

Public Document Pack

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| MEETING: | Cabinet |
| DATE: | Monday, 27 June 2022 |
| TIME: | 10.00 am |
| VENUE: | Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall |
| PUBLIC WEB LINK: | https://barnsley.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts |

AGENDA

1. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests
2. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

Minutes

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 June 2022 (Cab.27.6.2022/3)
(Pages 3 - 6)

Items for Noting

4. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.27.6.2022/4)

Petitions

5. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.27.6.2022/5)

Items for Decision/Recommendation to Council

Public Health and Communities Spokesperson

6. Area Council and Ward Alliance Annual Report 2021/22 (Cab.27.6.2022/6)
(Pages 7 - 46)
7. Domestic Abuse Strategic Review – Business Case, Recommendations for Service Recommission and Domestic Abuse Strategy (Cab.27.6.2022/7)
(Pages 47 - 156)

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

8. Adoption of updated Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's
(Cab.27.6.2022/8) (Pages 157 - 240)
RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL ON 28 JULY 2022
9. Extension to Property Repairs Improvement Program (PRIP) Contract
(Cab.27.6.2022/9) (Pages 241 - 248)

To: Chair and Members of Cabinet:-

Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), T. Cave, Frost, Gardiner, Higginbottom, Howard, Lamb, Makinson and Platts

Cabinet Support Members:

Councillors Cain, Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Newing, Osborne and Risebury

Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Chair of Audit Committee

Sarah Norman, Chief Executive

Sophie Wales, Interim Executive Director Children's Services

Wendy Lowder, Executive Director Adults and Communities

Shokat Lal, Executive Director Core Services (Monitoring Officer)

Matt O'Neill, Executive Director Place

Julia Burrows, Director Public Health

Neil Copley, Service Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Michael Potter, Service Director Business Improvement and Communications

Katie Rogers, Head of Communications and Marketing

Anna Marshall, Scrutiny Officer

Jason Field, Head of Legal Services

Corporate Communications and Marketing

Please contact governance@barnsley.gov.uk

Friday, 17 June 2022



| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| MEETING: | Cabinet |
| DATE: | Thursday, 16 June 2022 |
| TIME: | 9.30 am |
| VENUE: | Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall |

MINUTES

Present Councillors Lamb (Chair), Gardiner, Higginbottom, Howard, Makinson and Platts

Members in Attendance: Councillors Cain, Cherryholme, Eastwood, Franklin, Osborne and Risebury

21. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

22. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meetings held on 25th May and 1st June, 2022 had been called in.

23. Minutes of the previous special meeting held on 25 May 2022 (Cab.16.6.2022/3.1)

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th May, 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

23.a Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 June 2022 (Cab.16.6.2022/3.2)

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st June, 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

24. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.16.6.2022/4)

The Record of Decisions taken by Cabinet Spokespersons under delegated powers during the week ending 10th June, 2022 were noted.

25. Action Taken under Paragraph B5 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions - Officer Delegations Contained in the Council Constitution (Cab.16.6.2022/5)

RESOLVED That the action taken by Executive Directors under Paragraph B5 of the Responsibility for Executive Functions – Officer Delegations, as contained within the Appendix attached the report submitted and detailed below, be noted:-

Foot and Cycle Bridge: Additional Resources

1. Notes the progress of the delivery of the approved New Foot and Cycle Bridge, over the railway line, connecting Penny Pie Park with Pogmoor

Recreation Ground that will provide a safe and active travel route for the residents of the borough and for children going to and from Horizon Community College.

2. Approval of the additional £0.498M resources required to deliver the Penny Pie Park Footbridge and Civils Works contract outlined in section 4, noting the reasons and financial implications (as detailed in Section 3.2, Financial Implications)

Date of Decision 1st June, 2022

26. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.16.6.2022/6)

Members noted the petition received, the response provided by the service, and the proposed actions. The response highlighted that the service received was in line with core service offer. It was noted that a detailed response would be provided to the lead petitioner, and that service would engage with residents and local Elected Members.

The Cabinet Spokesperson for Core Services raised a number of concerns related to the condition and maintenance of the road in question, and therefore whether the response provided was appropriate.

RESOLVED That senior officers for the services in question undertake further consideration of the issues raised by the petition, and that an update be provided to a future meeting of Cabinet.

27. Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel 2021/22 (Cab.16.6.2022/7)

Members received the report, noting the progress and achievements made. Thanks were placed on record to all those involved in the delivery of services for those in care and those leaving care, especially in circumstances made difficult due to the pandemic.

RESOLVED That Cabinet notes the progress and achievements made by the Panel in supporting children and young people in care, together with care leavers, in accordance with our statutory responsibilities, during this period.

28. Six Monthly Analysis of Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance October 2021 - March 2022 (Cab.16.6.2022/8)

RESOLVED That the report be received in accordance with the required procedure.

29. City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement - Revenue Funding (Cab.16.6.2022/10)

RESOLVED That Cabinet:-

1. Authorises the acceptance of the offer £1.520m CRSTS in revenue funding for the development of a future pipeline of schemes; and

2. The Executive Director, Place be authorised to undertake all necessary steps to ensure continued delivery of the CRSTS / future pipeline programme.

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Chair

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TITLE: Area Council and Ward Alliance Annual Report 2021 - 2022

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| REPORT TO: | Cabinet |
| Date of Meeting | Monday 27th June 2022 |
| Cabinet Member Portfolio | Public Health and Communities |
| Key Decision | No |
| Public or Private | Public |

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to share the first Annual Report for the Area Councils and Ward Alliances and showcase the work that has been delivered over the last year 2021/2022.

Council Plan priority

Healthy Barnsley

All the emotional health, well-being, environmental and volunteering work that the Area Councils and Ward Alliances support help to achieve this overall priority. It is not just the services we commission or fund but also how we approach communities to work with us which makes what we do a success. We understand how our communities operate and the barriers they face. It is our job to influence the key partners who work alongside us and who often ask us to be involved in sharing that success with them.

Learning Barnsley

All the work of the Area Councils and Ward Alliances is centered around early intervention and prevention and supporting the resilience and learning in our communities. The services we commission through the Area Councils and the support we give through the Ward Alliances are all about reducing health inequalities and preventing people from needing statutory sector services.

Growing Barnsley

In every area, we are connecting our communities to the opportunities that are on offer across Barnsley, whether that is supporting entrepreneurs or supporting our communities to engage with the Principal Towns agenda. We are making sure that people have their say and are supporting our local businesses to have an awareness of the opportunities that are on offer to them.

Sustainable Barnsley

Across the Area Councils and Ward Alliances, the environment is a key part of our delivery, supporting communities to look after their local area with a bit of support from the council. All the work commissioned through the Area Councils contributes to this priority. Early intervention and prevention are key, making sure that communities are connected and influencing the partnership around the barriers that some communities face when trying to be connected and play a part. Some of these barriers are due to how we communicate (whether that is in a language that is too corporate or in a language that isn't understood by all), or it could be due to things our communities are experiencing like poor emotional health and wellbeing, financial hardship, transport issues or digital inclusion. All of which we, as a team, can influence and advocate on behalf of our communities.

Enabling Barnsley

In all that we do through the Area Councils and Ward Alliances, it is about us enabling communities to be as successful as they can possibly be.

Recommendations

That Cabinet: -

1. That Cabinet receive and note the Area Council & Ward Alliances Annual Report for 2021/2022 and the exceptional impact that continues to be achieved against our strategic objectives by taking a member-led, asset and community-based approach.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The model of Area Councils & Ward Alliances was implemented in Barnsley in 2013 and is fully embedded in the Borough. Every quarter a narrative report is produced to showcase the projects that are happening in all six areas across the Borough.

1.2 This is the first year an Annual Report has been produced and it's a great opportunity to showcase and share the excellent work that has taken place in this last year.

Next year will be 10 years since we introduced these arrangements, and we aim to celebrate and mark this significant milestone.

1.3 Headline achievements:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Volunteering opportunities supported | 11,422 (target is 8,000) |
| Cashable hours of volunteering time | £745,880 (target is £500,000) |
| Community groups supported | 794 |
| Of which were new groups | 179 |
| Socially isolated people supported | 2,324 |
| Young people supported through emotional health and wellbeing | 1,372 |
| Number of people supporting the environment | 2,828 |
| People helped into employment | 130 |
| Supporting people to get more money in their pockets | 4,716 |
| Amount of unclaimed benefits brought into the borough | £2,062,451 |
| Ward Alliance funding totalling | £278,255 |
| Community projects supported by the Ward Alliances | 272 |

All this has been achieved in addition to the significant support provided to our communities during the pandemic.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 That Cabinet receive and note the Area Council & Ward Alliance Annual Report for 2021/2022 and reflects on the significant contribution that this approach makes to our strategic objectives.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director Finance (S151 Officer) and an overview of the finances are provided below.

Area Councils are made up of the Elected Members from that area, that come together to determine the priorities for that area and make decisions on the services they are going to commission to meet the needs of their communities. Area Councils are allocated an annual budget of £100k based on the electoral wards in their area.

Ward Alliances funding is available for small groups/organisations to apply for to deliver projects and events in that local area. Ward Alliances are allocated an annual budget of £10k based on the electoral wards in their area.

Each area has a Stronger Communities Team to work alongside the Elected Members throughout the Borough to understand the communities they serve and provide relevant services to meet their needs.

The table below shows the Area Council, Ward Alliance and Stronger Team budgets for each area.

| Area Council / Ward Alliance Funding | Area Council Funding £,000 | Ward Alliance Funding £,000 | Stronger Communities Team £,000 | Total £,000 |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------|
| Management | | | 171 | 171 |
| Central | 500 | 50 | 184 | 734 |
| North | 400 | 40 | 142 | 582 |
| Dearne | 200 | 20 | 140 | 360 |
| Penistone | 200 | 20 | 139 | 359 |
| North East | 400 | 40 | 140 | 580 |
| South | 400 | 40 | 168 | 608 |
| Total | 2,100 | 210 | 1,084 | 3,394 |

During 2021/22 Barnsley Council have provided financial support and administered CCG grants to the voluntary and community sectors to help with their financial recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic. The table below shows the financial support provided.

| Specific Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations | £,000 |
|---|--------------|
| Government Grants to support the vulnerable | 600 |
| Barnsley Better Bonds | 30 |
| Covid Resilience Funds | 250 |
| Business Planning & Sustainability | 22 |
| Mental Health Crisis Alternative | 50 |
| Respiratory Support | 30 |
| Mental Health Inequalities | 45 |
| Total | 1,027 |

3.2 Legal

No legal implications.

3.3 Equality

Not applicable – this report is pulling together all the activity from the last year. All activity has a completed Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) attached to it

and all the delivery considers the impact on equalities. This is purely pulling together that activity in one report and sharing it. It is not initiating any further delivery which would require an EIA.

3.4 Sustainability

Decision-making wheel not completed – there are no decisions expected on this report it is to showcase the work of the Area Governance approach only.

3.5 Employee

There are no impacts on employees.

3.6 Communications

Through this process, we will work with Communications and Marketing to further promote the work that has been achieved through the Area Governance approach and celebrate its impacts on our communities. This will be done in line with the communications plan and developed across platforms through written and visual representation.

4. CONSULTATION

The consultation that will take place for this report is:

DMT

SMT

Cabinet Members briefing

Purple Cabinet

White Cabinet

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 To share the Area Governance Annual Report for 2021/2022.

7. GLOSSARY

None required.

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Area Council and Ward Alliance Annual Report 2021/2022.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Details of background papers **MUST** be included]

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email

governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

| | |
|--|--|
| Financial consultation & sign off | Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date Avanda Mitchell 18.05.2022 |
| Legal consultation & sign off | Legal Services officer consulted and date <i>Jason Field 26/05/22</i> |

Report Author: Rachel Payling
Post: Head of Stronger Communities
Date: 09/05/2022

Area Council and Ward Alliance

Annual Report

2021 - 2022

Our communities are united by a shared sense of pride in our borough where we look after and support each other





How we do what we do?

We enable Barnsley residents to be healthy, safe and socially active, and live within thriving, vibrant and diverse communities.

The Area Councils are made up of the elected members who come together to determine the priorities for their area and they make decisions on the services they are going to commission which meet the needs of their communities. Through this approach, the Area Councils help residents, families, businesses and communities to bring about social change and improve the quality of life in their local area.



ABCD

Our approach builds on an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) model. ABCD builds on the assets found in the community and mobilises individuals, associations and institutions to come together to realise and develop their strengths. When applying ABCD principles, communities are not considered complex masses of needs and problems but rather diverse and capable webs of gifts and assets. The key is beginning to use what is already in the community and to work together to build on these assets. (Nurture Development, ABCD approaches).

Our skills

- Elected members know their local communities and share their local knowledge and intelligence within the Area Councils and Ward Alliances.
- We have embedded the '21st Century Councillor Approach' in Barnsley, and there is an excellent member development programme for all elected members to access.
- We work in an Asset Based model where we problem-solve and find solutions with our communities.
- We are great advocates for our communities and are often the channel between them, other community services, and the statutory sector partners in that area.
- We have built excellent relationships with all of the people in our communities.



What we do

We enable Barnsley residents to be healthy, safe, and socially active and live within thriving, vibrant and diverse communities.

Area Councils and Ward Alliances support micro commissioning in their local communities.



Area Councils and Ward Alliances...

Support:

- Communities to deliver the Barnsley 2030 priorities and help bring them to life.
- Communities to run, plan, and hold events like Sloppy Slippers, Healthy Holidays Youth Groups, and litter picks.
- Volunteering and social action in local communities. Facilitating local communities, organisations and individuals to assist in delivering local services and solutions.
- Funding opportunities through the Area Councils, Ward Alliances and other grant funding streams.
- Early intervention and prevention by using social isolation projects, children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing services, welfare advice services, and environmental projects.
- Identify needs in communities utilising local knowledge and a robust evidence base to respond to those needs.
- Build relationships with the public, community groups, professionals and other organisations to coordinate a local response.
- Co-produce services alongside different people and partners.
- Deliver messages from the council into communities. We have played an integral role in both the response to the pandemic and the rollout of the testing and vaccination programmes and advised on the best way to deliver these messages to achieve a successful outcome for our communities.
- Connect communities, regularly linking up different people and organisations to make sure the communities we work within get the best outcomes.
- Understand our communities well and the people within them.

2021

in figures

North Area Council

North East Area Council

Central Area Council

Dearne Area Council

Penistone Area Council

South Area Council

11,422
target 8,000

Volunteering Opportunities Supported



Which led to cashable hours worth

£745,880
target £500,000

794

Community Groups supported



Of which were new

179

2,324

Socially Isolated people supported



Emotional wellbeing support for Young People

1,372

2,828

People supporting the Environment



People helped into Employment

130

£2,062,451

Amount of unclaimed benefits brought into the Borough



People supported with Welfare claims

4,716



Ward Alliance Funding totalling

£278,255

272

community projects supported via Ward Alliances





2021-22 Short Case Studies

A quick look
at each Area

Central
Dearne
North
North East
Penistone
South

Earth Day Worsborough Ward and Highstone Allotments

Who

Worsborough Environmental Group, Worsborough Tidy Group, Twiggs, volunteers, Central Area Team, Neighbourhood Services, Worsborough Ward Alliance, Kingstone Ward Alliance.

How

The aims were to:

- Reinstate the program of social action in the area of Worsborough
- Raise awareness of environmental issues and encourage others to take action and have pride in the community.
- This led to a community litter-pick on World Earth Day. An area of Worsborough was identified as needing to be cleared of fly-tipping for the benefit and safety of allotment holders and local school children who access the site. A collaborative approach was necessary due to the size of the issue.

Results

On the Earth Day in April:

- The identified area was cleared of litter, and Fly-tipping was removed from the allotments.
- The allotment groups worked together.
- Relationships were strengthened with volunteers, Worsborough Environmental Group, the Area Team, elected members and other services.
- The Ward Alliance connected with the community and shared how they could work together.
- Engagement and working together led to positive mental health and wellbeing.

Plans were made to:

- Engage more with school children in the allotments.
- Thoroughly remove the final fly-tipping.
- Engagement of the allotment groups with other activities.
- Install 'drop-posts' to prevent entry to fly-tipping sites.



Priorities

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy

Dearne Valley Park Monkey Trail

Who

Community Development Officer (CDO) – Central Area, three Primary Schools, youth provision services, community groups, Ward Alliance members and Barnsley Council Printing team.

How

To create outdoor trails during the six-week holidays for children and their families to enjoy. The CDO created and distributed leaflets to three local Primary Schools. These advertised the trails and showed a map to follow. Pictures were then placed around the trails for the children to find. As well as directly leafletting schools, the event was promoted on the Central Area Team's Facebook to encourage wider participation.



Results

The CDO set planned, promoted and installed the trails. Throughout the six-weeks holiday the trail was in place.

Feedback was positive, with people mentioning an increase in the use of the Dearne Valley Park, family enjoyment and being able to enjoy the outdoors in an easy way.



"My girls really enjoyed the trail, and it was great for us to get outdoors on a summer's day and get some fresh air. We also got to see a new place, as we had never been to Dearne Valley Park before and will be going back."

Laura
Mum of three

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health

Sustainable Barnsley

- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy

At a glance



16,545
Post Reach



907
Post Clicks



395
likes, comments and shares

Introducing our team

Working with Area Councils and Ward Alliances

Area Councils and Ward Alliances are led by the 63 elected members in Barnsley and they are supported by the Stronger Communities Team. This is done through the six Area Councils and Ward Alliances in each area. The Council devolves a £2.1 million budget to the six Area Councils and 21 Ward Alliances. The Ward Alliances are made of three elected members, community representatives, and the Community Development Officer. The Ward Alliances have a budget that small groups and organisations can apply for to deliver projects and events in that local area.

Who we are

The Stronger Communities Team was established to work alongside all 63 elected members throughout the borough to understand the communities they serve and provide relevant services to meet their needs.

Where we work

We are based in the six areas across Barnsley:



A map showing Barnsley Areas

Stepping Stones – Micro-volunteering

Who

Central Community Development Officer (CDO), One Step Closer, Barnsley Museums, Friends of Locke Park, National Trust, Lavender Court, Incredible Edible, Together Housing, GPs.

How

Working with various partners and providers, the Central Team has developed a project to encourage people to become volunteers following Covid-19 restrictions.

It was to help those with low levels of English, disabilities (learning or physical), Mental ill-health and low confidence.

The Activities included gardening, leafleting, litter-picking, library tidying at Lavender Court, Christmas decorations and Christmas cards to those who may feel isolated.

Coffee and Cake and bus fares were provided.

Results

Six out of ten people completed, others dropped out due to mental/physical health or addiction, but two hope to rejoin the following program.

The New Volunteers had:

Challenges:

- Getting motivated in the morning
- Fear of dogs
- Crossing bridges and climbing stairs in a tower
- Talking to others

Benefits:

- Confidence in social interaction
- Doing new activities
- Visiting new places
- Awareness of physical abilities

Their onward journey:

Three residents progressed to the Coffee, Cake and Confidence course and worked with One Step Closer for help with gaining employment.

One resident was supported with applying for and gaining a new job as a Learning Support Worker.

Learning for the team:

- The sessions worked better with a smaller group of people – new programmes will involve a maximum of eight people.
- Ideally, three leaders should be attached to the project.
- Contacts for the volunteering opportunities were flexible and happy to be used in future events.

Planning for the future:

- The aim is for the project to be community-led and sustainable.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Sustainable Barnsley

- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy



'It helped me to find out what I could and couldn't do.... I was very isolated and it kick-started me into action'

Teresa



"I would recommend the programme to other people"

Lee



Uplift Halloween

Who

Central Team, Creative Recovery, Volunteers, Forest Academy, Ward Alliance members.

How

The aim was to encourage 'socially distanced' community involvement around Halloween following a long Covid-19 restriction period. Some families who would usually go out to 'trick or treat' would not feel able to do so and some government restrictions were still in place.

The 'Uplift' idea had already successfully been used in the Kendray area. The Community Development Officer (CDO) helped to promote the event on social media.

Activity packs were given out (or delivered) by the Ward Alliance, volunteers, community groups, and local schools. Resources were sourced and ordered by the CDO.

The packs included:

- Halloween-coloured tissue paper.
- Black sugar paper.
- Decoration instruction leaflet.

Results

This initiative brought the community together and created conversations and positive communication on Facebook. The Team built on the success of a previous project. Although it was a short and simple project, it had great rewards.

- Packs delivered to families self-isolating or unable to collect.
- Positive links with the CDO and new families, the Ward Alliance, Forest Academy, and Starbucks.
- Extensive 'reach' on social media for the Ward Alliance and an increase in 'followers'.

Priorities

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy



At a glance

220

packs handed out to over 120 families across the Stairfoot ward



5

New Ward Alliance Volunteers



Community Pantry

From November 2020 ongoing

Who

CDO for Central Team, FoodBank Partnership, Good Food Barnsley, Worsbrough Ward Alliance, Church Action on Poverty, Berneslai Homes, CentrePoint, FareShare Yorkshire, Age UK, Barnsley Council, Barnsley Families.

How

The Pantry opened, during the pandemic, in November 2020 to help those within the ward suffering financial hardship.

Funding has been successfully granted from the Ward Alliance, National Emergency Trust, and a Local Support Grant.

In May 2021, 'FareShare' membership was granted, which allowed weekly deliveries of fresh, ambient, and at a later date, frozen goods.

The CDO:

- Mapped existing provisions and identified needs by collaborating with existing providers.
- Helped update the group's training, health and safety practices, and terms and conditions.
- Developed volunteer criteria for applications.
- Recruited volunteers.
- Identified training and development.
- Created promotional materials.
- Organised an open day.

The CVS:

- Reviewed Church policies and procedures.
- Advertised volunteering roles.



Results

The Community Pantry has increased steadily in membership over the weeks it has been in place. It has helped families with financial pressures, especially those on low incomes, and it gives a long-term solution to food poverty.

- 838 Number of visits (over 68 weeks).
- Families retain dignity in food choices.
- Reduces food waste.
- Links in with local schools.
- Reduces loneliness and isolation.
- It helps link the Ward Alliance with the Pantry members in a meaningful way by creating opportunities to listen to and understand issues in the area.

The Future:

The Community Pantry is an ongoing provision.

Volunteers at the Community Church are growing in confidence and knowledge. Training for volunteers is to start in June 2022.

It's anticipated that the Community Pantry will continue to be a vital resource in Worsbrough, as many families who have been significantly impacted due to the pandemic, also face increases in energy prices this year.

Our partners



Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities



"It is really friendly and a nice place to come and have a chat with other users and the volunteers. I am always made to feel welcome and listened to. Its great value for money and helps my money go further each week"

Kaeti M
Pantry user



"We are really pleased to be able to reach out to the community in which we are based and offer support to those that need it the most. As well as offering access to affordable food there is also opportunity for users to volunteer and develop their skills and confidence. Its great to see the journey from pantry user to volunteer"

Tracey, Linda and Colin
Trustees

At a glance - weekly numbers

20
Volunteers

12
Families and residents supported (average)

Neighbourhood Engagement officer role

Covid Compliance and safety.

Who

Neighbourhood Engagement Officer (NEO), businesses, Public Health

How

To provide a consistent approach to Covid-19 safety and operations. To make sure that community and voluntary groups continue to be supported and have access to crucial funding. Provide timely and accurate Covid information and advice to the community and businesses through positive relationships and interactions.

Checking on Covid-19 compliance, supporting with PPE and risk assessments.

Results

Relationships have strengthened with businesses, councillors, ward alliances and MPs across the Dearne, and relationships with the NEO have created a link to the wider council.

- 53 businesses were visited.
- New community groups were created.
- Increase in vaccination uptake.
- Seven groups were supported with PPE and risk assessments.
- Hickleton Bowling ran an event on Sunday, 27 June, with Covid-19 measures in place.
- Venues flagged up as needing Covid-19 support have been visited.
- 24 hairdressers/barbers were encouraged to display public health posters.

Ideas to be continued with include:

- Helping businesses to look at being trans-friendly in their communities.
- Discount book/card to support local businesses.
- Project 14, one of our community groups, took the lead on adopting eight benches in the Dearne and turning them into mental health talking benches.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early support and help

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities

Enabling Barnsley

- Our underlying priority to make sure that our council is a modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing

Mental Health and Wellbeing summer sessions for all

Who

Community Development Officer (CDO), Stefy Bulls Fitness and Circuit Training, Hickleton Bowling Green in Thurnscoe

How

To combat the pandemic's effects on the community's confidence, helping residents get involved in sporting activities.

The Dearne Area Team provided opportunities and looked for funding for three boxing sessions and Crown Green Bowling for families.

Results

Thurnscoe Bowling;

- Provided training to the families.
- Received funding for refreshments.
- Were helped to plan for those with disabilities.
- Continued engaging with the community after the six-week event.

The boxing club;

- Received promotion and engaged with new potential members.

The Dearne Team;

- Gained stronger relationships with the bowling green, helping them reopen and their members safely return.
- Sourced premises and funding for groups.
- Supported with Covid-19 regulations.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships

Growing Barnsley

- People have a welcoming safe and enjoyable town centre and physical towns as destinations for work, shopping leisure and culture

At a glance



30

Number of children attended the boxing session



26

Children tried boxing for the first time



70

People played Bowling



"My son has Autism and is not sociable in society, but these past three weeks have given him something to look forward to, meeting the members of this club; he felt comfortable talking to them and having a competitive streak I didn't know he had – they've been brilliant, and I can't thank them enough."

Pam Local resident

Litter Campaign

Who

The local community, litter picking groups, Ward Alliance members and Councillor, The Dearne Team.

Participants: Twiggs, Dearne Kids, Station House, Heathergarth Primary School, The Hill School, Astrea Dearne,

Contributors: Salvation Army Goldthorpe, Fishfellas, Gravity Trampoline Parks, Discover Dearne,

How

Following the Area Council's Community Listening event and Elected Members' concerns, the Area Team felt more education was needed around littering and fly-tipping in the Dearne Wards.

Both issues had been exacerbated during Covid-19 due to reduced workers, which led to an increase in general litter.

The aim was to educate the community and reduce the amount of litter in the area by:

- involving children and young people by running 'design a poster' sessions to encourage using a rubbish bin.
- providing information on community boards and to groups to explain the rates of decomposition of rubbish

Results

There were 41 entries in the competition from children, young people and adults.

All entries received a goody bag at the Autumn Fair.

Benefits:

- increased relationships with local schools, community and voluntary groups.
- Positive impact on mental health.
- Positive feedback from parents.
- Children and an adult participated in the competition.

The future:

That continued education around littering will help reduce environmental crime



Priorities

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy

Dearne Autumnal Fair

Who

The residents and businesses, Ward Alliances, Councillors and the local MP.

Sheffield University 'Live Projects', Dearne Area Team, Dearne Family Centre, Dearne Kids, TADS Wellbeing, Goldthorpe Towns Fund Board, Discover Dearne, Salvation Army Goldthorpe, Snapton Community Hub, Dearne Community Arts Festival, Goldthorpe Pentecostal Church

How

Shopping habits changed during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the aim was to help promote local businesses at an Autumnal Fair.

