	1,766.30	1,987.08	2,428.65	2,870.23	3,311.80	3,974.16
Penistone	1,104.72	1,325.67	1,546.61	1,767.56	1,988.50	2,430.39	2,872.28	3,314.17	3,977.00
Shafton	1,101.72	1,322.07	1,542.41	1,762.76	1,983.10	2,423.79	2,864.48	3,305.17	3,966.20
Silkstone	1,115.29	1,338.35	1,561.41	1,784.47	2,007.52	2,453.63	2,899.75	3,345.87	4,015.04
Stainborough	1,096.51	1,315.82	1,535.13	1,754.43	1,973.73	2,412.33	2,850.95	3,289.55	3,947.46
Tankersley	1,094.37	1,313.25	1,532.13	1,751.01	1,969.88	2,407.63	2,845.39	3,283.13	3,939.76
Thurgoland	1,087.84	1,305.41	1,522.98	1,740.55	1,958.11	2,393.24	2,828.38	3,263.52	3,916.22
Wortley	1,094.02	1,312.82	1,531.63	1,750.43	1,969.23	2,406.83	2,844.45	3,282.05	3,938.46
Barnsley and Other Non-Parish Areas	1,078.98	1,294.78	1,510.58	1,726.38	1,942.17	2,373.76	2,805.36	3,236.95	3,884.34

**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 2022/23, that Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year 2022/23 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 Local Council Tax Support be provided to all eligible working age claimants in the form of a flat rate discount of £125 per claimant, and that all eligible claimants are further protected from any agreed council tax increase for 22/23.

### **3. Treasury Management Strategy & Policy Statement 2022/23**

#### **RESOLVED:-**

3.1 that Council approve the 22/23 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement (included in the main papers at **Section 3c**) and specifically:

- a) approve the 22/23 Treasury Management Policy Statement (**Section 3c Appendix A**).
- b) approve the 22/23 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (**Section 3c Appendix B**).
- c) approve the 22/23 Borrowing Strategy at **Section 3c** including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (**Section 3c Appendix C**).
- d) approve the 22/23 Annual Investment Strategy at **Section 3e**.

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, a recorded vote was then taken on the above item (Minutes 205 (1), (2) and (3) refers:

#### In favour of the motion, present at the time of voting

The Mayor (Councillor Makinson), and Councillors Andrews BEM, Barnard, Bowler, Bowser, Bruff, Cain, A Cave, T Cave, Cheetham, Cherryholme, Clarke, Coates, Danforth, K Dyson, M Dyson, Eastwood, Ennis OBE, Franklin, Frost, Gillis, Green, Hand-Davis, Hayward, J Higginbottom, Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Howard, Lamb, Leech, Lofts, Markham, McCarthy, Mitchell, Newing, Osborne, Pickering, Platts, Richardson, Risebury, Shepherd, Smith, Stowe, Tattersall, Williams, Wilson and Wright

#### Those against the motion, present at the time of voting

Councillors Fielding, Greenhough, Hunt, Kitching, Lodge and Wray

### **206. Assessment of Bus Franchising Option for South Yorkshire (Cab.23.2.2022/6)**

Moved by Councillor Lamb – Seconded by Councillor McCarthy; and

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) that the proposal for the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) to issue the notice of intention to prepare a formal Assessment of a proposed franchising scheme in accordance with S.123C of the Transport Act 2000 be supported;
- (ii) that the Council request to be granted formal opportunity by SYMCA to influence and shape what the assessment considers, either specifically within the prescribed requirements or have “other matters” included;
- (iii) That the Council reserves the right to formally withdraw from the process at any stage if appropriate funding solutions cannot be found; and
- (iv) that, in parallel, SYMCA be requested to carry out a detailed projected cost of the current Bus Partnership model over a three and five year period to help facilitate side-by-side comparisons with future franchise costs.

.....  
Chair

## BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT OF:** Executive Director, Core Services

**TITLE:** Implementation of the 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>23 March 2022</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	<b>Core Services</b>
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Public or Private</b>	<b>Public</b>

### **Purpose of report**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to implement the council's 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement in accordance with section 38 to 43 of the Localism Act 2011.

### **Council Plan priority**

The Pay Policy Statement contributes to the following council's strategic priorities:

- Healthy Barnsley
- Learning Barnsley
- Enabling Barnsley

### **Recommendations**

For Council to approve the 2022/23 Pay Policy statement contained at Appendix 1.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 The Act requires that Pay Policy Statements are produced annually, are considered by full council and are published on the council's website.

## **2. PROPOSAL**

2.1 The 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement has been reviewed in accordance with the Act and has been updated with the following:

- All paragraphs containing council links to internal documents have been updated to reflect the latest versions sat within SharePoint.
- Paragraph 2.5 has been updated to reflect the updated School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document 2021.
- Paragraph 3.1 has been updated to reflect the latest salaries and hourly rate of pay.
- Paragraph 4.1 has been updated with the latest salaries, median average and pay multiple.
- Paragraph 4.2 has been updated to reflect the statement of accounts for 2021/22.
- Paragraph 10.1 has been updated to reflect the change in cost to the Council of providing benefits in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

## **3.0 IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **3.1 Financial and Risk**

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

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.

### **3.2 Legal**

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

### **3.3 Equality**

Equality Impact Assessment Pre-screening completed determining full EIA not required.

### **3.4 Sustainability**

Decision-making wheel not completed as not considered relevant for this report.

### **3.5 Employee**

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.



### **3.6 Communications**

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

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Senior Management Team was consulted on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.
- 4.2 The Pay Policy was circulated to the Trade Unions and discussed at the Employee Relations Forum on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 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 viable option.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 For council to approve the 2022/23 Pay Policy statement contained at Appendix 1.

## **7. GLOSSARY**

DCLG – Department for Communities and Local Government.

## **8. LIST OF APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – 2022/23 Pay Policy Statement.

## **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 DCLG Guidance: Openness and Accountability in Local Pay February 2012.
- 9.2 DCLG Guidance: Openness and Accountability in Local Pay Supplementary Guidance February 2013.
- 9.3 DCLG Local Government Transparency Code 2014.
- 9.4 Localism Act 2011

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

**10. REPORT SIGN OFF**

<b>Financial consultation &amp; sign off</b>	<b><i>Neil Copley 01/02/2022</i></b>
<b>Legal consultation &amp; sign off</b>	<b><i>Jason Field 11/03/22</i></b>

**Report Author: Anne Marie Tolan**  
**Post: HR Advisor Pay and Reward**  
**Date: 31/01/2022**

**PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023****Contents**

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## **PAY POLICY FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023**

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### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](#)

## 2.5 Centrally Employed Teachers

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 2021](#)

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 1<sup>st</sup> September each year.

During employment annual increments shall be awarded on 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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## 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 £18,333 and can be expressed as an hourly rate of pay of £9.50.
- 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.

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## 4.0 HIGHEST PAID SALARY

- 4.1 The highest paid salary in this council is currently £182,959 which is paid to the Chief Executive. The median average salary in this council (not including schools) is £28,226. The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 6.48:1. 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 2020/21](#)

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## 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.

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**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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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**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 16.3%. 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](#)

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## **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 2022 to 31 March 2023, 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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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**

<b>Aspect of Chief Officer Remuneration</b>	<b>BMBC Policy</b>
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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<b>MEETING:</b>	Planning Regulatory Board
<b>DATE:</b>	Tuesday, 15 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barnsley

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Richardson (Chair), Bruff, Cain, Coates, Crisp, Danforth, M. Dyson, Eastwood, Fielding, Frost, Gillis, Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Leech, Lofts, McCarthy, Mitchell and Tattersall

### 51. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Frost declared a non-pecuniary interest in **Planning Application No 2021/0747** – [demolition of existing buildings and construction of sound design creation centre at land off Windhill Lane, Staincross, due to his role as the Cabinet Support Member for Regeneration and Culture.

### 52. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 53. A635 Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe - 2021/1511 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2021/1511 - Creation of a new roundabout on the A635 Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe. Works also include new drainage, street lighting and signs and lines at A635 Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, Rotherham

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

### 54. Land off Windhill Lane, Staincross, Barnsley - 2021/0747 - For Approval

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2021/0747 - Demolition of existing buildings and construction of sound design creation centre at Land of Windhill Lane, Staincross, Barnsley

Mr John Sanderson addressed the Board and spoke in favour of the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

Ms Ann Gibson and Ms Cheryl Ann French addressed the Board and spoke against the Officer recommendation to approve the application.

**RESOLVED** that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation with a slight amendment to condition 5 to ensure the provision of heavy standard trees as part of the landscaping scheme.

**55. 15 Churchfield Avenue, Cudworth, Barnsley - 2021/1326 - For Approval**

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2021/1326 - Change of use of property to a residential children's home for one young person at 15 Churchfield Avenue, Cudworth.

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

**56. A and E White Bakers Ltd, Charles Street, Worsbrough Bridge, Barnsley, S70 5AF - 2020/1339 - For Approval**

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted a report on Planning Application 2020/1339 - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 13 dwellings with associated access from Park Road (A61) and landscaping at A and E White Bakers Ltd, Charles Street, Worsbrough Bridge, Barnsley, S70 5AF

**RESOLVED** that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation and subject to the signing of the relevant S106 agreement.

**57. Planning Appeals - January 2022**

The Head of Planning and Building Control submitted an update regarding cumulative appeal totals for 2022/23.

The report indicated that three appeals were received in January 2022.

It was reported that 31 appeals have been decided since 01 April 2021; 27 appeals (87%) have been dismissed since 01 April 2021; 4 appeals (13%) have been allowed since 01 April 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	General Licensing Regulatory Board
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 16 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Green (Chair), Bowser, Bruff, Cherryholme, Clarke, Danforth, K. Dyson, Eastwood, Franklin, J. Higginbottom, Hunt, Newing, Osborne, Ramchandani, Spence, Stowe, Sumner, Tattersall, Wilson and Wray

### 18 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Minute No. 20 on the agenda due to her involvement with the COVID Relief Fund.

### 19 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 20 Enforcement Update

Debbie Bailey provided Members with an overview of the enforcement work Licensing Officers have recently undertake and the advice and support given to the hackney carriage and private hire trade during the COVID pandemic

Key points to note included:

Licensing Officers have continued to work proactively with the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Trade and other Local Authorities to ensure that those who chose to work through the Covid pandemic did so whilst ensuring to the best of everyone's ability that both customers and drivers remained safe.

A taxi and private hire licensing enforcement operation took place at Springwell School on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021. A total of 8 vehicles were inspected, 5 were compliant, 1 driver was issued a written warning for failing to complete his daily vehicle check, 1 vehicle licenses by another Local Authority was found to have an inoperative off side brake light. This was reported to the relevant Local Authority to action. Another vehicle licensed by another licensed by another Local Authority was found to have a near side front tyre below the legal limit, which was reported to the relevant Local Authority.

The following matters were highlighted:

Three staggered payments of £500 were given to all licensed drivers, whether private hire or hackney carriage, across South Yorkshire, from the Sheffield City Region Fund to help them through the pandemic. Cllr Tattersall confirmed that payments were from the SCR Fund and the COVID Relief Fund.

The failure rate at Springwell School was as expected. It should be noted that 5 out of 6 Barnsley vehicles were compliant and the one which was not compliant related to paperwork, not a defect as such.

Licensing would like to carry out inspections on a monthly basis going forward, but this depends on the workload of the inspection officers at Smithies as this is not the work of licensing officers.

Where vehicles are found to be defective this is not reported to the Police as a matter of course. The vehicle licence is suspended until the fault is rectified and then the vehicle is reinspected. However, on joint enforcement visits with the Police, the Police have the powers to issue fixed penalty notices and to prevent the vehicle moving at all.

Department of Transport Guidance issued in 2020 (and further updates) make reference to masks and cleaning the vehicle between passengers etc. This guidance is shared with all partners, but realistically it is impossible to check that this is complied with. However, if non compliance is reported this will be thoroughly investigated.

Members congratulated the service on carrying out the vehicle checks, particularly as the children attending Springwell are particularly vulnerable.

A written warning expires after 12 months but does form part of a driver's record permanently. If a driver receives 3 written warnings they will have to come before a Licensing Panel.

Members expressed concern at the level of defects identified with drivers from other authorities, who may not have the same level of checks etc., that we do in Barnsley. It was reiterated that Barnsley has a very good working relationship with drivers in Barnsley and as a result of this, Barnsley has not experienced the same level of problems as seen in other Authorities.

A shortage of drivers for evening work remains as although it appears Barnsley has the same number of drivers as pre-Covid, drivers have had to find other jobs although they have retained their licences. Everything is being done to encourage drivers to work evenings and work is ongoing with the trade to identify and resolve any problems. A meeting is taking place with the trade tomorrow (17<sup>th</sup> February) to discuss this.

**RESOLVED** that Debbie be thanked for her attendance and contribution and the update be noted.

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Chair

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 16 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.30 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Green (Chair), Bowser, Cherryholme, Clarke, Danforth, K. Dyson, Hunt, Newing, Osborne, Tattersall and Wilson

### 5 Declaration of Interests

No declarations were made at the meeting.

### 6 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 7 Enforcement Update

Debbie Bailey provided Members with an overview of the work Licensing Officers have undertaken with licensed premises to advise and support them during the COVID pandemic and to celebrate Barnsley being awarded the Purple Flag.

Licensing Officers have continued to proactively work with licensed premises and other responsible authorities throughout the pandemic to ensure that COVID requirements have been complied with. Officers have continued to support venues and discuss issues and concerns with licensees to ensure they understand the legislation and Government guidance and that sufficient measures have been in place to maintain the safety of all involved with the premises. The Officers' objective has always been to ensure that all our licensed premises have operated in accordance with the COVID regulations and requirements and that sufficient measures have been in place to maintain the safety of all involved with the premises.

Complaints were received regarding premises remaining open throughout the pandemic but no premises, when visited, were found to have been open, although some licensees live on the premises and this may have contributed to the mistaken perception that the venues were open. There has been a 50/50 split of reactive complaints and allegations and proactive work. Enforcement activities continued over evenings and weekends. Compassion and understanding was shown to premises at the time due to the difficulties everyone was experiencing and the continual changes in legislation which was frustrating for all concerned.

It was highlighted that for the third time Barnsley has been awarded the prestigious Purple Flag accreditation for its evening and night-time economy. Officers have worked hard with Licensees to raise standards and broaden the appeal of the town and achieve the recognition for providing a diverse mix of dining, entertainment and

culture while promoting the safety and wellbeing of visitors and local residents. The award is a fantastic achievement and recognition of the work that Officers and partners carry out, working with licenced premises to create a safe, welcoming and vibrant place to visit for people of all ages.

Members expressed their congratulations to Licensing on achieving the Purple Flag, reiterating the importance of people having a good time whilst staying safe in the Town Centre.

The 'Best Bar None' award for public houses and clubs is being relaunched in the Town Centre and awards will be given out in May. It has not been the best time to advertise the initiative due to the pandemic, but 45 premises have already signed up to it in the Town Centre. This is also being trialled in the Dearne.

**RESOLVED** that Debbie Bailey be thanked for her attendance and update and for all the work that she and her team has done throughout the pandemic and in achieving the Purple Flag award.

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Chair



## **NOTES OF GENERAL LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD PANEL**

**8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**

**Present:** Councillors Green (Chair), Danforth and Osborne.

Members of the Public and Press were excluded from this meeting.

### **1 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence – Determination – Mr B T**

The Panel was asked to consider the determination of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence held by Mr B T.

Mr B T was not in attendance at the hearing. After considering all the information and representations made, the licence held by Mr B T was revoked. The primary consideration for the Panel was the safety of the travelling public. The Panel was not able to ascertain if there were any exceptional circumstances relating to his case as he did not attend the meeting. It was deemed that he fell short of the BMBC Policy Guidance to Assist with the Assessment of 'Fit and Proper Person' with Regard to all Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver Licences. There were no extenuating circumstances to warrant a deviation from that policy and he was not, therefore, deemed to be a 'fit and proper person' to hold a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence.

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

### **2 Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence – Application – Mr J T**

The Panel was asked to consider an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence by Mr J T.

After considering all the information and representations made, Mr J T was granted a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence as it was felt that he had provided sufficient extenuating circumstances to convince the Panel that he was a 'fit and proper person' to hold a licence.

The decision of the Panel was not unanimous.

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# Item 11

## **NOTES OF MEETINGS OF THE STATUTORY LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD SUB COMMITTEE**

**16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021**

**Present:** Councillors Green (Chair), Bowser and Greenhough together with Councillor Cherryholme (Reserve Member)

**1. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest**

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

**3. Application for a Premises Licence – Williams – 214-216 Barnsley Road, Cudworth**

The Sub Committee considered a report on an application for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Williams, 214-216 Barnsley Road, Cudworth.

The applicant and his representative were in attendance together with two objectors who had submitted representations in relation to this application.

After considering all the evidence presented by all parties present, the Sub Committee determined that the application for a premises licence be granted subject to additional conditions to which the applicant had amicably agreed since submitting his application.

The decision of the Sub Committee was unanimous.

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## APPEALS, AWARDS AND STANDARDS REGULATORY BOARD

### **(a) School Admission Appeals Panel – 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2022**

Barnsley Academy	1 Refused
Holy Trinity	1 Refused 1 Withdrawn
Penistone Grammar School	1 Refused

### **(b) School Admission Appeals Panel – 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2022**

Birkwood Primary	2 Refused
Oakwell Rise Primary	1 Withdrawn
Wombwell Park Street	1 Allowed
Horizon Community College	1 Allowed

### **(c) School Admission Appeals Panel – 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

Kirk Balk Academy	1 Allowed 2 Refused 1 Withdrawn
Laithes Primary	1 Refused

### **(d) School Admission Appeals Panel – 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

Kings Oak Primary	1 Allowed 1 Withdrawn
West Meadows Primary	2 Refused
The Hill Primary	1 Refused

### **(e) School Admission Appeals Panel – 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

Wilthorpe Primary	1 Allowed
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### **(f) School Admission Appeals Panel – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**

Horizon Community College	1 Allowed
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### **(g) School Admission Appeals Panel – 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**

Birdwell Primary	1 Refused
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**Appeals withdrawn prior to the allocation of a date**

Astrea Dearne	2 Withdrawn
Greenfield Primary	1 Withdrawn
Holy Trinity	2 Withdrawn
Penistone Grammar School	2 Withdrawn

<b>MEETING:</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 3 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillor Jim Andrews BEM, Deputy Leader (Chair)  
 Dr Nick Balac, Chair, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (Chair)  
 Councillor Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson - Childrens Services  
 Councillor Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson - Adults and Communities  
 Jeremy Budd, Director of Commissioning and Partnerships, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group  
 Chris Edwards, Chief Officer, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group  
 Mel John Ross, Executive Director Children's Services  
 Julie Tolhurst, Public Health Principal  
 Kathy McCardle, Service Director, Place (Regeneration and Culture)  
 Andrew Osborn - on behalf of Wendy Lowder, Adults and Communities  
 Amanda Garrard, Chief Executive, Berneslai Homes  
 Adrian England, Healthwatch Barnsley  
 Diane Lee, Head of Public Health  
 Julia Burrows, Director of Public Health  
 Dawn Hardy (SYP) on behalf of James Abdy, South Yorkshire Police  
 Sohaib Akhtar and Tom Bisset, Public Health  
 Andy Snell (Virtual), Consultant in Public & Global Health, Doctor in Emergency Medicine, BHNFT  
 Claire Miskell (Virtual), Project Manager, Strategic Housing  
 Bob Kirton (Virtual) Chief Delivery Officer and Deputy Chief Executive BHNFT

### 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 7th October 2021

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

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

### 3 Public questions

No public questions have been received.

### 4 Statement on resignation of the Chair (verbal)

Dr Nick Balac has issued his resignation as co-chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board. He has been a key member of the Board for many years, playing a vital leadership role, and has been instrumental in the development of the Board. He will be very much missed.

**RESOLVED** that Dr Balac's resignation be noted.

## **5 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment - Sohaib Akhtar**

The Health and Wellbeing Board was provided with a report and presentation reminding it of its statutory duty to publish an updated Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) together with an update on the plans to complete the Barnsley PNA and to consider the suggested approval process for Board members to sign off the final PNA. It was explained that the PNA is a comprehensive assessment of the current and future pharmaceutical needs of the local population, providing a complete picture of the local population and how they differ in terms of their health needs and requirements. The document maps all current pharmaceutical services in the Borough, identifies gaps in provision and is used to predict future needs. The HWBB has a legal duty to ensure the production of a PNA every 3 years. Statutory Consultation on the report will take place in May and June 2022, with a 'final draft' version of the PNA presented to the HWBB at its meeting on 4th of August 2022.

**RESOLVED** that the Board:

- (i) Note the requirement to approve a PNA before the end of October 2022 (replacing 31st March 2021);
- (ii) Note the process for carrying out the Barnsley PNA set out in the report; and
- (iii) Agree the proposed sign off process for approval of the final draft and final version of the PNA 2022.

## **6 Mental Health Strategy - Patrick Otway**

This item was introduced by Patrick Otway, who proceeded to explain that the Barnsley All-age Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2021-2025) will help to ensure that we have the conditions and culture to enable everyone within the local community to achieve their potential. This means that all residents of Barnsley will be able to enjoy those things that help them feel positive about their lives and gain access to high quality support and compassionate services when they need them. The strategy reflects the positive definition of mental health, as stated by the World Health Organisation (WHO), which is broader than just mental illness.

Key issues from feedback included that the strategy needs to support spiritual wellbeing, should reflect the positive impact that volunteering brings; the link between crime and mental health and intergenerational poverty. The strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis and is subject to consultation.

Adrian England expressed thanks to Patrick Otway and individuals and groups involved in developing the strategy.



**RESOLVED** that the Health and Wellbeing Board note the strategy.

## **7 Child of the North: Building a Fairer Future after Covid-19 - Mel John Ross**

Mel John Ross introduced this item, informing the Board of the findings and recommendations of the report which was published in early January 2022. The basis of the report is that following a decade of austerity, including reductions to local public services, combined with welfare reforms which have disproportionately and more adversely affected children, young people and families in the North of England, the Covid-19 Pandemic has acted as a prism in further harming the life chances of these children. This has taken the form of a toxic cocktail of poor mental and physical health, together with feelings of isolation and despair both in children and their parents which contributes to poorer outcomes later in the life course.