The 32 stalls at the Fair included approximately 21 local businesses, health and well-being information, activities, and children and young people's consultation.

The Area Team helped to organise, promote and inform all those involved. Completed essential risk assessment and action plan, and reviewed and monitored the event.

Results

This was a well-attended event with around 800 people, local businesses, Councillors and MPs. It was profitable for all stallholders and they said it was a great success.

The Dearne Area Team had two stalls which they used to recruit for the Ward Alliance and consultation for business support and give out 200 5-a-day bags of fruit, veg and recipe cards.

The future:

- On the Dearne Area Team's social media page local businesses and what they bring to the local area are showcased each Friday.
- Planned Spring Fair.

Priorities

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities



350

Families took part in pumpkin carving



200

Residents contributed to the consultation by Sheffield University Live Projects



115

individuals consulted with about business support

Barnsley Gymnastics Club- Road to Success

Background

Barnsley Gymnastics has been around since 2006 and has done some great work in the area, including helping to train some now Olympic qualified athletes.

Over the pandemic, the Gymnastics Club were forced to close. As a result, their rent still accrued, and because of the vast size of their premises, they gathered a large backlog of rent. They came to the Area Team to help with this and to find ways to maximise the clubs use.

How

The North Area arranged a meeting with the St. Helens Councillors to look at options to help use the space. They encouraged the group to apply for Ward Alliance Funding to help renovate a meeting space in the building for community use. Also, the Area Team liaised with the SY Funding Adviser to look into new funding opportunities to help cut the deficit.

Results

The Gymnastics Club now have an enhanced business strategy to maximise opportunities. This, in turn, will mean increased funding and activities for the group and the resident of the borough



At a glance



£16,800

COVID relief funding recieved

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough.

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all.
- People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.

Retirement Fellowship

Who

The Retirement Fellowship

How

- The Retirement Fellowship collaborated with the North Area Council to pull together an event to bring people together in their local community.
- They agreed where they would hold the event, the date and who would be involved in the planning and organised what things they would like to promote at the event.
- A planning group was established and a successful event was delivered.



At a glance



£250

Raised for the Yorkshire Air Amulance

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Results

The Retirement Fellowship group raised £250 for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance at the event.

Greater awareness of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance's work was raised.

Collaboration between agencies:

- Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- The Retirement Fellowship
- North Area Council
- Old Town Ward Alliance

Darton Fun Day

What

A local business (Les Cadeaux), Darton Church Vicar (Rev Tim Stevens) and a local community group (Mother Runners) reminisced about how they had missed having events/activities for the village.

How

A Fun Day committee was developed consisting of - Les Cadeaux, a representative from the Mother Runners, Rev Stevens, a representative from Voice for Darton and Kexborough and the North Area Team. This committee developed, organised and delivered the fun day. The fun day aimed to have a traditional village gala feel - there were stalls from local businesses, traditional games such as welly wanging, a chilli off and a duck race.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe

Enabling Barnsley

- To ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing

Results



35

Number of volunteers that contributed to the event



£3,000

Amount raised for Darton Church



Winter Warmer Event

Who

Darton East Ward Alliance Members set up a winter warmer event that aimed to tackle the excess winter deaths that occur in the ward.

How

- They came together to agree a date, a venue and agree the partners they wished to have at the event to promote support for older people in the ward.
- The local partners were contacted to ask them to come along to the event to share what their organisation does and how older people can get involved.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough



Results



200

Number of people who attended the event



60

Number of good bags distributed

Easter activity packs and Easter bonnet competition

Who

Father Blair, Outwood Littlewood Grange, Monk Bretton Ward Alliance, Youth Association and Sue Fox who is the Burton Grange Community Centre Manager.

How

Parents and schools were contacted to identify families in need and provide Easter activity packs. These contained: colouring, quiz and cooking sheets, a knitting pattern for an Easter chick, a toy, sweets and an Easter Card from the Ward Alliance. An Easter bonnet was also in the pack to encourage families to enter a competition. These were mainly aimed at young children, but alternative teenager packs were also given out.

Results

Families collected the following from Burton Community Centre:

Easter Bonnet competition:
Ten children shared their bonnet creations for the competition.

Collaboration with community groups, a local school, church and donations from Youth Association and Tesco. Close working links with the North East Area Team and the Monk Bretton Ward Alliance.

Priorities

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment



131

Packs handed out to children and young people



25

Extra colouring packs



Storrs Mill Lane litter picking event

Who

Janet Mason - an active volunteer, residents, volunteer litter-pickers, Councillors and the Ward Alliance, North East Area Team, Neighbourhood Services, BCB (Barnsley Community Build), Highways, Lambda Medical.

How

Janet Mason who is an active volunteer and the residents around Storrs Mill Lane, were concerned about ongoing littering on a two-mile stretch of road between Cudworth and Darfield. The aim was to clear litter and fly-tipping.

Highways and Lambda Medical:

- Road closures were required and first aid support was booked over the period.

The North East Area Team:

- Liaised with Janet and other services
- Provided litter-picking equipment and safety-wear
- Set up and manned zones on the day



BCB and Neighbourhood Services:

- Cleared back overgrown areas to make them safe
- Collected purple bags of litter
- Removed fly-tipping

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy



74

volunteers took part in the events



5 tonnes

of waste removed



350

purple sacks of litter filled



Results

Along with Janet and the residents, other people came along to litter-pick at the event.

These included adults, children, Local Councillors, local MPs, litter pickers from all around the borough, North East Area Team and many services within the council.

Due to the size of the event, advice was given by Events and Logistics, Corporate Health, Safety and Emergency Resilience, and Civil Contingencies.

As there is an ongoing littering issue, the Area Council will be looking at more preventative steps when tackling litter.

The Dell Project

Who

The Dell Steering Group, Sheffield University 'Live Projects', CDO for North East Ward, North East Area Council, Jolly Good Communities, Grimethorpe Resident's Group, Parks Team, Rights of Way Team.

How

The aim was to develop The Dell in Grimethorpe to a usable outdoor space which was sensitive to the environment.

The Area Team have worked with residents to form a new steering group. University students have engaged with the public to develop ideas for the use of the space and building.

Further consultation events have taken place to share concepts.



Results

This is an ongoing project which is still in its planning stage.

The Future:

The Area Council and The Dell Steering Group aims to formalise plans for the space using the findings from the consultation and work with other services to:

- Develop spaces for the youth in Grimethorpe
- Increase access and security on the site
- Encourage wildlife areas to thrive
- Develop a team of volunteers who can manage the site.

Priorities

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy

Enabling Barnsley

- Our underlying priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing



Slipper swap event

Who

Neighbourhood Engagement Officer for the North East Area Team, Oakwood Grange Care Home.

Providers and Services:

Grafters Warehouse, Wynsors World of Shoes, Age UK Barnsley, Neighbourhood Watch, Green Doctors, Public Health, South Yorkshire Police, Berneslai Homes, Stop Smoking Services.

How

The aim was to enable older people to stay safe and avoid trips and falls by swapping their slippers for a new fitted, sturdy pair.

This was part of a pilot scheme to work with Nursing Homes in the community.



The Community Development Officer:

- Invited other service providers to attend
- Organised dates and venues
- Promoted the events
- Supported the day-to-day running
- Provided information and advice on the day about the North East Area Team and Ward Alliance.

Results

Over the two events in Royston:

Those who attended:

- Were encouraged to chat face-to-face with services targeted at older people, health and wellbeing, and crime prevention.
- Received new slippers.
- Met with other residents combatting social isolation.

There were other events in North East Area Wards, and all were enjoyed by those who attended. The events gave the providers and services a chance to network. A local business from Royston was used to supply the slippers.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early support and help

Sustainable Barnsley

- People are supported to have safe, warm sustainable homes



Cawthorne baby and toddler group

Who

Cawthorne Baby & Toddler Group and Penistone Ward Alliance

How

To support groups to continue to function and meet in person.

Over the last year, due to Covid-19, sessions have taken place digitally to continue to bring young families together and build relationships.

The group applied to the Ward Alliance successfully a second time to help offset the financial risks of restarting the group in person with a much smaller capacity.



Results

The Baby and Toddler groups have started meeting again in person with reduced numbers.

New families are encouraged to take part and join in

There is a growing community of new families within the group.

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment

Enabling Barnsley

- Our underlying priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing

Funding advice appointments

Who

Community Development Officer, South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB) Funding Advisor and various volunteer groups and Barnsley CVS.

How

Throughout the pandemic, sessions were carried out digitally or by telephone. Some groups had lost funding and were struggling to continue to provide a service.

The aim was to offer opportunities for groups to seek advice for potential funding in a face-to-face environment.

The sessions were with SYFAB's Barnsley Funding Advisor.

- Appointment only.
- Face-to-face chat.
- Groups to share ideas and seek funding opportunities.

The Area Team:

The CDO and NEO attended to:

- Communicate their role.
- Rekindle existing relationships.
- Establish where the community is following Covid-19 restrictions and how the team can help.

Results

Eight groups booked appointments
Three groups were new to SYFAB and have now registered

Advice given:

- Funding streams.
- Structure development.
- Community banking.
- Group constitutions.

Six small-scale funding sought
Two large-scale funding sought
Two referrals to Barnsley CVS

Ongoing support

- Ongoing advice.

• Helped **Page 28**
funding appointments

CALLING ALL PENISTONE COMMUNITY GROUPS!

FUNDING ADVICE APPOINTMENTS

Lorna from South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau is able to offer advice & guidance on a wide range of funding providers

TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 3PM-7PM
PENISTONE TOWN HALL

MEET THE PENISTONE AREA TEAM, BARNSELY CVS AND FIND OUT WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL GROUPS

To book an appointment slot, please contact Tanya on 01226 775016 or email tanyadickinson@barnsley.gov.uk

Penistone Area Council
Penistone East, Penistone West
BARNSELY SYFAB

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities

Enabling Barnsley

- Our underlying priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing

Thurgoland sports field improvements

Who

Volunteer group, Thurgoland Welfare, Twiggs.

How

The project aimed to clear some ground and repurpose it for seating for spectators and families. This was alongside replanting to enhance the park and environment.

Thurgoland Welfare, volunteers and Twiggs collaborated on a plan for the site. They then secured Ward Alliance funding to fund the project.

The Team supported the group with the Ward Alliance application process.

Results

Volunteers have cleared the space of shrubs and the accumulated litter enhancing the sports field.

A new family space has been created for the community to use and enjoy.

A planting scheme has been agreed and when completed will make the environment more attractive.



Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early support and help

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all
- People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

Cawthorne Cricket Club

Who

Cawthorne Cricket Club, Penistone Ward Alliance.

How

Although Healthy Holiday schemes were running in the area, many families were not eligible to attend them and requested other activities.

The aim was to use designated funds from the Ward Alliance, 'School's Out fund' to deliver a 3-day cricket club for young people in the Penistone area during February half term.

The sessions focused on:

- Wellbeing.
- Attitude to the game.
- Teamwork.
- Respect.
- Diet and hydration.
- Cricket skills.

The Area Team:

- The CDO and the Ward Alliance promoted the event.
- Provided support with the application process.



Results

A total of 49 children aged between 7 and 13 attended the sessions from the villages of Cawthorne, Hoylandswaine, Silkstone and Penistone.

The sessions had a positive effect on local families and increased the children's confidence and skills.

Four children were new to the sport, and three of the four enquired about joining the club's junior section.

“ My son has thoroughly enjoyed the week and his confidence about the game has improved enormously. He's come home every day with a huge smile on his face and very much looking forward to the next days session. Also, his knowledge, understanding and technique has improved significantly. ”

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People live independently with good physical and mental health
- We have reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities

Enabling Barnsley

- Our underlying priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high performing

Local hanging basket sponsorship schemes

Who

Local businesses, community groups, residents, South Area Team, Ward Alliances, basket supplier, Maintenance contractor.

How

The aim was to encourage people to shop locally and support local businesses by adding colourful hanging baskets with sponsored plaques. The Ward Alliances funded start-up costs in the first year, but the scheme now depends on receiving sponsorship from residents, groups and businesses. This money would fund the hanging basket and plaque, which was in place from June to October.

Results

Hoyland Milton and Rockingham ward:

- 7 volunteers provided coordination, promoted events, organised application forms, planned sittings, and organised a raffle.
- The cost to the Ward Alliance was £2,800.
- Income created in Match funding and sponsorship fees was £13,192.

Wombwell ward:

- 16 hanging baskets were sponsored.
- 2 new business reps became WA members.
- The cost to the Wombwell Ward Alliance was £1,000.
- Income created in sponsorship fees was £960.

Darfield ward:

- 20 hanging baskets.
- 1 new volunteer and a possible new Ward Alliance member.
- Cost to the Darfield Ward Alliance: £2478
- Income created in sponsorship fees £1100

The scheme relied on partnership working with Council services, local groups, volunteers and the wider community. There is an expectation that the scheme will become more self-sustainable year on year.



Priorities

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their communities
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy



"Can I start by saying how lovely all the baskets are but I'm extremely pleased with the location of mine, it made me so happy when I saw it with its sign this morning. It'll definitely be an annual sponsor from me"

Darfield resident



"The hanging baskets are lovely, my mum loved going down the High St and was well known in Wombwell, it is lovely to see her name up on a plaque".

Wombwell residents

Putting the brakes on illegal off-road biking

Commencement: 7th September 2021

Who

Elected Members, South Area Ward Alliance, -South Area Team. Partnered with Barnsley Council Community Safety Team, South Yorkshire Police, Parks, Berneslai Homes, - Targeted Youth Support, Barnsley Council Communication Team.

How

The aim was to tackle illegal off-road biking in the South Area of Barnsley. Following reports from residents regarding illegal off-road biking, elected members and the Ward Alliance collaborated with the South Area Team and partners to address the issue.

A three-pronged approach was taken to monitor hotspots, improve intelligence, and increase the number of off-road bike seizures across the area.

The South Area Team coordinated meetings with a range of partners and funded the purchase of a wide lens long-range camera, The Police funded signage in hotspot areas, and all partners encouraged the public to report illegal activity and fed back with any seizures as a deterrent.

Results

This is an ongoing pilot scheme.

- Police and the Community Safety Officer continue to monitor hotspots for illegal activity using the camera purchased.
- Good partnership working.
- Monitoring ongoing.



Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe

Sustainable Barnsley

- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people enjoy



"It's really important that residents can feel safe in their own communities. In cracking down on illegal off-road biking, we're taking action against the nuisance and danger these incidents cause."

Cllr Jenny Platts

Cabinet Spokesperson for Adults and Communities

Establishment of the first red squirrel society in South Yorkshire



Who

Local family, Darfield CDO, Parks Team, Environment Team, Twiggs.

How

The aim was to set up the first red squirrel society in South Yorkshire.

This would need:

- A surveillance period of a least two years without sightings of grey squirrels.
- Land repurposing encourages red squirrels to use it as their habitat.
- Support the family who owns the land in registration and submitting a business case.

The South Area Team supported the family with relevant paperwork and brought together services to collaborate on the initiative.

Results

This initiative is in its infancy and is an ongoing project that will be dependent on the approval of a business case.

It would go some way to Barnsley Council's commitment to plant 10,000 trees by 2023 and create another site where red squirrels as a native species can thrive.

Priorities

Growing Barnsley

- Business start ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities

Sustainable Barnsley

- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy

Winter wellbeing events (slips, trips and falls)

Two events, Hoyland - December 2021 and Birdwell - March 2022

Who

Community Development Officer (CDO) for the Hoyland Milton and Rockingham, South Area Team, councillors.

Providers; Age UK Barnsley, Umbrella Mental Health, BPL Your Space, Berneslai Homes, Private Sector Housing Officer, South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue.

How

The project delivered two events in 2021 and 2022 to help people, over 50 years old, live independently at home for longer and make connections with services for health and well-being. Introducing them to other local residents, volunteers, Ward Alliance members and councillors.

The CDO helped with the Ward Alliance application, organised the events, ordered and put together items for wellbeing packs, liaised with partners and services, aided with the logistics on the days and attended to engage with those who attended.

Results

Residents:

- Gained information and advice in both one-to-one conversations and in leaflet form from a variety of services.
- Received wellbeing packs (slippers and a hot-water bottle included.)
- Gained an understanding of who and where to go for help.

Were able to refer themselves to internal departments such as:

- Smoking Cessation.
- Equipment and Adaptations.
- Digital Champions.
- Warmer Homes.
- Alcohol Team.
- Slips Trips and Falls.

The Providers who attended were also able to network and meet in person, allowing them to have conversations, and gain knowledge and understanding of how to help their community more effectively.

Future plans:

- To limit the timescale of the events
- To invite care homes and sheltered housing as a provider
- Yearly event planned

Priorities

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe
- People live independently with good physical and mental health

Learning Barnsley

- People have access to early support and help

At a glance

100+

Attendees at Hoyland event

82

Attendees at Birdwell event



Community Listening

“

We really enjoyed getting back out there listening and speaking to people about what matters to them. It was encouraging to find out that many value the things we focus on including community involvement, our local environment and that in general people have a lot of pride in Barnsley and their neighbours.”

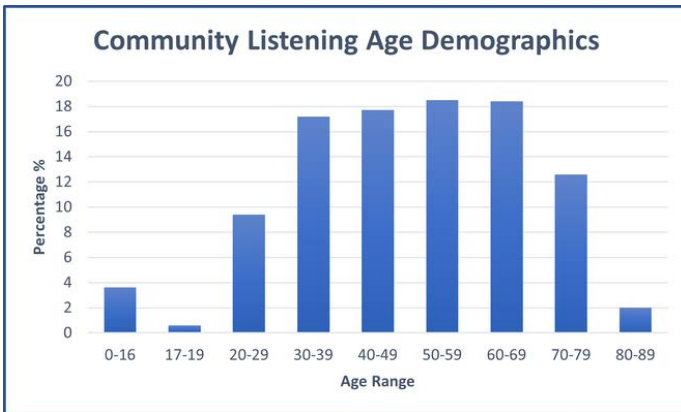
Rachel Payling
Head of Stronger Communities

”



Over the summer, the six Area Team held Community Listening sessions. These sessions helped to get a conversation going about people's feelings and the challenges they face because of the pandemic. Sessions were held across the borough from June to October, with an online survey promoted through social media.

Over a thousand people took part resulting in 4,168 responses, with some going into great detail about their community and how they would like it to look in the future.



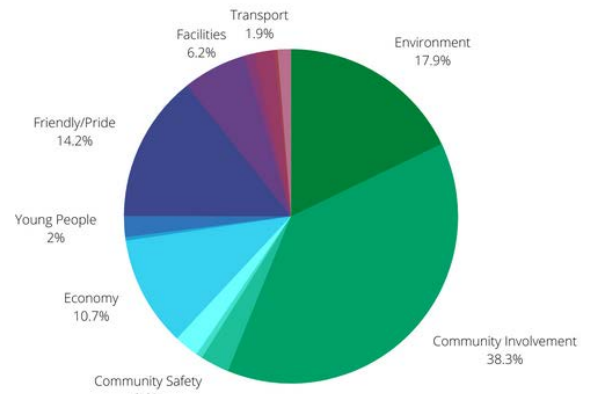
Using the data

The results will help focus Stronger Communities work supporting neighbourhoods, volunteers, groups and wider Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector groups. It will also help us when working with Barnsley Council colleagues and other partners around issues such as highways, health, development, employment and anti-social behaviour.

The Answers

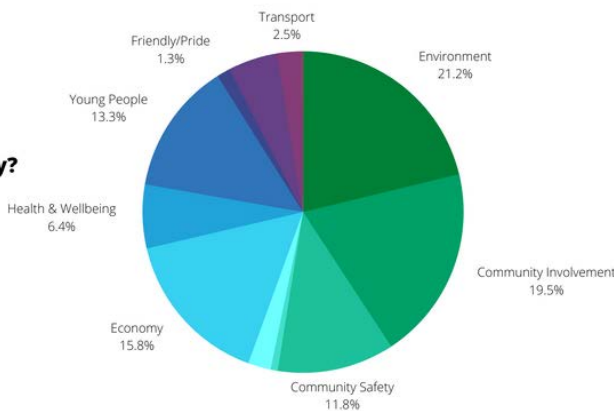
The answers revealed that the environment, the people, community and the sense of togetherness are the main things that individuals like about their area.

**Q1
What do you love about your community?**



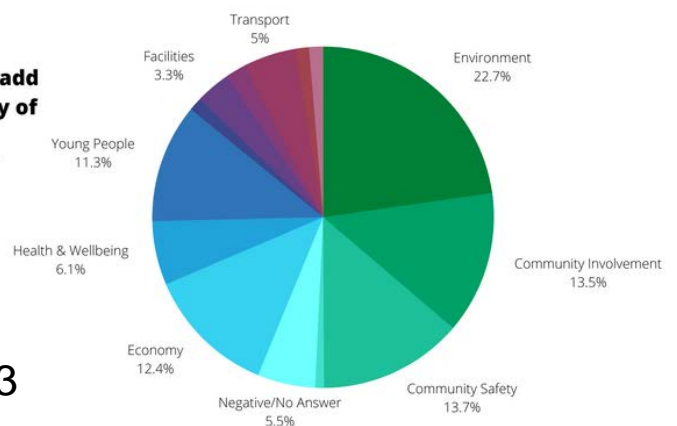
There was a broad range of things that people think are needed to improve the community.

**Q2
What is needed now and in the future in your community?**



Responses suggested that residents most value their environment as well as their involvement in their community, investment in the economy including transport links and more things for young people to do.

**Q3
What would add to the quality of life in your community?**





**Project
plan
for
2022/23**

Physical health and safety:

- Defibrillators in Barnsley – Improve the de-fib network across the area working with the locality to identify gaps in provision. Fund the purchase, installation, registration of devices, and delivery of first Aid and Defib training across communities.
- Safer roads – Working with local volunteer groups to improve road safety around local schools.
- Supporting young women by providing feminine hygiene and sanitary products to young people. Including information, advice and support through services in schools.
- Healthy Holidays provision for families and young people across the areas working in partnership with existing groups and organisations.
- Encouraging walking - develop walking maps and heritage trails to encourage walking in the borough in green corridors and heritage sites. Aiming to identify accessible routes for all.

Mental Health:

- Coffee, Cake and Confidence: developing confidence and tackling social isolation for people who struggle to get out due to anxiety or other issues.
- Support of organisations/ groups working with those with health issues, e.g. mental health: supporting with sustainability, funding and creation of 'community hubs' within some of the services (funding dependent)
- Mental Health & Well-being resource packs – continue to work with partners to distribute resources on mental health services for all ages across Barnsley.
- Christmas activities aimed at supporting and improving people's mental and physical health working in partnership with existing community groups.

Older People:

- Encouraging interaction in group environments by making high streets aware of the needs of those with dementia.
- Organising and funding get-togethers and providing specialist events for older people with information and support around staying safe and well.

Family:

- Six-week holiday health and wellbeing sessions – Crown Green bowling, family fun run, walk and talk sessions, family games day, traditional board games with food and drink.
- Community Cinema – pictures in the park (to either drive-in or sit down)

Healthy eating and provision:

- Foodbanks, Community Kitchens and Pantries: To help support and develop volunteer-led groups and provide help with infrastructure. Help them to become sustainable and link with those who have food needs by providing affordable access to good quality food, utilising surplus food and creating food-based activities to build knowledge of healthy eating.
- Training for community organisations in food hygiene.
- Foods of the world – develop multicultural events linking varieties of foods from other countries, for example, local dishes from other origins. Promote events in different languages.

Information advice and guidance

- Funding Advice Workshops – Continue to offer localised funding advice appointments with SYFAB for volunteer groups.
- Community events for older people - providing health advice and lifestyle opportunities.
- Resolute – Women's Support Group. Helping to establish and develop a peer-led group supporting women who have experienced domestic violence and substance misuse.
- Utilising Networks: support, help and act as a liaison between groups and organisations to make connections and use our existing networks to promote the provision.
- Micro-volunteering projects for those with extra support needs, for example, mental ill-health or long-term health conditions to build confidence and skills.

Community Support

- Talking benches and taking a seat – to audit and use existing and new benches to encourage talking.
- Wellbeing Cafes: initial stages.
- The Pen Pal Project aims to connect around 50 isolated and vulnerable people with primary school pupils.
- Helping to establish new sewing groups to reduce social isolation.

Winter

- Health / Winter Fair – Information about staying safe, well and warm during the cold months.
- Cold weather volunteers – continue to support colleagues in Public Health to roll out this pilot scheme borough-wide.
- Fuel poverty event – Information about staying safe, well and warm.

• Everyone is able to enjoy a life in good physical and mental health.

• Fewer people live in poverty, and everyone has the resources they need to look after themselves and their families.

• People can access the right support, at the right time and place and are able to solve problems early.

• Our diverse communities are welcoming, supportive and resilient.

Children and young people:

Various grants, commissions and Ward Alliance Funding to deliver activities for children and young people.

- Sculpture and workshops series, devising a series of workshops and trails in conjunction with Barnsley Museums and other local partners.
- Delivery of school holiday activities available freely to local families.
- Celebrating academic and non-academic achievements of young people from primary schools.
- Involving children and young people in shaping their community through competitions linking to the environment and climate change.
- Helping young people to be part of peer events by setting up provisions to hire affordable prom attire.

Wider social connections:

- Communications to the communities through "What's On" guides, online social media and noticeboards. To enhance and improve communication channels across our work to better promote what we do.
- Printed literature that will show all the activities and groups in the area encourage people to join them and provide helpful information, such as energy advice and COVID-19 guidance.
- Social Media campaigns to promote community activity and events. Link the community with the services we commission
- Provide information on learning opportunities within the local community, including events in the area.

Helping the community help themselves:

- Training for community organisations and volunteers – train 16 leaders in Mental Health First Aid, General First Aid, Safeguarding, Food Hygiene, event planning and management, social media and communications, Defib training, and Youth Work Qualifications.

Pathways to further education and work:

- Job Clubs in community settings for people to access to learn skills related to job applications.
- Sharing the pathways to opportunities for learning. Working closely with our adult skills and learning team to encourage participation by developing people's practical and transferable skills and developing individual confidence and key skills to manage their lives.
- Working with parent support workers within local primary schools and adult community learning and libraries to encourage parents and carers to take up key skills courses. To demonstrate the need and demand for key skill courses to be delivered in the local community.

Enjoy cultural activities:

- Collaboration with various history and creative services and groups to encourage local people to engage with history, arts and crafts, such as; murals, sewing and knitting groups, craft activities. Residents can learn about and celebrate the rich industrial heritage in Barnsley.
- Supporting local sports providers, such as football clubs, cricket clubs, bowling, majorettes, boxing gyms and others.
- Celebrating the achievements and successes of both volunteers and teams during Covid-19.
- Supporting groups to take an interest in their local environment and develop an interest in reviving and rejuvenating industrial and landscaped areas.



• Children and young people aim high and achieve their full potential with improved educational achievement and attainment.

• Everyone has the opportunity to create wider social connections and enjoy cultural experiences.

• Lifelong learning is promoted and encouraged, with an increase in opportunities that will enable people get into, progress at and stay in work.

• Everyone fulfils their learning potential, with more people completing higher-level skills studies than ever before.

Businesses are supported to grow:

- Feature Friday – continue to feature a different Dearne business on social media every Friday; that showcases what they bring to the local area and economy and showcases growing their business.
- Supporting Businesses- continue to support social enterprises and community groups of a certain size to be sustained and developed to support the community they serve. The teams look at ways/opportunities to build good communication channels with local businesses and how our work can help promote the local high streets.
- Community pop up markets – to support our local smaller businesses in raising awareness of their businesses whilst promoting the high streets to encourage footfall and more visitors across to the area.
- Encouraging the Barnsley pound – actively encouraging local businesses to participate in community events and buy local produce and services where possible, for example, local shoe shops providing all the slippers for the recent events. A local bakery and other businesses regularly support and encourage community events, providing free cakes for volunteers.



Contributing to the economy:

- Supporting local business partners, through groups Business and Community Together, that help to improve our local areas and make our high streets more desirable places to visit.
- Christmas lights and hanging baskets sponsorship - sponsored by local businesses, encouraging the promotion of local businesses and footfall on the high streets.
- Easter/Spring and Summer Fairs – these collaborate with local businesses, and voluntary groups giving them an opportunity to fundraise whilst providing enriching activities for children and families.
- Supporting our high streets – working with the Business Groups to deliver events to encourage footfall on High Streets throughout the year, including the Jubilee Street parties.



• Children and young people aim high and achieve their full potential with improved educational achievement and attainment.

• Everyone has the opportunity to create wider social connections and enjoy cultural experiences.

• Lifelong learning is promoted and encouraged, with an increase in opportunities that will enable people get into, progress at and stay in work.

• Everyone fulfils their learning potential, with more people completing higher-level skills studies than ever before.

Renewables, sustainability and wasting less:

- Community reduce, reuse, recycle events - to raise awareness of littering and general recycling of our household items by holding a community car boot for anyone to come along and sell their unwanted items. Then encourage follow-up action in communities.
- Sustainable Projects – Working with local groups to create sustainable projects including sensory parks and food forests.
- Food provision - further development of community herb gardens, cafes and food box schemes. Raise awareness of provision locally and encourage local residents to take ownership.

Green spaces and looking after local environment:

- Green spaces projects - continue to support existing environmental volunteer groups to engage with partners, plan environmental action, maintain and take ownership for these areas and to utilise these assets for community events and activities.
- Youth engagement event – working with partners, deliver a young people's engagement event in parks and skateparks to encourage ownership as well as better and appropriate use of the facilities.
- Supporting existing environmental projects to grow and thrive, including community allotments, nature reserves, parks, wildlife areas, green spaces and facilities. These improvements will encourage more people to visit.



Pride in our area:

Keeping it clean:

- Cemetery clean-up – continue to work with commissioned services, environment services, bereavement services and local volunteers to clean local cemeteries regularly.
- Litter picking volunteers - regular litter picking activities in the local communities. Litter picking packs are provided, and regular support is offered to volunteers by the CDOs to discuss other volunteering opportunities.
- Great British Spring Clean – a week of action from 28 March to 3 June. This event will encourage volunteers to participate in the #BigBagChallenge and complete a different task each day, with a supporting tick chart provided by the team. For example, on day one, 'talk to someone new on today's litter pick'.
- Sponsored hanging baskets - across Barnsley, we are working with providers to allow residents and businesses to sponsor their hanging baskets. This is done sustainably to be as low cost to the council as possible but also gives people a tremendous sense of pride and that they've committed to something that makes their area more pleasant.

Jubilee activities and events:

- Bunting workshops and souvenir brochures - the teams will encourage residents and existing groups to come together and create vibrant themed bunting, which will be displayed in and around the main areas of the wards, and encourage people to share their stories of communities' past and present at celebration events.
- Jubilee small grants – encouraging and supporting grassroots community events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This will encourage new volunteers post-Covid-19 to become actively involved again within their local communities.

• People live in sustainable communities with reduced carbon emissions and increased access to affordable and sustainable energy sources.

• People can get around in Barnsley easier than ever, with an increase in cycle routes and better connections across the borough.

• Barnsley has increased the amount of renewable energy that is generated within the borough.

• People are proud of and look after their local environment.



Funding and Commissions

Distributed through:

- Ward Alliances
- Grants
- Barnsley Better Bonds

Funding



The Ward Alliances have continued to support their communities throughout the pandemic, and the team has been supporting the voluntary and community sector to access external funding opportunities in Barnsley.

Issues due to the pandemic:

Restrictions have meant that the voluntary and community sectors have been unable to function and fundraise as they did before; this has meant that organisations that usually depend on this funding source have had to adapt to survive. Many have struggled financially and required support in the form of grants to remain sustainable.

Grant funding:

In total Barnsley Council distributed over £600,000 in grants to the voluntary and community sector in the second year of the pandemic. Alongside this Barnsley Better Bonds awarded over £30,000 of funding to the voluntary sector, and Barnsley Council funded £250,000 worth of Covid-19 resilience funds in the second year of the pandemic. The CCG also provided funding for grants to the Sector which were distributed by Barnsley Council:

- Business Planning and Sustainability funding £22,000
- Mental Health – Crisis Alternative funding £50,000
- Respiratory Support funding £30,000
- Mental Health – Health Inequalities funding £45,000 (supported by SWYFT).

The different funding opportunities that have been distributed by the Council through a grants panel are below:



£250,000

COVID Resilience Funding



£22,000

Sustainability & Business Planning Funding



£50,000

Mental Health Funding
Crisis Alternative



£30,000

Respiratory and Children's Funding



£45,000

Health Inequalities and Mental Health Funding



£30,000

Barnsley Better Bonds Funding

Funding

Priorities

Ward Alliance funding:

The Ward Alliances have a budget that voluntary groups can apply for, and each of the Ward Alliances has supported many projects throughout this last year.

The Ward Alliance reviews applications at regular meetings, and if these meet the ward's priorities, the group can receive funding for their project or event. The groups then provide information and feedback to the Area Team, who can monitor the impact and success, which helps plan for like-minded future initiatives. The projects awarded funding are varied across each area of Barnsley and support initiatives that assist that local community.

A variety of examples of Ward Alliance funded projects can be seen in the case studies section of this report.

Micro-commissioning:

Through the Area Councils' budgets, the Elected Members decide how to allocate the funding of commissioned services in each area.

This is done based on the evidence of need in that area, utilising a range of different sources. Each area is different in its approach and tailors the services to the needs of that community. Through this approach, we commission local providers who help residents, families, businesses and whole communities to bring about social change and improve the quality of life in that local area.

The Elected Members in that area, alongside the team, act as the link between communities and a range of other partners along with voluntary sector providers to bring about social change and growth in communities.





Our Priorities

Our priorities and Barnsley 2030



How we link with 2030 - Barnsley - the place of possibilities

Barnsley has developed the 2030 priorities, and these are owned across the partnership. This has allowed a consistent approach to the priorities for the Borough and has helped the Area Councils and Ward Alliances to align itself to these priorities.

Healthy Barnsley

All the emotional health, well-being, and environmental work that the Area Councils and Ward Alliances support help to achieve this overall priority. It is not just the services we commission and fund but also how we approach communities to work with us which makes what we do a success. We understand how our communities operate and the barriers they face. It's our job to influence the key partners who work alongside us and often ask us to be involved in sharing that success with them.

Learning Barnsley

All the work of the Area Councils and Ward Alliances is centred around early intervention and prevention and supporting the resilience and learning in our communities. The services we commission through the Area Councils and the support we give through the Ward Alliances are about reducing health inequalities and preventing people from needing statutory sector services.

Growing Barnsley

In every area, we are connecting our communities to the opportunities that are on offer across Barnsley, whether that is supporting entrepreneurs or supporting our communities to engage with the Principal Towns agenda. We're making sure that people have their say and are supporting our local businesses to have an awareness of the opportunities that are on offer to them.

Sustainable Barnsley

Across the Area Councils and Ward Alliances, the environment is a key part of our delivery, supporting communities to look after their local area with a bit of support from the council. All the work commissioned through the Area Councils contributes to this priority. Early intervention and prevention are key, making sure that communities are connected and influencing the partnership around the barriers that some communities face when trying to be connected and play a part. Some of these barriers are due to how we communicate (whether that is in a language that is too corporate or in a language that isn't understood by all), or it could be due to things our communities are experiencing like poor emotional health and wellbeing, financial hardship, transport issues or digital inclusion. All of which we, as a team, can influence and advocate on behalf of our communities.

Enabling Barnsley

In all that we do through the area governance approach, it is about us enabling communities to be as successful as they can possibly be.

2030 Critical Success Factors

Number of volunteers we have worked with as a team

CO1 Number of times people have taken up volunteering opportunities linked to the work of Area Councils and Ward Alliances.

CO2 'Love Where You Live' - cashable value of volunteer hours.



Our priorities

Area Council priorities

How do our priorities fit into the Council Plan 2021 – 2024:

All the work of the Area Teams is centred around early intervention and prevention and supporting resilience in our communities.

The services we provide through the Area Council and the support we give through the Ward Alliances are about reducing health inequalities and preventing people from needing statutory sector services.

Access to information, advice and guidance

Community Involvement

Community Safety

Improving the local economy

Improving the local environment

Opportunities for young people

Health and Wellbeing

Area Council commissions and grants based on our priorities:

All six Area Councils commission services to meet the needs of their communities – all of which respond a little bit different but all provide an offer to their communities in each of the areas. The Area Teams also support a number of grant programmes which allow for more than one provider to work with us to support the delivery of our priorities.

Bouncing back in 2022-2023

The team continues to support the communities in Barnsley to bounce back following some difficult times. There are still many uncertainties about the true extent the pandemic has impacted our communities, and there are some considerable challenges facing them in the coming months and possibly years.

Some of these challenges are the following:

- The increasing cost of living.
- Impact on emotional health and wellbeing.
- Impact on the economy as some communities are still anxious and concerned about returning to 'normal'.

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TITLE: **1. Overview of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Strategy,
2. Business Case & Recommendations for DA Service
Recommissioning &,
3. Procurement of Registered Housing Provider for the
Development of Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation**

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| REPORT TO: | CABINET |
| Date of Meeting | 27/06/2022 |
| Cabinet Member Portfolio | Public Health and Communities |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Public or Private | Public |

| | |
|--|---|
| Purpose of report | |
| <p>The purpose of the report is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek approval to publish Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Strategy (Appendix 1). • Provide an overview and seek approval for the Business Case for re-commissioning Domestic Abuse Services (Appendix 2). • Seek approval for approaching the market for the procurement of a registered housing provider to acquire and manage on behalf of Barnsley Council, properties used specifically and in perpetuity, for those effected by domestic abuse, and who require Safe Accommodation. | |
| Council Plan Priority | Outcome |
| Healthy Barnsley | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are safe and feel safe. • People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible. • Reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough |
| Learning Barnsley | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills, including access to apprenticeships. |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment. • People have access to early help and support. |
| Growing Barnsley | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are supported to have safe, warm, sustainable homes. |
| Sustainable Barnsley | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community. |

All items contribute to the priorities and outcomes of the Council Plan 2021/2024 and performance management framework.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

- 1. Approve the Domestic Abuse Strategy which will be available online and offers regular updates for communications and training and be a source of information about local services.**
- 2. Approve the re-commissioning of domestic abuse services as detailed in the business case.**
- 3. Approve the procurement of a registered housing provider to meet the statutory responsibilities of providing Safe Accommodation to people fleeing domestic abuse.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022 – 2027 and the business case for the recommissioning of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Services alongside the development of safe accommodation that will respond to the statutory requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- 1.2 The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (DA Act 2021) creates, for the first time, a cross-government statutory definition of domestic abuse, to ensure that domestic abuse is properly understood, considered unacceptable and actively challenged across statutory agencies and in public attitudes.
- 1.3 Domestic abuse is an important priority on both the national and local agendas. The development of the Strategy, commission of Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Service and, the development of a property portfolio of Safe Accommodation will contribute to the following recently published national plans:
 - Domestic Abuse Act 2021
 - Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021
 - Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan.

1.4 Evidence Base

- 1.4.1 The prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley is informed by the findings of the local needs assessment¹ and the incumbent providers performance activity. The prevalence of domestic abuse has also been affected by the COVID pandemic.
- 1.4.2 Monthly averages of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police have increased since the beginning of the pandemic, alongside an increase of high risk referrals, also reflected in the increase of MARAC² cases over the past three years. The average number of MARAC cases heard per year has increased by 34.3% since Q1 2019/20.
- 1.4.3 Although the increase in incidents may also have been affected by improved police recording, the confidence in local policing and the willingness of victims to report domestic abuse to the police, the increase nevertheless represents an increasing cohort of victims eligible for domestic abuse services.
- 1.4.4 The increase of Domestic Abuse Notification referrals provided from the MASH³ from an average of 4 per month in 2019/20 to 18 per month in 2020/21, representing a 350% increase during the pandemic. This indicates an increasing demand for services for children affected by domestic abuse, particularly in reference to the stipulation in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 in which children who experience domestic abuse are victims 'in their own right'.
- 1.4.5 There is also a considerable demand for accommodation support. The number of referrals into the refuge has continued to increase every year since the start of the contract in 2017. The needs assessment shows a gap exists in the provision of support for domestic abuse victims with multiple and complex needs who require accommodation.
- 1.4.6 The needs assessment also identified an increase in approaches to Housing Options citing current or domestic abuse and increase in homeless applications where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness.
- 1.4.7 Key headline demand figures
- In 2017/2018, the average monthly rate of domestic abuse incidents was 482 incidents per month. In the year ending March 2021, the average monthly rate was 602 incidents per month, demonstrating an increase of 25%.
 - In 2019/2020, a total of 571 cases were heard at MARAC. In 2021/2022, a total of 767 cases were heard, demonstrating a 34% increase in MARAC (High Risk) referrals.
 - The average number of Domestic Abuse Notification referrals to the MASH increased from an average of 4 per month in 2019/2020 to 18 per month in

¹ Appendix 3 DA Needs Assessment Executive Summary

² MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

³ MASH – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

2020/2021. This presents 350% increase in the first year of the pandemic.

- The needs assessment identified that in the twelve months from October 2020 to October 2021, 69 referrals to the refuge were rejected, totalling 71% of the overall referral rate.
- Since 2018/2019, there was a total of 6 applications made to Housing Options where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness. In 2020/2021, there was a total of 47 applications, demonstrating a 683% increase. *Please note that Housing Options was restructured in September 2020 leading to improved data collection, which will contribute in part to the rise in applications.*

2. PROPOSALS

Publish A Domestic Abuse Strategy

- 2.1 The DA Act 2021 requires Local Authorities to develop, publish, and give effect to a Domestic Abuse strategy.
- 2.2 Our new Strategy has been informed and developed using the data from the needs assessment. It will soon be online and, by doing this we will offer a clear central portal of information for pathways and signposting into services, training, and awareness opportunities for both professionals and public and regular updates on prevalence and performance. As it will be offered through the web portal it will also enable multiple language translation options.

The DA Act 2021 requires Local Authorities to:

- Provide accommodation-based support to victims of Domestic Abuse.
- Give victims of Domestic Abuse priority need for homelessness assistance and grant secure lifetime tenancies when granting new secure tenancies to social tenants who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy.
- Assess the need for accommodation-based Domestic Abuse support in their area for all victims and their children, including those who come from outside the area.

Key headlines from Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Strategy

Re-Commission Support Services and further development of a portfolio of properties

- 2.3 Evidence detailed in the Strategy demonstrates a need for a commissioned Service that responds to the needs of victims of domestic abuse and delivers additional safe accommodation support that builds on the existing refuge provision.
- 2.4 It is our recommendation that we build on our current specification to meet the requirements of the Strategy and growing national guidance and, move towards addressing gaps highlighted in our needs assessment, e.g., developing the range of accommodation options, whilst building on the current service delivery model to provide:

- Barnsley's Referral Pathway,
- Assess Risk,
- Provide a standard, 'local call' help line,
- Trauma-Informed Specialist Provision,
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors/Advocacy (IDVA/ISVA),
- Therapeutic Groups and Counselling,
- Recovery Care Planning and Care Co-ordination,
- Safety Planning and target hardening,
- Facilitate access to Expert 'Lived Experience Group support,
- Offer Long Term Recovery,
- Intensive Accommodation Support and Refuge Management,
- MARAC Management,
- Communications and Training,
- Strategic and Operational Requirements,
- Safelives Standards Training and Service Programme.

2.5 The current offer of Safe Accommodation in Barnsley includes the provision of an eight bedded, purpose-built, refuge. The refuge is part of the national network of women only refuges that ensure women fleeing harm and violence have a safe and secure place to stay. Many women come to the refuge bringing children and although it is purpose built, it does not afford any opportunities to comfortably house women with more than one child.

2.6 The needs assessment highlighted the oversubscribed refuge as well as the limited building capacity. It also made direct links to domestic abuse, homelessness and increasing poverty. There is an absence of refuge spaces for the increasing number of men identified as experiencing abuse, and for women with older teenage sons. There is also an increasing number of victims of domestic abuse who have multiple and complex needs requiring safe accommodation, and for whom the current delivery model of the refuge is not adequate and does not meet the range of need. The needs assessment ultimately highlighted that Barnsley's current safe accommodation delivery model is not suitable or sustainable for the increasingly diverse profile of domestic abuse victims in the borough, and that safe accommodation options for victims should be diversified to meet this need.

2.7 It is the recommendation of this report that we develop a portfolio of property types, to meet varying need in the Borough and enable a more diverse offer.

To facilitate this need:

We will negotiate the 'change of use' of a property currently being used, elsewhere. Although this offers fewer units (4) than the refuge (8), we believe this could offer day support venue with no night-time cover. This would be a female only facility.

The established refuge could then change its use, to offer a 'concierge' service so that the more complex clients can access 24-hour support. This client group often experience more practical, emotional and uncertain lifestyles and without 24-hour support gravitate back to the abusing partner. This would also be a female only facility.

We already have 4 self-contained, single occupancy, independent units across the Borough for female offenders. This project originally sponsored by MoJ funding offers specific accommodation for female offenders who have or are having domestic abuse as a key element influencing their life.

We propose to expand the offer by securing through a short tender process, an independent third sector, registered housing provider and property management to purchase on the Council's behalf additional properties dispersed across the Borough to achieve a variety of accommodation facilities. These will be offering 1 and 2 bedded properties to be used for dispersed, move-on with additional specialist support from agencies in a coordinated and sustainable way. Following discussion with our Barnsley Council property colleagues, we feel it would be more advantageous to invite independent sector support for this project. The properties would be held on behalf of Barnsley Council, for the use of housing domestic abuse victims in perpetuity. This also offers a greater reach in terms of minoritized communities, people with disabilities and men who have no specific facility to safely accommodate them.

To service the clients in these properties, we propose to extend the current domestic abuse team to specifically support these tenants when they need it most and to ensure they are fully supported to move out of victim status into someone who thrives and flourishes without threat of harm.

Target hardening/sanctuary provision is provided by our community domestic abuse service in partnership with Berneslai Homes and SYP (South Yorkshire Police). We will continue to support the ideal choice of victims to remain in their own home environment through this continued scheme to offer property security.

Using the Safe Accommodation grant to its intended purpose we will uplift the current domestic abuse contract to provide intensive support for victims of domestic abuse, providing three specific specialists over a period of three years, to offer support in situ, when the client requires it beyond 9-5 parameters with a much more flexible programme.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director of Finance (S151 Officer) and are summarised below.

- 3.2 The DA Act 2021 came into law on 1st October 2021 and placed new duties on local authorities to ensure that victims of domestic abuse and their children can access the right support in safe accommodation when they need it. Barnsley Council already plays an important leadership role in delivering domestic abuse services to victims/survivors in Barnsley. The Domestic Abuse service's recurrent budget is £651k, which is funded by core council budget (£579k) and PCC contribution (£72k). The new DA Act supports our current activities in commissioning and monitoring victim services by its re-iteration of the responsibilities outlined in para 2.2 of this report.

Accommodation based support grant

- 3.3 The Government has allocated the Council new burden funding of £588k in the current year (£586k in 2021/22) to discharge the statutory responsibilities outlined above. In the spirit of the New Burdens Doctrine, the new duty will be funded in future years – however future funding allocations would be determined as part of the next spending review. The funding (revenue) has been provided as a s31 grant, with a legal obligation to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing within safe accommodation.

Re-commissioning of the Domestic Abuse Service

- 3.4 The current commissioned Domestic Abuse Service is provided by IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Service) at an annual cost of £651k. It is proposed that we build on our current specification to meet the requirements of the Strategy (and DA Act 2021) and growing national guidance by uplifting the current domestic abuse contract by £105k per annum.
- 3.5 Given the uncertainty of future years funding (subject to spending review decisions) it is proposed that the uplift in the contract value over the period of 3 years (£315k) is funded from the current year's grant allocation (£588k). This additional cost is to provide intensive support for victims of domestic abuse through the provision of x3 specific specialists to offer support in situ when the client requires it beyond 9-5 parameters with a much more flexible programme.
- 3.6 It is envisaged that in the event of funding being confirmed for future years, then such grant allocation would be applied to release the council's core funding underpinning the Domestic Abuse service (i.e. cashable efficiencies).

Procurement of a Registered Housing Provider

- 3.7 The November 2021 SMT report ('Domestic Abuse – strategic review') put forward an option to develop a property portfolio through a social landlord for the bespoke use for victims of domestic abuse. To this end, earmarked funding was made available in 21/22 towards the property acquisition costs (by switching the grant allocation with the council's core funding for Domestic Abuse service).
- 3.8 The case for an enhanced accommodation based provision is outlined in para 2.3 to 2.7 above. Discussions are ongoing with Property services regarding the accommodation / property options with potential independent sector registered housing provider. No estimates of acquisition costs have been provided at this stage – however it is proposed to set aside the 21/22 carry forward resource (£340k) and the anticipated uncommitted balance of funding in 22/23 of £273k.
- 3.9 The registered provider will be asked to maximise the drawdown of intensive housing management through housing benefit, resulting in potential to reduce support costs.

3.10 The table below outline the proposed spending / funding commitments for the Domestic Abuse service for 22/23 and 23/24:

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Committed expenditure | £,000 | £,000 |
| IDAS Contract | 651 | 651 |
| Intensive support – IDAS contract | 315 | - |
| Total Costs | 966 | 651 |
| Funded by | | |
| Core budget | 579 | 579 |
| OPCC Funding | 72 | 72 |
| 21/22 Earmarkings | 340 | - |
| DA Accommodation Grant | 588 | - |
| Total Funding | 1,579 | 651 |
| Balance | -613 | - |

3.11 This approach allows for grant funding to be utilised in accordance with the grant conditions, whilst providing flexibility to switch funding with core council budget. This would allow any unutilised funding to be carried forward to the following year to meet agreed commitments.

Exploration of Efficiencies

| Area of exploration | Response |
|---|--|
| Are there any other contracts or services in the Council connected to this service where efficiencies can be explored? | No other services or contracts deliver the scope proposed in this report. |
| Has corporate procurement been consulted on other related contracts? | Yes, consultation has taken place with corporate procurement and there are no other related contracts. |
| Is there an overlap in management of the various services provided by the same provider where efficiencies can be gained? | We will explore efficiencies as part of the procurement process for both the support service and the housing. A Registered Provider may be in a position to draw down grant from Homes England resulting in less investment from the Council and subsequent efficiencies. The RP will also be expected to draw down Intensive Housing Management, again resulting in the Council exploring revenue efficiencies. |
| Are there any other efficiencies offered in relation to this service? | In the event of funding being confirmed for future years, then such grant allocation would be applied to release the council's core funding underpinning the Domestic Abuse service (i.e. cashable efficiencies |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Cashable savings proposed | Depends on the level of grant received in future years and any new requirements |
|---------------------------|---|

Other considerations

According to Nicole Jacobs the Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, it is critical for the safety of all victims of domestic abuse and their children, that the new duties are implemented fully and result in an increase in the provision of support in quality domestic abuse safe accommodation. We will continue to develop the exceptional services being provided by charities who are expert in their field, to Barnsley and meet the requirements of the DA Act 2021 whilst seeking to explore efficiencies.

On receiving approval to engage a registered housing provider, we will state that the provider must identify and draw down additional, central funding through intensive housing management benefits as well as other grants to maximise the investment in properties in Barnsley.

Currently, this paper has referred all provision through charity status organisations. When engaging providers, we clearly state all contracts are not subject to 'cost of living' increases across the life of the contracts and we also encourage current providers to identify where savings can be made, nevertheless colleagues may have a view on the re-investment of these saving back into developing provision.

3.3 Legal

Procurement and legal services have been engaged and are waiting Cabinet approvals.

3.4 Equality

A full EIA has been completed for the Strategic Review and the Domestic Abuse Strategy. It covers the Authorities responsibilities for providing Safe Accommodation within the DA Acts agenda and public sector equality duty.

A summary of key findings from the needs assessment tells us that:

- In 2020/21, women still made up the vast majority (89%) of referrals to IDAS, though this nevertheless demonstrates a sizeable group of (420) men approaching the service.
- 8% of the cases discussed at the MARAC (i.e., those most high risk) involved male victims.
- A total of 49 referrals to IDAS in 2020/21 (i.e., 1.2% of total referrals) were known to be from trans people and 99 individuals (2.4% of all IDAS clients in 2020/21) identified as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.
- 2% of those high-risk cases discussed at MARAC during 2020/21 involved a victim who was known to be LGBTQ+.
- around 7% of referrals in total are from non-White British ethnic backgrounds, with the largest minority group being white Eastern Europeans and 2.5% of IDAS clients during 2020/21 stated a language

other than English as their main language. This represents 104 people and 27 different home languages.

- Christianity accounted for the largest specific religious group with small numbers of Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh plus any other religion accounting for the remainder. Specific data regarding religion was recorded for 38% of 2020/21 clients.
- During 2020/21, 711 of IDAS's 4092 (i.e., 17%) clients were known to have a disability and/or health condition, with mental health being the most common. 133 people (3.25% of all clients) had more than one impairment/condition and during 2020/21, 89% of clients accessing domestic abuse services in Barnsley had protected characteristics

It is anticipated that the delivery of the strategy, contract re-commission and proposed safe accommodation will have a positive impact on the those with protected characteristics, particularly those individuals who face barriers to accessing domestic abuse services and safe accommodation and ensures we can offer a range of opportunities for minoritized groups, complex needs and men who may wish to access services for domestic abuse and safe accommodation and who cannot be catered for through core service accommodation.

3.5 Sustainability

3.5.1 Research shows that people living with domestic abuse usually experience this for 20 years or more before they seek support, and domestic abuse has significant long-term implications for those affected:

- physical and psychological pressures that also contribute to rising poverty levels.
- intergenerational abuse may impact on successful education outcomes and career prospects.