Headline findings include:

- Only 14% of school children, in Northern Regions of England, received four or more pieces of offline schoolwork per day compared to 20% in the rest of the country.
- The loss of learning which children in the North experienced over the course of the Pandemic could equate to an estimated £24.6 billion in lost earnings over their lifetime.
- During the Pandemic, 23% of children in the North were perceived by their parents to be lonely, compared to 15% in the rest of England.
- Among parents and carers in the North of England, 23% felt lonely during the Pandemic compared to 13% in the rest of the country.
- Of local authorities in England with more than 100 children per 100,000 in care, 21 out of 26 local authorities are in the North of England.
- More than one in five children in the North are from an ethnic minority group; are therefore more likely to live in low income, deprived families and their experience of systemic racism adds to the detrimental effect on their life chances
- The reductions in funding to children's centres has equated to an average cut of £412 for every eligible child in the North compared to £283 in the rest of England.
- The challenges to children's mental wellbeing in the North of England caused by the impact of the Pandemic is estimated to cost £13.2 billion in lost income during their lifetime.
- By the second half of the Autumn Term 2020, pupils in the North East and Yorkshire and The Humber experienced 4 and 5.3 months of lost learning respectively compared to less than a month in London and the South West.
- Children's health in terms of obesity, tooth decay and safe and accessible green spaces for exercise have all been negatively impacted.
- Since the Pandemic, the percentage of children living in poverty in the North of England (after housing costs) is 33% compared to 30% across the whole of the United Kingdom.
- In the North of England 58% of local authorities have above average levels of children in families with low incomes, compared to 19% of local authorities in the rest of England.

The report makes 18 recommendations to improve the life chances of children in Northern regions of England and is a further clarion call to the Government for urgent action not only to genuinely “*level up*” areas of the country but also to break the vicious cycle of poverty, multiple forms of deprivation and their impact upon the wellbeing and resilience of families, together with subsequent pressures on children’s social care.

**RESOLVED** that the Board note the contents of the report, its findings and recommendations, and support it going forward.

## **8 Active in Barnsley Strategic Plan - Stuart Rogers & Dr Andy Snell**

Andy Snell, Consultant in Public & Global Health and Doctor in Emergency Medicine, introduced this item. It was explained that the Active in Barnsley Partnership has renewed its strategic plan as the current partnership strategic plan expired in 2021. The new Active in Barnsley Strategic Plan (2022-26) is an evolution of the previous iteration which was based on a wider stakeholder input and has achieved good progress over the last three years. Built on a robust review, the partnership board have agreed the future direction for the plan with a clearer focus on where inequalities are the greatest, being clear about how support is provided to specific audiences and how data is used better to understand and inform our actions. Thanks were expressed to partners involved in its development, particularly Age UK. It was highlighted that the Transport Strategy is coming up for approval shortly and the HWBB will need to feed into this. For more information about Active in Barnsley contact: [Stuartrogers@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:Stuartrogers@barnsley.gov.uk) or [:Laura.Allen@yorkshiresport.org](mailto:Laura.Allen@yorkshiresport.org).

**RESOLVED** that the HWBB:

- (i) Support the Active in Barnsley Strategic Plan (2022-2026)
- (ii) Act as the accountable body for progress reporting against our strategic priorities and
- (iii) Suggest any potential areas for collaboration that can be included in the action plan
- (iv) Encourage member organisations to support the joint promotion of the What's Your Move Campaign to build the message across the borough, shape it, suggest improvements and use it with their audiences.

## **9 Affordable Warmth / Warm Homes Team - Kathy McArdle & Claire Maskill**

Kathy McArdle and Julie Tolhurst were welcomed to the meeting and provided an overview of progress to establish a strategic approach to affordable warmth. This is recognised as making an important contribution to health and wellbeing outcomes of residents, alongside the Council’s aspirations to reduce emissions via Zero 40/45.

**RESOLVED** that the HWBB:

- (i) Note the importance of prioritising affordable warmth and impacts on resident’s health and wellbeing to tackle health inequalities;
- (ii) Note the position and achievements of the Affordable Warmth programme;

- (iii) Acknowledge the outputs from the Warm Homes team and the transfer of this function into the Strategic Housing, Sustainability and Climate Change Team; and
- (iv) Agree the development of an Affordable Warmth Strategy and the need to secure sustainable longer-term funding to support capital and revenue costs.

## **10 Barnsley Hospital Health Inequalities Action Plan - Dr Andy Snell**

Andy Snell introduced this item, highlighting Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's Action Plan to reduce health inequalities over the next 18 months. It was explained that health inequalities and their underlying causes drive unscheduled hospital activity, putting greater demand on health services. Tackling health inequalities is a key part of demand management, as unmet need presents as preventable urgent and emergency demand. Collaboration is key to addressing this. People in Barnsley experience poorer health and wellbeing than people in many parts of the country. These inequalities in health are long-lasting, persistent, and driven by social, economic and environmental inequalities.

The Integrated care Delivery Group (ICDG) is developing a 3 Tier Framework to tackle health inequalities as part of its action plan: Tier one (Section A) – dedicated care services (including establishing new services); Tier two (Section B) – all core care services (and how we can enhance them) and Tier three (Section C) – anchor institution (how we build a more inclusive society and economy in Barnsley).

It is of vital importance that the HWBB recognises the breadth of health inequalities in Barnsley and how all partners need to work together to collaborate, connect, and signpost to other services. It was felt that Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust should be commended for doing this fantastic piece of work.

### **RESOLVED that**

- (i) the Health and Wellbeing Board note and provide feedback on the contents of Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's Health Inequalities Action Plan; and
- (ii) Supports the delivery of the action plan by continuing to work collaboratively to address health inequalities and promote health equity in Barnsley.

## **11 Integrated Care System Update - Jeremy Budd**

Jeremy Budd was welcomed to the meeting and provided an update on the Integrated Care System (ICS), focussing on delivery rather than efficiency (which will be a key focus for the 22/23 plan). It was highlighted that 25 strategic deliverables have been identified on which partners will work collaboratively to deliver. These include community vaccination, planned care, CYP/Early Start partnership, care closer to home, urgent and emergency care, mental health and design/ICP development. Some of the delivery elements are highlighted as 'at risk' but Members were reassured that plans are in place to minimise identified risks. Colleagues and partners should be applauded for their work on the plans through difficult times. The pace of change slowed down in October but is now restarting with the approach of spring and summer. Next steps will be mobilising the plan fully, which needs to be refreshed for 22/23, and working towards the 2030 plan. The 5-year plan will be refreshed too.

**RESOLVED** that the Health and Wellbeing Board note the Integrated Care System update.

**12 Minutes from the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group held on 14th October 2021**

The meeting considered the minutes from the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be received.

**13 Minutes from the Safer Barnsley Partnership held on 21st June 2021**

The meeting considered the minutes from the Safer Barnsley Partnership held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be received.

**14 Minutes from the Stronger Communities Partnership held on 3rd June and 19th August 2021**

The meeting considered the minutes from the Stronger Communities Partnership meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 19<sup>th</sup> August.

Members were asked to note that following a meeting of the December Board a programme of activities is being developed, aligned to the national health and wellbeing festival in May, looking at the theme of 'getting creative'. More details will follow.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes be received.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Sustainable Barnsley Workstream
<b>DATE:</b>	Tuesday, 8 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bowler, Cain, K. Dyson, Fielding, Frost, Gollick, Green, Hayward, Lodge, Lowe-Fiello, Markham, Mitchell, Noble, Osborne, Richardson, Risebury, Tattersall, Wilson and Wraith MBE.

### 44 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

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

### 45 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

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

### 46 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were received.

### 47 Violent Crime in Barnsley

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Paul Brannan, Head of Safer Barnsley, Bernaslai Homes  
 Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Safer Stronger Healthier Communities, BMBC  
 James Abdy, Detective Chief Superintendent, South Yorkshire Police  
 Paul Ferguson, Superintendent, South Yorkshire Police  
 Ian Bailey, Violence Reduction Unit Partnership Manager, South Yorkshire Police  
 Rosemary Clewer, Senior Commissioning Manager, BMBC (VIRTUAL)  
 Wendy Lowder, Executive Director Adults and Communities, BMBC (VIRTUAL)  
 Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson Adults and Communities, BMBC

Cllr Platts introduced the report, providing the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC) with an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership and South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit in Barnsley towards tackling violent crime and its impact on the communities of Barnsley. The report outlined the current performance against priorities and the governance arrangements in place. Cllr Platts reiterated that Barnsley is generally a safe place to be and everything is being done to ensure this continues.

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

Operation Sceptre is a nationwide week of intensive action which focuses on raising awareness of knife crime and police activity to tackle the issue. This took place in Barnsley and across South Yorkshire in December 2021, with targeted activity and operations to disrupt criminal activity and knife crime whilst raising awareness of knife crime and the devastating effects it can have on families and the wider community. Although there is heightened activity for Operation Sceptre, this works continues throughout the year every day, with dedicated teams that look to disrupt this activity, to educate and stop knife crime in our communities. Drug taking and anti-social behaviour were the targets as officers from South Yorkshire Police took to the streets of Barnsley town centre for a proactive operation in September 2021. Operation Sidewinder saw the Barnsley Central Neighbourhood Policing Team out and about, a drugs dog. The operation saw numerous officers providing a high-visibility presence in the town centre and the sniffer dog hard at work locating people with drugs in their possession. Operation Sentinel took place last Saturday (and every month) and saw officers mingling discretely amongst the general public in the Town Centre, looking out for vulnerable people and potential offending behaviour.

It was acknowledged that although there has been a stabbing in Monk Bretton recently, knife crime is relatively low. Nonetheless, trends and patterns are monitored and targeted pieces of work take place when necessary. There has been a rise in knife crime across South Yorkshire but Barnsley is not experiencing this at the moment. Support and advice is in place across schools to reduce levels of threat and there are a number of programmes aimed at 11-16 year olds aimed at deterring young people from crime. Street Smart in Locke Parke is a good example of how this type of approach is successfully reaching young people in Barnsley. This type of work starts in primary schools with PCSOs, linked in to Headteachers and pastoral staff, and increases as children get older, with a targetted approach where necessary and appropriate. Some of the programmes are led by armed officers who talk to teenagers about the perils of weapons, drugs etc., in consultation with teaching staff. There is on average around 20 to 25 knife incidents per month (over the last three months), but this should be kept in context as there is a balance between reactive and proactive work – if more proactive searches take place, more knives and weapons will be found but this does not necessarily equate to an increase in crime. For example, a frequent scenario is a builder who turns up for work with a knife and is stopped by Police as part of a stop and search operation. ‘Stop and search’ is a contentious issue with polarised views. During the 4 months between October and January, 784 searches took place, with action taken in 1 in 5.

Members were aware of serious anti-social behaviour incidents which had taken place in their wards and which seem to be ignored by Police despite there being video evidence of the incidents. This leads to frustration and deters residents from reporting it. It was acknowledged that video evidence is particularly valuable and reporting should always be followed up. Similar experiences were reported when using the 111 service. It is essential that public confidence in reporting crime improves. Problems experienced in Bank End, Worsborough, are finally coming to a resolution after 3 years. Police have used a structured methodological approach to resolving this situation – understanding what is driving the problem, working with

different agencies over a sustained period using a problem solving approach. Benefits take time to bear fruit and communication with residents is key.

It was acknowledged that poverty and deprivation drive many crimes, which is why the Area Team approach was introduced four years ago. Community Wardens were introduced to reinforce the feedback link back into communities, to foster engagement and build relationships in the community between BMBC, the Police, Elected Members and communities and has been working well. Communication is always a challenge as lots of information is received and it is essential that it is followed up and fed back at the right time. Various means of communication are used, including social media community alerts and newsletters.

Operations are not confined to the town centre. In November more than 130 officers came together with partners and took part in Operation Duxford across the whole of Barnsley to pro-actively tackle criminality and engage with the local community. As part of the operation 12 arrests were made for offences ranging from drugs and possession of a firearm to burglary and theft and harassment and racially aggravated assault; 27 stop and searches were carried out; 8 vehicles were seized under Operation Takeaway, knives and other dangerous weapons were taken off the district's streets; 25 hotspot visits took place, support was offered at 3 pop up police stations and 65 members of the public were signed up to the Smart Water property protection scheme. The Safer Streets Home Office initiative brought in £500k to spend on extra CCTV in the Dearne to target burglary and this has had a positive impact on other crime. Grant funding will be made available to local authorities to look at combatting violence against women and girls, looking at engagement and education. Problems around fear of attack at Locke Park were identified and BMBC are investing in better lighting to combat fear of crime. A coordinator has been appointed to combat the rise in fear and mistrust of the Police from young women, taking elements from the national strategy and plan to develop Barnsley's own plan. This is an area of focus going forward and tangible measures will be put in place to turn around mindsets and perceptions so that women and girls feel safe and supported.

Drug production and increased drug use and drug related violence, particularly amongst young people, has been linked to organised crime locally, regionally, nationally and globally, and poses a significant threat to communities. Significant work is taking place across the Borough to target organised criminals, along with a national process for understanding and mapping organised crime. It is known that organised crime groups come into the UK from different global communities, but the problem is no worse in Barnsley than elsewhere.

Barnsley has recently seen 42 positive disruptions of organised crime groups - some at a relatively low level and some of a more serious nature. Drug production activities have been dismantled and continue to be monitored. 34 cannabis cultivations ('farms') were detected within the last year, with £1m of drug production disrupted and £0.5m of cash proceeds obtained. South Yorkshire Police have been working very closely with the Home Office around serious organised crime tactics, which is given priority as it is seen as presenting a risk of significant harm to society.

It was felt by a Member that cannabis and synthetic drugs such as 'spice' are increasingly seen as part of a 'normal' night out, which is a cause for concern.

However, this has to be tempered against an exploration of what is 'problem' drug use and the reasons why people take drugs, which could be to drown out previous unresolved life experiences. Project ADDER is a national initiative which combines targeted law enforcement against criminal gangs with improved treatment and recovery services. Although Barnsley is not one of the pilot sites, learning from the initiatives will be taken on board. Levels of drug treatment and support offered are monitored quarterly and compared to other areas through the Safer Barnsley Partnership Board.

The Police work closely with Barnsley Homes around eviction of problem tenants for problem drug use and crime. This course of action removes the risk of harm from that area and broadcasts the wider message that crime doesn't work. This is a continuous war and is intelligence led, with responsibility placed on everyone within the community, from members of the public, staff, reporting through Crimestoppers and local Councillors. It was explained that anybody evicted from a property is entitled to housing support and advice so the Local Authority would be aware of their location, although evidence suggests that people tend to stay within the same community as they have been removed from. It is a matter of getting the balance right. The level of action taken has to be proportionate, must demonstrate that everything has been done to try to resolve the situation and to identify the impact on the surrounding community. Partial closure orders are often used rather than eviction. It is important that children and young people know the potential implications of their behaviour and that their parents may be evicted, which can be a sufficient deterrent. A dedicated officer works with private landlords to make sure they are aware of their responsibilities around drugs and allowing criminal activity in their properties. Criminal cases are brought to court regardless of tenure, but responsibility for penalties lies within the judicial system.

It was reported that the night time economy in the town centre effectively 'died' during the pandemic but when public houses etc., opened back up there was an increased incentive to tackle crime together using a multi-pronged approach, which included working with door staff, identifying potential domestic abuse situations and drug use, combatting under-age drinking, provision of plastic glasses and use of CCTV to make the town centre a safer place to be. 15 crime 'hotspots' were identified across South Yorkshire and only one was in Barnsley Town Centre. Barnsley town centre has successfully achieved the Purple Flag award for the third consecutive year. Lots of new venues are opening within the Town Centre but assurances were given that there are enough resources to police this effectively. Every weekend uniformed officers from the police and other services are on patrol and are using tracking devices and other technology to ensure this is effective. Designing out crime was part of the town centre planning, which includes anti-terrorism features.

Members have themselves been subject to physical attacks and verbal abuse. Barnsley launched its No Place For Hate campaign in July 2021, which aims to stamp out online abuse in the hope that it can make social media a more friendly place and to eradicate hate speech from social media platforms. Hate crime includes verbal abuse, which can quickly escalate to violence. Hate crimes are scrutinised through the neighbourhood policing teams when reported and proactive work in schools takes place to encourage reporting. Regular meetings with the Iman take place at the Mosque, which has been subject to attacks in the past. A new Communications Manager is looking at ways of addressing hate crime and violent



crime (including domestic abuse) using social media and other means. Members of the LGBT+ community and minority groups must be encouraged and empowered to report hate crime. Cruelty towards animals will always be thoroughly investigated and perpetrators prosecuted.

Members were encouraged to be the 'eyes and ears' within their communities and to encourage residents to be vigilant and always report suspicions to the police, as this can help to combat crime and make everyone feel safe.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and for their hard work within the communities of Barnsley;
- (ii) Performance information around knife crimes and levels of drug treatment and support should be provided to the Committee; and
- (iii) Elected Members should continue to encourage communities to report suspicious activity.

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Chair

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Growing Barnsley Workstream
<b>DATE:</b>	Tuesday, 8 March 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bowler, Cain, Fielding, Green, Hayward, Lodge, Markham, McCarthy, Osborne, Risebury, Sumner and Tattersall.

### 48 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.

### 49 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 51 as his partner is employed by BMBC.

Councillor Sumner declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 51 as her partner is employed by BMBC.

Councillor Risebury declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 51 as she is a Trade Union employee and member.

### 50 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Sustainable Barnsley Workstream meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February were received.

### 51 A Sustainable Workplace and a Healthy Workforce

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Phil Quinn, Head of Service HR & Organisation Development, Core Services, BMBC  
 Janet Glover, HR Advisor - Employee Wellbeing, Core Services, BMBC  
 Ben Potts, Project Manager (Workstyle), Core Services, BMBC  
 Michael Potter, Service Director Business Improvement, HR & Communications, Core Services BMBC  
 Cllr Alan Gardiner, Cabinet Spokesperson Core Services, BMBC (attended virtually)

Michael Potter introduced the report, informing the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the initiatives developed to support the emotional and physical wellbeing of employees, particularly during the pandemic. Key findings from the Feb 2020 (pre-

pandemic), May 2020 and October 2020 staff surveys were shared and Members were updated with regard to the actions implemented as a result of the surveys.

Members were informed how employee wellbeing was addressed during the pandemic and how different ways of working will help to sustain the organisation and drive it towards 2030, as well as helping to support our workforce in the process. An update on the progress the organisation is making in the return to the workplace was presented, which will involve working to a new hybrid model which will encourage green and active travel.

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

The gender pay gap identified within the staff surveys will be picked up in a series of action plans related to the People Strategy. The 2021 report showed positive progress in this regard, but will continue to be monitored at all levels within the organisation. Career progression routes for females with caring responsibilities are being monitored to ensure that any barriers are removed. Barnsley's aim is to make BMBC an employer of choice by offering flexibility, apprenticeships and coaching and mentoring opportunities alongside consideration of a development programme specifically for women in social care as it is acknowledged that the barriers females in work face are different to those faced by men.

Under the 'Barnsley is Our Office' initiative it has been agreed that from 4th April employees will work from a Barnsley location three days per week (with some exceptions). A myriad of different working patterns are being considered alongside a requirement for flexible office working space. Staff wellbeing will be monitored throughout the implementation and a range of metrics are currently being drawn up to monitor sickness absence, productivity, retention and recruitment. This will be monitored continuously and fully evaluated after six months. Staff reaction to the proposals has been mixed. Misconceptions and concerns will be addressed in individual teams.

BMBC has teamed up with Health Assured to deliver an employee assistance programme to support staff health and wellbeing. The scheme costs c£5,000 annually. Usage is slow at the moment, but it is fairly new scheme and will be further promoted. Regular usage statistics are provided. Support from the scheme is also available to the wider family of the employee. The breadth of support offered includes legal and financial support and guidance and help with addiction and relationship issues.

There have been a number of positives arising out of the pandemic. One of these is digital progression. For example, the use of Microsoft Teams in children's social care has led to increased productivity and quicker decision making in a more business-like manner. Every service now has a business continuity plan in place. Public perception of the Council appears to have improved due to the support that the Council has given during the pandemic. Partnership working is more effective, particularly with health partners such as SWYFT and Barnsley Hospital. The pandemic shone a light on the value of staff working from home and demonstrated that an agile hybrid working model works for the organisation and for individuals, particularly for those with caring responsibilities. Awareness of, and support for, staff

mental health and wellbeing has improved because of the pandemic, breaking down barriers for all.

There was a degree of staff anxiety within the organisation before the pandemic, as highlighted in the staff survey. This was due to a combination of factors, including: the challenges facing the organisation in terms of workload, budget cuts etc, the level of uncertainty in the jobs market, the ongoing impact of the austerity measures and the rising profile of mental health and anxiety problems. It is important that managers recognise mental health difficulties in their staff and support them to get the help and support they need in order to create a positive and inclusive culture. Targeted support for teams and individuals is available and there is an occupational health and counselling service with individual risk assessments for staff returning to work.

Work is being done across the organisation to ensure women are not disadvantaged due to issues such as caring responsibilities, maternity leave etc., with a range of options available including part time and flexible working. Lone workers are identified and individually risk assessed. Staff (of either gender) appear to be reluctant to report violence and aggression and this needs to improve. Car parking arrangements at Westgate are being reviewed so that staff do not have to walk long distances late at night. Childcare vouchers are available and the availability of creche facilities for staff, possibly with a discount, will be explored as the cost of childcare can sometimes be prohibitive.

Levels of work related stress are difficult to determine as there are multiple reasons for stress, only some of which may be work related. Workloads can cause stress for staff. Managers are provided with a pro forma checklist for regular one to one meetings and are advised to check on staff health and wellbeing on a regular basis, as a priority. There is a health and safety 'tool kit' and when work related stress is identified the Occupational Health service is involved and will make clear recommendations following assessments. If it is a team issue, specific tailored interventions will be put in place based on circumstances, including work with managers. Data and intelligence is gathered and triangulated and if patterns emerge involving a large amount of staff in a particular area, work is done to try to understand and address any issues. Core flexi hours were abandoned during pandemic, giving greater flexibility. This now needs to be monitored. The Trade Unions had highlighted that home energy costs are increasing and a working from home allowance has been included within the pay claim. Indeed, some staff have chosen to now work from the office 5 days per week and this is being constantly reviewed. The reward and recognition scheme for 100% attendance is being reviewed as it could lead to unintended consequences where staff come to work whilst ill and it also presents a disparity with hybrid working.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution;
- (ii) Members note the report;
- (iii) Consideration be given to extending the availability of childcare facilities for staff (to include an exploration of creche provision);
- (iv) Refresher training for managers to be offered to help with spotting the signs and having conversations with staff who may be suffering from poor mental health

- (v) Support services available be actively promoted, particularly the app and helpline, to increase uptake and subsequent support;
- (vi) All policies reflect duty of care requirements, regardless of where employees are working, particularly as the council is working towards 'Barnsley is our Office';
- (vii) Core flexible working hours be reinstated now that the organisation is in the 'recovery' phase after Covid, and
- (viii) The reward and recognition scheme for sickness absence be reviewed.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Central Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 2 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Williams (Chair), Bowler, Bowser, Bruff, Clarke, K. Dyson, M. Dyson, Fielding, Gillis, Lodge, Mitchell, Ramchandani and Wray

### 21 Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute 24 in relation to the position of his wife on the board of the YMCA.

### 22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 10th November, 2021 (Cen.02.02.2022/2)

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 23 Joshua McGill - Weight Management Programme (Cen.02.02.2022/3)

Joshua McGill was welcomed to the meeting and made members aware of the programme available for people aged 18+ with a BMI of 25-40. This was open to residents of Barnsley, or those registered with a Barnsley GP, and offered 12 weeks access to Barnsley Premier Leisure facilities. Additional support was also provided with one-to-one meetings throughout the 12 weeks to ascertain progress in areas such as reducing BMI value and improvement in mental health. Members noted that such as GPs could refer, but individuals could also self-refer through the website.

Members raised a number of questions, including whether the scheme worked with Health and Wellbeing Coaches in GPs. It was noted that they worked alongside the scheme and could make referrals. Those present discussed options for participants after the 12-week programme and it was noted that they could be referred to Fit Reds which offered a similar type of support.

In relation to the longevity of the programme, Members heard that it was funded up until September 2022. However, data collected showed that engagement levels were high, with corresponding impacts being made to the lives of individuals. This would then provide evidence to make the case for similar interventions in the future.

In relation to engaging with employers, it was noted that this had not been a primary focus, largely due to many employees working in the area living outside the borough and therefore not being eligible. Efforts were focused on promotion through

organisations such as charities where levels of eligibility was likely to be higher. Members noted the links being made with a number of organisations, including the NHS, with GPs now referring to the scheme.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation and that Members promote the programme through their networks.

## **24 Central Area Council Priorities, Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.02.02.2022/4)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item referring to the workshop that been held recently.

The workshop had considered a suite of information including the outcomes from the Community Listening Exercise and whether this information mirrored the priorities of the Area Council. Members were reminded that the Environmental Priority had been considered and agreed in November 2021, and the priority to reduce Social Isolation and Loneliness had been agreed in 2020 with associated funding allocated for three years.

Members concluded that the Area Council priorities remained valid and were broad enough to capture most future issues.

The attention of Members was drawn to the workshop discussions on devolving finance to the Ward Alliances in the area. The report provided a number of options, with the recommended option to devolve £5,000 to each Ward Alliance. Members discussed the various options, including a suggestion to pause consideration of the issue until the amount of Ward Alliance Funds remaining was considerably lower, and that perhaps finance could be better utilised at an Area Council geography. The majority of Members supported the recommendation within the report.

It was noted that youth work provision, delivered across the five wards of the Central Area by YMCA and The Youth Association, was due to conclude at the end of June. The recent workshop had discussed this and it was noted that the Community Listening exercise had highlighted this as a priority. It was therefore recommended to develop a Youth Work Grant Fund at a cost of £65,000 per year for two years, and that young people take part in co-production of the service.

With regards to the Supporting Vulnerable People priority, it was noted that the contract with Citizen's Advice Bureau to provide information and advice services was due to end on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. Members were reminded that a review of advice services was underway, with the outcome of this expected near the end of the financial year. In order to ensure continuity for residents, it was recommended that the service provided by CAB be extended for three months. In addition, it was recommended that a grant fund for services to support vulnerable people be established with a budget of £20,000 per year for two years. As funding for this priority was lower than others, it was suggested that the Area Team would look to supplement this, where possible, with grant funding from external sources.

Members were reminded of the Youth Work Training Fund, approved by the Area Council in 2019 but paused due to the pandemic. It had been proposed that The Youth Association, in partnership with YMCA, would provide one-to-one support and



accredited youth work training. Initially £28,000 had been ringfenced for this purpose.

In order gauge appetite for the proposal in the current climate, a workshop had been held, which was an astounding success. An initial cohort of 12 had been identified, and it was suggested that a further cohort would take part in the programme in the autumn. This would be open to all over the age of 18, and it was proposed that the second cohort be recruited through community networks.

Once participants had undertaken training and completed the programme it was envisaged that they would work with Community Development Officers and the Ward Alliance to develop youth work activities.

Members noted the current financial position, including the reduction in finance carried forward each year. It was agreed that this was positive, with finance being utilised effectively against the priorities of the Area Council.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the Central Area Council priorities for the years 2022-24 as detailed in 4.2 of the report be approved;
- (ii) that the overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements, and Well-being Fund projects, with associated timescales be noted;
- (iii) that approval be given to devolve £5,000 per ward (total £25,000) from the main budget into each respective Ward Alliance Budget to be distributed through existing mechanisms;
- (iv) that the budget for the Youth Work priority be approved at a cost of £65,000 per year for two years;
- (v) that the service provided by CAB be extended for three months from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 at a cost of £10,000;
- (vi) that the budget for a grant fund to support vulnerable people be approved at a cost of £20,000 per year for two years;
- (vii) that the ringfenced funding to progress the Youth Work Training partnership project between The Youth Association and YMCA be released at a total cost of £28,000 (£18,000 in the financial year 2021/22 and £10,000 in the financial year 2022/23);
- (viii) that the actual financial position to date for 2021/22 and the projected expenditure, including future proposals, to 2023/24 as outline in appendices 1 and 2 of the report, be noted.

#### **25 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.02.02.2022/5)**

The meeting received the following notes of the meetings of the Ward Alliances within the Central Area:-

Central – held on 24th November, 2021

Dodworth – held on 9th November, 2021

Kingstone – held on 3rd November, 2021, and 15th December, 2021

Stairfoot – held on 13th December, 2021 and 17th January, 2022

Worsbrough – held on 11th November, 2021

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

**26 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.02.02.2022/6)**

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 17 January 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present**

Councillors Noble, Cain, Coates and Danforth (Chair)

### 35 Election of Chair

As Councillor Noble had notified Members that she would be late, a Chair was elected from the floor.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Danforth be appointed Chair for the purposes of this meeting only.

### 36 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

### 37 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 25th November, 2021 (Dac.17.01.2022/2)

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 38 Dearne Area Council Financial Update (Dac.17.01.2022/3)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item reminding members that the Dearne Area Council had commenced the 2021/22 financial year with a budget of £208,783.34 followed by the receipt of an additional £31,638 from the practical support grant. Members were informed that following the spending commitments made throughout the year a budget of £56,980.34 remained to carry over into the next financial year.

Attention was drawn to the budget for the 2022/23 financial year with the assumption that the Area Council would receive the same allocation, giving a starting total of £256,980.34. Members were reminded that finances had already been committed to a number of services to a cumulative figure of £213,401 leaving £43,579.34 to spend on further priorities in the Dearne area during 2022/23.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### 39 Dearne Area Council Commissioning Update (Dac.17.01.2022/4)

The Area Council Manager provided an update on the current position of services funded by the Area Council.

The B: Friend commission was due to end on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2022 and members had agreed at the Area Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 that social inclusion remained a priority and to go out to tender for a service to meet the needs of those most vulnerable at a cost of £28,000. The specification had been developed and agreed with some minor amendments made to reflect the need to target more men.

Members were asked to review and approve the procurement timeline showing various deadlines in order for the contract to commence 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022.

The Housing and Cohesion Officer post was in place until the end of March 2023 with the amendments being made to the service level agreement which had been signed off by the Area Chair, Area Manager and the Group Leader for Housing Management, Regulation and Service Improvement.

Assisting Employment and Skills commission contract had been awarded to Dearne Electronic Community Village for a period of 3 years following a moderation meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 with points being scored based on the questions set during the tender process.

The Neighbourhood and Engagement Officer role was in place until the end of March 2024 due to further funding being agreed at the Area Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

Members were informed that a workshop would need to be convened to discuss future priorities in relation to the Environment, Education and Volunteer Service, as Twiggs had around 14 months left on their contract.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the report be noted: and
- (ii) that the procurement timeline for the Social Inclusion Service be approved.

#### **40 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliances (Dac.17.01.2022/5)**

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 and noted that no meeting of the Dearne South Ward Alliance had taken place due to staff illness.

The Dearne North Ward Alliance received an update from Adam from Twiggs on future projects and work undertaken during 2021. A Covid-19 update was shared with Alliance members along with a list of future events being held over the Christmas period. Members had received a reminder of the new area priorities for 2022 with a view to holding individual member meetings for their input on the action plan.

Ward Alliance members were informed that no new applications had been received for funding.

**RESOLVED** that notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance be received.

#### **41 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.17.01.2022/6)**

The Area Council Manager provided an update in relation to the Ward Alliance Funds for the 2021/22 financial year.

Dearne North started the financial year with £10,182.92 and had funded 5 projects at a cost of £6,880.00 leaving £3,302.92 to carry forward

Dearne South had an opening balance of £11,317.72, had funded 4 projects at a cost of £5,500 and had £5,817.72 remaining.

**RESOLVED** that the report on the Ward Alliance Funds and the Performance Reports be noted.

#### **42 Community Listening Report - Craig Taylor (Dac.17.01.2022/7)**

Craig Taylor, Stronger Communities Project Officer, was welcomed to the meeting.

Members received an update on the Community Listening exercise which had taken place in order to reengage with Groups that had lost contact or closed down due to the pandemic as well as engaging with the wider public.

In total 234 responses had been collected which were evenly spread over the two Wards with the demographic hitting a wide range of age groups from working age up to 80 years old. However, it was reported that the majority of those taking part were female and minority groups had been underrepresented. Members were informed that the answers had been sorted into categories that aligned with the Ward Alliance and Area Council priorities.

A brief overview was provided of some of the questions and answers given showing the opportunities given to members of the community to talk about their concerns. Particular reference was made around the anti-social behaviour in the community and what could be done to combat that in collaboration with partner agencies.

In conclusion, members heard how people were generally happy with what was happening in the area and that there was a good sense of community spirit and neighbourliness. Community Groups were building back up with support within the wards and green spaces and facilities around the area were valued with a determination to keep things tidy and looking nice.

Members raised concerns and acknowledged that anti-social behaviour in specific areas of the Dearne was alarming and included criminal damage to properties which was regularly being reported to the Police and Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Members were informed that the Police and Crime Commissioner was aware of the issues and had invested £10,000 to help tackle the problem through a variety of resources such as police in the area, more notice boards particularly in Thurnscoe to

tackle the anti-social behaviour and litter picking equipment for distribution to groups in the area.

Members also commented that the perception of some members of the public was that gangs of youths congregating meant they would automatically be causing anti-social behaviour when they were just young people meeting up to socialise.

Members were informed that following the community listening exercise the Area Council Team had worked through the comments to pull together an action plan to tackle some of the issues raised and to show that the community were being listened to.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation and update.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	North Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 14 March 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 11, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Leech (Chair), T. Cave, Crisp, Howard, Hunt, Newing and Pickering

### 48 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Howard declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 3 – Anti-Poverty Outreach – Information Advice and Guidance Service as an employee of the Department for Work and Pensions.

### 49 Notes of the Informal Meeting of the North Area Councillors held on 17th January 2022

The Area Council received the notes of the informal meeting of the North Area Councillors meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

### RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the notes of the informal meeting of the North Area Councillors held on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 be received and that the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November be approved;
- (ii) that the Housing and Cohesion update be received and noted;
- (iii) that in relation to the Housing and Cohesion Update Bradley and Carolyn be thanked for their attendance and contribution at the meeting and for the hard work they and the workers are doing in the community;
- (iv) that in relation to the Housing and Cohesion Update, thanks be passed on to the wardens and all those involved for their hard work in the Community;
- (v) that the update on the Stronger Communities Grant 2022/23 be noted;
- (vi) that the update on the Commissioning, Project, Development and Finance report be noted and a workshop be set up to work through options discussed;
- (vii) that the update on the Ward Alliance Fund be noted; and
- (viii) that the notes from the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

### 50 Anti-Poverty Outreach - Information Advice and Guidance Service - David Andy

David Andy was welcomed to the meeting and updated members with regards to the joint work undertaken on the Anti Poverty Outreach Information Advice and Guidance Service jointly delivered by the DIAL and CAB Service since the project began in the North Area from 2015.

Prior to the pandemic services were delivered across the area in 4 outreach centres but since the start of the pandemic had been delivered remotely via telephone or video with a proposal to restart outreach centres from 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

In total 10,481 clients had been assisted and of those helped £11.82 million had been claimed in additional benefits and £1.74 million worth of debt managed resulting in a return investment of £20 per £1.

An average of 32 clients per week had been assisted with a total of 23,900 issues equating to around 2.5 issues per client when broken down.

1800 clients had been assisted with benefits claims averaging at around £6,500 in benefit gain per client, but it was noted that some clients had gained more than this and some less. In regards to debt management, 300 had been assisted with an average of around £5,900 per client. In exceptional circumstances two clients were assisted with debts over £34,000.

Members questioned as to whether one person returning with a separate problem would be counted as one client or two, they were informed that they would be dealt with as two, when supported by Citizen's Advice Barnsley as they would be separate cases and issues.

Members raised concerns around the rising cost of fuel and energy and whether problems had arisen in relation to this. They were informed that it was predicted that these issues would possibly take a few months to show and that numbers would be high when they did.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that members note the update; and
- (ii) that David Andy be thanked for his attendance and all the hard work that himself and the Team carry out.

### **51 Stronger Communities Grant 2022/23**

The Area Council Manager referenced the report and informed members that the Grant Panel had met following the receipt of 4 application forms totalling £23,716.34.

It was reported that the application forms received were of lower quality than had been received previously and the fund was undersubscribed for the first time, reasons behind this could have included two larger pots of grant money previously allocated by the Area Council. Two applications had been recommended to progress but that further information had been requested from both.



In particular a request for lower priced kit and medals had been requested from the Mother Runners – Stronger Mums project and the ask for the scheme to cover the St Helens ward also had been made.

With regards to the Mapplewell and Staincross Greenspace and Recreation Group – Mapplewell Park – Children’s Cycle Path, it was agreed that the application form was not at a point to indicate overall project delivery, assurance was required that if the money was awarded there would be measurable outcomes for the Community. Members were encouraging of the project and hopeful of a joint venture with the Bikeability project and getting schools interested to use the space as opposed to the roads.

It was reported that once all requested information had been received a meeting of the Grants Panel would be called.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant update be noted;
- (ii) that the projects that have been recommended for funding, pending further information, be noted;
- (iii) that it be noted that the Panel will reconvene to confirm that the requests of the Panel have been met; and
- (iv) that the performance and monitoring arrangements outlined in Section 7 of the report be agreed

**52 Discussion following workshop held on the 10th March 2022**

The workshop had received a presentation providing local data for the North Area, however it was felt that in order to make decisions on local need, it would be appropriate to wait for the outcome of the Welfare Review. It was also noted that the first release of most up to date census information would be available later this year.

An overview was provided on a number of issues discussed at the workshop held on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 including:

- Support for fuel, food and the cost of living crisis
- Anti-Social behaviour and the increase in nuisance caused
- Parking enforcement
- Careers advice/raising aspirations of 14 and 16 year olds including information on a variety of jobs and opportunities that would not come out of regular careers advice in school

Members received a brief update on the Welfare Review that was being carried out within the Council and what that could mean for the North Area Council going forward in terms of delivering the Information Advice and Guidance Service. It was envisaged that a core provision may be provided with the option of a satellite service for Area Councils to fund in order to maintain a bespoke service fit for requirements in the area. Members were informed that once the review had been completed and a

core model was known they would meet to make a decision on an additional provision.

Members raised concerns around the decision to have a core offer which would not meet the specific individual needs of the North Area and questioned the estimated implementation date as the contract for CAB and DIAL was due to end in September 2022. They were informed that the review was not expected to be reported into Cabinet until May 2022 with the possibility of the Core offer not commencing until January 2023. It was noted that there may be the need to agree a 3/3.5 month (15 week) extension to the contract in order to ensure continued support. Members were in favour of this suggestion and the Area Manager agreed to make arrangements for a waiver.

**RESOLVED** that the update on the Workshop held on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 be noted.

### **53 Performance Report Q3 2021/22**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item providing members with a comprehensive performance report for the period October to December, 2021 (Quarter 3).

Members noted that there was a good overview of what was happening with each of the contracted services and how they linked into 4 Projects and the 2030 priorities and narrative for each one.

Particular attention as drawn to the Youth Resilience Fund which had seen positive results and members looked forward to meeting with the YMCA and Ad Astra at a future meeting of the Area Council.

**RESOLVED** that the contents of the Performance Management Report be noted.

### **54 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item and updated Members with the financial position going forward and outlined the projects which had been commissioned.

Members attention was drawn to the Anti Poverty Community Outreach Project and the option to extend the contract for 3 months with a view to reviewing the future plans once the Welfare Review had taken place and a core model was known.

Twiggs were in their second year of delivery with plans to hold larger engagement groups and work in collaboration with the Ward Alliances to ensure a programme of works including plans for the Queens Jubilee, summer holidays and October half term.

The Housing and Cohesion Officer project was doing well and it was felt good value for money in terms of service delivery in the area.

The Connecting Communities Grant funded projects were deemed successful with Age UK active in the area, DIAL had a new member of staff commencing live

connection hubs and Reds in the Community planned also to be live from the end of April, 2022.

The Stronger Communities Grant continued to have a number of successful projects.

The Health and Wellbeing – focus on Young People project had grant agreements in place until October 2022

The Health and Wellbeing – focus on Young People project grants were originally funded until October, 2022. A recommendation was put forward to extend to October, 2024 which would include the third year originally agreed plus a further year's funding at a cost of £90,000 per annum. Members were minded to make the extension in order to maintain the support provided to students in their educational transitions who were adversely affected by Covid-19.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the existing budget position and existing funding commitments be noted;
- (ii) that the funding for and extension of the Anti-Poverty Outreach IAG provision in relation to the Welfare Advice Review, be agreed until the end of calendar year 2022 at a value of approximately £27,500;
- (iii) that the progress with the 2022/23 Stronger Communities Grant opportunities be noted;
- (iv) that the North Area Councillors commitment to extend the Youth Resilience Grant funding for the original 3 years be agreed;
- (v) that an additional 4<sup>th</sup> years funding be committed to the Youth Resilience Grant funding be agreed at a value of £90,000; and
- (vi) that the updated projected spend be noted.

**55 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund**

The Area Council Manager update the North Area Council on the financial position of the Ward Alliance budgets for each ward for the 2021/22 period. It was highlighted that match funding which had been suspended during the pandemic was to be reinstated in the new financial year.

Members raised a query as to whether the funds could be increased in the new financial year as there was an anticipated increase in projects surrounding anti-poverty. This was welcomed by other members with a view to waiting until the Welfare Review had been completed when this would be reviewed again.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that Ward Alliances pay particular attention to the Ward Alliance Covid-19 Recovery Plan document when developing projects during the remainder of 2021/22;

- (ii) that, in line with the guidance on spend, each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2021/22; and
- (iii) that the possible increase in Ward Alliance funds be reviewed following the conclusion of the Welfare Review.

## **56 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances**

The meeting received the noted from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2021, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2022; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 and 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2022; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 and 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2022; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

Councillor Hunt commented that the Winter Warmer Health Event had been a success and well attended in the Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall with a view to holding similar events on a regular 6 monthly.

Councillor Howard reported that the Darton Stars Event had successfully taken place recognising community volunteers and unsung heroes. New connections had been made with a Kexborough Club in order to work with and plan future events.

Councillor T Cave provided members with an update on a number of improvements around Darton station that were due to be completed by the end of March 2022 with additional works to be carried out in the area to enable active travel and encourage people into the area.

Councillor Pickering reported that hanging basket take up had been phenomenal in the Old Town Ward and events were starting to be funded and taking place with the loan of gazebos from the Willow Bank Community Partnership.

Councillor Leech commented that the hanging basket take up had not been as successful as expected and that the Jubilee Event planning was taking shape. The Gala was being planned and spring bulbs had been planted around the area.

**RESOLVED** that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Penistone Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 10 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present**

Councillors Barnard (Chair), Lowe-Flello and Wilson

### 29 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

### 30 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 2nd December, 2021 (Pac.10.2.2022/2)

The Area Council received the minutes from the previous meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 31 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 9th December, 2021 (Pac.10.2.2022/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 be received.

### 32 Clean, Green and Tidy Service - Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Year 2 Update - John and Wendy Twigg

Wendy Twigg and John Twigg from Twiggs Grounds Maintenance were welcomed to the meeting to give an overview of performance and work carried out for the 2021/2022 contract period.

Members heard how it had been a difficult year due to a number of changes in restrictions as a result of the Covid pandemic, staffing changes and difficulties with recruitment, but that the Team had worked hard in adapting to all the changes in order to provide a continuous service and help out when volunteer groups had the need to isolate.

An overview of the services provided was given including flexing the service in order to provide support to other strained Barnsley MBC core services and of work undertaken and the groups and organisations engaged. The tool bank initiative was being used by a number of families and volunteers who were more dependent and

self sufficient in disposing of any rubbish collected themselves, this was evident from the 533 bags that had been requested with only 79 requested for pickup.

Members questioned as to whose responsibility it would be for the purple rubbish bag collections and were informed that this was mostly the responsibility of Neighbourhood Services but that Twiggs and volunteers themselves were also collecting and disposing of bags.