Therefore, investing in support for victims to establish a life without threat is an investment in our community. Clients will be supported to look forward to better opportunities to engage and train within the workforce in the Borough, contributing towards a Healthy and Growing Barnsley.

3.5.2 A key priority of the Domestic Abuse Strategy is the prevention of domestic abuse, to foster a culture of zero tolerance and to raise awareness or services so, support can be accessed as early as possible. This will in part be achieved through training and volunteering opportunities offered by domestic abuse services, both to third sector and statutory organisations.

3.5.2. The Domestic Abuse Service, IDAS is a registered charity with extensive knowledge of health, social care and other organisations and networks throughout in the borough and nationally, where onward referral may be appropriate or needed. This service offers an approximate local workforce of 19 people from the local community all of which are sourced, supported, and trained to a national standard and qualification, as well as sourcing, training, and maintaining a local workforce to national IDVA standards. All the workforce has been supported and locally 'grown'.

3.5.3 This project offers property security through 'target hardening' as well as the intention to purchase select properties for the use of domestic abuse clients. These will be sourced and maintained on the council's behalf by an approved social landlord. All properties will be consulted within the community and will attempt to achieve 0 level impact on the environment.



3.6 Employee

3.6.1 There are no employee implications with regards to the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022/2027.

3.6.2 The current Domestic Abuse Service employs approximately nineteen members of staff in a variety of roles which are funded within the contract value.

3.6.3 The procurement of a new Domestic Abuse Service may have implications on Service employees working currently should the new service contract be awarded to another provider. However, it is most likely that TUPE would apply should they have to transfer to another employer.

3.7 Communications

3.7.1 A communication plan has been agreed with the Communication and Marketing Team to launch the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022/2027 with an online webpage that will help guide residents through the strategy. The communications and digital teams are working to develop an, accessible webpage to support the communication of the strategy. Information regarding the recommission and procurement of a new service will be delivered through

the communications and marketing team as soon as approval has been given, making sure clear communications are delivered to Barnsley's residents.

- 3.7.2 The findings from the various consultations that have taken place to develop the Strategy 2022/2027 and the review of the current support service consistently highlight the importance of effective communication to promote the availability of and access to relevant information and support. The online version of the strategy will give the opportunity to access language translations and social media coverage of ongoing 'messages,' training, and events.
- 3.7.3 Both the strategy and the new service commission consider digital solutions to support clients in accessing information, advice, and support. The pandemic has widened the opportunities for clients to access support digitally when face to face would have been impossible.
- 3.7.4 Since 2016 the communications and marketing team have helped us develop, a strong message around domestic abuse. They have created awareness through the '#SpeakUp' and 'behind closed doors' campaigns using key messages to tell those affected by domestic abuse or violence that there is help and support available. Signposting people to IDAS' services and urged them to call 999 if in immediate danger. They have also developed themed campaigns around different events, for example, the Euro's campaign and valentine's day through multi-channel messages.

They have shared posts from the Violence Reduction Unit, as well as information around the Inspire to Change DA perpetrator programme.



The current campaign is positioned to begin to address issues as we emerge from the pandemic and remind everyone in our community that there is support and a way out of domestic abuse in Barnsley. New images were launched at the library @TheLightbox in 2022, highlighting a range of different people and situations.

4. CONSULTATION

Substantial consultation is being carried out with a range of stakeholders, professionals, and the public, kickstarted by the needs assessment, to inform our understanding of the issues facing individuals, their families, and communities to help us identify our key priority areas. We have consulted through a range of methods:

- Verbal feedback from stakeholders via Teams Meetings.
- Feedback via online events and surveys.
- Guidance issued by DLUHC, Domestic Abuse Commissioner and Local Government Association.
- Discussions with Lived Experience/Expert Groups
- Regular communications with regional colleagues and OPCC
- National learning and guidance from pandemic experts.
- The draft Strategy has been shared for comment with Head of Children's Service, Director of Adults and Communities, Service field experts, PVP membership including Housing Options, BMBC Commissioning, BMBC Safeguarding Adults, BMBC Youth Justice, Probation Service Yorkshire and Humber, Barnsley CCG, BMBC Public Health, SY Fire & rescue, Berneslai Homes, HM Prison Service, OPCC, BMBC Adult Social Care, BMBC Children's Social Care and Safeguarding, SWYPT, IDAS, Humankind, Centrepont, BSARCS
- Mark Cockayne, South Yorkshire Police
- Age UK
- Children's DMT
- Adult and Children Safeguarding Board Managers,
- Claire Throssell MBE,
- An outline paper to the TEG.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no alternative approaches to consider with regards to the Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy.

5.2 With regards to the re-commissioning of Domestic Abuse Service, three options have been considered:

1. Do nothing.
2. Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process.

3. Commission a new service developing the model and specification taking into consideration the DA Act 2021 and subsequent guidance, via a competitive procurement process.

5.3 Option 1

Do nothing. If this option is taken, then the current service will expire on 31 March 2023. This option is not recommended as the loss of this provision would subject Barnsley Council to reputational damage. The development of sustainable and effective domestic abuse services is a very public agenda as well as creating a gap in support for those affected by domestic abuse, their children, and our communities.

Option 2

Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process. The second option would be to recommission the same service model using the existing service specification. The findings from the service needs assessment, show that the service is broadly meeting its aims and objectives, although its reach has room for improvements, and some changes have been identified. Additionally, taking into consideration Government guidance, the recommendations in Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Strategy, the DA Act 2021, and the findings of our needs assessment, it would restrict development to meet growing need.

Option 3

Commission a new service developing the original model and specification taking into considerations and recommendations of the above and subsequent Government guidance, via a competitive procurement process.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 **Publication of Domestic Abuse Strategy**

A strategy and delivery plan that reflects the national and local priorities is required for the Borough, not only on a practical level but also to meet statutory requirements of the DA Act 2021. Hence, we offer a contemporary and most appropriate portal for information to achieve priorities.

6.2 **Recommission of domestic abuse services**

The findings from the needs assessment and lessons learnt demonstrates that there is a need for the provision of continued support to victims of domestic abuse. Based on this feedback, Option 3 - Commission a service based on an updated delivery model and specification via a competitive procurement process is recommended.

6.3 **Develop a property portfolio for the use of Safe Accommodation**

The findings of the needs assessment also demonstrate a clear need to diversify housing options for those made homeless due to domestic abuse. The development of a property portfolio would begin to meet varying need in the Borough and enable a more diverse offer to minoritised communities and demonstrate the authority's adherence to the statutory responsibilities of the DA Act 2021.

7. GLOSSARY

DA Act 2021 - Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Service)
LGBTQ+ - Lesbian, Gay Bi-sexual, Trans, Queer, (+ represents those who are part of the community, but for whom LGBTQ does not accurately capture or reflect their identity.)
MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MASH – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
DLUHC - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (formally MHCLG, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government).
CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group
PVP – Protecting Vulnerable People sub-group
SWYPT – South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
BSARCS – Barnsley Sexual Assault and Rape Crisis Services
TEG – Trust Executive Group
OPCC – Office for Police & Crime Commissioner

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse Strategy
Appendix 2: Business case
Appendix 3: Needs Assessment Exec Summary

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Domestic Abuse Act 2021
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021
Domestic Abuse Plan 2022

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

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

| | |
|--|--|
| Financial consultation & sign off | Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date  26.05.2022 |
| Legal consultation & sign off | Legal Services officer consulted and date |

Report Author: R. Clewer
Post: Senior Commissioning Manager
Date: 26/05/2022

DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY
2022 – 2027

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Please note that the length of this document will be reduced once it has been transferred to an online webpage. The location of where dropdown menus will be are referred to throughout the document.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021 – 2027 outlines how Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council will, with its partners, work to tackle and prevent Domestic Abuse in Barnsley.

It is informed by the findings of a comprehensive needs assessment of our Domestic Abuse services, and outlines how we will achieve our strategic priorities below:

1. Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support
2. Preventing Domestic Abuse
3. Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse
4. Holding perpetrators to account and support them to change their behaviour.

Our strategy meets the regulations as required by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and contributes to the Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan 2021.

Ultimately, our strategy aims to improve the lives of victims, survivors and their children and help make Barnsley a place where people are safe from Domestic Abuse.

INTRODUCTION (drop down menu)

Domestic Abuse is a crime that has far-reaching repercussions for all of society and has resulted in devastating effects on families, children and local communities, effects which have unfortunately been worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, Parliament passed the Domestic Abuse Act, a piece of legislation which, amongst other things, requires Local Authorities to develop and publish a Domestic Abuse strategy. It is this regulation, along with Barnsley MBC's own commitment to addressing Domestic Abuse in Barnsley, that has led to the development of this strategy.

[What is Domestic Abuse?](#)

The Home Office defines Domestic Abuse as the abusive behaviour of a person towards another person, who are both aged 16 and over and are personally connected to each other.

Abusive behaviour is defined as any of the following:

- Physical or sexual abuse
- Violent or threatening behaviour
- Controlling or coercive behaviour

- Economic abuse – including behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on a person’s ability to obtain, use, or maintain money or other property, or obtain goods or services
- Psychological, emotional or other abuse

It does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a pattern of behaviour.

Domestic Abuse does not only happen in current romantic relationships, and can occur if the people involved:

- Are, or have been, married to each other
- Are, or have been, civil partners of each other
- Have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
- Have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated)
- Are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other
- Each have, or there has been a time when the each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child
- Are relatives

Domestic Abuse can affect anyone, regardless of age, gender identity, sex, race, sexual orientation, wealth, disability or location of the victim or perpetrator.

UNDERSTANDING THE WIDER PICTURE (drop down menu)

This strategy is part of, and informed by, a wider framework of legislation and governance concerning Domestic Abuse.

[Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)

The Domestic Abuse Act received Royal Assent on 29 April 2021.

The Act creates the first statutory definition of Domestic Abuse, including emotional, coercive and controlling behaviour and economic abuse as well as physical violence. The scope of coercive and controlling behaviour has also been extended to incorporate abuse that occurs post-separation. The Act also includes children being given statutory recognition as victims of Domestic Abuse in their own right if they see, hear or experience abuse in the home.

The Act requires Local Authorities to:

- Provide accommodation based support to victims of Domestic Abuse.

- Give victims of Domestic Abuse priority need for homelessness assistance, and grant secure lifetime tenancies when granting new secure tenancies to social tenants who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy
- Appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board
- Assess the need for accommodation-based Domestic Abuse support in their area for all victims and their children, including those who come from outside the area
- Develop, publish and give effect to a Domestic Abuse strategy
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy
- Report back to central government

The Act also includes several provisions relevant to criminal law and family court proceedings:

- The Act legally establishes the office of the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and sets out their functions and powers.
- The Act creates a statutory presumption that victims of Domestic Abuse are eligible for special measures in criminal, family and civil courts, and are prohibited from being cross-examined by the person who is alleged to have abused them.
- The Act introduces Domestic Abuse Protection Notices (DAPNs) and Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPOs) to protect victims from all forms of Domestic Abuse.
- The Act places the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law) on a statutory footing.
- The Act creates a new criminal offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation by another person, and extends the offence of disclosing private sexual photographs and films to cover threats to disclose.
- The Act provides for a statutory Domestic Abuse perpetrator strategy.
- The Act enables offenders to be subject to polygraph testing as a condition of their licence following their release from custody.
- The Act prohibits GPs and other health professionals in general practice from charging a victim of Domestic Abuse for a letter to support an application for legal aid.
- The Act provides for a statutory code of practice relating to the processing of Domestic Abuse data for immigration purposes.

For further information on the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-overarching-factsheet>.

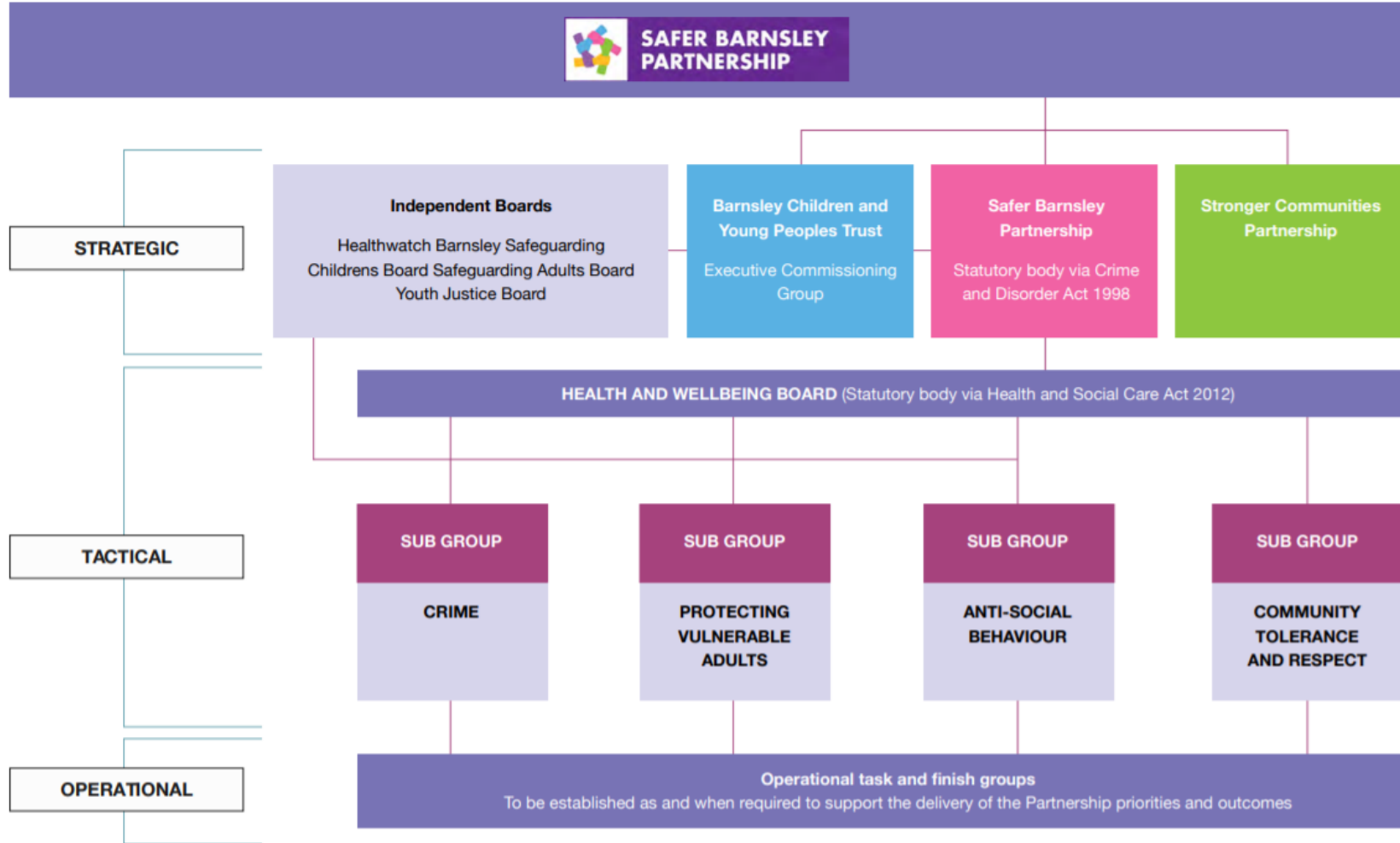
[Safer Barnsley Partnership](#)

The Barnsley Community Safety Partnership (CSP), known as the Safer Barnsley Partnership, is the statutory partnership responsible for tackling crime and disorder, protecting vulnerable people and reducing reoffending (Safer Barnsley Partnership Annual Plan, 2021).

Domestic Abuse is a key theme in the Safer Barnsley Partnership Violence Reduction Plan, and all members of the partnership are committed to working to end Domestic Abuse and create a culture of zero tolerance towards Domestic Abuse in Barnsley. Amongst others, the Safer Barnsley Partnership's commitments include:

- Improving and enhancing the response to domestic violence by targeting offenders and offering an excellent victim's service.
- Completing the strategic review of substance misuse, domestic abuse and multiple needs services and presenting a business case for recommissioning the service.
- Evidence how the local authority is leading in developing domestic abuse services as proposed in the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020 to ensure victims have safe accommodation.

The priorities of the Safer Barnsley Partnership are delivered through four sub-groups, shown in the diagram below:



A key objective of the PVP Sub-Group is to “work collaboratively to ensure that Domestic Abuse becomes socially unacceptable and that the harm caused to victims and their families is reduced.” Due to Domestic Abuse being a consistently high priority for both the Safer Barnsley Partnership and the PVP Sub-Group, the Sub-Group will perform the function of the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board outlined in the Domestic Abuse Act. The decision to utilise an established multi-agency partnership with successful working relationships will

build on agencies commitments, avoid complicating and replicating governance structures and ensure that the needs of victims and their children remain at the centre of our Domestic Abuse work.

This strategy is designed to support the Safer Barnsley Partnership Violence Reduction Plan, and feed into the Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group's commitment to evidence how Barnsley is leading in developing its Domestic Abuse services.

[Stronger Communities Partnership](#)

The Stronger Communities Partnership is a multi-agency board that contributes towards our Health and Wellbeing vision for the people of Barnsley to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Be active citizens
- Earn a good living

An important initiative in achieving their vision is the [All Age Early Help Strategy](#). Early help is particularly relevant to the prevention of domestic abuse, as it is about focusing on the root causes of problems in order to improve outcomes for children, young people, families and vulnerable adults, and avoiding costly statutory interventions. The shared priorities of the Stronger Communities Partnership for the All Age Early Help Strategy are:

- The right early help, in the right place at the right time
- Ensuring a whole system approach to early help with strong partnership working and system leadership
- Empowering local people and communities to build capacity and resilience, to enable people and communities to do more for themselves

Please note that the All Age Early Help Strategy is currently under development.

The Stronger Communities Partnership is also a partner of [Age Friendly Barnsley](#). Barnsley has joined the network of Age Friendly communities which make it possible for people to continue to stay living in their homes, participate in the activities they value, and contribute to their communities, for as long as possible. Tackling domestic abuse amongst older people faces its own set of challenges, and this strategy takes into account the principles of Age Friendly Barnsley when developing its priorities.

Children and Young People

A welcome provision of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 is the recognition of children as victims of Domestic Abuse in their own right, as the impact of Domestic Abuse on children and young people can be incredibly damaging. This strategy acknowledges the importance of working closely with children and young people's services to keep children and families safe, both in tackling and preventing Domestic Abuse in Barnsley.

Barnsley's Children & Young People's Trust (BCYPT) is the local partnership that brings together organisations responsible for providing services for children, young people and families in the borough, who are all working to improve outcomes. This strategy supports the following priorities identified in the [BCYPT's Children & Young People's Plan](#):

- Keeping children and young people safe
- Supporting all children, young people and families to make healthy lifestyle choices
- Encouraging positive relationships and strengthening emotional health
- Improving staff skills to deliver quality services

Safeguarding Adults

Domestic Abuse often co-exists within a range of complex issues, such as mental health issues or substance misuse. The response to Domestic Abuse therefore plays an important role in Barnsley's overall response to safeguarding vulnerable adults.

[Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board](#) is the statutory body that brings together organisations like health, GPS, housing, social care, police and fire service to promote wellbeing and reduce the risk of harm for people with care and support needs. This strategy supports the ambitions of the Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan to:

- To ensure that collectively we all work hard to prevent harm and abuse across Barnsley
- To develop citizen led approaches to safeguarding
- To learn and continually improve

Barnsley 2030

In the prioritisation of developing support services and the prevention of Domestic Abuse, this strategy also supports the Healthy Barnsley ambitions of:

- Everyone being able to enjoy a life in good physical and mental health.

- Fewer people living in poverty, and everyone having the resources they need to look after themselves and their families.
- People can access the right support, at the right time and place and are able to tackle problems early.
- Our diverse communities are welcoming, supportive and resilient.

[Violence Against Women and Girls](#)

This strategy will also evidence how Barnsley MBC, together with our Safer Barnsley Partnership partners, will support the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy by:

- Prioritising Prevention
- Supporting Victims
- Supporting the Criminal Justice and Legal system to pursue and remove perpetrators

DEVELOPING THE STRATEGY (drop down menu)

In 2021, we commissioned the work of Imogen Blood Associates to carry out and produce a detailed needs assessment of the Domestic Abuse services provided in Barnsley. Through stakeholder interviews, analysis of a range of service data and case studies, an online survey, and practice sharing discussions, the needs assessment set out to assess the prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley and identify gaps in the current provision of domestic abuse services.

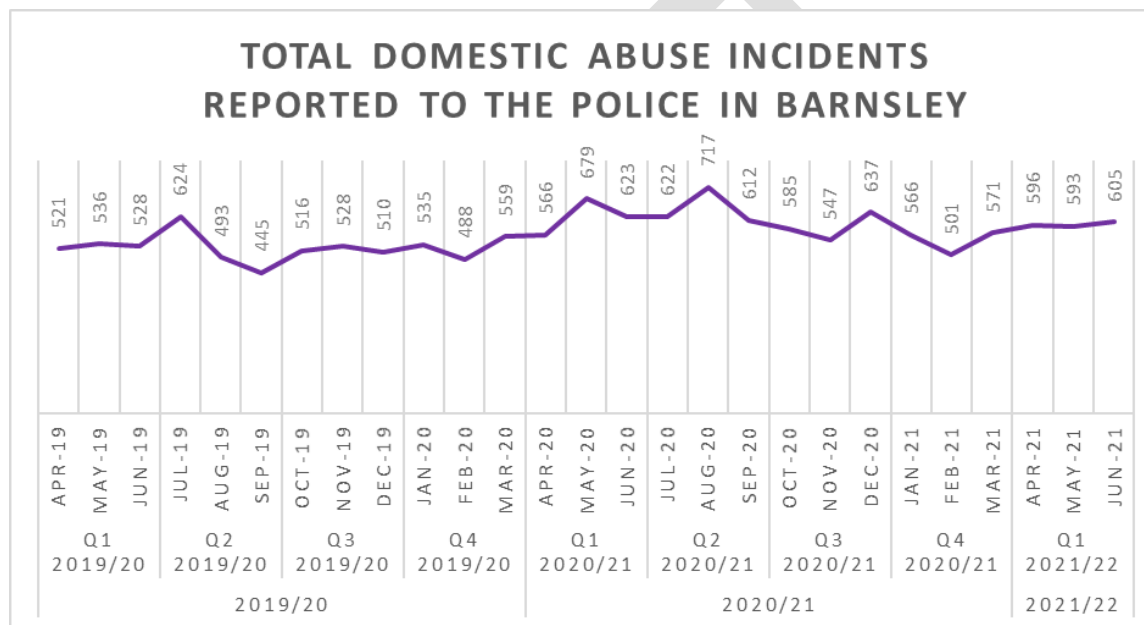
The production of the needs assessment met the Domestic Abuse Act's requirement of assessing the need for accommodation-based Domestic Abuse support, and its findings informed the development of this strategy and are continuing to inform our re-commissioning approach for 2022/2023.

This strategy will be a live document, so that our priorities and aims can appropriately respond to the changing landscape of Domestic Abuse and the needs of victims.

PREVALANCE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE (drop down menu)

Domestic Abuse is ‘a largely hidden crime, occurring primarily at home’ (Women’s Aid, 2021). It is also often unreported to the police making it difficult to accurately quantify (HMIC,2014: Women’s Aid, 2021). However, the Crime Survey for England and Wales estimated in the year ending March 2020, 7.3% of women (1.6 million) and 3.6% of men (757,000) experienced Domestic Abuse (ONS, 2020a). In this year, 758,942 Domestic Abuse-related crimes were recorded by police in England and Wales (excluding Greater Manchester Police) (ONS, 2020b).

More recent data is available at a local level.



During the period April 2019 – June 2021, there was a monthly average of 567 Domestic Abuse incidents (including both crimes and non-crimes) reported to the police in Barnsley. ‘Non-crimes’ are Domestic Abuse incidents reported to the police that do not progress to being categorised as a crime.

On average (since April 2018), 62% of these incidents were deemed to be a crime (while there is some monthly variation, this figure seems to have remained fairly consistent over the whole period since April 2018).

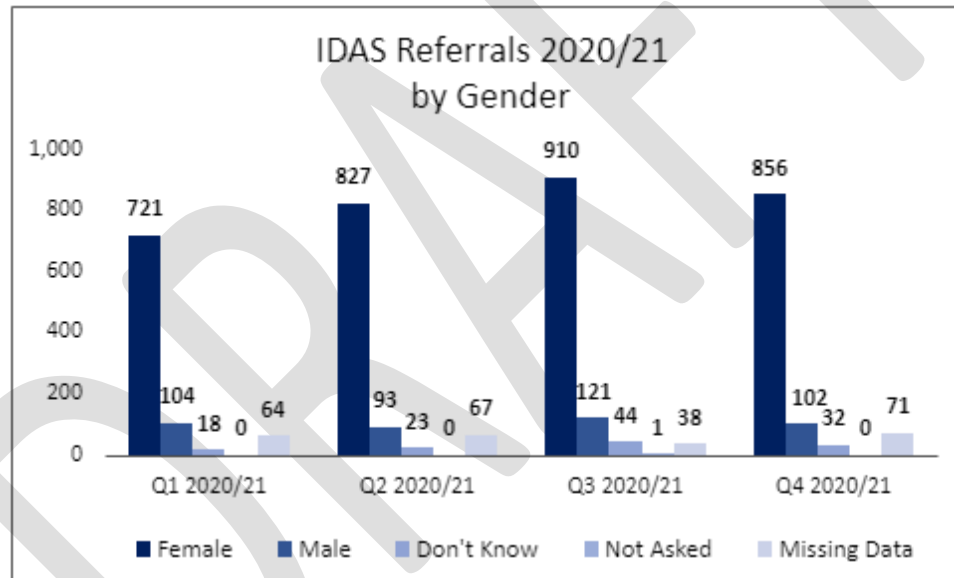
There is evidence of an increase in overall incidents during and since the first Covid lockdown in March 2020. Monthly averages went up from 524 in the year prior to the pandemic (finishing March 2020) to 602 in the year finishing March 2021. There was a very clear spike during the first six months of lockdown, where monthly averages were at 637.

The most recent quarter (to end June 21) shows a slight increase (9.5%) on the previous quarter, but the total remains just below 600.