Sites had been maintained whilst volunteers had been isolating to avoid undoing the work achieved and support to keep those relationships and people positive by way of a phone call, email or visiting to chat through a window. A Plant Swap initiative had begun in order to link groups during isolation and a Christmas Tree competition supported by the Spar in Penistone.

An update was provided on the progress made with Team Greenmoor, HB+ and Royd Community Gardens as an example of the variety of work that volunteer Groups had carried out in their communities during the year and continued to do so with support and guidance from Twiggs.

Engagements with a number of businesses had taken place and members were informed that support had once again commenced with some Schools as they started to open up due to restrictions lifting.

Members were informed that Twiggs had made a number of environmental pledges including the widespread use of electric tools which were lighter to use, had no petrol fumes and were easier to maintain. Some vans had been fitted with battery chargers in order to charge the tools whilst travelling from one place to the next. A paperless system had been created in order to record and produce instant reports once a job had been completed. Green waste had been reintroduced, where possible, to put it back into the environment as opposed to disposing of it at a tip site.

The use of a herbicide free solution for controlling unwanted vegetation called Frontline Foam was introduced to members who were informed of the multiple uses and benefits it could give in a variety of areas such as kids playgrounds, weeds, algae and chewing gum. This was a product that could be used unrestricted in all territories reducing the use of glyphosate products in the environment.

A new apprentice had joined the Team following the resignation of the previous apprentice. Members heard how there were 7 apprentices in total in the Team on a rotational programme around the different areas in order to gain the most work experience in all aspects and areas of work carried out.

Staff training days had taken place in partnership with Oakwell Training Ltd and included manual handling, working at heights, needle stick awareness and blood born viruses, Health and Safety, Emergency First Aid and Mental Health Awareness. Members were informed that training had been set up independently during the pandemic as courses had continually been cancelled or rescheduled, and so in order to aid staff training in a timely manner Oakwell Training Ltd was created to carry out accredited in house training and to create specific packages and programmes on subjects such as How to use Power Tools Safely.

An update was provided on the work carried out on the Take a Seat campaign. A number of benches that had been earmarked for 'badging up' needed restoration and the general areas around them tidying up. Further work needed to be carried out to identify additional benches to aid the campaign.

In the independent household statistics, 32 adult volunteers and 13 young volunteers had been engaged along with 29 households receiving support.

In terms of volunteer engagement statistics, members heard that there were 459 sustained adult volunteers and 54 new ones but that the biggest increase had been seen in the young volunteers with 14 sustained volunteers and 40 new ones. In total there were 567 volunteers which had resulted in 831 volunteer hours being accrued and a financial return of £11,384.70.

Members enquired as to whether a monthly or weekly report could be circulated informing people of where work was scheduled to be carried out in their areas in order for people to take part or see what was happening in the future. They were informed that due to Covid measures and restrictions this hadn't been possible as Twiggs led events were unable to take place and smaller volunteer group meetings needed to be maintained and manageable in numbers. However, it was indicated that once all restrictions were lifted this would be reinstated and a calendar of scheduled events could be circulated either on a fortnightly or monthly basis.

Members raised the issue around planting trees and informed Wendy and John Twigg that if they identified an area that trees could be planted, then these could be funded from the Council as part of its commitment to plant 10,000 trees by 2023. They also enquired as to whether a project to plant some Christmas trees in the community could be created in order to have a future supply in place of commercially buying in expensive trees on an annual basis.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation and hard work undertaken by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance in improving the area.

### **33 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.10.2.2022/6)**

Members received the report, noting its contents. The Area Council Manager drew particular attention to the £10,000 allocated to the Schools Out Fund which had received an application for a February Half Term Cricket Camp leaving a total of £7820 for further applications. Members were informed that a number of applications were expected in for the Easter holidays.

Members enquired as to whether the remaining funds had a deadline for being spent, they were informed that there was no deadline and could be carried forward as a Schools Out Funding pot or merged back into the Ward Alliance main budget.

Members noted that £11,768 remained in the Ward Alliance funds.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **34 Quarter 3 Performance Update Report (Pac.10.2.2022/7)**

The Area Council Manager provided Members with an overview of Performance for Quarter 3 and all contracted Services.

Members attention was drawn to the comparison chart for the years 2020/21 to 2021/22 showing a positive upward trend in numbers confirming that things were moving forward and Groups were once again starting up and work with volunteers was more active.

Attention was brought to the significant increase in numbers for the quarter for residents and young people receiving advice and support, this was due to the inclusion of one of the young people projects that included providing advice to young people, whereas in previous quarters it had only included the CAB, Age UK and DIAL offers.

Twiggs numbers were exceeding their targets with working with groups, businesses and also with schools as things started to open up once more.

Lot 1 of the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People's grant, which had previously been extended had, amongst other things, provided one to one support for 26 existing service users and 23 had been offered information and advice.

The number of Community Car journeys had increased and had seen a move from just health visits to some leisure and educational visits. Intergenerational links had been welcomed with Thurlstone Primary school who had made 50 Christmas cards and donated 32 items of biscuits and chocolates which were given to Age UK to distribute to elderly residents. A number of activities had taken place over the Christmas period with Christmas lunch at Wortley Golf Club, visits to the Penistone Paramount and Cannon Hall.

Lot 2 had seen groups becoming active once again such as the Dementia Café at Penistone Leisure Centre which was making good progress. Particular attention was brought to the Penistone Men in Sheds group who had been helping Penistone Theatre Group out with set design and building, Age UK had used this as an opportunity to advertise in order to attract more people to join the men in sheds project.

Work had been undertaken around health immobility and healthy bones activities had been carried out in Thurgoland in conjunction with other health and leisure supporters. The Singing Group was doing well as well as the Tai Chi classes in Penistone which had been well attended.

Lot 3 had created a network which was being diverted and integrated into the larger age friendly agenda across Barnsley. A number of Berneslai Homes tenants bungalows had been fitted with solar panels in Oxspring had been identified and included in a battery storage project which was a collaboration between Berneslai Homes and Energise Barnsley, in order to produce a report to show what a difference it could make to households.

The Take a Seat Campaign continued to work with Twiggs in order to identify further benches to be included within the scheme. Age UK had looked at initiatives around helping older people with improved transport in rural areas and fed their findings into the consultation and review in conjunction with the South Yorkshire Mayor.



DIAL had received a significant number of people accessing their service with £115,000 of benefits claims supported with the majority being for Personal Independent Payments. DIAL had been working in conjunction with Public Health in order to carry out safe and well checks which had revealed a high incidence of loneliness. DIAL had hoped to commence face to face meetings in Penistone Town Hall but this had been delayed due to the Omicron variant, a date was yet to be agreed when this would commence.

Members were informed that whilst the Penistone Area Council had earmarked further funding from 2022, the project had also benefited from additional funds from the Lottery and the BMBC Advice Line Fund, which together had provided 28 hours of advice line support per week. DIAL had also provided Well and Warm packs for vulnerable clients by accessing the Local Support Grant allocated for the Penistone area.

Members raised a query as to whether fuel poverty had begun to be a concern, but at the time of the meeting this had not been highlighted as a major issue but that it would be monitored.

A significant impact had been seen with the Supporting Young People Grant Fund projects. Ad Astra had been continuing its work in Penistone Grammar School with pre 16 pupils providing advice and support. However due to restrictions in school, the proposed delivery model had required adaptation due to difficulties in securing a private safe space for individual contact, peer support to a group of pupils and planned walk and talk sessions could not be delivered resulting in reduced outcomes. Plans were in place for the Grammar school to carry out a baseline assessment for pupils to express their needs in order to direct future work.

Penistone Grammar School had put in place plans for mental wellbeing sessions for the post-16 pupils. Due to the impacts of Covid it had been unable to deliver on some outcomes detailed on the proposal. However, the school had recruited a volunteer Counsellor from Leeds Beckett University to carry out mindfulness/low mood sessions to pupils alongside the Pastoral Headteacher, with hopes to engage a further volunteer student Counsellor in the future.

Penistone Girl Guiding had created a project to support young women through positive experiences and activities as part of a 'Challenge' Badge and local event. The number of young women participating in the Girl Guides in the Barnsley West area had slowly increased as a result of the project. An open invitation for the Barnsley West area was to take place and Kingswood Outdoor Centre on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 with 200 places available.

Angel Voices had continued its success with 31 regular attendees. Work carried on to get out into villages after successfully holding a workshop in Cawthorne. Two performances had taken place in Penistone Church and Cawthorne Hall resulting in £736 pounds being raised from ticket sales and given back for restoration funds. Members noted that a positive impact on confidence in the young people coming forward and helping with a variety of mental health issues such as low self esteem and lack of confidence.

Members heard how one of the projects hoping to come forward for funding from the Schools Out Fund was from Angel Voices in order to hold workshops in the Easter Holidays in greenspaces outdoors.

An update was provided on Penistone Leisure Centre which had unfortunately been delayed with its projects and outcomes due to a number of reasons. However positive progress had been made by recruiting and training some volunteers in order to operate from February 2022 onwards. A further update would be provided at a future meeting.

Penistone FM was progressing well with 2 groups of people trained and working on Podcasts. Links had been established with Penistone Grammar School in order to widen the training out to further young people. A visit was to be planned in order to see the work being carried out.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **35 Working Together Fund - Citizen's Advice Bureau Debt Advice Service Update - David Andy**

The Area Council Manager provided members with an update on the Working Together Fund – Citizen's Advice Bureau Debt Advice Service from the period October 2020 to December 2021.

Members were informed that additional funding from the Hardship Fund had enabled an extension to the contract to March 2022.

Some background information was provided about the contract and how it had started as a trial in April 2019. The accredited, free and confidential sessions were held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month in Penistone Town Hall by Citizens Advice Bureau staff to provide help on a number of issues including support on debt, money management and benefits.

Sine the pandemic the service had been delivered via telephone and email provision in line with government guidelines. 150 clients had been assisted in the period from October, 2020 to December, 2021 and 306 clients from the beginning of the contract, which on average equated to 10 contacts per month. A total of 274 issues had been dealt with which was around 1.83 issues per client.

Although the contract dealt with mostly debts, clients had been aided in claiming £42,139 worth of welfare benefits making a total of £187,762 since the project began. £1,066,069 worth of debts had been managed culminating in a total of £1,136,084 since the start of the project.

Members heard how the return on investment per £1 was £4 in benefits and £105 in debts, however this was skewed by just one client that was helped with managing £1million.

The majority of enquiries made and dealt with revolved around debt, benefits including tax credits and universal credit, relationships and families, employment and housing.

Members received a breakdown of profile data in the year to date which included 49% of clients accessing the service presented with long term health conditions or disabilities and an even split on male and female clients had been seen. For housing types a varied pattern of people had been seen with 13% who owned their own home and 14% lived in private rented properties but with 59% who preferred not to say. The employment status showed a similar picture with 23% identified as full time/part time/self employed and 8% on sickness benefit but with 63% not recorded.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation and that its contents be noted.

### **36 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.10.2.2022/8)**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager who commenced by providing members with an update on the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older Peoples Service. The procurement process for the service had commenced and the timeline would enable the new service to be in place by the middle of May 2022. Members were informed that a Grants Panel would be held around April//May time and requests for member representations would be forthcoming.

Members were reminded that £33,599 remained in the Penistone Area Council Working Together Fund and that the CAB Debt Advice Service funded by the Grant was to end in March 2022. Members views were sought as to whether CAB should be encouraged to submit a further grant application form. Members attention was drawn to a Welfare Services Review that was underway within the Council. If approved the Area Councils may not have the need to fund welfare services in the future, however there was no guarantee that this would be up and running in order to provide a continuous service once this contract came to an end in March 2022. Members were supportive of the encouragement of a further application with a view to organising an urgent Grant Panel in order to protect the continuity of the service.

The Working Together Grant Fund – Supporting Young People projects were all progressing well following a delayed start due to the pandemic.

Members were informed that the Clean, Green and Tidy Service was nearing the end of its second year of the contract and that a decision was required as to whether members were satisfied with the service provided and if so whether they wished to extend to the third and final year of the contract at a cost of £100,000.

Members raised concerns as to the visibility of the Maintenance Team over the past year but were informed that this had been due to the pandemic and that the Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Team had adapted to working in different ways and encouraging different activities within communities.

Members were informed that the cost of the contract funded the delivery of a service such as contributions towards staff time, tools and equipment, the funding for an apprentice, waste carriers licence along with other administration costs.

Members queried whether this service was also funded by the other Area Councils, they were informed that 5 out of the 6 Area Councils had contracts with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance but that each contract had a different ask and need and that each one had been agreed through a rigorous individual procurement process.

Members agreed to the contract extension for a year but with the ask of increased visibility and improved communications around a timetable of visits and events.

It was noted that an amendment to the Penistone Ward Alliance budget was required due to a further project being agreed following the report being published resulting in £7,820 being left in the budget.

Members noted that work continued on the Private Sector Housing Support Officer and would be presented at a future meeting of the Area Council.

Members attention was drawn to previous allocations of money from the budget for publications in the Penistone Living Magazine which had left a budget of £1,157 available to spend. Members expressed their interest in producing further publications in order to publicise work being carried out in the Penistone Area and wished to allocate a further £3,000 from the 2021/2022 budget.

An overview of the budget was provided. Following the approval of the additional £3,000 for the Penistone Living Magazine fund, the 2021/2022 financial year end total to be carried forward into the 2022/23 financial year was £41,904.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the update of contracts funded by the existing Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant Fund be noted and that the timelines for the procurement of a new service be noted;
- (ii) that the update and current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund be noted and that the encouragement for an application from the Citizen's Advice Bureau to continue to provide a debt advice service for the Penistone Area be agreed;
- (iii) 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 received and noted;
- (iv) that the updates on the new Clean, Green and Tidy Contract started in April 2020 be noted and that approval be given to continue the service for a further 12 months to April, 2023 at a cost of £100,000 from the 2022/23 budget allocation;
- (v) that the Area Council Manager contact Twiggs Grounds Maintenance who would be requested to be more visible and provide communications to residents and elected members on work due to be undertaken;
- (vi) that the update on the Ward Alliance budget be noted;
- (vii) that the update on the proposals discussed to procure Private Sector Housing Support be noted;
- (viii) that the wish to continue to publicise the work of the Penistone Area Council and Ward Alliance via the Penistone Living publication be agreed and that approval be given for the allocation of £3,000 from within the 2021/22 budget for this purpose;

(ix) that the financial position for the 2021/22 budget, inclusive of decisions taken within the meeting, be noted.

**37 Community Listening Report (Pac.10.2.2022/9)**

The Area Council Manager drew members attention to the Community Listening Report. Members noted the contents and were informed that the report had been a useful exercise in order to provide an indication of what people's thoughts were and would be a useful aid to help forward plan for future projects.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.

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Chair

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 26 January 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, T. Cave, Howard, Lamb and Platts

**Members in Attendance:** Councillors Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy and Tattersall

**Members in Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Gardiner

### 184. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

### 185. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 12 January 2022 had been called in.

### 186. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 January 2022 (Cab.26.1.2022/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 187. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.26.1.2022/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 7 January 2022 were noted.

### 188. Action Taken under Paragraph B6 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.26.1.2022/5)

**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 **South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) Transport Regulations**

In accordance with section 23(6) Local Government Act 2003 the Council consent to making of regulations that extend the existing borrowing powers of the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to include all its functions.

Date of Decision: 11 January 2022

**189. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.26.1.2022/6)**

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

**190. Admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools in the Borough (2023/24) (Cab.26.1.2022/7)**

**RESOLVED** that the proposed policy as outlined in the Appendix to this report be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

**191. Admission Arrangements to primary and secondary schools in the Borough (2023/24) (Cab.26.1.2022/8)**

**RESOLVED** that the proposed scheme for admissions, as outlined in the Appendix to this report, be approved in order to ensure compliance with legislation.

**192. Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy (Cab.26.1.2022/9)**

**RESOLVED that Cabinet recommends to Full Council on 3 February 2022 that:-**

1. The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy appended to the report be published in accordance with the statutory requirements and adopted by the Council;
2. That the Institute of Licensing Suitability Guidance be adopted in its entirety;
3. That the requirement for a driver medical report to be produced every year from the age of 60 be retained;
4. That the D4 medical reports from a company called 'Doctors on Wheels' be no longer accepted for the reasons detailed within the report;
5. That the application fee charged be non-refundable on the grounds that the Council is permitted to charge for the administration involved in the processing and granting of a licence; and
6. That the topographical test be maintained as a means of ensuring that all licenced drivers have a good working knowledge of the area.

**193. Community Renewal Fund – Community Boost (Cab.26.1.2022/10)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Accepts the Community Renewal Funding award of £2.39m and provides approval to move forward with the implementation of the Community Boost Pilot Programme;
2. Agrees to the Council releasing up to £1.2m, on a short-term basis, to support the working capital/cash flow requirements of Community Boost delivery partners up until the closure of the programme on 30 June 2022. This is due to 50% (circa £1.2m) of the total CRF allocation being released retrospectively by the funder (ie the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities) after programme closure.



(Note: Any cash flow advances made by the Council to support the working capital/cash flow requirements of delivery partners will be recovered in their entirety from the overall CRF grant allocation); and

3. Notes that a further report containing a full evaluation of Community Boost will be provided upon completion of the programme summer 2022.

**194. Grant of Easement: New Foot/Cycle Bridge (Cab.26.1.2022/11)**

**RESOLVED that Cabinet recommends to Full Council on 3 February 2022 that:-**

1. The Service Director of Legal Services in consultation with the Corporate Asset Manager is authorised to undertake any necessary consultation processes, serve public notices and deal with any objections in relation to the grant of easement;
2. It is noted that the Charity Commission and the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) have been consulted about the Grant of Easement between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as Trustee of Pogmoor Recreation Ground to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council who have provided their written consent to the construction of the footbridge subject to conditions;
3. The Grant of Easement between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as Trustee of Pogmoor Recreation Ground to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council be approved to facilitate the new Foot and Cycle bridge; and
4. The Service Director of Legal Services in consultation with the Corporate Asset Manager is authorised to liaise with the Charity Commission to facilitate the formal approval of the order authorising the easement as this transaction is between connected parties; the Council as trustee and the Council as statutory authority.

**195. Barnsley Place-based Investment Plan (Cab.26.1.2022/12)**

**RESOLVED that Cabinet:-**

1. Adopts the Barnsley Place-Based Investment Plan; and
2. Approves the submission of the Barnsley Place-Based Investment Plan to South Yorkshire Combined Authority, as the strategy for South Yorkshire Renewal Fund investment priorities in Barnsley.

**196. Works and Investigations at Worsbrough and Elsecar Reservoirs (Cab.26.1.2022/13)**

**RESOLVED that Cabinet:-**

1. Approves the proposed phased investment plan for investigations, remedial works, and ongoing maintenance of Worsbrough and Elsecar reservoirs to bring these sites in line with legislation regarding flood prevention and health and safety; and

2. Delegates authority to officers (Executive Director, Place and Service Director, Regeneration and Culture) in relation to procurement of and entering into a contract(s) with suitable contractors to carry out the investigations, works and maintenance.

**197. A628 Manchester Road - Road Safety Improvement Scheme - Proposed Speed Limit Extension and Prohibition of No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions Objection Report (Cab.26.1.2022/14)**

In introducing the report, Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson, Environment and Transportation advised that in addition to the 3 objections received for Millhouse outlined within the report, 1 additional objection was received 3 weeks after the closing date for public consultation. Whilst not eligible to be included in the Cabinet report, it was felt that not to mention the late objection would not be a fair and transparent response for the resident concerned. The objection had not been raised by any other objector and was specific to one property, relating to the introduction of a 'Bus Stop Clearway' for the existing Bus Stop facility.

Although, the objection had been received late, it had been considered by the Traffic Unit and it was noted that as the bus stop was an existing facility, the introduction of a painted 'Bus Stop Clearway' on the road surface would not affect or add any further inconvenience or difficulties for the resident and it was recommended that the objection be overruled.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees that following the Internal and Public Consultation, the scheme in relation to the Thurlstone section of A826 Manchester Road be slightly amended to the proposals as shown in, 'APPENDIX – Thurlstone Revised' of the report submitted;
2. Agrees, that, for the purposes of, 'The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996', Part II, Sec 14 (3) – 'Modification', the above amendments do not constitute a, 'significant change' to the original proposals, (as shown in, 'APPENDIX – Thurlstone Original' of the submitted report), and therefore, do not require further Public Consultation to take place (ie the form of the amendments do not change the nature of the scheme and respond directly to feedback received from the Ward Councillors and the residents/visitors/public);
3. Agrees, that the remaining objections, not directly related to 2 above, and those also relating to Penistone and Millhouse be rejected for the reasons set out in the report and the objectors informed accordingly;
4. Approves the amended overall proposals to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to:
  - Extend the current 40mph Speed Limit at Penistone, (as shown in, 'APPENDIX – Penistone' of the report submitted), and
  - To introduce prohibition of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in Thurlstone (as amended), and

- To introduce prohibition of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in Millhouse, (as shown on, 'APPENDIX - Millhouse' of the report submitted); and
5. Authorises the Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.

**198. High Street (and its side road junctions of Towngate, Martin Croft, Silkstone Lane, and Barnsley Road), Silkstone, Barnsley – No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions Objection Report (Cab.26.1.2022/15)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees that the objections received be rejected for the reasons set out in the report and the objectors informed accordingly;
2. Approves the proposal to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on parts of both sides of HIGH STREET (and its side road junctions of Towngate, Martin Croft, Silkstone Lane, and Barnsley Road), as shown on Appendix 1 & 2 of the report submitted; and
3. Authorises the Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.

**199. Snyderdale Road, Eveline Street, Methley Street and Church Street, Cudworth, Barnsley - No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions Objection Report (Cab.26.1.2022/16)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees that the objections received be rejected for the reasons set out in the report and the objectors informed accordingly;
2. Approves the proposal to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on parts of both sides Snyderdale Road and its side roads: Eveline Street, Methley Street and Church Street, as shown on Appendix 1 of the report submitted; and
3. Authorises the Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.