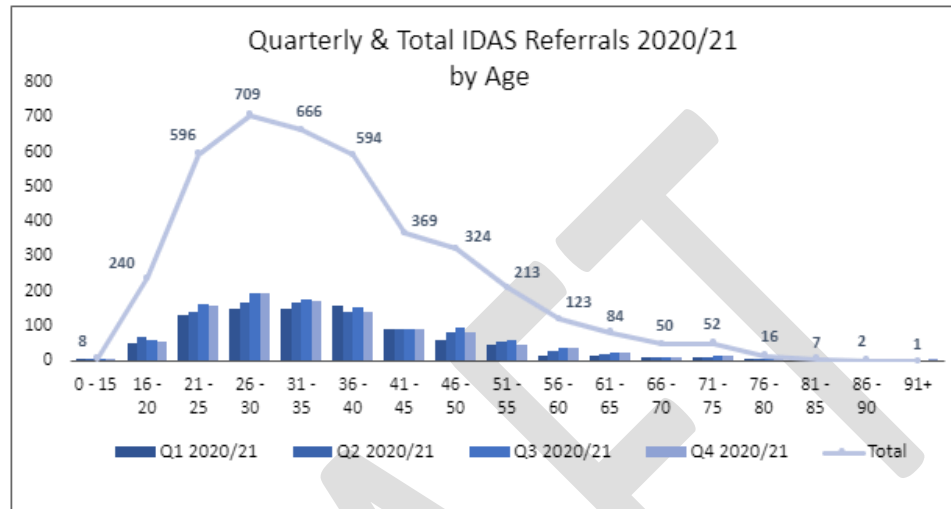
Comparator Police data for South Yorkshire suggests that, when size of population is factored in, Barnsley’s incident rate is relatively high compared to neighbouring cities. It is not as high as Doncaster’s, but higher than Rotherham’s and Sheffield’s incident rates.

Domestic Abuse service referrals

During 2020/21, IDAS received a total of 4122 referrals for all of its services, working with 4092 clients and receiving an average of 1022 referrals per quarter. Female victims made up the vast majority of referrals (89%), with 11% of referrals involving male victims. A total of 49 referrals to IDAS (1.2% of referrals) were known to be from transgender victims, and 99 individuals (2.4% of clients) identified as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.



The highest number of referrals were received from people in the 26-30 age group, with a significant concentration of referrals coming from people in their twenties and thirties. Although the numbers of older people accessing IDAS represent a small minority of the total, the numbers are by no means insignificant. In 2020/21, 104 people in their sixties; 68 people in their seventies; and 10 people aged 80 and over were referred to IDAS.

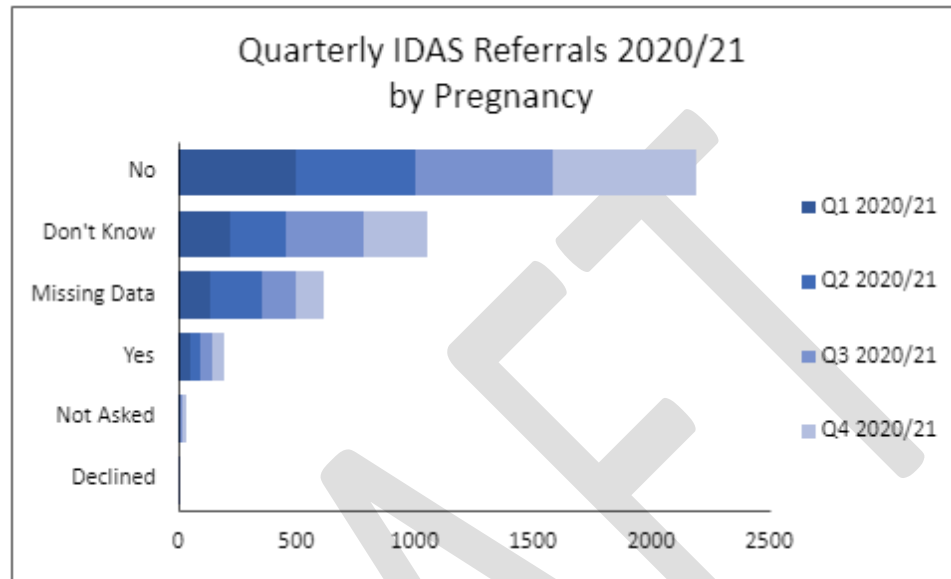


Around 7% of referrals in total are from minority ethnic backgrounds, with the largest minority group being white Eastern Europeans. 2.5% of IDAS clients during 2020/21 stated a language other than English as their main language. This represents 104 people and 27 different community spoken languages.

During 2020/21, 711 of IDAS’s 4092 (17%) clients identified as a disabled person or has having a health condition, with mental health being by far the most common. 348 (8.5%) of IDAS’s clients described themselves as having a mental health condition.

Domestic Abuse and children

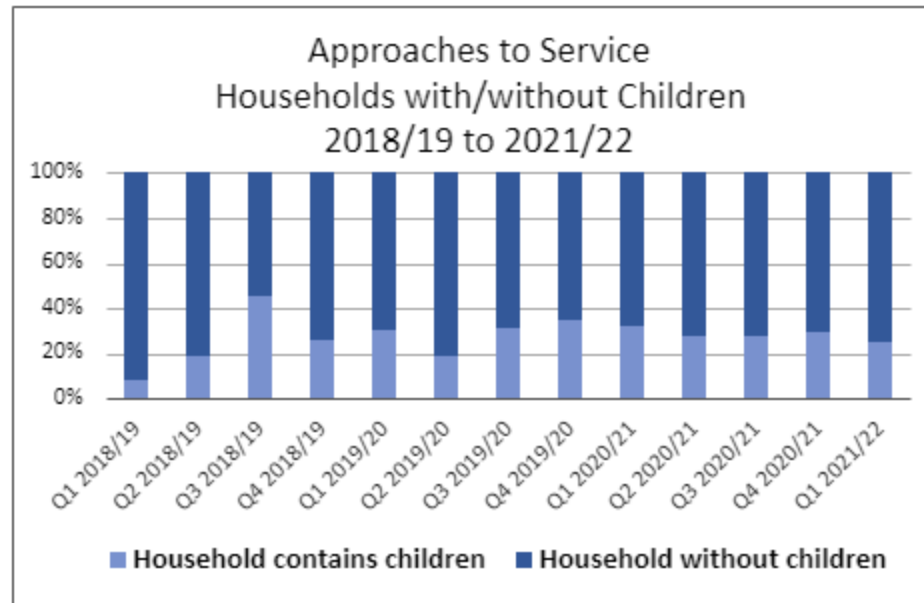
In 2020/2021, 5% of IDAS referrals were from women who were known to be pregnant.



Furthermore, in 2020/21, Domestic Abuse was identified as a risk factor in nearly three-quarters (73%) of cases coming to child protection conferences. Domestic Abuse is by far the most frequently identified risk factor in these audits (parents'/ carers' mental health was the next most common, featuring in just under half of cases).

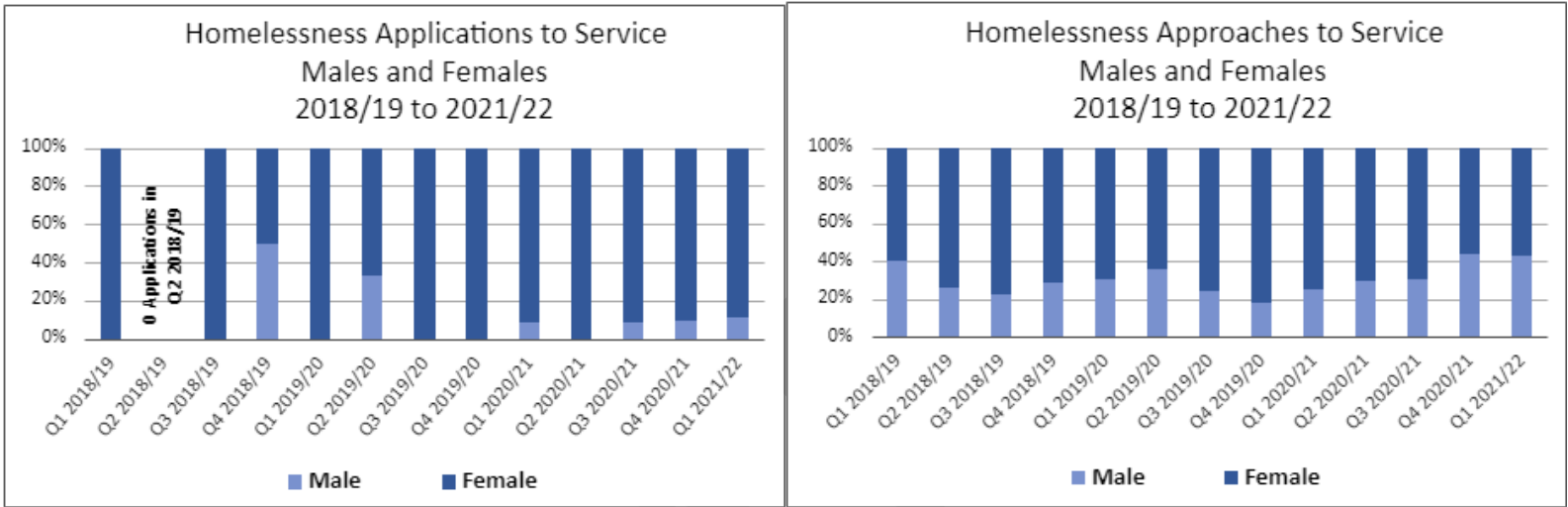
This figure – as others relating to Domestic Abuse – had jumped up during 2020/21. In the previous two years, 59% (2018/19) and 48% (2019/20) of cases coming to child protection conferences included Domestic Abuse as a risk factor.

The proportion of households containing children approaching Housing Options citing Domestic Abuse has also significantly increased over the past four quarters. Households with children are more likely to make homeless applications than those without: there is a greater proportion of households with children making homeless applications (45%) compared to approaches to the service (27%).



Domestic Abuse and housing

In the period 2020/21, Housing Options were approached by an average of 96 people citing Domestic Abuse per quarter (32 per month, or 7 per week); (9% the rate of incidents referred to IDAS and 5% the rate of incidents referred to the Police). Women made up the vast majority of individuals making a formal homeless application where Domestic Abuse was the primary cause of homeless – 94% compared to 6% of clients being men. However, men made up 34% of total clients approaching the Housing Options service – a figure not reflected in the number of men making formal homeless applications. Women made up 66% of clients approaching the Housing Options service.



SERVICES CURRENTLY IN PLACE TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC ABUSE (drop down menu)

[Independent Domestic Abuse Service \(IDAS\)](#)

Domestic Abuse can affect anyone, regardless of age, gender identity, sex, race, disability or sexual orientation, and Barnsley Domestic Abuse services are available to anyone who is experiencing Domestic Abuse. Our services are delivered by the specialist charity Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS - <https://www.idas.org.uk/>) based in a community hub in Goldthorpe developed by Ministry of Justice (MoJ) grant money. Services delivered by IDAS include:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors/Advocates (IDVAs) who offer information and support, crisis intervention, safety planning, advocacy and practical and emotional support.

- Therapeutic Groups and Counselling
- Recovery and Safety Planning and Care Co-ordination
- Target Hardening
- Community support
- Recovery check-ups
- Management of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process

[Accommodation-based support](#)

Both nationally and locally, accommodation-based support for victims is at the forefront of agendas for service provision. A national report conducted by Women's Aid found that concerns around housing are often a significant barrier for victims leaving an abusive partner, and that victims can be subject to serious financial and emotional hardship following the upheaval of having to leave their home (Women's Aid, 2020).

Current accommodation-based support offered by Barnsley includes commissioning the provision of a women's-only refuge delivered by IDAS, consisting of eight self-contained units. The refuge is available for Barnsley residents, as well as Domestic Abuse victims from other local authority areas.

In partnership with IDAS and Humankind, Barnsley MBC's Housing Options Team also provide specialist support to female offenders with experience of Domestic Abuse through two separate units of safe accommodation, with two more due to be acquired.

Our Housing Options Team provide temporary and emergency accommodation for victims who present as homeless due to Domestic Abuse and work closely with Berneslai Homes to identify suitable properties for victims.

[Support for children](#)

The Domestic Abuse Act, for the first time, recognises children exposed to Domestic Abuse as victims in their own right. It is widely recognised that witnessing Domestic Abuse can have devastating long and short term effects on children of all ages, including depression, anxiety, substance misuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, and the replication of abusive relationship dynamics (Royal College of Psychiatrists, 2021). Ahead of our re-commissioning of services in 2022, Barnsley MBC is committed to designing a system that sees through the eyes of children. We will ensure that the right support is available at the right time to those children and young people affected by Domestic Abuse, prioritising early intervention and a holistic approach.

Barnsley MBC recognises the value of therapeutic involvement with children and young people affected by Domestic Abuse and aim to ensure that future service specifications include an offer of therapeutic intervention to families affected by Domestic Abuse as the norm.

IDAS currently provide the following support to the children of victims of Domestic Abuse:

- You & Me Mum: a programme for mothers in refuge, or anyone who may have children but that may not be residing in the refuge with them. This aims to support and empower victims in furthering their understanding of their role as a parent and in addressing the needs of children and young people who have lived with DA.
- Protective behaviours: this programme helps children and adults recognise situations where they feel unsafe or worried, such as feeling stressed, bullied or threatened etc.
- One-to-one parenting courses
- One-to-one support with children around thoughts and feelings
- Safety planning
- Crèche/after school clubs
- Work around topical issues with children such as online abuse, bullying, safety planning when moving on, and Domestic Abuse.
- Trips and seasonal events/parties.

[Domestic Abuse Training](#)

As part of working to ensure that Domestic Abuse can be recognised and dealt with appropriately, IDAS provide training to a range of partners. As well as developing a Domestic Abuse training programme available to all Council employees on Barnsley MBC's online learning system, IDAS provide planned training as part of the BMBC Safeguarding Board training. IDAS also provide training on specific topics to organisations at their request, which will often be delivered by their local IDVA team in order to build positive working relationships with partners. IDAS will also attend team meetings of partners to increase visibility of the service and provide an opportunity for them to ask questions.

[Communication and campaigning](#)

IDAS employ a Communications Officer who manages their Instagram and Facebook accounts, ensuring that their social media presence is always up to date and in line with current news. As well as raising awareness, the social media accounts are used to promote IDAS' services and to highlight the support IDAS receive across North and South Yorkshire.

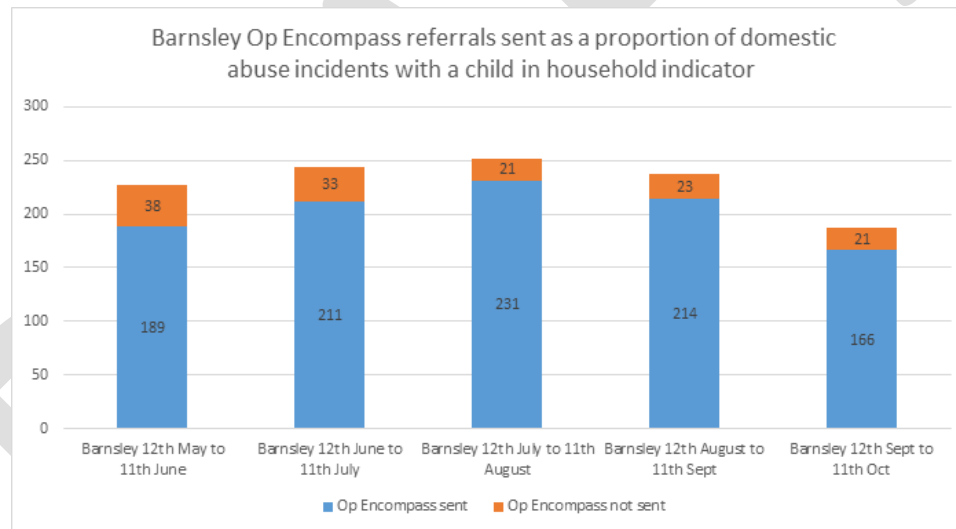
IDAS also participate in local events such as Safeguarding Awareness Week and school galas, with the aims of ensuring they are visible in as many areas of the community as possible, promoting their services and raising awareness.

Stakeholder interviews from the needs assessment report many more victims coming forward following media awareness campaign during COVID. Police data shows that, in 2018/19, there were an average of 9 disclosures per quarter under Clare’s Law; increasing to an average of 29 per quarter in 2019/20 and to 38 per quarter in 2020/21 following the release of media campaigns.

Operation Encompass

All schools and colleges in Barnsley are signed up to Operation Encompass, a national initiative which ensures that a school’s trained Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) receives a notification prior to the start of the next school day after police have attended a Domestic Abuse incident where there are children involved, to ensure the child is given if needed ‘pastoral’ support.

Represented in the chart below shows the positive uptake of referrals to schools following low level domestic incidents since the project's inception in Barnsley and the roll out of the initiative throughout nursey provision will commence from November 2021.



These specific incidences are not assessed as high risk and not therefore, subject to Safeguarding processes and the safeguarding process continues to run in parallel to this initiative. It offers an opportunity for greater support to the child if the incident is repeated or escalates and encourages better partnership between schools and police. The programme aims to ensure that the sharing of information results in appropriate support being given to children who are experiencing Domestic Abuse.

South Yorkshire Perpetrator Programme- Cranstoun's Inspire to Change

In partnership with our regional neighbours Doncaster Council, Sheffield City Council, Rotherham Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Barnsley MBC commissions a county wide voluntary Domestic Abuse perpetrator programme, delivered by Cranstoun.

Cranstoun's Inspire to Change programme is available to perpetrators of all genders from the age of 16+, who have displayed controlling, abusive or violent behaviour in their intimate or inter family relationships. The programme involves working with participants to develop their own tailored engagement plan, which may include one-to-one sessions and group work. Cranstoun's Inspire to Change has been designed to help perpetrators find better ways to manage and control their abusive behaviour, and encourages participants to think and behave more positively in order to prevent harm to their partner and their families.

Due to the management of COVID infection, some programmes will continue to be provided online as well as some face-to-face and group work to ensure participant safety.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

A Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) is a multi-agency review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a person to whom they were related or with whom they were, or had been, in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as themselves.

There is a statutory requirement for local areas to conduct a DHR following a domestic homicide that meets the criteria. Barnsley's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is responsible for establishing and conducting DHR's in Barnsley. For more information about the process of DHRs and to read previous DHRs conducted by Barnsley's CSP, please visit <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/domestic-homicide-review-dhr/>

DHR's are not designed to assign blame – the purpose of a DHR is to consider and evaluate the circumstances that led to the death of an individual and identify learning opportunities for agencies, so that they can work better together and prevent such tragic situations from happening again.

Barnsley Council is currently designing a process to evaluate "Near Miss" DHRs, to take place in the event that a victim of domestic abuse had sustained a potentially life threatening injury, or serious harm, or significant impairment, and the circumstances of the incident raises concern about the way local professionals and services work together to safeguard victims of domestic abuse.

A "Near Miss" process for DHRs will allow us to ensure that learning opportunities from cases which do not meet the criteria for a DHR are not lost, and provide further opportunities to inform and improve local inter-agency practice in response to domestic abuse.

WHERE ARE OUR GAPS? (drop down menu)

Early findings from Imogen Blood Associate’s needs assessment suggest that that Domestic Abuse in Barnsley has become much more complex than the ‘traditional’ scenario of a female victims fleeing violence from a male perpetrator. Outcomes of interviews with stakeholders suggest that services are seeing more cases of mutual partner conflict, female perpetrators/male victims, same sex couples, older/adult children abusing parents or grandparents, and cases where people do not want to leave the property and/or relationship.

Furthermore, the needs assessment has identified that there are increasing numbers of women who have complex needs, such as mental or physical health issues, substance misuse issues, offending history, and housing instability.

Key gaps identified by Imogen Blood Associates at this stage in their research are as follows:

[The provision of safe and suitable accommodation support](#)

An identified gap in our service provision is the lack of availability of safe and suitable accommodation for victims.

As previously outlined, IDAS is currently commissioned by Barnsley MBC to provide support to clients residing in the women’s refuge. The refuge typically receives around 10 referrals per month (120 per year; 33 in the most recent quarter). They are able to accommodate roughly 1 client in every 3 referrals; refusals are both due to lack of vacancies and needs being too high, as the refuge cannot accommodate people with multiple and complex needs.

The lack of vacancies in the refuge is driven by clients staying at the refuge for long periods of time, partially due to lack of suitable accommodation to move to – there are long waitlists for social housing properties, managed by our housing company Berneslai Homes, and significant financial challenges for victims looking to move-on into the private rented sector. There is currently no bond/ rent guarantee/ loan scheme available to refuge clients, and there are significant challenges where women have no recourse to public funds. Further to a lack of move-on accommodation, the needs assessment has identified a lack of short-term emergency accommodation which could be used to offer a safe space for victims or perpetrators to ‘cool off’ and safely consider their options.

The needs assessment highlighted that there is a significant gap in accommodation support for victims who do not fit the ‘traditional’ description of a victim of Domestic Abuse – for example, male victims or victims with complex needs. It is particularly challenging to provide accommodation and support to the increasing numbers of women with complex needs – the needs assessment reports that almost all women with complex needs presenting to Housing Options are also survivors of Domestic Abuse, sexual abuse and/or sexual violence, but there is no suitable supported housing in the borough that is suitable for such victims.

The needs assessment has identified that although IDAS have a positive reputation throughout the system, there is a disconnect between the IDAS contract and Barnsley MBC's Housing Options Team. Stakeholder interviews have identified that Housing Options are rarely successful in referring clients into refuge, both due to a lack of vacancies and the needs of clients being too high. There is also an identified need for Housing Options officers to be made further aware of how target-hardening measures can be accessed by victims living in a range of tenures.

Support for children and young people

The Domestic Abuse Act ensures that children are seen as victims of Domestic Abuse in their own right. Therefore, understanding our gaps in support for children and young people is crucial in designing future services.

The needs assessment highlighted that, in Barnsley:

- Households with children are more likely to make homeless applications than those without, and the proportion of households containing children approaching Housing Options citing Domestic Abuse have also shown a significant increase over the last four quarters.
- 823 children were discussed at MARAC meetings during 2020/21.
- Services are reporting an increase in older/adult children abusing parents or grandparents

The needs assessment identified that there is a lack of specialist support for children and young people in relation to Domestic Abuse, and that support for children who are residing in the refuge with their parent is limited.

Support for older people

IDAS referral numbers show a small number of older people accessing support for domestic abuse in Barnsley - in 2020/21, 104 people in their sixties; 68 people in their seventies; and 10 people aged 80 and over were referred to IDAS. This represents roughly 4% of referrals, despite the fact that individuals over 65 contribute to roughly 20% of the Boroughs population. Older people's experiences of domestic abuse can be exacerbated by social, cultural and physical factors. Research conducted by SafeLives found that older people experiencing domestic abuse can be affected by:

- Systematic invisibility
- Long term abuse and dependency issues
- Generational attitudes about abuse may make it hard to identify
- Increased risk of adult family abuse

They also identified that services are not always effectively targeted at older victims, and that there is a need for more coordination between services when responding to domestic abuse in older people.

Support for perpetrators

Stakeholder interviews identified a need for more skilled work with men/perpetrators, and more holistic support in relation to support and accommodation options in order to minimise the risk of repeat incidents. The needs assessment also identified a need for specialist provision for younger perpetrators, male *and* female perpetrators, and voluntary access to healthy relationships courses, as well as mandated programmes for those convicted of offences.

Review of the MARAC

Stakeholder interviews with professionals who attend MARAC highlighted the unsustainable nature of the number of cases reaching MARAC, resulting in lengthy meetings and difficulties in discussing cases in a timely manner. Individual representatives are highly committed to engaging in the MARAC process, but note that MARAC is an “add-on” to their already substantive roles and have limited resource to follow-up and feedback on actions agreed during meetings.

There is also evidence of high levels of repeat referrals, which are currently being further analysed by the MARAC coordinator and Imogen Blood Associates.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (drop down menu)

1: Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support (drop down menu)

This priority focuses on providing victims of Domestic Abuse, and their children, with the quality support they need to keep them safe. This includes meeting the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act by providing safe accommodation to enable victims to leave their abusive situation, and counselling and therapeutic support to provide victims with the confidence they need to move on. It is Barnsley MBC’s priority that our Domestic Abuse services meet the needs of our communities.

Our Aims:

- *Increase our capacity for providing safe accommodation to victims of Domestic Abuse*
 - Objectives:
 - Purchase additional housing units in order to accommodate victims with complex needs and diversify the pool of housing options available

- Review and improve the monitoring of pathways into and out of the refuge
 - Investigate the possibilities of creating a housing advocacy role utilising the homeless prevention fund (targeting the rent arrears/cost of bonds) to unblock housing problems for victims and perpetrators
- *Ensure the development of services is driven by the needs of survivors*
 - Objectives
 - Commission a service which is robust, inclusive, and addresses the needs identified in our 2021 Needs Assessment
 - Establish a framework for frequent needs assessments in order to ensure services are responding to the evolving needs of victims and survivors in Barnsley
 - Establish a Lived Experience Group to provide ongoing feedback on our services
- *Develop an increased offer of community support, including an increased offer of support to children and families*
 - Objectives
 - Contribute to and monitor two full posts working with LGBT+ and minority ethnic victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse
 - Design a service specification which places children at the centre of provision
 - Develop an increased offer of therapeutic support to all children who have been affected by Domestic Abuse
 - Work with our service provider to develop a specialist offer for older people affected by domestic abuse

2: Preventing Domestic Abuse (drop down menu)

Barnsley MBC understands that tackling Domestic Abuse requires real cultural change, and that prevention work is at the heart of this. This includes raising awareness of Domestic Abuse and the services available in order to establish a well-informed population on the dangers and signs of Domestic Abuse. This also includes thinking about the impact of abuse on children and how this affects the likelihood of victims becoming future perpetrators and ensuring that individuals understand the difference between healthy and abusive relationships and know where to go for support. In identifying prevention as a priority, Barnsley MBC also supports the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls strategy.

Our Aims:

- *Continue to develop a strong communications plan to raise awareness and signpost to services*
 - Objectives
 - Work with our service provider and partners to deliver strong and consistent messages through regular community updates and social media campaigns
 - Develop communication campaigns targeted at specific events – Valentines Day, Christmas, sporting tournaments etc.
 - Develop unique communication programmes recognising different experiences of Domestic Abuse – older people, LGBT+ people, people from a minority ethnic background, disabled people, male experiences, etc.
- Develop a curriculum for school safeguarding leads, creating a ‘Wellness’ Hub of Excellence for delivering education around Healthy Relationships
 - Objectives
 - Utilising the infrastructure created by the successful implementation of Operation Encompass to develop a consistent training programme across all schools
 - Establish a peer support network for safeguarding leads in schools

3: Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse (drop down menu)

We recognise that in order to end Domestic Abuse, it cannot be tackled in isolation. This means creating and maintaining strong relationships between agencies, based on meaningful communication and partnership working.

Tackling Domestic Abuse is a key theme in the Safer Barnsley Partnership’s Violence Reduction Plan, and much of the work to address this priority is done through the Crime Sub-Group and the Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Sub-Group.