**200. Tivy Dale, and its Junctions with The Park and Tivy Dale Close. Tivy Dale Drive, Maltkiln Row, Darton Road and Church Street, Cawthorne, Barnsley - Proposed Waiting Restrictions Objection Report (Cab.26.1.2022/17)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees that the objections received be rejected for the reasons set out in the report and the objectors informed accordingly;
2. Approves the proposal to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on parts of both sides of Tivy Dale and its side road junctions with The Park and Tivy Dale Close; Tivy Dale Drive, Maltkiln Row,

Darton Road and Church Street, as shown on Appendix Plan and Appendixes 1 to 1F and 2 of the report submitted; and

3. Authorises the Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.

**201. Carrs Lane, parts of both sides of Newland Avenue (and its side road junctions with Ring Farm Crescent, Carrs Avenue, Carrs Drive, Carrs Grove and Ring Farm Place), Cudworth, Barnsley - Prohibition of No Waiting At Any Time Restrictions Objection Report (Cab.26.1.2022/18)**

Councillor Lamb, Cabinet Spokesperson, Environment and Transportation introduced the report and advised that the proposed scheme could not be implemented until such a time that the Council formally adopted all roads on the new development. However, that did not preclude the Council from seeking to plan and have ready to install those restrictions it felt necessary to prevent the potential for inconsiderate and obstructive on-street parking.

In considering the report, Members agreed that in light of the unknown factors and objections received, that no restrictions should be put in place until the estate was complete, at which time a further evidence based report should be submitted to Cabinet for decision as to whether restrictions were required. The exception to this was the part of the estate where the TRO was part of the original planning application, namely Carrs Lane, which could be implemented. Cllr Lamb advised that he would speak with officers as to whether the amendments required could be considered 'minor' or a further revised TRO report would need to be submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the Traffic Regulation Order in the format presented to Cabinet, was not approved.

.....  
Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 23 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, T. Cave, Cheetham, Howard and Platts

**Members in Attendance:** Councillors Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost and McCarthy

**Members in Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Gardiner

### 214. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

### 215. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 9 February 2022 had been called in.

### 216. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2022 (Cab.23.2.2022/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 217. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.23.2.2022/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

### 218. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.23.2.2022/5)

**RESOLVED** that the report notifying the receipt of the following petition be noted and the recommended actions in response be endorsed:-

1. Containing the signatures of 655 signatories (comprising 477 addresses within the Borough and 178 outside) in respect of a Pedestrian Crossing on Racecommon Road in Kingstone Ward, Barnsley.

- a. We will always investigate any road safety concerns raised by residents, and as a member of the South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership, we work with agencies such as the local police and fire service to make our roads safer.

Any new pedestrian crossing is required to meet the national assessment criteria, as set out in Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 6 – Traffic Control. The criteria take into account a number of factors, including:

- traffic speed and volume
- how difficult it is for pedestrians to cross the road
- the number and nature of personal injury accidents, particularly those involving pedestrians
- the volume of traffic throughout a given day compared to the number of pedestrians crossing the road within a specific area – frequency of use
- site conditions/nature of the road and constraints funding and available resources

The traffic team will undertake an assessment of the location before the end of April, in line with the above, to determine whether it meets the criteria.

## **219. Assessment of Bus Franchising Option for South Yorkshire (Cab.23.2.2022/6)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Recommends to the meeting of full Council on 24 February 2022 that the proposal for SYMCA to issue the notice of intention to prepare a formal Assessment of a proposed franchising scheme in accordance with S.123C of the Transport Act 2000 be supported;
2. Requests that the Council are granted a formal opportunity by SYMCA to influence and shape what the assessment considers, either specifically within the prescribed requirements or have “other matters” included;
3. That the Council reserves the right to formally withdraw from the process at any stage if appropriate funding solutions cannot be found; and
4. To request that, in parallel, SYMCA carry out a detailed projected cost of the current Bus Partnership model over a three and five year period to help facilitate side-by-side comparisons with future franchise costs

.....  
Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 9 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, T. Cave, Cheetham, Howard, Lamb and Platts

**Members in Attendance:** Councillors Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost and Tattersall

**Members in Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Gardiner

### 202. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

The following Councillors declared a non-pecuniary interest:-

- Councillor Tattersall as Berneslai Homes Board Member in respect of Minute 207 (Medium Term Financial Strategy);
- Councillors Lamb and Frost as local ward councillors in respect of Minute Number 210 (Development of Parkside Sports Facility) ; and
- Councillor Houghton as a relative lived in the area in respect of Minute 211 (Dearne Hall Objection Report).

### 203. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 26 January 2022 had been called in.

### 204. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 January 2022 (Cab.9.2.2022/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 205. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.9.2.2022/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 10 December 2021 were noted.

### 206. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.9.2.2022/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

## 207. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-25 (Cab.9.2.2022/6)

### 2022/23 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 1. 2022/23 Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Council Tax

#### **RESOLVED THAT CABINET RECOMMENDS TO FULL COUNCIL ON 24 FEBRUARY 2022:**

- 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 2022/23 budget proposals be agreed and that the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team (SMT), in consultation with Cabinet Spokespersons, submit, for early consideration, detailed plans that ensure the Council's ongoing financial sustainability in 23/24 and beyond.
- b) that the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Budget Forecast for 22/23 to 24/25 contained at **Section 3** (supported by the suite of background papers in **Sections 3a – 3d**) be noted and that these are monitored as part of the arrangements for the delivery of the MTFS.
- c) that **£3.8M** of additional one-off funding received in the 2021 Local Government Finance Settlement be set aside pending further assessment of the emerging financial risks identified in the MTFS at **Section 3**.
- d) That provision of £10.7m to cover anticipated demographic and other cost pressures in Children's Social Care, Adult Social Care, Homes to School Transport and Waste Services be approved for inclusion in the budget as identified at **Section 3**.
- e) That additional service investment of £7.4m including Neighbourhood Services (grass cutting and clean up teams), Car Parking and the Glassworks be approved for inclusion in the budget as identified at **Section 3**.
- f) that the proposed efficiency savings in 22/23 highlighted in **Section 3** and detailed at **Section 5a** be approved for implementation and that the 23/24 efficiency savings also contained in **Section 5a** be noted with final approval to take place as part of the 23/24 budget setting process.
- g) that the Council's reserves strategy and updated reserves position at **Section 3b** be noted.
- h) that the proposed changes to the 22/23 fees and charges policy and accompanying schedule of charges set out at **Section 3d** be approved.
- i) to submit to Council for approval the cash limited budgets for each Service with overall net expenditure for 22/23 of £211.4M as highlighted in **Section 6a**.



- j) to consider the budgets for all services and approve, for submission into Council, the 22/23 – 24/25 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 22/23 schools block budget as set out at **Section 6d**.
- l) that the capital investment schemes totalling £56.2M (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 £310.8M (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 further detailed feasibility work / business case development be carried out on the capital investment proposals totalling £58.6M at (Section 7 Appendix 3)
- o) 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 22/23 on any further action required to achieve an appropriately balanced budget in addition to those proposals set out above.
- p) that the Chief Executive and SMT be responsible for managing their respective budgets including ensuring the implementation of all approved saving proposals.
- q) 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.
- r) that Cabinet and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical adjustments to form the 22/23 budget.
- s) 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.
- t) that the budget papers be submitted for the consideration of the full Council.

## **2. Council Tax 2022/23**

### **RESOLVED:-**

- 2.1 That Cabinet note the contents of **Section 3a** (22/23 Council Tax options) and that:
- a) the Council Tax Collection Fund net surplus as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 relating to BMBC of £3.2M be used to reduce the 22/23 Council Tax requirement, in line with statute.
  - b) the 22/23 Band D Council Tax increase for Barnsley MBC services be set at 3.5% (1.5% for Core Council Services and an additional 2.0% for the 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 22/23.
  - d) the Band D Council Tax for areas of the Borough with Parish / Town Councils be determined following confirmation of individual parish precepts for 22/23.
  - e) additional Local Council Tax Support be provided to all eligible working age claimants in the form of a flat rate discount of £125 per claimant, and that all eligible claimants are further protected from any agreed council tax increase for 22/23.

## **3. Treasury Management Strategy & Policy Statement 2022/23**

### **RESOLVED:-**

- 3.1 that Cabinet approve the 22/23 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy Statement (included in the main papers at **Section 3c**) and specifically:
- a) approve the 22/23 Treasury Management Policy Statement (**Section 3c Appendix A**).
  - b) approve the 22/23 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement (**Section 3c Appendix B**).
  - c) approve the 22/23 Borrowing Strategy at **Section 3c** including the full suite of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (**Section 3c Appendix C**).
  - d) approve the 22/23 Annual Investment Strategy at **Section 3e**.

## **208. Review of Peer Challenge Activity Across the Council (Cab.9.2.2022/7)**

### **RESOLVED:-**

1. The response to the 2019 Corporate Peer Challenge and the positive programme of peer reviews that have taken place across the Council since, was noted;
2. The proposed timeline for the next Corporate Peer Challenge and the suggested future programme of peer reviews was agreed;
3. The adoption of a centralised system for monitoring peer review activity and final reports was endorsed; and
4. It was agreed that the report would go to the Audit and Governance Committee for information and comments.

## **209. School Term Times and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools (2023-24) (Cab.9.2.2022/8)**

**RESOLVED** that the draft proposed term times and holiday dates for 2023-2024 be approved as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

## **210. Development of Parkside Sports Facility (Cab.9.2.2022/9)**

### **RESOLVED** that Cabinet approves:-

1. The release of £1.160M to front fund the construction of a new pavilion in compensation for loss of facilities at Rockingham Sports ground due to the development of land identified in the local plan and the construction of the new Hermes facility;
2. Approves the design and construction of the Parkside scheme to commence in 2022/23 financial year; and
3. Approves the submission of a joint bid with the Forge Partnership to the Football Foundation for the provision of an artificial grass pitch and the acceptance of the grant if successful. This is expected to be in the region of £0.700M.

## **211. Dearne Hall Road, Dearne Hall Lane and its side roads junctions of Millers View, Millers Grove and Dearne Hall Park, Barugh Green, Barnsley - 'No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions' Objection Report (Cab.9.2.2022/10)**

### **Resolved** that:-

1. The objections received are rejected for the reasons set out in this report and the objectors are informed accordingly;

2. The proposal to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on parts of Dearne Hall Road, Dearne Hall Lane and its side road junctions as shown on Appendix 1 of the report submitted is approved; and
3. The Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council be authorised to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.

## **212. Exclusion of Public and Press**

**RESOLVED** it was reported that Appendix B to the report at item number 213 (Glass Works and Town Centre Update) was not available to the public and press because it contained exempt information described in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

Accordingly, if the content of the appendix was to be discussed, the public and press would be excluded from the meeting.

## **213. Glass Works and Town Centre Update (Cab.9.2.2022/12)**

**RESOLVED** that:-

1. The progress on the overall Glass Works scheme be noted;
2. The progress made in relation to the Glassworks leasing strategy be noted;
3. The revised budget envelope for the Glass Works scheme and the wider town centre redevelopment at a total capital cost of £210.6M, an increase of £0.6M, [noting that this increase will be contained within the total budget allocated to the scheme including resources set aside to operate the development on a day to day basis] be approved; and
4. The Council's capital programme be updated accordingly in line with Financial Regulations.

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 23 February 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Andrews BEM, T. Cave, Cheetham, Howard and Platts

**Members in Attendance:** Councillors Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost and McCarthy

**Members in Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Gardiner

### 214. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

### 215. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 9 February 2022 had been called in.

### 216. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2022 (Cab.23.2.2022/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 217. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.23.2.2022/4)

There were no Records of Decisions by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers to report.

### 218. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.23.2.2022/5)

**RESOLVED** that the report notifying the receipt of the following petition be noted and the recommended actions in response be endorsed:-

1. Containing the signatures of 655 signatories (comprising 477 addresses within the Borough and 178 outside) in respect of a Pedestrian Crossing on Racecommon Road in Kingstone Ward, Barnsley.

- a. We will always investigate any road safety concerns raised by residents, and as a member of the South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership, we work with agencies such as the local police and fire service to make our roads safer.

Any new pedestrian crossing is required to meet the national assessment criteria, as set out in Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 6 – Traffic Control. The criteria take into account a number of factors, including:

- traffic speed and volume
- how difficult it is for pedestrians to cross the road
- the number and nature of personal injury accidents, particularly those involving pedestrians
- the volume of traffic throughout a given day compared to the number of pedestrians crossing the road within a specific area – frequency of use
- site conditions/nature of the road and constraints funding and available resources

The traffic team will undertake an assessment of the location before the end of April, in line with the above, to determine whether it meets the criteria.

## **219. Assessment of Bus Franchising Option for South Yorkshire (Cab.23.2.2022/6)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Recommends to the meeting of full Council on 24 February 2022 that the proposal for SYMCA to issue the notice of intention to prepare a formal Assessment of a proposed franchising scheme in accordance with S.123C of the Transport Act 2000 be supported;
2. Requests that the Council are granted a formal opportunity by SYMCA to influence and shape what the assessment considers, either specifically within the prescribed requirements or have “other matters” included;
3. That the Council reserves the right to formally withdraw from the process at any stage if appropriate funding solutions cannot be found; and
4. To request that, in parallel, SYMCA carry out a detailed projected cost of the current Bus Partnership model over a three and five year period to help facilitate side-by-side comparisons with future franchise costs

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Chair

<b>MEETING:</b>	Cabinet
<b>DATE:</b>	Wednesday, 9 March 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Andrews BEM (Chair), T. Cave, Cheetham, Howard and Platts

**Members in Attendance:** Councillors Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Frost, McCarthy and Tattersall

**Members in Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Gardiner

### 220. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Tattersall declared a non-pecuniary interest in any items relating to Berneslai Homes in view of her being a Berneslai Homes Board Member.

### 221. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Deputy Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 23 February 2022 had been called in.

### 222. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 February 2022 (Cab.9.3.2022/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 223. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.9.3.2022/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 25 February 2022 were noted.

### 224. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.9.3.2022/5)

It was reported that no petitions had been received under Standing Order 44.

### 225. People at the Heart of Care: Adult Social Care White Paper (Cab.9.3.2022/6)

**RESOLVED** that the implications of the White Paper and the actions being undertaken by the Council be noted.

### 226. Quarter 3 Corporate Performance Report (Cab.9.3.2022/7)

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Receives the Corporate Performance Report in relation to the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities and outcomes; and

2. Agrees that the Performance Report is shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform and support their ongoing work programme.

**227. Corporate Finance Performance - Quarter ending 31 December 2021  
(Cab.9.3.2022/8)**

**CORPORATE FINANCE PERFORMANCE**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Notes the forecast 21/22 General Fund financial pressure of £24.7 Million, predominantly due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19;
2. Notes the overall net impact (after applying specific Government COVID funding) is a balanced position for 21/22;
3. Notes the current 21/22 forecast of a £0.3M overspend on the Housing Revenue Account; and
4. Approves the write off of historic bad debts totalling £0.377M.

**CAPITAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Notes the forecast position on the approved Capital Programme; and
2. Notes the ongoing review of the capital programme.

**TREASURY MANAGEMENT**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet notes the key messages from the Council's Q3 Treasury Management activities.

**228. A628 Dodworth Road/A6133 Broadway/Pogmoor Road Junction Improvement  
Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders - Objection Report (Cab.9.3.2022/9)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees that the objection received be rejected for the reasons set out in the report and the objector informed accordingly;
2. Approves the proposal to enact a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to amend existing waiting and loading restrictions and to introduce new waiting/loading restrictions, one-way restrictions, prohibition of driving and other restricted or prescribed manoeuvres on the newly constructed Dodworth Road Gyratory system and surrounding roads as shown on Appendix 3 of the report submitted; and
3. Authorises the Head of Highways and Engineering and the Legal Service Director and Solicitor to the Council to make and implement the Traffic Regulation Order.



**229. ESF Pathways to Success and Pathways to Progression (Ambition)  
(Cab.9.3.2022/10)**

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet:-

1. Agrees to accept the extension of the ESF grants for the PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS and PATHWAYS TO PROGRESSION (Ambition) projects and contribute the required match funding.
2. Agrees to continue contracting with Sheffield City Council and undertake the responsibilities of project delivery partner; and
3. Approves the changes to staffing required to ensure successful delivery of both projects

**230. Launchpad Phase 2 Project Extension (Cab.9.3.2022/11)**

**RESOLVED** that approval is given for:-

1. The Executive Director Place to authorise the extension of the Launchpad project from the 31st of March 2022 to the 30th of June 2023 on behalf of the Council;
2. The Service Director of Finance to accept the additional £376k of ERDF from DLUHC;
3. The Service Director of Finance to accept the additional £ 81,844 of match funding from project partners, Sheffield CC, Doncaster MBC, Rotherham MBC and the Prince's Trust; and
4. The Service Director of Finance to provide £170k of match funding in the form of salary contributions for the Barnsley Launchpad team between the 1st of April 2022 to the 30th of June 2023.

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Chair

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## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**4 FEBRUARY 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor R Haleem (Rotherham MBC) (Chair)

Councillor A Cherryholme (Barnsley MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: T Baum-Dixon (Rotherham MBC), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), S Knowles (Doncaster MBC), B Lodge (Sheffield City Council), R Milsom (Sheffield City Council), C Pickering (Barnsley MBC) and C Ransome (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: W Carratt and Professor A James

M McCarthy, J Field, L Noble and A Shirt  
(Barnsley MBC)

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, G Hyland, S Parkin and F Topliss  
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

In attendance remotely:

D Carrington (South Yorkshire Police) and E Eruero (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from  
Councillor R Davison (Sheffield City Council), S Abbott and K Wright

### 1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Panel's first meeting of 2022 and reported that today's Panel meeting would be webcast live to the public.

An extended welcome went to Gemma Hyland, Senior Communications Officer, OPCC.

### 2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

### 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 Commissioner.

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 13 DECEMBER 2021

The Panel discussed and noted progress in respect of agreed actions captured on the Panel's Action Log set out in Appendix A to the minutes.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel meeting held on 13 December 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) Noted that the Panel's Action Log would be updated following discussion and agreement at today's meeting.

9 THE PCC'S POLICE AND CRIME PLAN FOR 2022-2025

A report was submitted which provided Members with the Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan (Plan) – '*Safer Streets More Police*' for 2022-2025.

It was reported that the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 made provision for a new or returning PCC to draft and issue a new Plan, in consultation with the Chief Constable, to set the policing objectives for the local area. The 2011 Act also provides for the Plan to be kept under review and variations issued, where necessary.

The Commissioner reported that, as in previous years, the draft Plan was based on information and consultation from a range of sources, and reflected the same three priorities – Protecting Vulnerable People, Tackling Crime and Anti-social Behaviour and Treating people Fairly. In addition, there were also some particular areas of focus in the coming year, such as: Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG);

Drugs – and the gangs and serious violence associated with them; Better representation of the communities of South Yorkshire – male/female, ethnic minorities; and Road Safety and speeding.

In addition to local priorities, the Commissioner said that he needed to ensure that the Government's National Crime and Policing Measures were taken into account in the Plan.

The Panel noted that the section on Child Sexual Exploitation may be further amended slightly, depending on additional information sought from South Yorkshire Police.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with a detailed overview of his draft Plan. The Panel were made aware that, during 2022/23 there would be more new police officers in South Yorkshire funded from both national and local uplift.

During the 2022/23 financial year, there would be 43.5 additional officer posts in the Barnsley district, 100 additional officer posts in the Doncaster district, 49 additional officer posts in Rotherham and 105.5 posts in the Sheffield district. Overall, there would be more neighbourhood and responses officers in South Yorkshire to deal with crimes.

The Commissioner invited the Panel to comment on the Plan's contents in the form of a report, and make any recommendations by 18 February 2022, to enable the Plan to be published in a timely manner.

The Panel raised the following key points:

- Mr Carratt asked the Commissioner to consider rephrasing 'Priority 1 – Protecting Vulnerable People' to 'Working in Partnership to Protect Vulnerable People' and to split this into children and adults.
- Mr Carratt asked the Commissioner to consider strengthening wording in the Plan with regards to commissioning work undertaken by the PCC to support victims and include details of the work undertaken by the Force to support victims of crime.
- Mr Carratt also asked the Commissioner to consider the inclusion of high-level impact statements which could sit alongside some of the priorities.
- Councillor Garbutt referred to the 'Introduction' section of the Plan under the heading 'Aim'. He asked the Commissioner to consider the inclusion of the word 'travel' in the 'Aim' section. This was due to the Commissioner including road safety in the Plan as a priority.
- Councillor Garbutt referred to the commissioning/co-commissioning of support services listed on page 7 of the Plan. He queried how the Commissioner measured their effectiveness.

- Councillor Garbutt highlighted that there was a certain amount of domestic abuse that was female and male. He asked if this was measured and handled by the Force.
- Referring to the areas of focus within 'Priority 2 – Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour'. Councillor Garbutt asked if the Violence Reduction Unit could be better served if a different legal framework was taken towards drugs. He asked if the Commissioner was considering how this could improve matters, and if he would be asking the Home Office to consider this.
- Councillor Garbutt asked if there were plans, targets and reduction measures in place to reduce speeding and improve road safety. In addition, he asked if performance measures in relation to speeding and road safety could be included in future quarterly performance reports presented at Panel meetings.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to page 11 of the Plan 'Child Sexual Exploitation'. He commented that, in his opinion, there needed to be more focus on victims being taken seriously. Furthermore, assurances needed to be provided that serious complaints are dealt with properly by the Force. In addition, he felt that there needed to be more accountability, particularly by local authorities.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon asked if there were any future plans to establish smaller Rural and Wildlife Crime specialist teams in other South Yorkshire districts. In addition, he asked if the Force were working with other local police forces to share best practice in relation to rural and wildlife crime.
- Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to Community Speed Watch. He commented that, enforcement action could only be undertaken when a warranted officer was onsite to issue a penalty.
- Councillor Pickering referred to the area of focus in relation to domestic abuse. He made the Panel aware that some support services used a screening tool when working with male victims of domestic abuse. He highlighted that, domestic abuse was not a gendered crime, and that a gender inclusive approach to domestic abuse should be referenced in the Plan.
- Councillor Pickering referred to 'Priority 1 – Protecting Vulnerable People'. He said that the supply of drugs was now often undertaken from people's homes. He highlighted that this had produced a new series of vulnerable people in the community (often elderly people) who felt intimidated by the individuals living around them and this could stop them from reporting incidents to the Force. Councillor Pickering said that the Force needed to identify vulnerable people living near drug users and be more proactive to assure people that action would be taken.
- Councillor Milsom referred to 'Priority 2 – Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour'. She felt that the Plan omitted to set out goals in relation to how anti-social behaviour has particular effects on individuals and communities. In addition, she said that crime and anti-social behaviour needed to be tackled in a

multi-agency approach. She also queried how the public could be reassured that crime and anti-social behaviour is being tackled by the Force.