Our Aims:

- *Ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and delivers the best outcome for victims*
 - Objectives
 - Subject to needs assessment recommendations, review and refresh the MARAC process in order to ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and can deliver the best outcomes for victims

- *Maintain and develop positive relationships between agencies who are exposed to victims of Domestic Abuse*
 - Objectives
 - Continue to develop internal and external communications to ensure all agencies are familiar with the referral system for cases of Domestic Abuse
 - Continue to develop and deliver Domestic Abuse training to a range of agencies and ensure that training is a key feature of future service specifications
 - Develop the strong relationships that already exist between professional agencies to include those on the periphery
- *Establish the Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group as our Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board Function*
 - Objectives
 - Establish Domestic Abuse as a standing agenda item at PVP meetings
 - Develop an appropriate and victim-friendly pathway to ensure that the voice of victims is represented
 - Establish a network of survivors whose voices can be drawn upon for their lived experience expertise
- *Identify opportunities for pooling resources amongst agencies to deliver the best services for victims*
 - Objectives
 - Continue to work closely with our regional neighbours to identify opportunities for the joint commissioning of services
 - Strengthen relationships with Children’s Social Care to ensure resources are fully utilised and explore opportunities for joint commissioning further support for children
- *Develop the expectations of agencies and professionals working together in the future to keep Domestic Abuse on everybody’s agenda and improve the outcomes for victims and their children*
 - Objectives
 - Develop the “Near Miss” DHR process to provide a further channel to identify ongoing learning opportunities for agencies responding to domestic abuse

4: Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour (drop down menu)

Barnsley MBC recognise that too often, the burden of ending Domestic Abuse has fallen upon victims. In line with the Government’s VAWG strategy, we prioritise the pursual of perpetrators and shifting the onus to change to those perpetrating Domestic Abuse. In prioritising

supporting perpetrators to change their behaviour, we hope to contribute to a culture change in how tackling Domestic Abuse is perceived, prevent re-offending, and create positive outcomes for victims, perpetrators and their children.

Our Aims:

- *Continue to support and develop the existing perpetrator programme to support perpetrators to change behaviour*
 - Objectives
 - Develop access points to the programme across the Borough.
 - Develop communications to ensure the existing perpetrator programme is advertised to all relevant agencies, so the programme is offered to a wide range of perpetrators including younger and female offenders
 - Continue, with our partners, to monitor the existing perpetrator programme to ensure the best outcomes are being delivered for victims and perpetrators in South Yorkshire

- *Support South Yorkshire Police in developing and implementing the MATAC process*
 - MATAC refers to the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination process of identifying and tackling serial perpetrators of Domestic Abuse, and has been piloted in Northumbria and rolled out across six other police forces in the North East and Yorkshire, including SYP.
 - A MATAC panel should bring together local agencies to identify strategies for responding to the most harmful Domestic Abuse perpetrators.
 - For more information on what MATAC looks like, please see <https://barnsleycouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/sshc/Files/Forms/Standard.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2Fsshc%2FFiles%2FProcurement%2FCommissioning%20Activity%2FHealthier%2FDomestic%20Violence%2FMATAC%2F20210311%20SYP%20MATAC%20Handbook%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2Fsshc%2FFiles%2FProcurement%2FCommissioning%20Activity%2FHealthier%2FDomestic%20Violence%2FMATAC&p=true&wdLOR=c57FE2F6E%2D929A%2D45F7%2DB7FD%2D4229AF410E26&ct=1642067427676&or=Outlook-Body&cid=DD324612-753E-44DA-9CA6-3B3220983AD0>
 - We await direction from SYP on how best we can support this process.

DELIVERY PLAN (drop down menu)

Please note that this delivery plan is still under development and will be finalised subject to the outcomes of our local needs assessment, and the identification of lead officers within the organisation and with partner agencies.

Actions, lead officers and the progress of objectives will be monitored internally within Healthier Communities, and will be published at a later date on the council website and activity monitored through PVP and SBPB. Healthier communities, the PVP and SBPB will ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion is considered within the delivery of this Strategy. They will do this by ensuring that relevant schemes of work, as identified within this delivery plan are appropriately impact assessed and that these assessments are used to inform their decision-making processes. Further details of this can be found in the EIA that accompanies this Strategy.

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| Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support | |
| Aim: Increase our capacity for providing safe accommodation to victims of Domestic Abuse | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Purchase additional housing units in order to accommodate victims with complex needs | |
| Review and improve the monitoring of pathways into and out of the refuge | |
| Investigate the possibilities of creating a housing advocacy role utilising the homeless prevention fund (targeting the rent arrears/cost of bonds) to unblock housing problems for victims and perpetrators | |
| Aim: Ensure the development of services is driven by the needs of survivors | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Commission a service which is robust, inclusive, and addresses the needs identified in our 2021 Needs Assessment | |
| Establish a framework for frequent needs assessments in order to ensure services are responding to the evolving needs of victims and survivors in Barnsley | |
| Establish a Lived Experience Group to provide ongoing feedback on our services | |
| Aim: Develop an increased offer of community support, including an increased offer of support to children and families | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Design a service specification which places children at the centre of provision | |
| Develop an increased offer of therapeutic support to all children who have been affected by Domestic Abuse | |
| Contribute to and monitor two full posts working with LGBT+ and BME victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse | |

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| Preventing Domestic Abuse | |
| Aim: Continue to develop a strong communications plan to raise awareness and signpost to services | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Work with our service provider and partners to deliver strong and consistent messages through regular community updates and social media campaigns | |
| Develop communication campaigns targeted at specific events – Valentines Day, Christmas, sporting tournaments etc. | |
| Develop unique communication programmes recognising different experiences of Domestic Abuse –older people, LGBTQ+, BAME, male experiences etc. | |
| Aim: Develop a curriculum for school safeguarding leads, creating a ‘Wellness’ Hub of Excellence for delivering education around Healthy Relationships | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Utilise the infrastructure created by the successful implementation of Operation Encompass to develop a consistent training programme across all schools | |
| Establish a peer support network for safeguarding leads in schools | |
| Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse | |
| Aim: Ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and delivers the best outcome for victims | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Subject to needs assessment recommendations, review and refresh the MARAC process in order to ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and can deliver the best outcomes for victims | |
| Aim: Maintain and develop positive relationships between agencies who are exposed to victims of Domestic Abuse | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Continue to develop internal and external communications to ensure all agencies are familiar with the referral system for cases of Domestic Abuse | |
| Continue to develop and deliver Domestic Abuse training to a range of agencies and ensure that training is a key feature of future service specifications | |
| Develop the strong relationships that already exist between professional agencies to include those on the periphery | |
| Aim: Establish the Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group as our Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board Function | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Establish Domestic Abuse as a standing agenda item at PVP meetings | |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Develop an appropriate and victim-friendly pathway to ensure that the voice of victims is represented | |
| Establish a network of survivors whose voices can be drawn upon for their lived experience expertise | |
| Aim: Identify opportunities for pooling resources amongst agencies to deliver the best services for victims | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Continue to work closely with our regional neighbours to identify opportunities for the joint commissioning of services | |
| Strengthen relationships with Children’s Social Care to ensure resources are fully utilised and explore opportunities for joint commissioning further support for children | |
| Aim: Develop the expectations of agencies and professionals working together in the future to keep Domestic Abuse on everybody’s agenda and improve the outcomes for victims and their children | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | |
| Develop the “Near Miss” DHR process to provide a further channel to identify ongoing learning opportunities for agencies responding to domestic abuse | |
| Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour. | |
| Aim: Continue to support and develop the existing perpetrator programme to support perpetrators to change behaviour | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| Develop access points to the programme across the Borough. | |
| Develop communications to ensure the existing perpetrator programme is advertised to all relevant agencies, so the programme is offered to a wide range of perpetrators including younger and female offenders | |
| Continue, with our partners, to monitor the existing perpetrator programme to ensure the best outcomes are being delivered for victims and perpetrators in South Yorkshire | |
| Aim: Support South Yorkshire Police in developing and implementing the MATAC process | |
| <u>Objectives</u> | <u>Progress</u> |
| We await direction from SYP on how best we can support this process. | |

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Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessment

Domestic Abuse Strategy

Stage 1 Details of the proposal

**Name of service
Directorate**

Protecting Vulnerable People Board
Safer Stronger Healthier Communities

**Name of officer responsible for EIA
Name of senior sponsor**

Mollie Raine

Description / purpose of proposal

This EIA will be used to guide the delivery plan and development of the Council's new Domestic Abuse Strategy

Date EIA started

31st January 2022

Assessment Review date

This EIA can be reviewed annually, in partnership with the review of the domestic abuse service which is currently undergoing a full strategic review.

Stage 2 - About the proposal

What is being proposed?

Barnsley Council's Domestic Abuse Strategy outlines how we will, with our partners, work to tackle and prevent Domestic Abuse (DA) in Barnsley. The strategy identifies the following four strategic priorities:

1. Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support
2. Preventing Domestic Abuse
3. Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse
4. Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour.

The strategy has been informed by a local needs assessment, and outlines the development of the strategy, the prevalence of DA in Barnsley, current services in place to address domestic abuse, identified gaps and a delivery plan of how to address those gaps.

This strategy has been developed in conjunction with the work concerning the full strategic review of Barnsley's domestic abuse services.

Why is the proposal required?

Domestic abuse is an insidious crime and can affect anybody regardless of age, gender identity, sex, race, sexual orientation, wealth, disability, or location of the victim or perpetrator. Domestic abuse can also present in a range of ways – it can be physical, sexual, financial, emotional, and psychological. Domestic abuse has far reaching consequences for all of society, and our strategy needs to address the needs of all potential victims and ensure that there are no barriers to accessing support.

Our strategy supports the Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan, and contributes to the Barnsley 2030 ambition of a Healthy Barnsley. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 also requires local authorities to publish and give effect to a local domestic abuse strategy informed by a local needs assessment.

What will this proposal mean for customers?

In line with the domestic abuse service review, the domestic abuse strategy and accompanying needs assessment should identify and make steps to address any gaps in provision of support for vulnerable residents struggling with domestic abuse, specifically considering the needs of Protected Characteristic groups.

Stage 3 - Preliminary screening process

Use the Preliminary screening questions (found in the guidance) to decide whether a full EIA is required

Yes – Light touch EIA required

No – EIA not required (provide rationale below including name of E&I Officer consulted with)

It is our vision that everyone in Barnsley has access to the right support and services to prevent and overcome domestic abuse. The Domestic Abuse Strategy is key in realizing this vision, and needs to ensure that our response to domestic abuse is truly inclusive.

We will do this by ensuring that relevant schemes of work are appropriately impact assessed, as identified within this Equality Impact Assessment (EIA), and that these assessments are used to inform the decision-making processes concerning the strategy. This will help them to better understand the impact of this Strategy and this can be aggregated as part of the review of the Strategy and this EIA.

The following projects have been identified as key deliverables for the Domestic Abuse Strategy and the table below identifies which of these will require an EIA;

| Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support | EIA required? |
|--|---|
| Purchase additional housing units in order to accommodate victims with complex needs | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Review and improve the monitoring of pathways into and out of the refuge | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Investigate the possibilities of creating a housing advocacy role utilising the homeless prevention fund (targeting the rent arrears/cost of bonds) to unblock housing problems for victims and perpetrators | Yes |
| Commission a service which is robust, inclusive, and addresses the needs identified in our 2021 Needs Assessment | Yes – completed/ongoing |
| Establish a framework for frequent needs assessments in order to ensure services are responding to the evolving needs of victims and survivors in Barnsley | Yes |

| | |
|---|--|
| | |
| Establish a Lived Experience Group to provide ongoing feedback on our services | Yes |
| Design a service specification which places children at the centre of provision | No – part of service review EIA (see above) |
| Develop an increased offer of therapeutic support to all children who have been affected by domestic abuse | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Contribute to and monitor two full posts working with LGBT+ and BME victims and survivors of domestic abuse | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| | |
| Preventing Domestic Abuse | EIA Required? |
| Work with our service provider and partners to deliver strong and consistent messages through regular community updates and social media campaigns | Possibly not – this will form part of any service specification which has its own EIA? |
| Develop communication campaigns targeted at specific events – Valentines Day, Christmas, sporting tournaments etc. | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Develop unique communication programmes recognising different experiences of domestic abuse – LGBTQ+, BAME, male experiences etc. | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Utilise the infrastructure created by the successful implementation of Operation Encompass to develop a consistent training programme across all schools | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Establish a peer support network for safeguarding leads in schools | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| | |
| Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse | EIA required? |
| Subject to needs assessment recommendations, review and refresh the MARAC process in order to ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and can deliver the best outcomes for victims | Yes |
| Continue to develop internal and external communications to ensure all agencies are familiar with the referral system for cases of domestic abuse | No |

| | |
|--|---|
| Continue to develop and deliver domestic abuse training to a range of agencies and ensure that training is a key feature of future service specifications | EIA considerations will be applied once we reach this stage |
| Develop the strong relationships that already exist between professional agencies to include those on the periphery | No |
| Establish domestic abuse as a standing agenda item at PVP meetings | No |
| Develop an appropriate and victim-friendly pathway to ensure that the voice of victims is represented | Yes |
| Establish a network of survivors whose voices can be drawn upon for their lived experience expertise | Yes |
| Continue to work closely with our regional neighbours to identify opportunities for the joint commissioning of services | No |
| Strengthen relationships with Children's Social Care to ensure resources are fully utilised and explore opportunities for joint commissioning further support for children | No |
| Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour. | EIA required? |
| Develop access points to the existing perpetrator programme across the Borough. | Yes |
| Develop communications to ensure the existing perpetrator programme is advertised to all relevant agencies, so the programme is offered to a wide range of perpetrators including younger and female offenders | No |
| Continue, with our partners, to monitor the existing perpetrator programme to ensure the best outcomes are being delivered for victims and perpetrators in South Yorkshire | No |

Stage 4 - Scoping exercise - What do we know?

Data: Generic demographics

What generic data do you know?

It is important to note is a largely hidden crime, and data provided by any given service or agency will only provide a part of the picture of the actual level of domestic abuse experienced by victims.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales 2020 (available [here](#)), provides the most update to date national picture of the characteristics of victims of domestic abuse and highlights the following:

- an estimated 7.3% of women (1.6 million) and 3.6% of men (757,000) experienced domestic abuse in the last year
- women aged 16 to 19 years were more likely to be victims of any domestic abuse in the last year than women aged 25 years and over
- those in the Mixed ethnic group were significantly more likely to experience domestic abuse within the last year than those in the Black or Asian ethnic groups
- in the White ethnic group, women were significantly more likely than men to have experienced domestic abuse in the last year (7.7% of women, compared with 3.6% of men)
- adults who were separated or divorced were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse compared with those who were married or civil partnered, cohabiting, single or widowed
- men and women aged 16 to 74 years with a disability were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse in the last year than those without
- those who were unemployed were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse within the last year than those who were employed or economically inactive

The main source of evidence we have used to inform this strategy is our local needs assessment carried out by independent research company Imogen Blood Associates, who have compiled and analysed data from our current domestic abuse service provider IDAS, Housing Options, MARAC and South Yorkshire Police.

Data: Service data / feedback

What equalities knowledge do you already know about the service/location/policy/contract?

Equality monitoring data is collected for the domestic abuse service and is monitored on a quarterly basis in contract monitoring meetings. The needs assessment highlighted the following in their analysis of IDAS' 2020/21 referral data.

Any abusive behaviour is challenging and unacceptable but for those from minoritised groups, can be doubly excluding, ensuring multiple disadvantages. For example, any breaks in therapeutic or clinical processes, can be debilitating, delaying transitioning process and subjecting the client to multiple barriers such as identity dysphoria.

Minoritised groups often feel isolated within the abuse and services try to ensure peer support is offered to 'counter' this. Clients who are transitioning or who have transitioned and have not yet fully been absorbed into their respective community, face exclusion particularly if they are male to female transitions. Refuges insist in the single female only, rule regardless of where the client is in the process.

Domestic abuse services try to ensure the client remains within the therapeutic process as much as applicable however, this may put the client in direct harm therefore each individual is assessed for risk on a case-by-case basis.

- In 2020/21, women still made up the vast majority (89%) of referrals to IDAS, though this nevertheless demonstrates a sizeable group of (420) men approaching the service.
- 8% of the cases discussed at the MARAC (i.e., those deemed to be most high risk) involved male victims.
- A total of 49 referrals to IDAS in 2020/21 (i.e., 1.2% of total referrals) were known to be from trans clients. Of these figures, 2 clients had fully transitioned, and the remaining (44) were mid-transition.
- 99 individuals (2.4% of all IDAS clients in 2020/21) identified as Lesbian (44), Gay (10) or Bisexual (Bisexual) and Queer (1).
- 2% of those high-risk cases discussed at MARAC during 2020/21 involved a victim who was known to be LGBTQ+ (19).
- Around 7% of referrals in total are from non-White British ethnic backgrounds, with the largest minority group being white Eastern Europeans.
- 2.5% of IDAS clients during 2020/21 stated a language other than English as their main language. This represents 104 people and 27 different home languages.

- Christianity accounted for the largest specific religious group with small numbers of Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh plus any other religion accounting for the remainder. Specific data regarding religion was recorded for 38% of 2020/21 clients.
- During 2020/21, 711 of IDAS's 4092 (i.e., 17%) clients were known to have a disability and/or health condition, with mental health being the most common. 133 people (3.25% of all clients) had more than one impairment/condition.
- The highest number of referrals were received from people in the 26-30 age group, with a significant concentration of referrals coming from people in their twenties and thirties. 104 people in their sixties; 68 people in their seventies; and 10 people aged 80 and over were referred to IDAS.
- 5% of referrals to IDAS in 2020/21 were from women who were known to be pregnant.

The needs assessment also analysed data from Housing Options and South Yorkshire Police, but equalities data from these organisations was not available at the same level of detail.

Data: Previous / similar EIA's

Has there already been an EIA on all or part of this before, or something related? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

Yes, an EIA was completed on the domestic abuse service review and is available here.

Data: Formal consultation

What information has been gathered from formal consultation?

Part of the local needs assessment was the undertaking of a survey asking both professionals and the public for their views and experience of domestic abuse/domestic abuse services in Barnsley. The survey was distributed across equalities forums by the Customer Engagement team, as well as promoted on social media and to existing IDAS clients.

The survey included questions asking respondents what barriers people may face accessing services in Barnsley, and what they would like a Lived Experience Group to look like.

The profile of respondents is as followed:

- 86% of respondents identified as female, and 9% as male. The remainder of respondents were split equally between those who identified as non-binary and those who preferred not to say.
- 17% of respondents identified themselves as having a gender identity which was different to that assigned at birth. 3% preferred not to say, and the remainder stated that their gender identity was not different to that assigned at birth.
- 88% of respondents were heterosexual/straight, 7% identified as LGBTQ+ and 5% preferred not to say.
- The largest age groups for respondents were those in the 35-44 age group (34%) and the 45-54 age group (31%). Ages ranged from 16-24 and 64-74.
- 5% of respondents preferred not to state their ethnic origin. Of the remainder, 94% described their ethnic origin as White British, the remainder described themselves as Other.
- 26% of respondents stated that yes, they identified as a D/deaf or disabled person, or had a long-term health condition. 69% did not and 5% preferred not to say.
- 45% of respondents had no religion and 4% preferred not to say. Of the remainder, 45% were Christian, 1% Buddhist and 4% Other.

We will use this data, where applicable, to inform our deliverables associated with the domestic abuse service.

Stage 7 – Action plan

To improve your knowledge about the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: community engagement with affected groups, analysis of performance data, service equality monitoring, stakeholder focus group etc.

| Action we will take: | Lead Officer | Completion date |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Project leads to undertake individual EIAs for the projects identified within this assessment. | Rosemary Clewer/Mollie Raine | |
| | | |
| | | |

To improve or mitigate the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: altering the policy to protect affected group, limiting scope of proposed change, reviewing actual impact in future, phasing-in changes over period of time, monitor service provider performance indicators, etc.

| Action we will take: | Lead Officer | Completion date |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Stage 8 – Assessment findings

Please summarise how different protected groups are likely to be affected

Summary of equality impact

It is anticipated that the delivery of this strategy will have an impact on the majority of the protected characteristics, particularly those groups of individuals that are likely to face barriers to accessing domestic abuse services.
It is therefore important that individual projects are impact assessed to ensure that they are considering the diverse needs of our community in their planning and implementation.

Summary of next steps The relevant officers will ensure that equality and inclusion is considered within the delivery of the Domestic Abuse Strategy by ensuring that relevant schemes of work are appropriately impact assessed and that these assessments are used to inform the decision-making processes of any commissioning activity.
This overarching Equality Impact Assessment will be reviewed in line with the review of the Strategy.

Signature (officer responsible for EIA) Date M. Raine

**** EIA now complete ****

Stage 9 – Assessment Review

**(This is the post implementation review of the EIA based on date in Stage 1 if applicable)
What information did you obtain and what does that tell us about equality of outcomes for different groups?**

Appendix B – Domestic Abuse Communications and Training Schedule

| DA Communications and Training Schedule (DRAFT) | | | |
|--|---|---------|--|
| Item | Description | Quarter | Key audience and partners |
| Valentines Day/Healthy Relationships Campaign (IDAS) | Healthy relationships information | Q1 | Councils, University, Colleges (Barnsley College and Northern College), Children's Centres |
| International Women's Day (IDAS) | Online live event with inspirational women who have | Q1 | Feminist societies, Kyra, Survive, Soroptimists, Methodist Women |

| | | | |
|--|--|--------------|--|
| | led us through the last year. Sarah Hill, CEO of IDAS and Chair of Women's Aid is joined by guest speakers | | of Britain, Women's Institute, Local Businesses, Councils, CVS, Community First, HARCVS, CAVCA |
| Domestic Abuse Act Housing Training | Training delivered by Shelter on the new Housing duties introduced by the DA Act | Q1 | Officers in Housing Options and Safer Neighbourhoods |
| Domestic Abuse Recommission (2023) | Promotion of the tender process and new service provision/contract award | Q 2, 3 and 4 | Strategic, operational and public |
| National Stalking Awareness Week (IDAS) | Signs of stalking, how we can help, safety advice | Q2 | Councils, SYP, OPCC, Survivors, Public |
| Volunteering Week (IDAS) | Thanking IDAS volunteers and champions | Q2 | General public/Volunteers |
| IDAS Tea Party/Coffee Morning (IDAS) | Community spirit, friendship, looking out for each other Raise money for IDAS Increase awareness of IDAS in rural communities | Q2 | Soroptimists, Methodist Women of Britain, Women's Institute, local businesses, councils, CVS, Community First, HARCVS, CAVCA |
| National Elder Abuse Week (IDAS) | Types of abuse Abusive situations particularly affecting older people How to access our services | Q2 | Online followers, Councils, SYP, Age UK, GP Safeguarding Leads |
| IDAS Big Yorkshire Tour virtual fundraising event | Community, awareness raising, fundraising support | Q3 | Partners, Fire Service, Police, Army, members of the public |
| Freshers Weeks | Healthy relationships IDAS services/accessing support Safety advice | Q3 | Students, staff at universities and colleges |
| UN Day to Eliminate Violence against Women & Girls and following 16 days of activism | Domestic abuse and sexual violence disproportionately affects women and girls Awareness of our services Focus on impact of abuse and violence on survivors lives | Q4 | Public, SYP, OPCC, Fire & Safety, Councils, Soroptimists, Women's Institutes, Methodist Women of Britain etc |

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------|--|
| White Ribbon Week | As above, with people pledging zero tolerance to violence against women and girls | Q4 | Public, SYP, OPCC, Fire & Safety, Councils |
| Ongoing DA Service Access pathway and service promotions | Continue to develop awareness raising and strong promotion of DA services throughout the year | Quarterly | Strategic, operational and public |
| DA Perp Programme | Develop and maintain access and referral process and raise awareness of scheme to all | Quarterly | Strategic, operational and public |
| DA Strategy | Promotion of new strategy website | TBC | Strategic, operational and public |
| Internal DA Training | Updated DA training delivered by IDAS to educate managers on how to respond to domestic abuse | TBC (ongoing) | To be delivered to HR Business Partners in the first instance, to then incorporate managers across the authority |
| External DA training | DA training delivered by IDAS to further educate a range of partners/agencies on how to respond to domestic abuse and to reaffirm the referral process | TBC (ongoing) | Professionals working in education, safeguarding leads, NHS colleagues, and the commercial sector |

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Domestic Abuse Service Recommission Business Case March 2022

i) **Contacts**

| | Name | Telephone | e-mail Address |
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ii) **Document Management:**

| Version | Status | Reviewed By | Date |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Draft v1 | Mollie Raine / Rosemary Clewer | May 2022 |
| 2 | Draft V2 | Jayne Hellowell | May 2022 |
| 3 | Draft V3 | | |
| | | | |

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1 Executive Summary

Barnsley’s Domestic Abuse Service is delivered by Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) and delivers a range of support to victims and survivors of domestic abuse in the borough. The contract was awarded on 1st April 2017 for 5 years and was reviewed in 2021 where approval was given to extend the contract until March 2023. The contract is due to expire on 31st March 2023 and therefore this business case evaluates the performance and impact of the Domestic Abuse Service and considers the findings from the development of the Domestic Abuse Strategy and our local needs assessment to inform our future commissioning options.

Key findings from needs analysis:

- There were an increasing number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police during the pandemic; these have reduced somewhat but the overall trend may be one of increasing demand for services.
- Domestic abuse is a common cause of homelessness
- Increasing numbers of children may be at risk in households where there is domestic abuse
- There is a relationship between domestic abuse and poverty, though it is complex
- Stakeholders interviewed reported that ‘domestic abuse’ has become much more diverse than the traditional view of a female victim fleeing violence from a male perpetrator. Although victims of domestic abuse are predominantly female and heterosexual, there are significant numbers of male, and LGBT victims in Barnsley
- Services are also seeing more cases of mutual partner conflict, older/ adult children abusing parents or grandparents, and people who do not want to leave the relationship.
- The ethnic profile of survivors broadly reflects that of the borough

- The incidence of mental health conditions and complexity is high amongst victims/ survivors
- There is considerable diversity in the ages of victims/ survivors

Areas for improvement and change when developing the new service delivery model, based on recommendations from the local needs assessment:

- Develop a stronger pathway into the service
- Explore opportunities to lever more specialist provision, especially in relation to mental health, working with children and cross-tenure housing advocacy
- Consider how best to capture softer outcomes in performance monitoring and the tracking of those unsuccessful in accessing a place in refuge
- Strengthen coordination between Housing Options and the commissioned service so survivors in temporary accommodation can access specialist support rapidly
- Develop a therapeutic offer for children and young people affected by current and past domestic abuse
- Consider the provision of a ‘crash pad’ style offer which could be included in safety planning as an early intervention

Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that we build on our current specification to meet the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and growing guidance and, move towards addressing gaps highlighted in our needs assessment, for example developing the range of accommodation options, whilst building on the current service delivery model that has contributed to the success of the service since the start of the contract.

The current service contract is due to expire on 31st March 2023. Over the past six months we have commissioned an independent and comprehensive assessment of need. Whilst being conscious of the new Domestic Abuse Act and its developing raft of national recommendations and after the needs assessment, we are developing and building on good practice from across the county and country to ensure our new service specification meets local need, and statutory requirements.