- Councillor Ransome said that she disagreed with the three priorities outlined in the Plan. She asked the Commissioner to consider strengthening the priorities to make it more explicit that the police have a role as enforcers.

The Commissioner thanked the Panel for their comments and provided detailed responses to the questions raised above.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the PCC's new draft Plan.
- ii) Agreed to provide comments on the draft Plan in a report to the Commissioner by 18 February 2022.

## 10 PROPOSED COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT AND REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2022/23

A report of the Chief Finance Officer, OPCC was submitted to notify the Panel of the Commissioner's proposed Council Tax precept for 2022/23.

The Commissioner referred the Panel to the proposal in the report at paragraph 2 (a). He recommended that the Panel support a proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) of £10.00 on a Band D property, which was levied to support:

- The investment in the required infrastructure to ensure all officers are fully supported in their journey into the Force with further planned investment in both accommodation, Central Assessment and Practice Education (CAPE) assessment and tutoring support.
- Enhancement of the operating model and investment in SYP priorities:
  - Maintaining the current levels of PCSO numbers at 126, and
  - Improving the assets e.g. technology and estates.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with context to his proposal. The Home Office police funding settlement for 2022/23 had announced additional funding of £795.8m, for policing areas, with 31% of this expected to come from increased Council Tax (£246m).

The settlement gave Police and Crime Commissioners in England flexibility to increase the policing element of Council Tax precept locally up to a limit of £10 on a Band D property. Government allocation calculations had assumed the maximum precept increase.

The Panel noted that the core grant for South Yorkshire amounted to £233.8m, a cash increase of 5.8%, which covered the current cost of additional police officer uplift, national insurance increase, and contribution towards pay inflation.

The Commissioner said that, based on the latest tax base estimates from the four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire, after a £10 increase, the Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) included planned savings of £1.7m in 2022/23, with continued savings plans for the whole of the MTRS period. Despite these savings, the use of £2.3m of reserves in 2022/23 would be required to balance the budget.

The Commissioner highlighted that South Yorkshire Police also have a number of legacy costs to budget for, which were currently estimated to reach £121m by 2026/27, of which £18m would have to be paid by the Force.

During 2022/23, the use of £0.2m would be required from reserves to balance the budget, and a combination of savings and use of reserves amounting to £11.3m throughout the CSR MTRS period.

Referring to the Reserves Movement graph at Appendix B of the report, the Commissioner said that, looking ahead over coming years, there would remain a deficit over those years which would have to be funded from reserves unless the Government grant was more generous. If no action was taken by the Savings Team, then the Force would run out of reserves by 2026/27.

An online survey had been undertaken with the public in relation to policing priorities and the Council Tax precept. A total of 1,042 responses had been received and the results showed that, 46% of respondents (479) were supportive of up to a £10 (Band D property) increase. 54% (563) were not supportive of an increase.

The Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS) was presented at Appendix A to the report. The overall budget proposal was £310.7m, including investment to support the further increase in police officer posts. Also included was investment into prioritised growth areas relating to essential core and uplift delivery, enhancement of the operating model and Force priorities.

The report set out a number of key risks and uncertainties, which were noted by Members.

Councillor Garbutt asked if the prudential reserves level took into account the assumed levels of inflation.

D Carrington confirmed that the prudential reserves level was currently set at 5% of the net revenue budget until the end of 2024/25, and did take account of inflation.

Councillor Milsom asked if there was an increase in the number of individuals claiming Council Tax relief, would this affect the effectiveness of the policing element of the precept.

E Eruero replied that an assumption had been built into the Local Authorities council tax base that not all individuals in a Council Tax band would pay their full Council Tax bill. It was also confirmed that individuals applying for Council Tax relief would be doing so for the whole of their Council Tax bill.



Councillor Milsom asked if there had been any indication from Government as to how officer salaries would be adequately covered for in future years, especially when considering that the uplift in officer numbers was producing a relatively young workforce who would become more experienced in future years and progress through pay increments.

The Commissioner replied that Ministers would probably claim that they had taken this into account for future settlements. However, he suspected that funding would not be adequate. He was aware that there would be financial implications as officers rose to more senior positions within the Force, together with them receiving future pay increments.

Councillor Milsom asked if rising fuel costs had been accounted for either in the one-year funding settlement or the three year Spending Review. She also asked if there was an expectation that Commissioners would have to accommodate higher fuel costs within their budgets. Additionally, Councillor Milsom asked if the Commissioner was concerned about this. Furthermore, had there had been any suggestion that there might be emergency Government funding available should fuel costs begin to impinge on other budgetary commitments.

The Commissioner replied that the Policing Minister had made it very clear that there would be no in-year funding changes or additions to police funding, other than, the possibility of funding around the McCloud and Sargeant pensions issue, which was yet to be resolved.

The Commissioner confirmed that an assumption had been made in the budget for rising fuel costs.

Councillor Baum-Dixon referred to the current level of reserves. He asked if the Commissioner could consider granting relief to those individuals in South Yorkshire who were struggling to pay their Council Tax bill.

The Commissioner replied that he did recognise that there were people in South Yorkshire who were financially struggling, and these are most likely to be the ones who would receive discounts on their Council Tax bill. Despite the precept increase, the Force would have to use reserves to balance the budget.

Councillor Lodge asked if the Commissioner was confident that legacy costs would continue to be covered by Government Special Grant funding and if there was any indication that the level of Special Grant funding would increase in future to cover legacy costs.

In response, the Commissioner said that Special Grant funding was discretionary. However, along with the Chief Constable, he had written to the Home Secretary to request her to consider and reconsider South Yorkshire's Special Grant funding.

The Chair, Councillor Haleem referred to the recommendation in the report which asked the Police and Crime Panel to consider and support a proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2022/23 of £10.00 for a Band D property, which would be an increase of 4.69%. The Panel noted that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Bands A (57%) and B (17%)

and C (12%) where the increase would be A 13p per week, B 15p per week, and C 17p per week.

A recorded vote was taken and recorded as follows:-

For accepting the proposed increase in the policing element of the Council Tax precept for 2022/23 – (9) Councillors Haleem, Cherryholme, Garbutt, Knowles, Lodge, Milsom, Pickering, Mr W Carratt and Professor A James.

Against the proposed increase (2) Councillors Baum-Dixon and Ransome.

Abstained (0).

The proposal was approved.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime:-

- i) Voted to accept the proposed annual increase in the policing element of the Council Tax (the precept) for 2022/23 of £10 for a Band D property, which would be an increase of 4.69%.
- ii) Noted that most properties in South Yorkshire are in Bands A (57%) and B (17%) and C (12%) where the increase would be A 13p per week, B 15p per week, and C 17p per week.

**11     POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING)**

A report of the Commissioner was presented to inform Members that the Commissioner is supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in delivering his Police and Crime Plan, and in effectively discharging his wide range of legal responsibilities. The OPCC has a Delivery Plan which outlines how this is undertaken each year.

The report provided Members with an update on key PCC and OPCC activities against the new Delivery Plan since the Panel's last meeting held on 13 December 2021.

The report also provided Members with information on the decisions taken by the PCC since the Panel's last meeting.

The key activities reported for the period under the headings within the OPCC's new Delivery Plan were detailed in the report and noted by Members.

Councillor Garbutt referred to two recent reports in the media in relation to various aspects of policing, including Child Sexual Exploitation. He sought assurances from the Commissioner that South Yorkshire Police was not one of the forces who had been listed as not having learned any lessons.

M Buttery replied that Child Sexual Exploitation remained a specific area of focus for the Commissioner and was included in the new Police and Crime Plan. Child

Sexual Exploitation would be discussed at the March meeting of the Public Accountability Board, where the Commissioner rigorously holds the Force to account in this area.

In addition, the Commissioner was awaiting the receipt of the National Crime Agency's (NCA) independent investigation around non-recent CSE in the UK and Rotherham, together with the Independent Police Complaints' Commission's investigations in relation to the behaviour of officers working at the time.

M Buttery provided assurances that there was no part of the Commissioner's holding to account arrangements where CSE was not a high priority. In addition, CSE was also considered at both public and private Force and OPCC meetings.

The Commissioner reminded Members that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) had rated South Yorkshire Police outstanding in the area of ethical leadership.

In response to a question from Councillor Baum-Dixon, the Commissioner provided assurances that any recommendations arising from the two reports would be taken very seriously by himself and the Force.

The Commissioner invited Councillor Baum-Dixon to meet with staff at the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Unit in Rotherham to obtain an overview of the work they undertake.

Councillor Baum-Dixon welcomed the invitation.

Councillor Milsom asked if the joint PCC and South Yorkshire Police Sustainability Strategy Action Plan could be included in the Update reports at future Panel meetings.

M Buttery acknowledged the request and agreed to include information in future PCC Update reports.

Professor James referred to the update in relation to Violence Against Women and Girls. He raised concerns that, only one of the four Community Safety Partnerships had any reference to Violence Against Women and Girls in their planning and reporting.

In addition, Professor James said that he had made an observation on previous occasions that many female offenders are also victims of domestic abuse and were vulnerable in their own way. He asked that silos be broken down to allow female offenders to be factored into deliberations around Violence Against Women and Girls.

The Commissioner acknowledged Professor James' observation.

M Buttery said that the publication of the Force's Female Offenders' Strategy had been delayed. The OPCC had requested a date when the Strategy would be made available. The LCJB Business Manager was heavily involved in the work around

Violence Against Women and Girls and had already highlighted the perspective around female offenders.

In relation to the Community Safety Partnerships, M Buttery said that Violence Against Women and Girls featured in the PCC's new Police and Crime Plan and was not considered in isolation. The Community Safety Partnerships would be held to account from a funding perspective around the Actions Plans they have in place around serious violence, domestic abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls.

Professor James referred to the work being undertaken in relation to disproportionality in the Criminal Justice System. He asked if the report on progress from the Task and Finish Group could be circulated to Panel Members. He also asked if the Task and Finish Group would be linking in with the work of the PCC's Independent Ethics Panel on disproportionality in stop and search data, and the Force's efforts to improve workforce diversity.

M Buttery replied that the reports considered at the Criminal Justice Board were not discussed in public; she agreed to seek the Board's agreement to ascertain what information could be shared with the Panel.

In relation to the overlap of work being undertaken between the Independent Ethics Panel and the Criminal Justice Board, M Buttery said that the OPCC was aware of this and would be seeking to address any common themes arising.

Professor James asked if the Panel could receive further details in relation to the grants awarded and activity underway.

M Buttery replied that arrangements were being made for a Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) presentation to be given to Panel Members, which would focus on the funding that is made available through both the VRU and the OPCC's Commissioning Team. In addition, a small amount of Commissioning Services information was also included in the quarterly Performance report.

M Buttery said that she would make arrangements to include further details around Commissioning Services in future quarterly Performance reports.

Professor James noted that the OPCC's Partnerships and Commissioning Manager was a member of the Partnership's Commissioning Sub-Group. He asked how success was measured in relation to the partnership work being undertaken to support successful rehabilitation across Yorkshire and the Humber. In addition, he also asked how much effort was being taken to look at the issue of diverting offenders from custody, rather than rehabilitating them.

M Buttery replied that she would make arrangements for Linda Mayhew to contact Professor James following today's meeting to provide a response to his question.

M Buttery understood that work was ongoing with regards to performance management. She added that the results in relation to how effective rehabilitation activity is could be provided after today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Asked questions on the matters contained in within the report, given that it explained how the PCC has over the period delivered his Police and Crime Plan, and discharged the wide range of his legal responsibilities.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner would invite Councillor Baum-Dixon to meet with staff at the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Unit in Rotherham to obtain an overview of the work they undertake.
- iv) Noted that updates on the Joint PCC and SYP Sustainability Strategy Action Plan would be included in future PCC Update reports.
- v) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to ascertain with the Local Criminal Justice Board if the update report in relation to the work being undertaken by the Task and Finish Group around disproportionality could be shared with the Panel.
- vi) Noted that arrangements would be made by the OPCC to include further details around Commissioning Services in future quarterly Performance Reports presented to the Panel.
- vii) Noted that M Buttery would make arrangements for Linda Mayhew to contact Professor James following today's meeting to provide him with a response to his question in relation to the Partnership's Commissioning Sub-Group.
- viii) Noted that M Buttery had agreed to provide Professor James with information in relation to how effective rehabilitation activity is across Yorkshire and the Humber.

**12     REPORT BACK FROM DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Knowles provided the Panel with a detailed update on the key issues and work currently being undertaken by the Safer and Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board. It was noted that the Doncaster Community Safety Strategy had been signed-off by full Council ready for publication.

Councillor Milsom reported that the Safer Sheffield Partnership had been restructured over the last year. A relaunch of the Partnership was awaited with a new online presence and new ways of working between the various bodies. A number of Community Safety Wardens had also been recruited.

Due to the timings of the Barnsley and Rotherham Community Safety Partnership meetings, no updates were available for today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the feedback.

**13     NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANELS - SURVEY RESULTS: FOR INFORMATION**

The Panel noted the contents of a report of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels which presented the findings of a survey of Police, Fire and Crime Panels in England and Wales. The report also collated other relevant information to foster good practice amongst Panels.

The results showed a very diverse range of approaches in respect of Panel size, independent co-opted membership, AGM dates, meeting balanced appointment objectives and Panel allowances.

In response to a question from Professor James in relation to the appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, the Commissioner reported that recruitment had been delayed due to internal Labour Party issues.

M Buttery added that the Commissioner had received correspondence from the Home Office in relation to South Yorkshire's resilience plans in the absence of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner had been encouraged by the Home Office to involve the Panel. A discussion would take place with L Noble after today's meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels survey results report.
- ii) Noted that a discussion would take place after today's meeting between M Buttery and L Noble in relation to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner appointment.

#### 14 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

Suggestions for any other learning and development opportunities Members may have to support the Panel's learning and development were welcomed.

A summary of the events which had taken place since the last meeting together with details of proposed future events were set out within the report for Members' information.

The Panel was reminded that a virtual session with the Violence Reduction Unit had been fixed for Friday 25 February at 10:00 am.

It was noted that arrangements would be made with the OPCC for Members to visit the Sexual Abuse and Referral Centre (SARC).

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.

- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.

**15     POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING DATES 2022-23**

A report was submitted to set out a schedule of meeting dates for the Police and Crime Panel in 2022/23.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Considered and approved the 2022/23 meeting dates set out below:-

Monday 25 April 2022  
Monday 6 June 2022 – Annual Meeting  
Monday 18 July 2022  
Monday 19 September 2022  
Monday 5 December 2022  
Friday 3 February 2023  
Monday 24 April 2023

All meetings will take place at 1:00 pm with a pre-meeting for Members at 12:30 pm and be held in Barnsley Town Hall, unless stated otherwise.

- ii) Agreed to hold additional / extraordinary meetings / training events as and when appropriate / necessary.

**16     WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES**

Members considered the 2022/23 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and scrutinising the Commissioner.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend the meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge. These were currently being held virtually and Members could obtain details to 'dial in' to the meeting from L Noble or A Shirt.

Members were reminded that they could also submit questions for PAB through the OPCC, with 5 working days notice prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2022/23 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 25 April 2022 at 1:00 pm in Barnsley Town Hall.

CHAIR



## SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor T Damms (Chair)  
Councillor C Hogarth (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors: S Sansome, S Ball, J Paszek, D Hutchinson, S Ayris,  
R Frost, C Ross and Dr A Billings

CFO A Johnson, ACO T Carlin, T/AM M Gillatt, S Slater, AM Strelczenie  
and AMB S Dunker  
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

M McCarthy, J Field, S Loach and M Bray  
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Garbutt,  
Councillor T Smith, Councillor B Johnson, N Copley, M Potter, L Noble,  
S Norman, DCFO C Kirby and M Buttery

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO  
ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

None.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 10 January 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Authority meeting held on 24 January 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11 APPOINTMENT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER TO THE AUTHORITY

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented regarding the appointment of the Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

Members noted that the Monitoring Officer to the Authority, Garry Kirk, who was the Service Director (Legal) Barnsley MBC, had left the organisation at the end of January 2022. Members were recommended to appoint the new Monitoring Officer, Jason Field, who is the Head of Legal Services at Barnsley MBC, with effect from 1 February 2022.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed to appoint Jason Field, Head of Legal Services, as the Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

12 COVID-19 UPDATE

Members were provided with an update on SYFR's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Service continued to encounter COVID-19 related sickness absences, however a reduction in the number of sickness absences overall was now starting to be observed.

Following the Government's decision to remove the Plan B restrictions, the Service had continued to keep those restrictions in place i.e. to continue with the recommended social distancing, wearing of face masks at fire stations and when travelling in brigade vehicles. The Service's Senior Leadership Team would continue to review the measures.

An announcement was expected imminently from the Government in relation to self-isolation and other COVID-19 control measures, which would be considered by the Service's COVID-19 Recovery Group.

The Service's office based staff had been requested to return back into the workplace on a rota basis.

The Service continued to support the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum.

AM Dunker suggested that the COVID-19 update should no longer be a standing agenda item, but should instead be reported to the Authority by exception.

Councillor Damms agreed to the suggestion.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed that the COVID-19 update should no longer be a standing agenda item, but should instead be reported to the Authority by exception.

### 13 2022/23 ANNUAL REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was submitted to approve the 2022/23 revenue budget and to set the council tax and precept by the legislative deadline. The report set out the implications of the Local Government Finance Settlement, the proposed 2022/23 revenue budget and an updated Capital Programme, including new 2022/23 capital investment schemes for approval by Members.

The budget was in balance for 2022/23, which included a transfer of approximately £1m into reserves that reflected the one-off Services grant to be received in 2022/23. The budget was based on a proposed council tax increase for 2022/23 of 1.99%, which subject to approval by Members, would equate to £77.58, which was an increase of £1.51 per annum.

Councillor Ross queried whether the 2% provision of pay awards and the contractual inflation that was assumed at 3% each year were optimistic projections.

Members noted that most of the other fire and rescue services nationally were looking at a 2% pay rise and around 3% – 4% for contractual inflation; the Service would continue to monitor the position. The National Fire Chiefs Council was discussing the pay issue. The new reserve in terms of the Emerging Risk Reserve, was an area whereby any further increase would seek to be funded from.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Hogarth as to whether there was any scope for the arrears to be paid for the 2021/22 pay award prior to the end of the current tax year, to prevent individuals from being hit by the increase in national insurance contributions, S Slater commented that this was provided for as part of the budget for the year. The outcome of the trade union meetings were awaited.

Councillor Sansome expressed concern at the ask of £1m from the residents of South Yorkshire, and how those individuals on the lowest possible incomes would be able to manage with the increase.

S Loach commented that in the event that the Members did not agree to the 1.99% Council Tax increase, then it would result in an impact of approximately £400-£500k during the year which would reduce the reserve down, and the rise would be annually effective. The Services grant was on a one-off basis, and therefore there was already a deficit for 2022/23.

In response to a query raised by Dr Billings regarding the external borrowing requirement and the assumptions on the percentage interest rates, S Loach stated that the majority of borrowing was fixed rate borrowing. He would provide Members with the information regarding interest rates in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy.

Councillor Ball referred to the savings that had been made on transport and hybrid meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic, together with the COVID-19 grant. He therefore suggested that the council tax increase of £1.51 per household should not be made this year, as it would hit the residents of South Yorkshire with a further cost, when the Service would be making savings moving along.

CFO Johnson considered that the Service would face a challenging couple of years, in terms of the awaited Government White Paper, inflation issues and staff salaries. In the event that the council tax was not increased, this would ultimately result in a reduction of the number of firefighter roles within the Service, which would impact upon the number of fire appliances that were made available.

S Loach commented that the majority of the properties within South Yorkshire were Bands A and B, which equated to a council tax increase of £1.00 per household per annum.

In response to a request made by Councillor Damms for Members to be provided with regular updates on the reserves, S Slater commented that the information was provided within the financial quarterly report that was presented to the Authority.

**RESOLVED – That Members:-**

- i) Approved the Authority's 2022/23 Revenue Budget at Appendix A to the report.
- ii) Noted the Treasurer's Section 25 Statement (Section H) in support of the budget.

- iii) Approved the Capital Investment Strategy (Appendix B) including the updated Capital Programme and new approvals as set out in Section E of the report.
- iv) Endorsed the proposed approach for managing reserves as set out in Section D to the report, noting the increase in reserves as a result of the receipt of the one-off Services grant in 2022/23.
- v) Approved the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy at Section G.
- vi) Approved the fees and charges schedule for 2022/23 at Appendix D.
- vii) Approved a Council Tax Increase of 1.99% for 2022/23 at Section C of the report.

**All Members voted in favour of a Council Tax increase of 1.99% for 2022/23, with the exception of Councillor Ball who voted against the decision.**

14     SERVICE IMPROVEMENT BOARD UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided an update on progress against the actions on the Service Improvement Plan. The plan was monitored by the Service Improvement Board, which met on a monthly basis, to ensure that the objectives within the plan were being progressed and delivered in good time. The plan included actions relating to the Service, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Inspection Report, Grenfell Tower Inquiry, State of Fire and Rescue Reports and published Fire Standards.

Members noted that the percentage of completion for each action was now recorded onto the plan, as per the request of the Authority. Members were referred to Appendix A of the report, which detailed the 17 Areas for Improvement (AFI) which had been identified within the HMICFRS inspection report for SYFR. The HMICFRS fieldwork inspection of SYFR was scheduled for w/c 11 April 2022. The Service's document request and self-assessment had recently been returned to the HMICFRS.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Ross regarding how those items that were behind schedule would impact upon the upcoming HMICFRS inspection, AM Strelczenie commented that the matter would be discussed further at the Service Improvement Board meeting scheduled for 28 February 2022. A great deal of work had been undertaken to complete the outstanding areas for improvement. There were now only 2 – 3 outstanding areas for improvement, which AM Strelczenie anticipated would be completed when the matter was next reported to the Authority.