The table below provides an overview and timescales of the procurement exercise:

| Procurement activity and timeline | Completion Date |
|---|---|
| Notice of Market Engagement published | 30 th August 2022 |
| Service specification and all relevant procurement paperwork completed. | 30 th August 2022 |
| Finalise tender docs & contract | 14 th September 2022 |
| Contracts Finder Notice | 19 th September 2022 |
| Out to tender. Clarification questions to be actioned and responded to | 19 th September to 21 October 2022 |

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Following tender closure – evaluation panel to be sent tender responses and evaluation packs. | 21 st October 2022 |
| Evaluation of tenders and meeting of moderation panel. Sign off decision of award decision. Drafting of successful/unsuccessful letters | 21 st October 2022 |
| Issue of successful/unsuccessful letters. Start of standstill period | 18 November 2022 |
| Standstill period ends - Issue of Contract | 29 November 2022 |
| Mobilisation Period | 30 November to 31 March 2023 |
| Contract Start date | 1 April 2023 |

1. INTRODUCTION

The review of Barnsley's current Domestic Abuse Service and subsequent recommendations will articulate how Barnsley Council will contribute to the delivery of the key priority outcome areas of the Domestic Abuse Strategy for 2022/2027. The development of the Business Case and Domestic Abuse Strategy is informed by a comprehensive local needs assessment undertaken by Imogen Blood Associates.

2 STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND RELEVANCE

2.1 Key National Strategic Drivers

Domestic Abuse is a prevalent priority on the national agenda, and several key developments in national strategy have been established since the awarding of the previous service contract.

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

The Domestic Abuse Act received Royal Assent on 29th April 2021 and establishes a statutory framework for the delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation. The Act established a statutory definition of domestic abuse and set out several statutory requirements relevant to both local authorities and the criminal justice system.

The Act requires Local Authorities to:

- Provide accommodation-based support to victims of Domestic Abuse.
- Give victims of Domestic Abuse priority need for homelessness assistance, and grant secure lifetime tenancies when granting new secure tenancies to social tenants who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy
- Appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board
- Assess the need for accommodation-based Domestic Abuse support in their area for all victims and their children, including those who come from outside the area
- Develop, publish, and give effect to a Domestic Abuse strategy
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy
- Report back to central government

The statutory requirement for local authorities to provide accommodation-based support to victims of domestic abuse is particularly relevant to the commissioning of a new domestic abuse service. The Act maintains a broad definition of safe accommodation, described in the guidance as including:

- Refuge accommodation
- Specialist safe accommodation
- Dispersed accommodation
- Sanctuary Scheme properties
- Second stage or 'move-on' accommodation

The Act does not recognise and specifically excludes privately-owned and managed temporary accommodation which is not separate or self-contained and with shared toilet, bathroom, or kitchen facilities as relevant safe accommodation, e.g., Bed and Breakfast accommodation.

The Protecting Vulnerable People Board will act as Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Local Partnership board, on which the service provider of the newly commissioned service will be expected to sit.

Also, in line with the requirements of the Act, Imogen Blood Associates have undertaken a local needs assessment of domestic abuse services in Barnsley, including the need for accommodation-based domestic abuse support. Their findings have informed the development of this business case and Barnsley's Domestic Abuse Strategy.

For more information on the Domestic Abuse Act, please see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-bill-2020-factsheets>

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021

In its Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, the Home Office recognises domestic abuse as an issue disproportionately affecting women and girls, alongside other offences including rape and other sexual offences, stalking, 'honour-based' abuse (including female genital mutilation and forced marriage and 'honour' killings), 'revenge porn' and 'upskirting', as well as others. These issues do not always exist independently of each other, and can indeed occur as part of or in addition to domestic abuse.

The strategy outlines the government's priorities of:

- **Prioritising Prevention**
The strategy identifies the need to address the attitudes and behaviours that contribute to crimes of violence against women and girls, and the need to raise awareness of them and improve understanding of how to prevent the cycle of abuse.
- **Supporting Victims**
The strategy recognises the devastating impact of VAWG on victims and survivors, including serious trauma, physical harm and long-term mental health implications. It commits significant funding to improve the response to supporting victims and survivors.
- **Pursuing Perpetrators**
The strategy acknowledges the need for perpetrators to be brought to justice and supported to change behaviours to successfully break the cycle of re-offending and re-victimisation. Significant funding has been committed to the running of perpetrator programmes, and the strategy focuses on future investment in tackling sex offenders, street harassment, banning 'virginity' testing, exploitation, online offending, and preventing the escalation of offending.
- **A Stronger System**
Tackling VAWG requires a truly cross-system approach in which all agencies and professionals understand their role in the system. The strategy recognises the important role of multi-agency working and information sharing, technology and the private sector, the banning of conversion therapy, and commits to developing a more effective frontline response to VAWG.

For more information on the government's strategy for Tackling VAWG, please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy>

Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan

In addition to its Tackling VAWG strategy, the government has published its separate Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, recognizing that domestic abuse is the most common form of violence against women and girls (although the plan and strategy refers to all victims and survivors of these offences).

The tackling Domestic Abuse Plan aims to create and support a system that drives down domestic abuse and domestic homicide cases, while ensuring that victims and survivors get the support they need. The plan consists of three 'pillars' with the following objectives:

- **Prioritising Prevention**
 - Reduce the amount of domestic abuse, domestic homicide, and suicides linked to domestic abuse, by stopping people from becoming perpetrators and victims to begin with
- **Supporting Victims**
 - Help all victims and survivors who have escaped from domestic abuse feel that they can get back to life as normal, with support for their health, emotional, economic and social needs
- **Pursuing Perpetrators**
 - Reduce the amount of people who are repeat offenders and make sure that those who commit this crime feel the full force of the law

For more information on the government's Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-domestic-abuse-plan>

2.2 Key Local Strategic Drivers

This business case was developed in line with the local strategies listed below:

Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategy 2022 – 2027

In line with the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act, the Council has produced its Domestic Abuse Strategy which is currently going through the governance process for approval and sign off. The overarching vision of the Domestic Abuse Strategy is to improve the lives of victims, survivors and their children to help make Barnsley a place where people can live their lives safe from domestic abuse.

The strategy is informed by the findings of a comprehensive local needs assessment of our current domestic abuse services, and identifies four strategic priorities with the following aims:

1. Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support
 - Increase our capacity for providing safe accommodation to victims of domestic abuse
 - Ensure the development of services is driven by the needs of survivors
 - Develop an increased offer of community support, including an increased offer of support to children and families

2. Preventing Domestic Abuse
 - Continue to develop a strong communications plan to raise awareness and signpost to services
 - Develop a curriculum for school safeguarding leads, creating a 'Wellness' Hub of Excellence for delivering education around Healthy Relationships

3. Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse
 - Ensure the MARAC works for all agencies and delivers the best outcome for victims
 - Maintain and develop positive relationships between agencies who are exposed to victims of domestic abuse
 - Establish the Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group as our Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board Function
 - Identify opportunities for pooling resources amongst agencies to deliver the best services for victims
 - Develop the expectations and professionals working together in the future to keep domestic abuse on everybody's agenda and improve the outcomes for victims and their children

4. Holding perpetrators to account and support them to change their behaviour.
 - Continue to support and develop the existing perpetrator programme to support perpetrators to change behaviour
 - Support South Yorkshire Police in developing and implementing the MATAC process

Barnsley Council Corporate Plan 2021-2024

The Barnsley Council Corporate Plan sets out the outcomes of the following priorities:

Healthy Barnsley

- People are safe and feel safe.
- People live independently with good physical and mental health for as long as possible.
- Reduced inequalities in health and income across the borough.

Learning Barnsley

- People have the opportunities for lifelong learning and developing new skills including access to apprenticeships.
- Children and young people achieve the best outcomes through improved educational achievement and attainment.
- People have access to early help and support.

Growing Barnsley

- People are supported to have safe, warm, sustainable homes.
- Business start-ups and existing local businesses are supported to grow and attract new investment, providing opportunities for all.
- People have a welcoming, safe and enjoyable town centre and principal towns as destinations for work, shopping, leisure and culture.

Sustainable Barnsley

- People live in great places, are recycling more and wasting less, feel connected and valued in their community.
- Our heritage and green spaces are promoted for all people to enjoy.

- Fossil fuels are being replaced by affordable and sustainable energy and people are able to enjoy more cycling and walking.

Safer Barnsley Partnership Plan 2021/2022

The Barnsley Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is the statutory partnership responsible for tackling crime and disorder, protecting vulnerable people and reducing reoffending, and delivers its key priorities through four sub-groups with the following outcomes:

- Crime Sub-Group
 - Victims and communities are protected through a partnership approach to the identification and prevention of crime and targeted offender management
- Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group
 - The threat, risk and harm to vulnerable people, families and communities is minimised.
- Anti-social Behaviour Sub-Group
 - The impact of anti-social behaviour on residents and visitors to Barnsley is reduced.
- Promoting community tolerance and respect
 - Communities are safer, cohesive and more resilient.

Tackling domestic abuse is a crucial factor in ensuring a safer Barnsley, and the commissioning of a domestic abuse service will play a key role in assisting the Safer Barnsley Partnership fulfil its following commitments:

- Crime Sub-Group
 - Commitment 1: Improve and enhance our response to domestic violence by targeting offenders and offering an excellent victim's service.
 - Commitment 2: Improve our engagement and further assist our communities in identifying emerging threats and issues that need a response through the crime subgroup
- Protecting Vulnerable People Sub-Group
 - Commitment 3: Complete the strategic review of substance misuse, domestic abuse and multiple needs services and present a business case for recommissioning the service
 - Commitment 4: Evidence how the local authority is leading in developing domestic abuse services as proposed in the Domestic Abuse Bill 2020 to ensure victims have safe accommodation
 - Commitment 5: Continue to develop the support and accommodation pathway for people with multiple and complex needs to inform commissioning decisions.

3 NATIONAL AND LOCAL PREVALENCE

3.1 National

Domestic abuse is often referred to as a 'hidden crime' - by its very nature, domestic abuse largely happens behind closed doors or out of sight of others. Furthermore, several factors contribute to the underreporting of abuse - such as the fear of not being believed, fear of retaliation from the perpetrator, the economic dependency of the victim on the perpetrator, fear of losing custody of children, or fear of being blamed, to highlight a few examples.

The true prevalence of domestic abuse will, therefore, always be somewhat of an unknown entity. However, various sources of data brought together by the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) allow us to gage a more informed picture of the national prevalence of domestic abuse.

In the year ending March 2020, the CSEW showed that an estimated 2.3 million adults aged 16 to 74 experienced domestic abuse between 2019 and 2020¹. Estimates are not available for the year ending March 2021 due to issues with collecting data during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the data release for 2021 only analyses data available from the police. To reflect a more accurate picture of the prevalence of domestic abuse and victim characteristics, this section will refer to CSEW estimates from the year ending March 2020.

In the year ending March 2020, an estimated 7.3% of women (1.6 million) and 3.6% of men (757,000) aged 16 to 74 years experienced domestic abuse - a prevalence rate of approximately 7 in 100 women and 4 in 100 men.

Age

The CSEW showed that women aged 16 to 19 years were significantly more likely to be victims of any domestic abuse than women aged 25 years and over. There were fewer significant differences by age in male victims, although those aged 55 to 74 years were less likely to be victims of domestic abuse than those in most other age groups.

Ethnicity

In the year ending March 2020, the CSEW showed that people of mixed ethnicity were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse than those in any other ethnic group, followed by those in the white ethnic group. Women of mixed ethnicity were also more likely to experience domestic abuse than any other group.

Marital Status

For the year ending March 2020, the CSEW showed that those who were separated or divorced were more likely to experience domestic abuse than those who were married, civil partnered, cohabiting, single or widowed.

Disability

The CSEW showed that for the year ending March 2020, men and women with a disability were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse than those without.

Employment status and occupation

In the year ending March 2020, adults aged 16 to 74 years who were unemployed were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse than those in employment or economically active. Of all

1

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

occupation types, women who were full-time students were the most likely to have experienced domestic abuse.

Household structure

Adults aged 16 to 74 years living in a single-parent household were more likely to have experienced domestic abuse in the last year than those living in a household without children, or a household with other adults and children.

3.2 Local

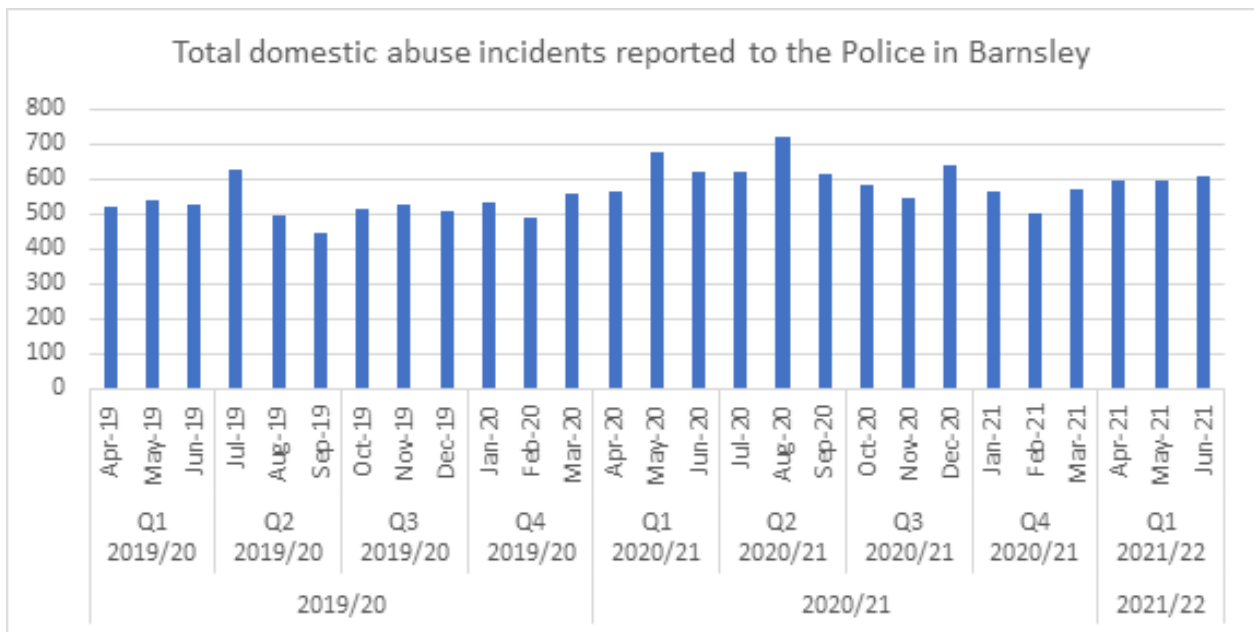
Barnsley faces the same challenges as the national picture when attempting to understand the true prevalence of domestic abuse. In the local needs assessment, Imogen Blood Associates identified that data available cannot give a complete picture of the prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley because:

- It is not possible to track individuals through the system or work out the extent of overlap between individuals appearing in the statistics of different agencies.
- Some agencies record repeat referrals, but South Yorkshire Police (SYP) data provides records of incidents, and it is not possible to tell how many are repeat incidents within the same household.
- There is, as previously mentioned, likely to be significant under-reporting of domestic abuse to agencies.

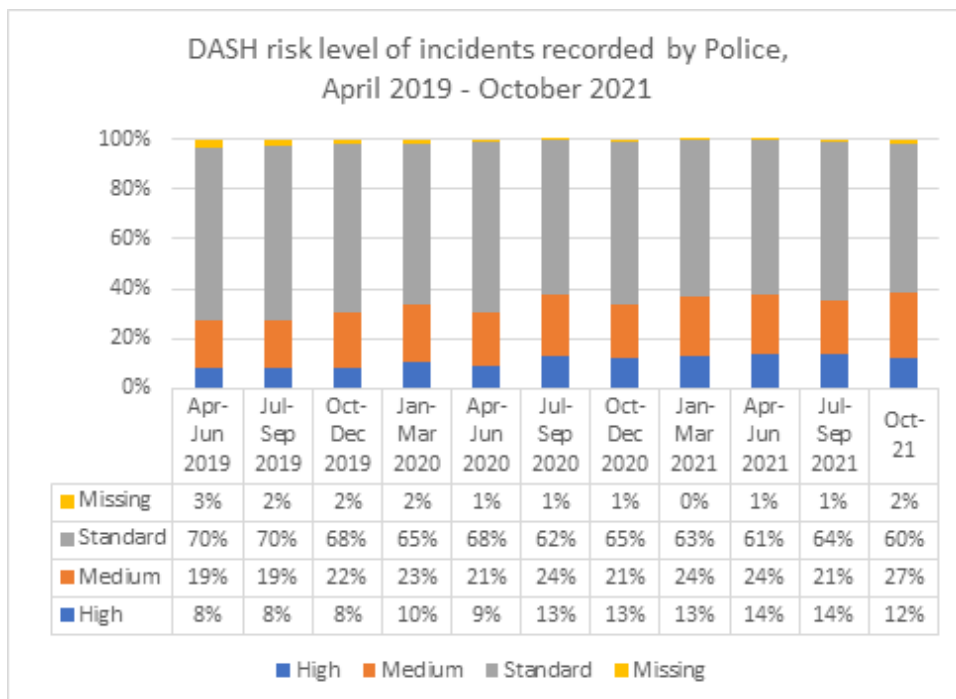
However, data supplied to Imogen Blood Associates by SYP, IDAS, Housing Options, Children's Services and MARAC allowed the needs assessment to shed light on the prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley.

South Yorkshire Police Data

During the period April 2019 – June 2021, there was a monthly average of 567 domestic abuse incidents reported to the police in Barnsley. On average, 62% of these incidents were deemed to be a crime. Comparator Police data for South Yorkshire [1] suggests that, when size of population is factored in, Barnsley's incident rate is relatively high compared to neighbouring cities. As a national comparison, for the year ended November 2021, South Yorkshire classified 61% of abuse related incidents as crimes, which was slightly higher than figures for England and Wales at 58% (IBA, 2022).

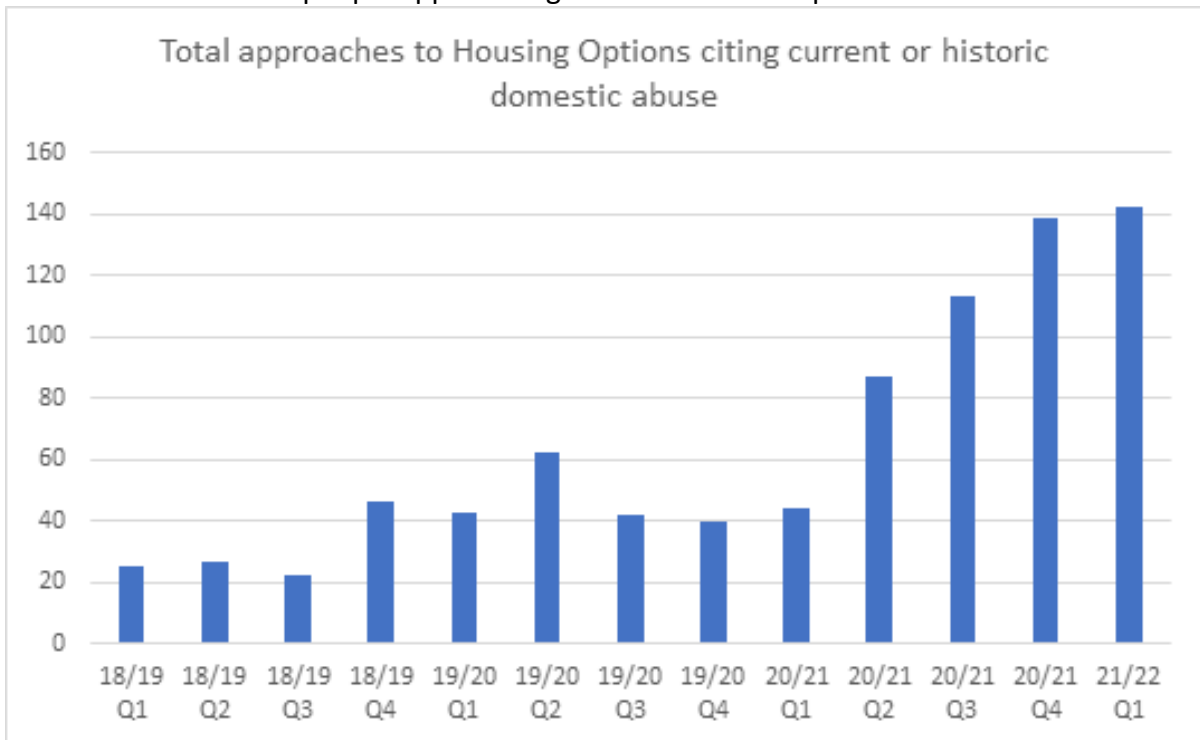


Police Officers attending incidents usually complete a DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and ‘Honour’ based abuse) risk assessment, a tool used to assess the risk of domestic abuse victims following an incident. ‘High’ risk is defined as ‘a risk that is life threatening and/or traumatic and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological can be expected to be difficult or impossible’. The following chart suggests a trend of increased high risk referrals, coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic, with 8-10% of incidents being classed as high risk in the year and a quarter ending June 2020, and 12-14% being classed high risk in the year and a quarter from that point. The needs assessment highlights that this supports feedback given by professionals given through stakeholder interviews, advising that COVID has led to both an increase in the severity of violence and abuse and the frequency of incidents.

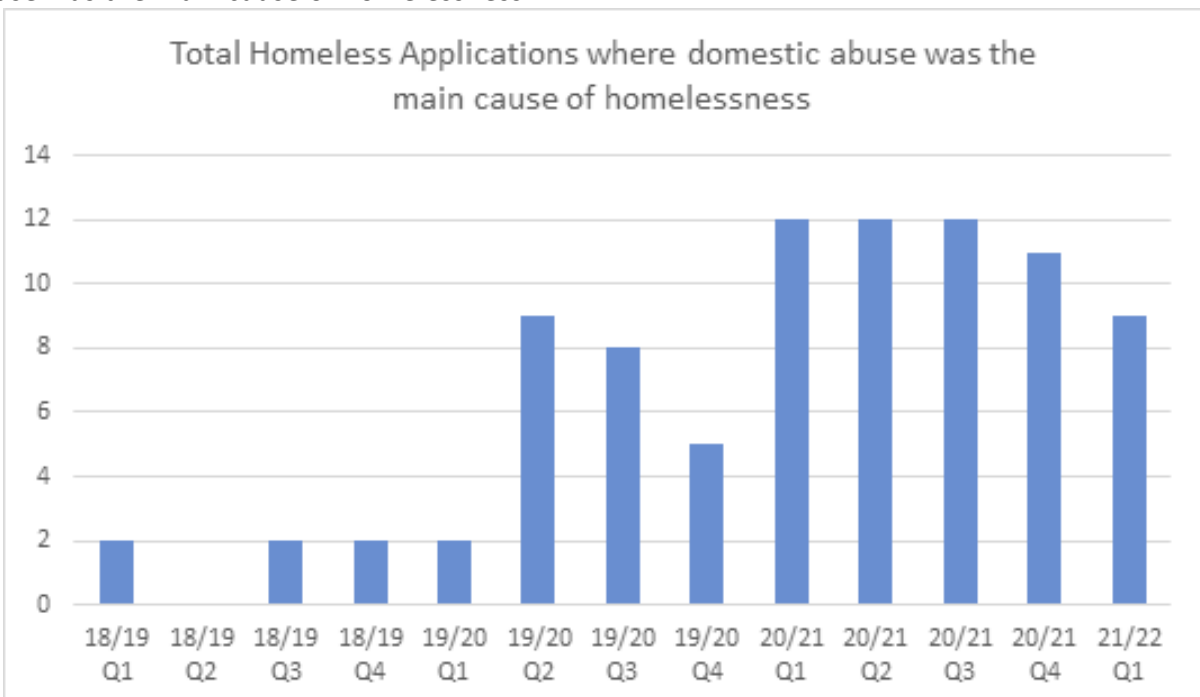


Housing Options Data

There has been a notable increase in approaches to Housing Options citing current or historic domestic abuse since 2018. The service was re-structured in September 2020, introducing a triage process where applicants are asked whether they have experienced domestic abuse either currently or historically. This change and improved data collection will have contributed to the increase in the amount of people approaching the service with experience of domestic abuse.



Around 1 in 10 of these approaches became a formal homeless application where domestic abuse is the main cause of homelessness. Some may also become formal applications but where the domestic abuse is historical and/or is not the main cause of the current threatened or actual homelessness. The chart below shows an increase in the number of applications where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness.



Children's Services Data

Data provided by Barnsley’s Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) suggest a substantial increase in the numbers of ‘Domestic Abuse Notification’ referrals (where domestic abuse is a presenting issue on referral) from an average of 4 per month in 2019/20 to around 18 per month in 2020/21, reducing somewhat to an average of 14 per month in the first 9 months of 2021/22.

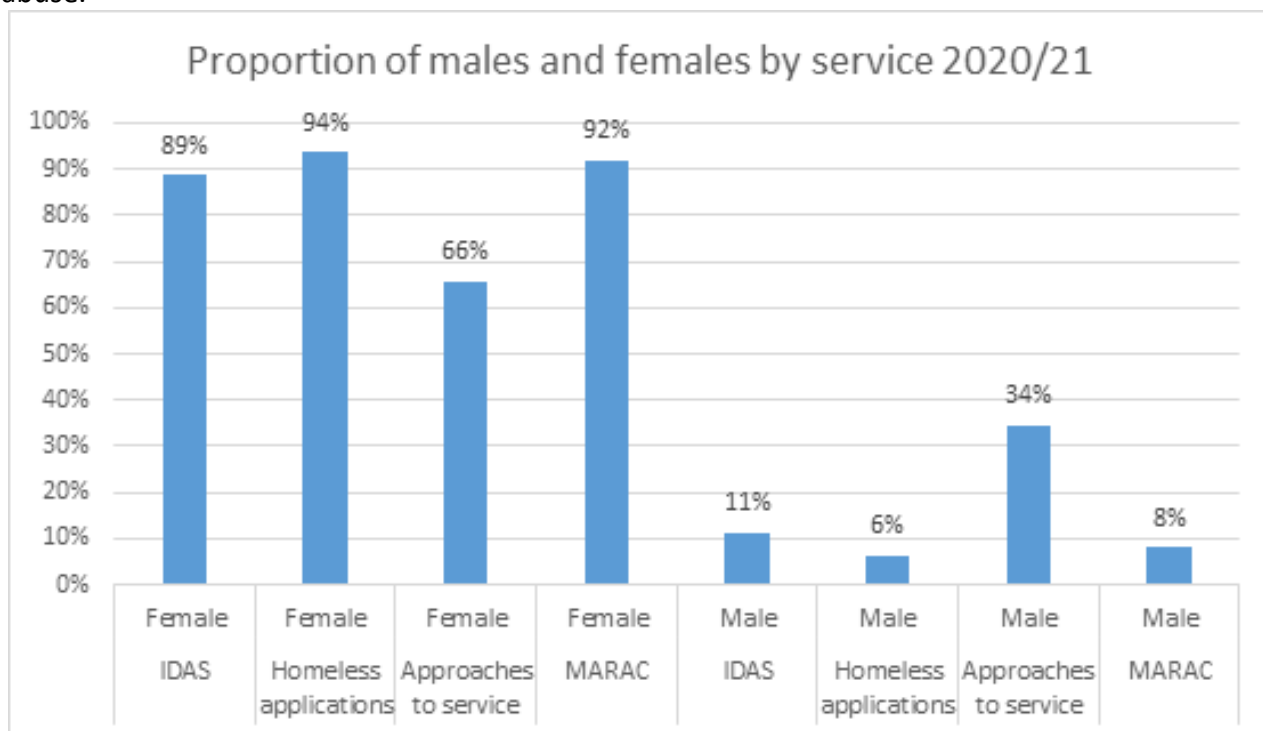
There are however, many more referrals into MASH each year in which domestic abuse – although not the primary presenting issue on referral, emerges as a concern during assessment.