In relation to the actions that were behind schedule and the shortage of staff within the Fire Safety Team, Members noted the recent advertisement for recruitment. Recruitment had been successful to appoint an E-learning co-ordinator and an ICT software developer to commence work on the 'Hazard Alert' software.

The Service liaised with the residents and the responsible persons in relation to the evacuation of high-rise buildings. However, the evacuation strategy of those buildings was the responsibility of the respective local authority or responsible persons and not the Service.

In response to a series of questions raised by Dr Billings, AM Strelczenie commented that the pilot on the provision of out of hours work had been successful. The trial would conclude at the end of March 2022, at which point it was anticipated that it would become embedded within the Service.

The timeline for the work to adopt a national operational guidance and for a plan to be put in place had been extended by around 8 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as a number of staff had been redeployed to provide assistance. AM Strelczenie would provide Members with an update on the new timeframes for the implementation of the new national operational guidance to the next Authority Meeting scheduled to be held in April 2022.

With regard to the AFI to ensure that the Service's operational staff had good access to relevant and up-to-date risk information, which should include cross-border risk information, Members noted that the Service did have access to over the boarder risk information. The AFI had been left open, as it had not yet been determined how far a radius outside of the Service's boarder that it would travel. Consideration was being given to a radius scheme based upon inherent risk. The Service would always attend those incidents with the cohort fire and rescue service, who would have access to the risk information.

Nationally, the fire and rescue sector continued to experience issues in the recruitment and retention of women and BAME individuals. The matter had been raised following the recent HMICFRS inspections that had been carried out at 13 fire and rescue services. Members were referred to the work that continued to be undertaken by the Service to address the issue. During 2022, the number of female recruits onto the current course had increased to 14% with 5 female members of staff and 3% from BAME. Two female middle managers had been appointed over the last 6 month period. The Service continued to encourage individuals from the under-represented groups to join the establishment through a variety of means. DCFO Kirby would attend an upcoming meeting with the Somalia community, to discuss employment opportunities within the Service.

**RESOLVED** – That Members noted the contents of the report and provided further scrutiny and support to enable continual service improvement.

15 STATE OF FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT 2021

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided an overview of the publication of the State of Fire and Rescue 2021, by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services, Sir Thomas Winsor, which had been released on 15 December 2021.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and provided further scrutiny and support to enable continual service improvement.

16 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2021/22

A report of the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was presented as the third in a series of reports that Members would receive throughout the financial year, to inform them as to the likely financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The report detailed the estimated revenue outturn position in comparison to the annual budget that had been set on 22 February 2021, it also provided an updated reserves position statement together with an update on the Capital Programme.

The approved operating budget for 2021/22 totalled £55.400m, and funding totalled £55.872m which resulted in a planned contribution to reserves of £0.472m. The Authority projected a net operating spend of £54.761m, with funding of £55.872m resulting in an overall forecast operating underspend of £1.111m or 2% of the budget.

The approved Capital Programme for 2021/22 totalled £7.704m, and the programme had been adjusted to £9.487m following approval of the 2020/21 Outturn Report on 21 June 2021.

Councillor Sansome queried where the money would go, in the event that the Service did not recruit the planned number of fire officers within the budget that had recently been set.

S Slater highlighted that any underspends that were generated through the revenue budget would go into general reserves for the Authority to then choose where this would go. In such an event, it was anticipated that the Treasurer would suggest that the money should go into emerging risk due to the issues with the comprehensive spending review, future inflationary price increases, pay awards etc. It was envisaged that the Service would reach its full establishment by the end of the next financial year.

Dr Billings queried whether the potential support staff pay award of 1.75% that had yet to be agreed and implemented was for the current financial year.

S Slater referred to a statement made by the Chancellor, at the time when the Service's budget had been set for the current financial year, that there would be no pay awards across the public sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Service had received a pay award during the year for operational staff.

A negotiated pay award was ongoing for the Service's support staff. In the event that this was paid from April 2022 onwards, there would be an impact on the pay award, which included the national insurance levy to which the Service and staff would observe an extra 1.25% deduction.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Ball regarding the £1.1m savings that had been achieved last year and the public to be asked to provide a further £600k, S Loach referred to the budget which had been approved by Members at today's meeting of a 1.99% increase which generated approximately £450k that was already built into the budget. This was a one-off underspend, which was mainly attributable to recruitment and was a national ongoing issue.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing measures, the Service had cut the number of attendees on the recruits courses by half. This had prevented the Service from reaching full establishment at an earlier point. The Service had re-established the 2-2-4 system across the establishment and had removed Close Proximity Crewing. In November 2021, the last fire station had been moved back onto the 2-2-4 system. The Service aimed to reach the full establishment of 608 by the end of the financial year, together with the recruitment of a more diverse workforce.

Members noted that within the current financial year, that some of the underspend related to non-pay. The changes in the expenditure and the reduction due to agile working had been reviewed into the Medium Term Financial Plan. The reduction was a one-off underspend and adjustments had been made to the budget for 2022/2023 with further savings to be made in 2023/2024.

**RESOLVED – That Members:-**

- i) Noted the emerging underlying estimated revenue performance which was showing a potential operating underspend of £1.111m for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.
- ii) Noted the underlying and significant financial risks and uncertainties facing the Service and Sector during the remainder of this financial year and into 2022/2023 and beyond.
- iii) Noted the latest estimated change in General and Earmarked Reserves as set out in Section C of the report.
- iv) Noted the current position of the capital programme for the financial year ending 2021/22, which was in line with expectations.

**17     SYFR COLLABORATION STRATEGY REVIEW**

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented which provided Members with an updated Collaboration Strategy and accompanying Equality Impact Assessment for approval. The refreshed strategy had been taken through two consultation processes, with key collaboration colleagues in late 2021



and via the normal Corporate Management Board consultation process in January 2022.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the refreshed Collaboration Strategy.

18 REVIEW OF FRA MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

A report of the Clerk to the Authority was submitted in relation to a review of the Authority's Members' allowances scheme. It was recommended that a review of the scheme should be undertaken every four years, and that the element that allows indexation to only run for four years after approval. The scheme had last been reviewed in 2018, where the Members allowances had not been increased, but the indexation had been approved.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered whether a full review of the FRA Members' Allowances Scheme was necessary.
- ii) Approved an independent review of the indexation, which was required after a term of four years.

19 UPDATE OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD KEY ISSUES AND DRAFT MINUTES OF 20 JANUARY 2022

M McCarthy referred to the excellent work that was undertaken by the Local Pension Board on behalf of the Authority. The Local Pension Board was deemed exemplar within the fire sector, in terms of the work undertaken and how it interacted with the Authority. This was attributable to A Bosmans, Chair of the Board, Members of the Board and L Noble's interaction with the Board.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes and the key issues arising from the Local Pension Board Meeting held on 20 January 2022.

20 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Yorkshire and Humber Employers' Association held on 13 January 2022.

21 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 10 January 2022.

22 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPEALS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appeals and Standards Committee held on 24 January 2022.

23 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON  
28 JANUARY 2022

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 28 January 2022.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Timescale	Officer(s)	Status/ Update
1	To provide Members with the information regarding interest rates, in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy.	ASAP	S Loach	<b><u>Update 07.03.22</u></b>  Please see the information appended to the minutes.  <b>ACTION DISCHARGED</b>
2	To provide Members with an update on the new timeframes for the implementation of the new national operational guidance.	Fire Authority Meeting on 11.04.21	AM Strelczenie	

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>

**Action 1 - To provide Members with the information regarding interest rates, in terms of what had been built into the Treasury Management Strategy**

The forecast for interest rates at the time of writing the 22/23 TMSS was:

	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
7.2.22	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
20.12.21	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25
change	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00

Since the 2022/23 Treasury Management Strategy was prepared, the Monetary Policy Committee decided to raise the Bank Rate from 0.25% to 0.50% at the February 2022 BoE meeting.

The Authority's treasury advisors have updated their interest rate forecast, which now has bank rate climbing to 1.25% by December 2023 (previously 0.50% per the strategy). It should be noted that since the revised forecasts were issued there is further uncertainty in financial markets due to the situation with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and there is likely to be further revisions to the forecasts depending on how the crisis unfolds.

In order to limit the impact of interest rate rises in a volatile financial environment, the strategy is to maintain a minimum proportion of fixed rate borrowing of 70% of the Authority's total requirement. To achieve this target the Authority is likely to require around **£15.9M** of **fixed** rate borrowing over the period to 2024/25. The remaining 30% could be funded through a combination of temporary borrowing or utilising internal cash resources to minimise financing costs. The breakdown of the total borrowing requirement is shown below:

	2021/22 (£M)	2022/23 (£M)	2023/24 (£M)	2024/25 (£M)
Closing CFR	31.592	39.188	47.533	54.451
Gross Borrowing	(23.248)	(23.168)	(23.168)	(22.168)
<b>Under-Borrowed Position</b>	<b>8.344</b>	<b>16.020</b>	<b>24.365</b>	<b>32.283</b>
Support from Usable Reserves	(8.344)	(14.398)	(14.065)	(13.623)
<b>External Borrowing Requirement</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.622</b>	<b>10.300</b>	<b>18.660</b>

	2021/22 (£M)	2022/23 (£M)	2023/24 (£M)	2024/25 (£M)
<b>Fixed Rate Borrowing</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4.264</b>	<b>10.105</b>	<b>15.948</b>
Temporary / Variable Rate Borrowing	-	-	0.195	2.712
<b>Total Requirement (Cumulative)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4.264</b>	<b>10.300</b>	<b>18.660</b>

Officers continue to closely monitor interest rates and consider the options available for borrowing which represent the best value for the Authority. Note that the above indicative borrowing figures may be subject to change in line with fluctuations in the financial markets or should there be revisions to the Authority's Capital spending plans.

As highlighted in the 2022/23 Strategy, there are a number of potential borrowing options available, including deferred loans, PWLB borrowing at the Certainty Rate and borrowing from other local authorities. Officers will continue to assess the rates and terms available within the market and ensure that the Authority's level of debt is prudent, affordable and sustainable over the longer term.

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY**

**10 FEBRUARY 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor J Mounsey (Chair)

Councillors: F Belbin, M Havard, D Nevett, C Rosling-Josephs, A Sangar, M Stowe and G Weatherall

Trade Unions: N Doolan-Hamer (Unison) and D Patterson (Unite)

Officers: G Graham (Director), 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 S Clement-Jones, Councillor S Cox, Councillor D Fisher, Councillor N Wright and G Warwick

### 1 **APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Director for the tour of the new office which he thought was very impressive.

Apologies were noted as above.

### 2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

G Graham informed members that the recently published Levelling Up White Paper had included reference to LGPS funds investing 5% of their value locally although it was not clear what type of assets this would apply to. The consultation planned for 'over the summer' would cover this issue along with climate change reporting regulations and pooling guidance.

### 3 **URGENT ITEMS**

None.

### 4 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED – That item 12 – Border to Coast Strategic Plan and Budget 2022-25 and item 13 – Project Chip Update be considered in the absence of the public and press.

### 5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### 6 **SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS**

There were no specific issues from the s41 members but they thanked the Director for his assistance in supplying replies to various emails councillors had received regarding climate change and investment issues.

7 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2021

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be agreed as a true record.

8 CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

A report was considered which provided the opportunity to approve the 3-yearly detailed update of the various elements of the corporate planning framework.

Members were reminded that whilst elements of the framework were updated annually the whole framework was subject to an in-depth review every three years.

Attached as appendices to the report were updated versions of the:

- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Human Resources Strategy
- ICT Strategy
- Equality and Diversity Scheme
- Risk Register

It was noted that the key focus for the next three years set out in the proposed corporate strategy was:

- Data – focussing on a range of data related projects including the valuation and a number of statutory exercises .
- Process Improvement – this focused on getting the most out of the investment in technology including automating processes and improving reporting.
- Investment – focused on activity to develop and refine the investment strategy to support the overall funding of the pensions scheme, including the delivery of the Net Zero Goal.
- Organisational Infrastructure – which focused on all the things that made the business work.

G Graham commented that over the last three years work to progress the Equality and Diversity Scheme had not achieved as much as planned. Members discussed this at length including ways to promote the benefits of the scheme to BAME communities..

Members also discussed the recruitment and retention of staff, noting that the labour market was not favourable to the public sector at the moment. It was intended to provide a clear career progression path for employees along with adopting an attractive agile and hybrid working system. There would be a review of the broader pay and benefits package which was intended to be completed by December 2022.

Succession planning was also discussed, with members noting the likely retirement of key members of the Senior Management Team in future year which would be likely to present recruitment challenges.

The Chair thanked the Director for a very comprehensive report.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Approve the updated Corporate Strategy covering 2022-2025 at Appendix A.
- ii) Approve the updates supporting strategies at Appendices B-E.

9 PENSIONS AUTHORITY BUDGET 2022/23

A report was submitted to present the Authority budget proposals for 2022/23 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.

The budget for the year ahead reflected continued emphasis on equipping the organisation for meeting the challenges expected in the next three years as detailed in the Corporate Strategy which was elsewhere on the agenda. Additional resources were included for four new posts to be established to support various specific areas of the planned work. The budget also included the impact of some significant savings that had been achieved following the completion of previous corporate objectives in respect of business systems and procurement of a new contract for actuarial services.

The report showed the proposed budget for 2022/23 and the main changes within it compared to the original budget for the 2021/22 year (prior to the one-off virements relating to the capital budget and financing for the Oakwell House office refurbishment).

Members were informed that the budget requirement was for a total of £5,830,000 representing an increase of £384,400 (7%) on the previous annual budget of £5,445,600 which had been held in cash terms since 2019/20

The report gave details of:

- Transfers Between Budgets
- Salaries Budget Movement
- Workforce and Pay Policy
- Other Budget Movements
- Reserves
- Local Pension Board

Members were informed that the budget proposals outlined in the report were based on a continued approach of comprehensively reviewing the resource needs in the context of the Authority's current and future requirements. The areas suggested for additional investment had been carefully identified to link to and support the achievement of the Corporate Strategy objectives.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the 2022/23 budget for the Authority at a total of £5,830,000.

**10 APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER**

A report was submitted which sought the Authority's approval to appoint Jason Field as Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

Members were informed that the Authority's Monitoring Officer, Garry Kirk, had left BMBC at the end of January 2022. The Council had appointed Jason Field, Head of Legal Services, as its Monitoring Officer and was recommending that he assumed the same responsibilities in relation to the Pensions Authority.

The Authority was therefore recommended to formally appoint Jason Field as Monitoring Officer to the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members approve the appointment of Jason Field (Head of Legal Services, Barnsley MBC) as the Authority's Monitoring Officer with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

**11 INVESTMENT ADVISORS**

Members were reminded that the current Independent Investment Advisors were appointed in September 2019 for a period of 3 years ending in September 2022. Given the time required to make an appointment it was now appropriate to consider the options and actions to be taken in relation to the contracts.

The Advisor's contracts limit the total duration of an advisor's service to 10 years. By September 2022 Mr Robb would have served more than 10 years which meant that his contract could not be renewed. Ms Devitt would have served for three years and it was possible to renew her contract for a further period if members wished to do so.

Members had two specific choices:

1. Whether to continue with two advisors or move to one advisor.
2. Whether or not to renew Ms Devitt's contract.

Members agreed that having two advisors with different backgrounds and experiences provided a better range of challenge and input for the Authority and the Investment Panel.

Members welcomed the proposition to renew Ms Devitt's contract and agreed to the suggestion that the appointment should be for four years to ensure that the advisor's contracts did not come to an end at the same time.

Cllr Sangar commented that Mr Robb had done an excellent job over the last 10 years and this should be recognised.

Cllr Stowe agreed commenting that Mr Robb had seen the Authority through some difficult times.

Members noted the process required to appoint a new Investment Advisor.



RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Approve the extension of Ms Devitt's contract for a further four years from September 2022.
- ii) Agree to undertake an appointment process for an advisor to succeed Mr Robb for three years with effect from September 2022 as outlined in paragraph 5.5 of the report.

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 BORDER TO COAST STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUDGET 2022-25

A report was submitted to determine how the Authority's vote should be cast in relation to shareholder resolutions associated with the Strategic Plan and Budget for the Border to Coast operating company.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Note the Strategic Plan and Budget for the period 2022-2025 proposed by the Board of Border to Coast operating company at Appendix B.
- ii) Authorise the casting of the Authority's vote in favour of the shareholder resolutions required to approve the Strategic Plan and Budget.

13 PROJECT CHIP UPDATE

A report was considered which updated members of the Authority on the progress of discussions related to Project Chip.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- i) Note the progress being made in discussions over Project Chip.
- ii) Endorse continued discussions.

CHAIR

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## MCA - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 24 JANUARY 2022 AT 10.00 AM

SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY,  
11 BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



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### Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)  
Councillor Terry Fox  
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE  
Mayor Ros Jones CBE

SCR Mayoral Combined Authority  
Sheffield City Council  
Barnsley MBC  
Doncaster MBC

### In Attendance:

Dr Ruth Adams  
Stephen Edwards

Deputy Chief Executive  
Executive Director

MCA Executive Team  
South Yorkshire Passenger  
Transport Executive  
Barnsley MBC  
MCA Executive Team  
MCA Executive Team

Sarah Norman  
Dr Dave Smith  
Martin Swales

Chief Executive, Barnsley MBC  
Chief Executive  
Interim Director of Transport,  
Housing, Infrastructure and  
Planning

Steve Davenport

Principal Solicitor & Monitoring  
Officer

MCA Executive Team /  
South Yorkshire Passenger  
Transport Executive  
MCA Executive Team

Gareth Sutton

Chief Finance Officer/S73  
Officer

Stephen Batey

Head of Mayor's Office

SCR Mayor's Office

### Apologies:

Councillor Alex Dale  
Councillor Steve Fritchley  
Councillor Tricia Gilby  
Councillor Simon Greaves  
Councillor Garry Purdy  
Jim Dillon  
Helen Kemp  
Sharon Kemp  
Eugene Walker

NE Derbyshire DC  
Bolsover DC  
Chesterfield BC  
Bassetlaw DC  
Derbyshire Dales DC  
MCA Executive Team  
MCA Executive Team  
Rotherham MBC  
Sheffield City Council

### 1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were noted as above.

## **Announcements**

Mayor Jarvis commented that, with regard of Covid, because of the efforts of the people of South Yorkshire, Public Health, the NHS, pharmacists, the vast number of volunteers and the number of boosters administered, the region was just about holding the line but still just ahead of intolerable pressure on health and social care services. Case rates were falling but were still high and the number of hospital admissions had led to pressure on the NHS. Whilst welcoming the easing of restrictions, the Mayor urged people to be cautious and to do everything possible to break the chain of infection. The cautious approach would apply to the region's public transport where the wearing of face masks would be strongly encouraged after the easing of restrictions.

The Mayor made several points regarding bus services in South Yorkshire.

Patronage levels were not back to their pre-pandemic levels which was a major implication for bus services and their viability. To date the emergency government funding to keep services running had been vital but this support would probably be withdrawn at the end of March. The Mayor and council leaders acknowledged this whilst recognising that there was not the necessary resources to respond.

Looking to the future, work was ongoing to develop the Enhanced Partnership with the bus operators with whom there was a current consultation. Plans were being developed for investment to improve bus services over the short, medium and longer term as well as exploring options as how to manage the network in the future.

The Levelling Up White Paper was still awaited nearly two years after the last election. It was hoped by the next meeting of the Board a detailed consideration of the White Paper and what it would mean for South Yorkshire could be brought forward together with how the MCA would respond.

## **Urgent Items**

None.

## **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

None.

## **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.

## **Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda**

Mayor Jones and Cllrs Fox and Houghton declared interests in respect of items 14 and 20 with regard to schemes in their own council areas.

7        **Reports from and questions by members**

None.

8        **Receipt of Petitions**

None.

9        **Public Questions**

It was noted that three public questions had been received.

The following question was received from Matthew Topham.

*“As South Yorkshire’s leaders appreciate the urgency of the climate and cost-of-living crises facing the region and have committed to consider starting a formal franchising investigation at this meeting, will the Combined Authority commit to make the investigation an institutional priority by committing Combined Authority funding, to avoid costs falling on local councils as has been done in West Yorkshire, and to appoint new, specialised project managers as soon as possible?”*

The Mayor replied that bus franchising would be discussed at item 11 on the agenda. Should the MCA agree to go ahead with the statutory investigation, decisions on funding and the availability of suitable capacity would then be made. Several options were being explored and all local authority leaders would be involved in discussions.

The following question was received from Jim Bamford.

*“The draft Enhanced Partnership Plan states, ‘the bold pledges we have set for the future of our bus network (include) a cap on daily and weekly fares’. Can you confirm that such a cap would only apply to those fares set by the Combined Authority, but that the operators would continue to set their own fares as they do now and any such fares cap would not apply to those operator set fares. Would you list which of the fares on the Travel South Yorkshire website would and which would not be covered by the cap.”*

Mayor Jarvis replied all fares are currently set by the commercial operators and not by the MCA, this will continue to be the case under the Enhanced Partnership. The proposal for capping fares that was central to the Bus Service Improvement Plan submitted to central government is one that will make a huge difference to passengers and would be expected to apply across the majority of tickets that are available. But, as set out in the Plan, it needs the promised government funding in order to deliver and we await this decision from government.

The following question was received from Dinah Ward.

*“‘7,000 jobs are on the way as the Mayoral Combined Authority pumps £170m into South Yorkshire firms’, Sheffield Star 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021. How many of these jobs also address the climate and nature emergency? Are the jobs in*

*sectors we need to grow, and not in those that need transforming or that are a major part of the problem? Will the companies be required to show proof of sustainability? Can we examine which companies are being supported and why?"*

Mayor Jarvis firstly addressed the specific reference to the Article in the Sheffield Star. He replied that, for the avoidance of any doubt, the £170m is not investment that the MCA has yet committed to or agreed to but the sentiment of the article rightly reflects that we are working with a cohort of businesses that can grow or locate here.

I want to reassure you and the public that the MCA looks at each business and assesses its merit along with the case for public funding. Crucially we also consider it with our policy priorities which includes sustainability objectives and we monitor that against the commitments that the companies make. We are also developing conditionality around investments which will include elements on decarbonisation.

Recent investment includes support for new battery technology too support electric vehicles, support for the UK atomic energy facility and developing smart transport systems. I can also assure you that we monitor performance to ensure we hold businesses to the commitments they have made.

10      **Minutes of the meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2021 be agreed as a true record.

11      **Options to Support the Delivery of the Region's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)**

A report was presented which set out the process to formally assess bus franchising as an option to deliver the Bus Service Improvement Plan. The report recommended that the constituent local authorities consider the matter ahead of an additional MCA meeting in early March 2022 to determine whether to issue the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme in accordance with S. 123C of the Transport Act 2000.

The process of a franchising scheme would enable the MCA to fully consider whether a bus franchising scheme would be the preferred model to support the delivery of the MCA's ambitions for the bus service network in South Yorkshire, as set out in the Bus Service Improvement Plan.

It was noted that, given the time to complete the franchising assessment, the work to establish and implement the Enhanced Partnership between the MCA and bus operators continued, as approved by the MCA on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Members acknowledged that there were significant operational challenges ahead and prior to a franchising assessment and subsequent steps could be completed. These issues were not specific to any particular model of bus governance and would need to be considered whichever approach was taken.

- Likely reduction/ending of government Covid subsidy support.
- Passenger recovery to pre-Covid levels was expected to take several years.
- Significant cost inflation pressures with the system.

Cllr Houghton commented that he would like the MCA, along with local MPS and the local authorities, to write to ministers urging the continuation of financial support for public transport due to the likely catastrophic consequences of ending the Covid subsidy at the end of March.

The matter of franchising was a huge decision and it was important that each council had the opportunity to consider the implications.

Although supportive of franchising he recognised that it would be a lengthy process, the costs were enormous and there was also the matter of where the money would come from. There were also significant risks and, if agreed to go ahead, there would be a need to retain a constructive relationship with the operators during the period of the project.

Mayor Jones and Cllr Houghton expressed similar sentiments to Cllr Houghton stressing the importance of public funding support in the short term whilst welcoming the option to formally assess bus franchising.

RESOLVED – That the Board note the contents of the report ahead of an additional MCA meeting in early March 2022, when the Board would determine whether to issue the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme in accordance with S. 123C of the Road Transport Act 2000.

## 12 **Gateway East Governance Proposals**

A report was submitted which sought approval for the creation of a Strategic Partnership delivery model to oversee delivery of the Gateway East Economic Blueprint development proposals.

The Board was reminded that Gateway East was one of the eight Growth Areas identified in the current Strategic Economic Plan. An Economic Blueprint for Gateway East was approved by the LEP in July 2020. The Blueprint provided a roadmap for developing the Gateway East Innovation Project.

An interim Shadow Board was established with an initial task to consider the governance and delivery options necessary to oversee development and delivery activity. The Board commissioned Deloitte to undertake governance and delivery option evaluation work.

The report concluded that there were two possible preferred governance models details of which were set out in the report.

Following consideration of the options report by the shadow Board the recommended option was to establish a Strategic Partnership to support delivery of the outcomes and ambitions set out in the Economic Blueprint.

THE Board supported the proposal whilst noting the need to ensure the benefits were spread across the whole of South Yorkshire.

RESOLVED – That the Board approve the recommendation to form a Strategic Partnership governance and delivery model to accelerate the practical delivery of Gateway East.

### 13 **The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Change Plan**

A report was submitted that presented the Climate Action Plan that had been prepared and published by the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission. The Action Plan called for meaningful climate leadership from larger institutions in government and the public and private sectors to deliver ‘significant, tangible contributions’ to help tackle the climate and ecological emergency.

The Board was informed that the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission (YHCC) was an independent advisory body set up to bring key partners from the public, private and third sectors together to support and guide ambitious climate actions across the region.

The Climate Action Plan was developed by YHCC with the help of more than 500 people from across the region. The Plan was published in November 2021.

The Action Plan stressed the need for Yorkshire and Humber to be “climate ready” to face increasing risks from climate change, stating that not acting with the required urgency and ambition would both prolong the region’s contribution to the problem and worsen local impacts.

Following initial feedback, a more detailed exercise was underway to assess alignment of the YHCC plan to existing local plans. The aim was to identify which of each of the 50 actions were already embedded within existing local strategies, plans and delivery programmes.

RESOLVED – That the Board note the YHCC action plan’s publication and the ongoing work to assess its alignment to local plans.

### 14 **Approval of the South Yorkshire Flood Catchment Plan**

A report was submitted asking the Board to consider and approve the final draft South Yorkshire Flood Catchment Plan entitled ‘Connected by Water’.

Members were reminded that, following the 2019 flooding in South Yorkshire, Mayor Jarvis and local authority Leaders submitted a South Yorkshire Business and Infrastructure Resilience Priority Flood Programme to government which included the proposal to prepare a catchment wide flood plan covering the whole of South Yorkshire.

The Catchment Plan outlined the actions to be undertaken to reduce flood risk, mitigate climate change and support climate resilient communities across South Yorkshire. It would support better joint working, provided a compelling programme to attract potential investors and demonstrated the measures being



put in place to protect local communities. It also provided a clear programme of well-developed projects to help secure the remaining investment required across the region to alleviate and mitigate future flooding.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Approve the final draft South Yorkshire ‘Connected by Water’ Flood Catchment Plan.
- (ii) Note that a proposal was considered by the Housing and Infrastructure Board on 18<sup>th</sup> January for the use of some previously committed but unallocated MCA Gainshare funding (for flood resilience and mitigation) to support implementation of the Flood Catchment Plan.

15

### **ZEBRA Business Case**

The Board was reminded that the government had made available up to £270 million of funding as part of the Zero Emission Bus Regional Area funding. The funding would support the government’s commitment to decarbonisation, help to deliver 4,000 zero emissions buses as well as support partnership working between transport authorities, bus operators and other key stakeholders.

Following the successful Expression of Interest submission to DfT last year for funds to support the procurement of zero emission buses for the region, a Full Business Case had been developed for submission for DfT by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Following discussions with the local authorities and Stagecoach a preferred scheme to purchase buses service Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield had been developed.

SYMCA proposed to bid for up to £6.3m of DfT ZEBRA funding. A further £3.4m of funding was provisionally allocated from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement as well as a contribution of £5.3m from Stagecoach. The total project costs of £15m would fund approximately 27 electric buses and associated charging infrastructure.

Mayor Jones expressed disappointment that the main Bus Operator in Doncaster, First had not wished to be involved in the project. S Edwards confirmed that Stagecoach was the only operator who had expressed interest in the scheme.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Agrees to delegate the approval of the submission of the Full Business Case to DfT, seeking grant funding in the region of £6.3m, by the DfT deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to SYMCA’s Chief Executive Dave Smith.
- (ii) Approves the Finance Director accepting the grant offer from DfT providing it accords with the grant application/Full Business Case.
- (iii) Approves the MCA entering into the contractual arrangement to deliver the

ZEBRA project, as approved by the Monitoring Officer.

## **16 Business Support Funding**

A report was submitted requesting the approval of funding for the 16 RAP advisors for a further 12 months.

M Mumtaz reminded the Board that the MCA currently funded 16 RAP advisors deployed across the four local authority areas.

The business advisors deliver vital support to local businesses and cover a range of specialist areas including financial planning, access to funding, workforce development and digital technology.

The advisors had been funded under the RAP through Gainshare. This funding was due to expire at the end of March 2022; currently there was no alternative funding source to continue this vital support. Extending the provision would ensure that local businesses continued to receive this support to help grow and recover over the next 12 months.

At its December meeting the Business Recovery and Growth Board had approved the recommendation to continue funding for a further 12 months until March 2023 whilst trying to source alternative funding beyond that point.

The funding to continue the provision would be through a virement of fund from an area of the Renewal Action Plan which had not continued.

**RESOLVED** – That the Board approve the redeployment of £850,000 of Gainshare (through virement of funds allocated to other projects under the Renewal Action Plan, which were likely to remain unspent) to fund the continued provision of Renewal Action Plan Business Advisors for a further 12 months.

## **17 2021/22 Budget Revision 3**

A report was considered which provided revised Group budget forecasts to the end of the financial year 2021/22 and recommended the adoption of the budget estimates, adjustment to budgetary ceilings and the distribution of grant received.

The Board was informed that a Quarter 2 budget revision exercise had been undertaken at the end of November 2021. The results of the exercise highlighted a number of issues that would influence the MCA's financial position over the remainder of the financial year, as well as planning for the medium term.

1. Whilst government funding for bus and tram had been committed to the end of the year, uncertainty on post-March support was increasing the risk that operators pre-emptively would begin service reductions over Quarter 4.
2. The MCA would receive a further tranche of Additional Restrictions Grant

to support those businesses affected by the latest Covid variant.

3. The budget was now flexed to accommodate activity supported from the region's successful Community Renewal Fund bids.
4. Flexibilities secured with government now meant that the Getting Building Fund expenditure targets should be met.
5. Capital programme slippage was now likely to move a significant amount activity to the new financial year.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Adopt the revised budget estimates.
- (ii) Note the slower than forecast pace of the capital programme.
- (iii) Approve the acceptance and distribution of the Additional Restrictions Grant top-up of £1.72m for the year ending March 2022.

## 18 **Budget and Business Plan Development**

A report was submitted which provided an update on the budget and business planning processes for the forthcoming financial year. The report also set out the assumed level of resource available to the MCA to invest into its priorities and outlined forecast financial risks.

It was noted that following engagement with the South Yorkshire Leaders and Mayor, the report recommended approval of the proposal to freeze the transport levy and local subscriptions at current levels.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Approve the South Yorkshire Transport Levy for financial year 2022/23.
- (ii) Approve the proposal to not set a Mayoral Precept for the financial year 2022/23.
- (iii) Note the proposal to freeze local authority subscriptions for financial year 2022/23.
- (iv) Note the forecast scale of consolidated Group spending power in the forthcoming year.
- (v) Note the intention to bring the final Group revenue budget and capital programme for approval to the MCA's March meeting.

## 19 **South Yorkshire Renewal Fund: Progress Update**

A report was considered which set out the progress made to-date on the development of the South Yorkshire Renewal Fund.

G Sutton informed the Board that the Renewal Fund was a real opportunity for the region. It supported local determination and how the Gainshare funding was used. It also broke the MCA out of the cycle of being dependent upon government funding streams which were often short term in nature and limited in coverage. It also offered the opportunity to address structural constraints that had held the MCA back in the management and delivery of programmes.

The report recommended a phased approach to investment and recognised the sheer scale of the delivery challenges in the new year and also recognised that some schemes could be brought forward.

The report recommended a life-cycle funding model which would try to address some of the recognised constraint, and it was proposed to invest revenue funding into the project feasibility fund.

The report also recognised the significant ongoing collaboration with partners to shape the next stage of activity. A further update would be brought to the Board in March.

**RESOLVED – That the Board:**

- (i)** Note the work to develop the Fund to-date.
- (ii)** Note the proposed phased approach to the release of Gainshare funding.
- (iii)** Note the proposed adoption of a lifecycle approach to investment.
- (iv)** Approve the proposal to release the Project Feasibility Fund to support the design and development of high quality investment propositions that meet the conditions of supporting inclusive, green economic growth.

20

## **Programme Approvals**

A report was submitted which requests progression of seven schemes, early release of development cost funding and approval of one project change request subject to the conditions to be set in the Assurance Summaries.

**RESOLVED – That the Board approve:**

- (i)** Progression of “South Yorkshire Rail Station Improvements” project to full approval and award of £3.45m grant to South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A1.
- (ii)** Progression of D0012 – “UK Operations Growth Plan” to full approval and award of £1,75m to a Barnsley based company subject to funding being available and conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A2.
- (iii)** Progression of “Century BIC II to full approval and award of £2.6m grant to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A3.

- (iv) Progression of “Fargate Measures” project to full approval and award of £6m grant to Sheffield City Council (SCC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A4.
- (v) Progression of “A631 Rotherham to Maltby Bus Corridor” Outline Business Case (OBC) to Full Business Case (FBC) and the release of development cost funding of up to £0.25m to RMBC subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix B1.
- (vi) Progression of “Barnsley-Doncaster Quality Bus Corridor” OBC to proceed to FBC and the release of development cost funding of up to £0.95m to Barnsley Metropolitan Council subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix B2.
- (vii) Progression of “Sheffield Heart of the City 2 – Block A” OBC to proceed to FBC to SCC conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix B3.
- (viii) Approval of project change requests as detailed in Appendix C.
- (ix) Recommendation that officers should seek as strong a deal as possible with regards to loan and overage.
- (x) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered at 1-6 above subject to funding being available.

21

## **Appointment of External Auditors**

A report was submitted detailing options for the procurement of an external auditor.

The Board was informed that the MCA’s current external audit arrangements would come to an end by March 2023 with a decision now required on how to appoint an auditor from 2023/24 onwards.

It was noted that there were three broad options open to the MCA under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 when considering how to procure and appoint an external auditor. These were:

- To opt into the national procurement undertaken by PSAA.
- Procure individually.
- Seek to carry out a joint procurement along with neighbouring local authorities.

The report considered the three options offering comparative advantages and disadvantages.

**RESOLVED** – That the MCA opt into the national arrangement delivered by PSAA for the procurement of an external auditor.

## 22 **Annual Review of Assurance Framework**

A report was submitted which gave details of the annual review of the Assurance Framework.

The report summarised the amendments that had been incorporated into the 2022/23 Assurance Framework and presented them for consideration by members ahead of submission to the government departments for their review and approval before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. It was noted that further minor amendments may be made to the draft as the SYMCA integration process continued prior to submission.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- (i) Note, at section 2.2 of the report, the key amendments that had been made to the Assurance Framework to ensure compliance with the Government's requirement's and issued guidance.
- (ii) Endorse the updated Assurance Framework, set out at Appendix 1 to the report, and consent to the report being submitted to Government for departmental review and agreement.

## 23 **Delegated Authority Report**

A report was submitted which updated the Board on decisions and delegations made by the MCA and the Thematic Boards.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

## 24 **AOB**

Mayor Jarvis put on record collective thanks to Helen Kemp who had led the business and skills agenda with distinction during her time with the MCA and wished her all the best for the future.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed .....

Name .....

Position .....

Date .....

## MCA - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

FRIDAY, 4 MARCH 2022 AT 3.30 PM

SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY, 11  
BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD S1 2BQ



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### Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)  
Councillor Chris Read (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Terry Fox  
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE  
Mayor Ros Jones CBE

SCR Mayoral Combined Authority  
Rotherham MBC  
Sheffield City Council  
Barnsley MBC  
Doncaster MBC

### In Attendance:

Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Stephen Edwards	Executive Director	SYPT
Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	SYMCA Executive Team
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73 Officer	SYMCA Executive Team
Melanie Bray	Minute Taker	JAGU

### Apologies:

Councillor Alex Dale	NE Derbyshire DC
Councillor Steve Fritchley	Bolsover DC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC
Councillor Simon Greaves	Bassetlaw DC
Damian Allen	Doncaster BMC
Eugene Walker	Sheffield City Council
Huw Bowen	Chesterfield BC
Karen Hanson	Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Councils
Kate Josephs	Sheffield City Council
Sharon Kemp	Rotherham MBC
Sarah Norman	Barnsley MBC
Jim Dillon	SYMCA Executive Team
Sarah Want	Sheffield University

### 1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the additional meeting of the Mayoral Combined Authority Board.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

## **Announcements**

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that the additional meeting of the Mayoral Combined Authority Board had been convened to determine whether to trigger a formal investigation of bus franchising as an option to deliver the best bus service for South Yorkshire. A formal investigation on the merits of bus franchising was an essential legal and practical requirement, should the SYMCA wish to move to franchising.

The SYMCA had pledged to do everything possible to fundamentally improve the bus service within South Yorkshire, and at a minimum, the case that franchising would assist to enable that consideration.

Members were referred to the terrible and needless violence that was currently being encountered within the Ukraine. Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that everyone would be inspired by the resolve, determination and spirit shown by the Ukrainians in response to President Putin's unjustified aggression. South Yorkshire stood united against President Putin's illegal invasion, and sent its solidarity to the Ukrainians both in the United Kingdom and those resisting his barbaric regime.

Following the lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions by the Government, Mayor Jarvis MBE's team continued to support him in the close liaison with the public health and other health authorities and the Local Resilience Forum as the data continued to be monitored and reviewed.

A South Yorkshire Economic Summit would be held on 9 March 2022, which would focus upon four main growth drivers of skills and talent, access to finance, clustering growth and the stimulating of innovation ecosystems. The event would bring together the brightest thinkers and best businesses from across the country with entrepreneurs, research institutes and anchor institutions from across the region.

Members noted the work undertaken to develop and finalise the proposals for the new enhanced partnership arrangements with the bus operators which had been undertaken as part of the Government's request to secure sustained funding. At the next SYMCA meeting scheduled to be held on 21 March 2022, the results of the statutory public consultation process would be considered, which would inform the decision on whether to proceed to the implementation of an enhanced partnership.

Mayor Jarvis MBE had recently met with the senior teams of First Bus and Stagecoach, who had agreed to delay possible network and service reductions whilst awaiting an announcement from the DfT regarding the recovery funding. The delay to the possible network and service reductions would enable the SYMCA to undertake an options appraisal process, which would run through to the summer period and would seek to manage, minimise and mitigate service impacts. On 1 March 2022, the DfT had announced a total of £150m for bus and light rail services, which represented the final tranche of their pandemic support for public transport; the local allocation was awaited.



3      **Urgent Items**

None.

4      **Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press**

None.

5      **Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members**

It was 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**

None.

7      **Reports from and questions by members**

None.

8      **Receipt of Petitions**

None.

9      **Public Questions**

None.

10     **Minutes of the meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2022 be agreed as a true record.

11     **Approval to proceed with issuing the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme**

A report was presented which recommended the SYMCA to take the decision to formally assess bus franchising as an option for the whole of South Yorkshire to deliver the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and therefore issue, in accordance with S.123C of the Transport Act 2000, the notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme and subsequently commence the assessment.

On 29 October 2021, the SYMCA had submitted an ambitious BSIP to the Government. At the SYMCA meeting held on 15 November 2021, the Board had approved issuing of a notice to operators on the proposal to make an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme, and to enter into a period of statutory consultation with operators of qualifying local bus services, followed by a period of public consultation.

Mayor Jarvis MBE considered that without funding, an enhanced partnership may not deliver the required transformation in bus service provision. He highlighted the need to deliver on the BSIP to ensure that buses would continue into the future. He was conscious that franchising on its own would not replace the need for greater resources for buses, and he fully appreciated the concerns raised by a number of Members. There was a good case that needed testing that greater public control would be helpful and critical to the required transformation, and he was strongly supportive of the report presented. He expressed his thanks to the officers for work undertaken in preparation of the report.

Councillor Read welcomed and supported the report. He referred to the three structural challenges that were faced by the bus network in relation to a lack of regulation, to which he welcomed the opportunity for the franchising option to be assessed to understand if it delivered efficiencies, maintained standards and would correct market failures. Cllr Read recognised the revenue funding challenge of the day-to-day cost of running the bus services, which had been made increasingly difficult over the last 12 years with the reduction in local authority budgets, and the longer term challenge around transport investment. He considered that a franchising system was the same as publicly owned public transport. He acknowledged the huge amount of work to be undertaken.

Councillor Fox also welcomed and supported the report, noting the risk related to the expectation of what would be delivered for the region. Public transport was crucial within the vision and plan of Sheffield City Council to become net zero by 2030.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE supported the recommendations highlighted within the report. He referred to the observations made over the last 20 year period together with the de-regulation of public transport, which had been unsuccessful. Within South Yorkshire, problems had been encountered with the services prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic had increased those problems which had resulted in a significant reduction in patronage across the region. He considered that the SYMCA was correct to build and maintain constructive relationships with the operators, however he did not consider that franchising would present a solution to all of the problems within the region. He considered that the proposals highlighted within the report would not achieve a quick fix solution to the problems, but agreed that the option needed assessing.

Members were referred to the unfortunate comparisons that were made of South Yorkshire to London. The public transport system in London was funded per head at a level seven times greater than in South Yorkshire. South Yorkshire was also compared with Greater Manchester, to which their devolution deal contained an element for public transport which supported the cost of franchising and its implications, together with a mayoral tax which was imposed upon its residents. Councillor Sir Houghton CBE referred to the references that had previously been made to taking profits from the operators, to which he would be willing to consider as part of a public service, noting however that he believed Stagecoach's profit in 2021 had been in the region of £28m across 17 domains, which would not cover the problems faced within South Yorkshire alone. He considered that franchising was a method to

increase SYMCA's control over what would happen, but that it would not enable a return to publicly owned public transport, which would be very difficult to achieve without further support from the Government.

In terms of supporting the recommendations, from a BMBC perspective, Councillor Sir Houghton CBE made the following points:

- i) In the event that it was considered that the bus franchising was too expensive and/or that it was unable to be funded by the SYMCA, that there needed to be an opportunity for the SYMCA to withdraw, and BMBC would withdraw at any stage of the process if that was the case.
- ii) That the four local authorities would be involved in shaping and calculating the assessment and required to sign off the assessment.
- iii) BMBC did not believe that bus franchising should be funded in part or wholly through the new taxes on the South Yorkshire residents.
- iv) That gainshare should not be utilised to support the on-going cost of franchising bus operations. However, in the event that it had not been possible to find a solution to the immediate bus problem, that an alternative solution would be considered in the short term, and to make the case to the Government to support the bus franchising.

Mayor Jones CBE commented that she had the full support of DMBC to continue with the process of assessing the bus franchising scheme. She added that the four caveats as outlined above by Councillor Sir Houghton CBE, applied equally to DMBC's position.

RESOLVED – That the Board:

- i) Approved issuing, in accordance with S.123C Transport Act 2000, a notice of intention to prepare an assessment of a proposed franchising scheme.
- ii) Approved the preparation of the assessment and associated costs of a proposed franchising scheme following issuing of the notice.

## 12 **Any other business**

None.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed .....

Name .....

Position .....

Date .....

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