Profile of domestic abuse victims in Barnsley

Domestic abuse can affect anyone, regardless of age, gender identity, sex, race, sexual orientation, wealth, disability or location of the victim or perpetrator. A victim of domestic abuse and their experiences of inequality can also affect their experience of abuse and how and where they access support. Please note that only IDAS collect data regarding the protected characteristics of those referred to the service, and that much of this data is unavailable from South Yorkshire Police and Housing Options.

Sex

As can be seen from the graph below, women make up the majority of those accessing services in Barnsley. As domestic abuse is a gendered crime, this is unsurprising, although it is important to note that male victims can face several barriers in accessing services and that the number of men accessing services does not directly reflect the potential number of men affected by domestic abuse.



Gender Reassignment

Only IDAS collects data that reflects whether clients have a different gender identity than they were assigned at birth. A total of 49 IDAS clients in 2020/21 (i.e., 1.2% of total clients) were known to be transgender. Transgender victims may also face additional barriers in accessing services, and therefore the number of transgender clients in service may not reflect the complete picture of transgender people affected by domestic abuse.

Sexual Orientation

99 individuals (2.4% of all IDAS clients in 2020/21) identified as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual.

2% of those high-risk cases discussed at MARAC during 2020/21 involved a victim who was known to be LGBTQ+.

Ethnicity, religion or belief

In 2020/21, around 7% of IDAS clients for which their ethnicity background was supplied are from non-White British ethnic backgrounds, with the largest minority group being white Eastern Europeans. There is missing data for 12.4% of clients.

| Ethnicity category | Number of client (20/21) | % (of clients where ethnicity supplied) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| White British | 2835 | 93% |
| White Eastern European | 82 | 2.7% |
| White Other | 37 | 1.2% |
| Mixed | 9 | 0.3% |
| Asian/ Asian British | 36 | 1.2% |
| Black/ Black British | 23 | 0.8% |
| Other ethnicity | 26 | 0.9% |

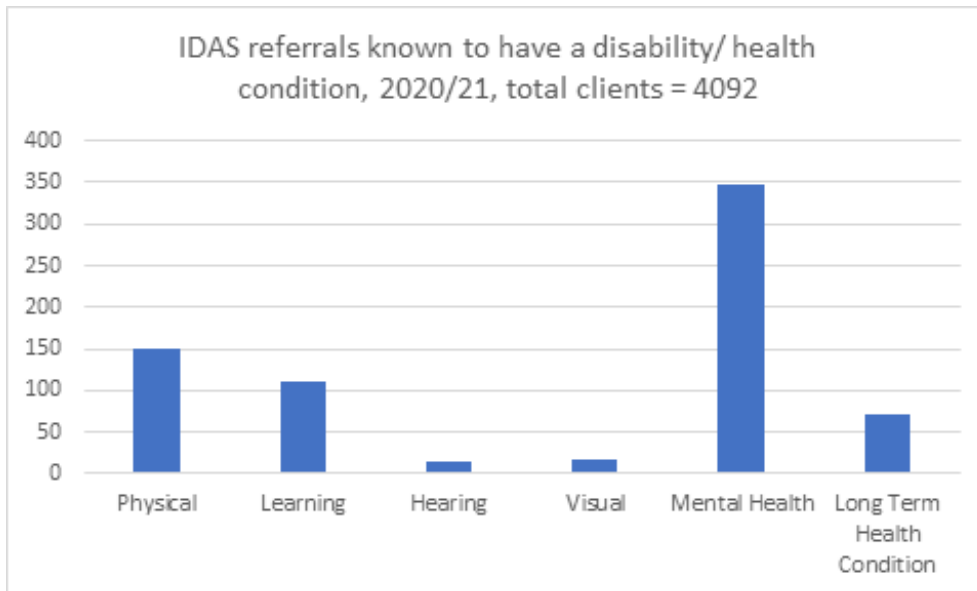
2.5% of IDAS clients during 2020/21 stated a language other than English as their main language. This represents 104 people and 27 different main languages.

IDAS provided specific data on religion for 38% of 2020/21 clients. Of this group, more than three quarters were noted as having no religion. Christianity accounted for the largest specific religious group with small numbers of Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh plus any other religion accounting for the remainder.

There are separate breakdowns for the proportions of BAME survivors accessing the refuge – 25% of clients accessing the refuge were non-white British. Furthermore, 6% of cases discussed at MARAC were classed as ‘BME cases’. The representation of BAME victims at MARAC is proportionate to the ethnicity of all IDAS clients and overall population statistics of Barnsley. IBA suggests that the higher proportion of BAME women and families accessing the refuge could reflect the fact that victims come from other, more ethnically diverse local authority areas.

Disability and complex needs

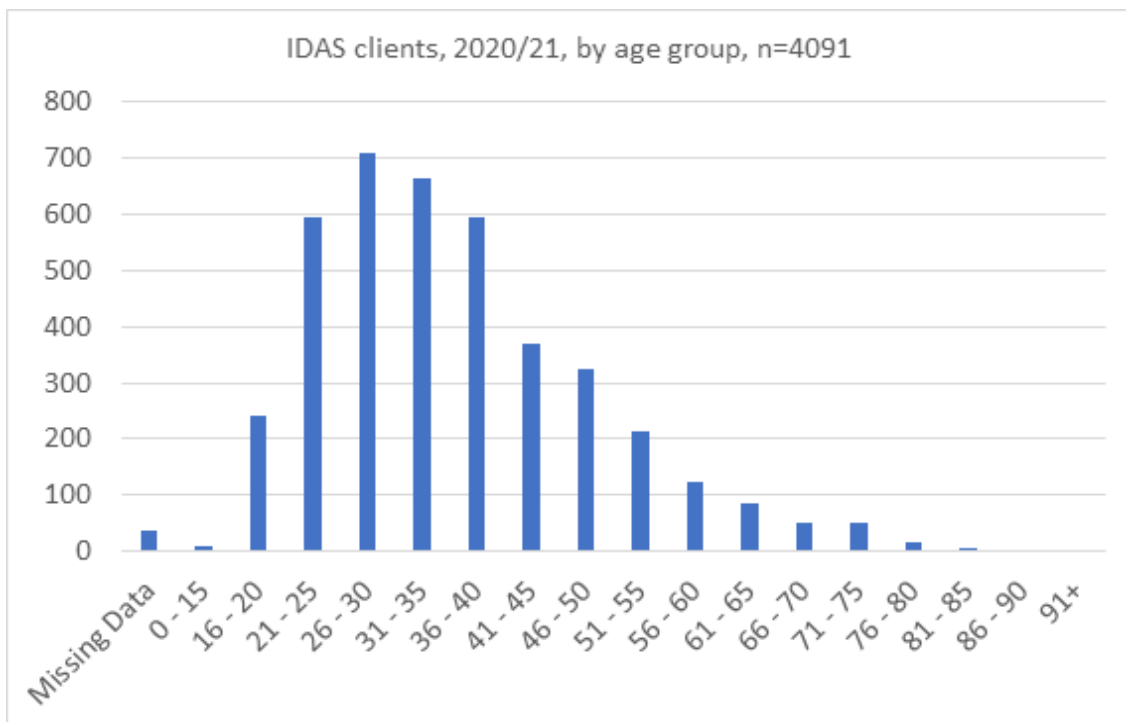
During 2020/21, 711 of IDAS’s 4092 (i.e., 17%) clients were known to have a disability and/or health condition. 348 (8.5%) of IDAS’s clients described themselves as having a mental health condition, and 133 people (3.25% of all clients) had more than one impairment/ condition.



5% of those cases discussed at MARAC during 2020/21 involved a victim who was known to be disabled.

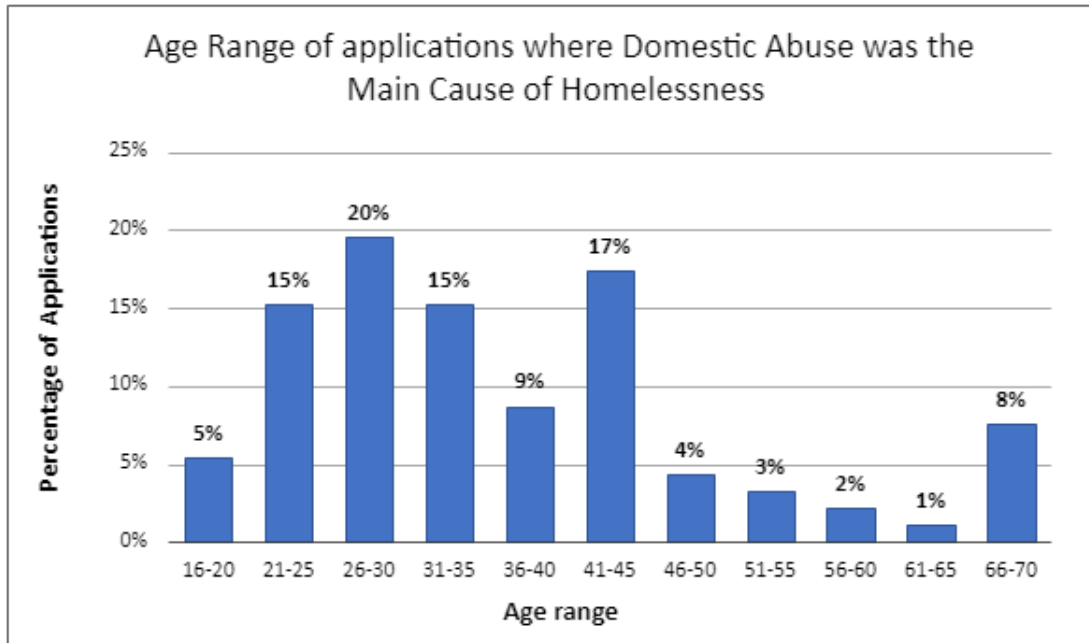
Age

IDAS data for 2020/21 shows that the highest number of clients were in the 26-30 age group, with a significant concentration being in their twenties and thirties. Although the numbers of older people accessing IDAS represent a small minority of the total, the numbers are by no means insignificant, and it is likely that this age group will have quite different needs from younger people. In 2020/21, 104 people in their sixties; 68 people in their seventies; and 10 people aged 80 and over were referred to IDAS.



Looking at comparable data for 2020/21 for IDAS and homeless applications, we can see that IDAS deal with a wider age range of applicants. For both services, the 26 – 30 age groups accounted for

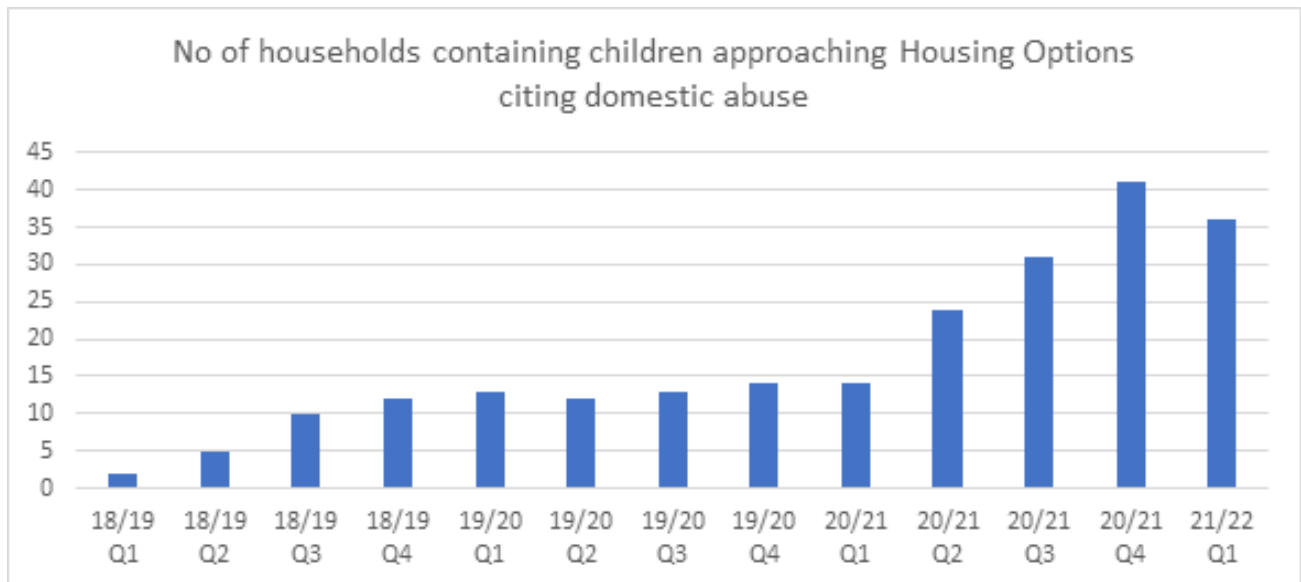
the largest proportion of clients accessing the service.



Pregnancy, maternity and children

5% of IDAS clients in 2020/21 were women who were known to be pregnant. Throughout 20/21, a total of 17 children had resided in the refuge.

The proportion of households containing children approaching Housing Options citing domestic abuse show a significant increase since 2018. Households with children are more likely to make homeless applications than those without there is a greater proportion of households with children making homeless applications (45%) compared to approaches to the service (27%).



3.3 Understanding Domestic Abuse Survey

As part of the local needs assessment, Imogen Blood Associates ran an online consultation exercise to understand the experience of domestic abuse in the public and amongst professionals in Barnsley and received a total of 85 responses.

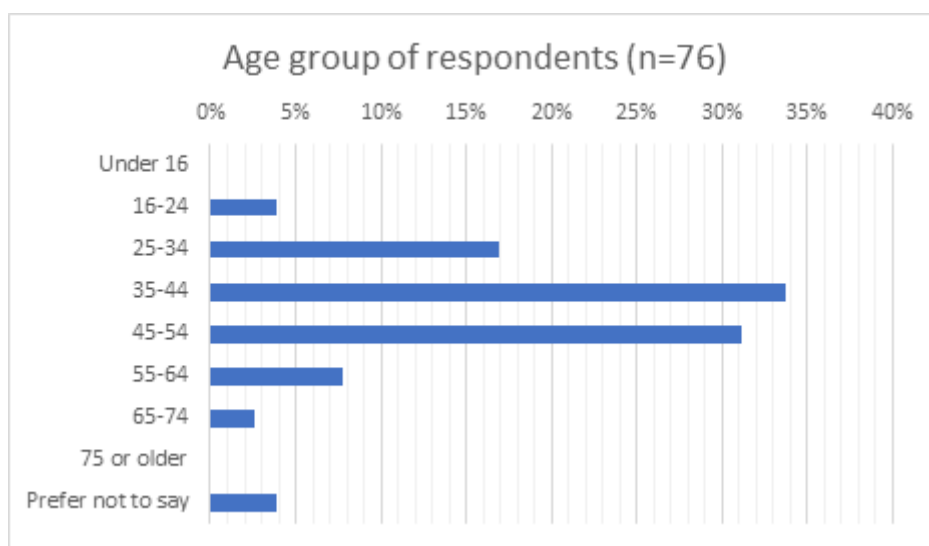
Most responses came from members of the public (61%), with the remainder (39%) of responses coming from professionals working in the public sector.

Three quarters of those completing the survey said they have experienced, are experiencing or may be experiencing domestic abuse. Around 90% of respondents knew someone else who has experienced, is experiencing or may be experiencing domestic abuse.

86% of those completing the survey identified themselves as female and 9% identified themselves as male, with the remainder of respondents split equally between those who identify as non-binary and those who preferred not to say. For those respondents who had ever been subject to or affected by domestic abuse and who provided their gender (55), 91% identified as female, 7% as male and 2% as non-binary.

88% of respondents were heterosexual/straight. 7% were LGBTQ+ and 5% preferred not to say.

The largest age groups for respondents were those in the 35-44 age group (34%) and the 45-54 age group (31%). Ages ranged from 16-24 and 64-74 as shown in the graph below.



5% of respondents preferred not to state their ethnic origin. Of the remainder, 94% described their ethnic origin as White British, the remainder described themselves as Other.

26% of respondents stated that yes, they identified as a D/deaf or disabled person or had a long-term health condition. 69% did not and 5% preferred not to say.

45% of respondents had no religion and 4% preferred not to say. Of the remainder, 45% were Christian, 1% Buddhist and 4% Other.

3.4 Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic

COVID-19 and the restrictions enforced during the pandemic increased the risk of abuse for many victims, who were often trapped in an environment with their perpetrator and unable to access services. Restrictions and lockdowns also meant that many victims contact with statutory agencies was significantly reduced or stopped altogether, reducing opportunities for professionals to recognise indicators of abuse and signpost to services.

Both nationally and locally, services saw a rise in the number of referrals and incident rates of domestic abuse during the pandemic.

The Office for National Statistics domestic abuse data release states that the police recorded a total of 1,459,663 crimes in England and Wales in the year ending March 2021 – an increase of 79,407 from the previous year.

SYP data shows evidence of an increase in overall incidents during and since COVID-19 lockdowns – monthly averages increased to 602 in the year ending March 2021, compared to 524 in the year before. There was a clear spike in the average monthly incidents in the first 6 months of lockdown, and largely remains above pre-pandemic levels. IBA identified that although improved recording by the police may contribute to the rise in incidents, the data still suggests an actual increase in domestic abuse incidents during lockdown.

In the year 2020 – 2021, IDAS received a total of 3646 referrals, including 864 high risk referrals, compared to a total of 3000 referrals, including 563 high risk referrals in 2019 – 2020. In the most recent year 2021 – 2022, the total number of referrals has decreased slightly to 3596 referrals, but the number of high-risk referrals has continued to increase to 972.

Housing Options has also seen an increase in approaches citing domestic abuse since Q1 20/21, although as mentioned, this increase can be partially attributed to the service restructure.

4 REVIEW OF BARNSELY DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE

4.1 Aims of the Service

The service specification set out the aims and objectives to be achieved as follows:

The aims of the service are to:

- Reduced number of people who experience sexual and domestic violence.
- People and families achieve enduring recovery from sexual and domestic violence.
- Empower children and young people to assert the inappropriateness of sexual and domestic violence and other precursor behaviours.
- Local communities will support people and families who experience sexual and domestic violence.
- Local communities will be empowered to confront the behaviour that harbours perpetrators of sexual and domestic violence.
- To encourage and support victims to take the court pathway to completion
- To increase successful prosecutions of those perpetrators of sexual and domestic violence.

4.2 Service Objectives

The service objectives are to:

Support individuals to,

- Recover from current or historical situations of Sexual and Domestic Violence.
- Build resilience from current or past experiences.
- Learn effective skills and techniques to overcome negative behaviour and reaffirm positive behaviour in others.
- Instil and expect this in all relationships and in their families.

And to support communities to,

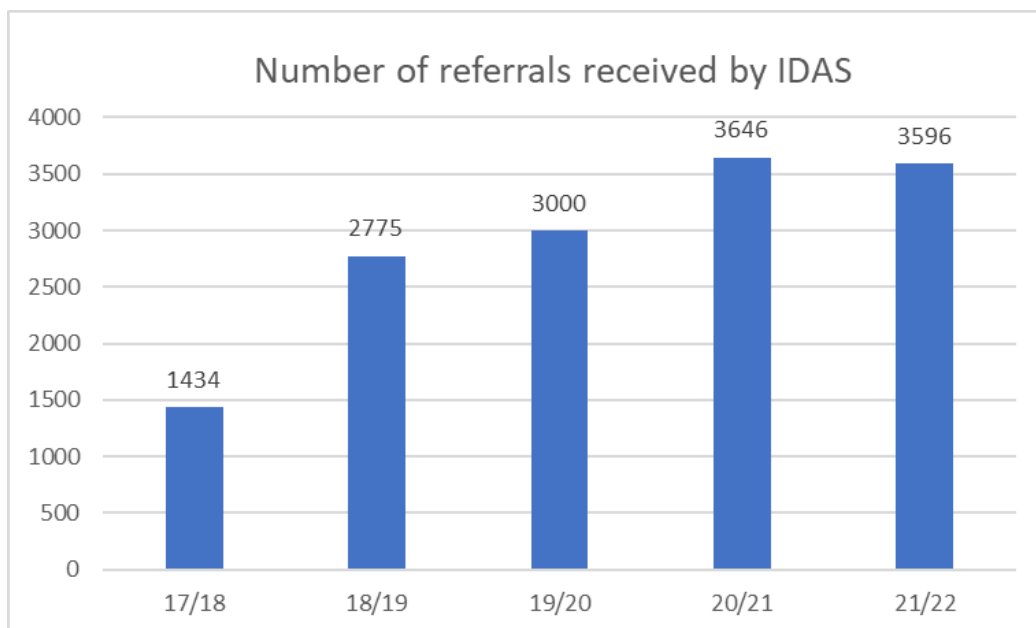
- Come forward to disclose Violence and Domestic Abuse.
- Create a culture and environment of zero tolerance against Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Teach Families and their children to live beyond Fear, Violence and Repression.
- Develop and maintain stable and secure homes free from fear.
- Encourage a safe environment to ensure prosecution of perpetrators.

4.3 Performance Activity

4.3.1 Referrals received by the service

The service operates as a clearly defined single point of contact that accepts referrals from all sources, including self/family referrals and those from statutory, voluntary and community agencies. On receipt of a referral, the service is committed to contacting the client within 24 hours and completing a comprehensive Domestic, Abuse, Stalking and Honour-based violence (DASH) risk assessment to ensure they are accessing the most appropriate level of support based on risk.

The graph below shows the number of referrals the service has received since the start of the contract on 1st April 2017 up to 31st March 2022, totalling 14,451 referrals.

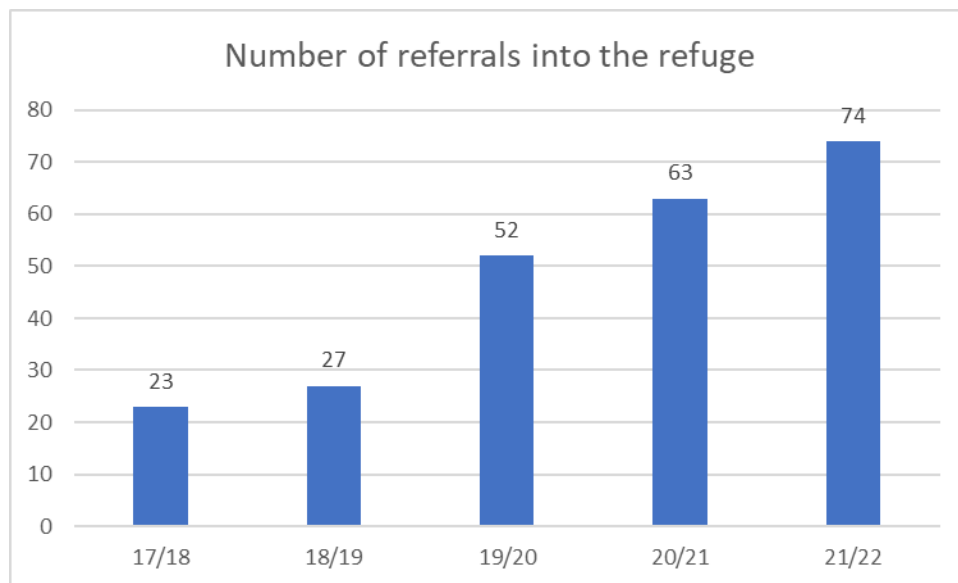


With the exception of the most recent year, the number of referrals into the service has increased every year since the start of the contract. There was a significant increase in referrals in the year 2020/2021, likely due to the impact of the pandemic on victims of domestic abuse. Despite taking a slight decrease in 2021/2022, referrals remain well above pre-pandemic levels.

Referrals into refuge

As part of the contract, IDAS also have access to and manage an eight-bedroom self-contained facility serving as a refuge for the female client group and their children. The refuge is available to victims in and out of Barnsley. The graph below shows the number of referrals the refuge has

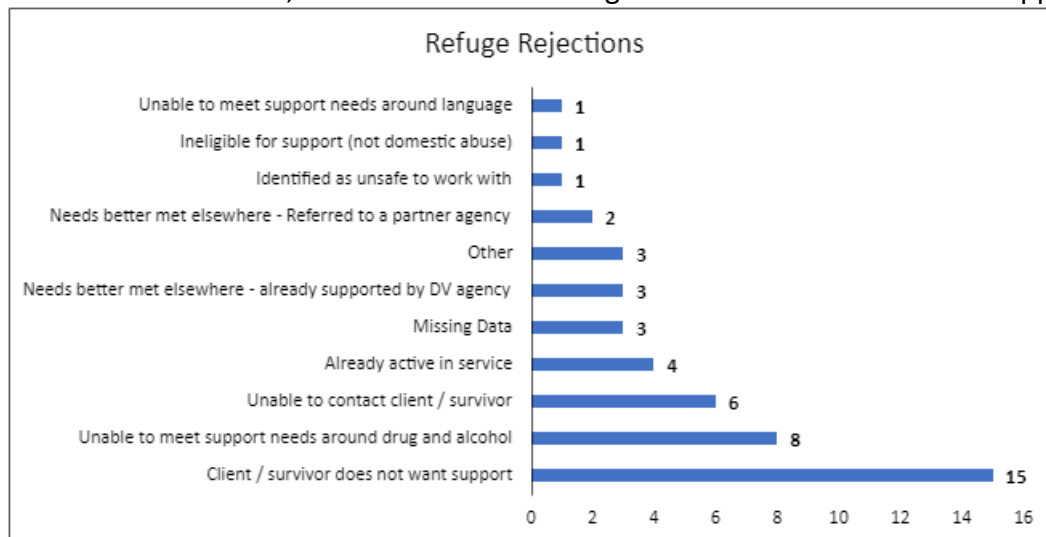
received since 1st April 2017 up to 31st March 2022, totalling 239 referrals. Please note that the graph below does not include data for Y1 Q4, Y2 Q2 and Q3, Y3 Q2, and Y4 Q4.



The number of referrals into refuge has increased every year since the start of the contract.

The needs analysis identified that the refuge is typically able to accommodate about 1 in every 3 referrals, with refusals being due to a lack of vacancies and the needs of clients being too high, as the refuge cannot currently accommodate people with multiple and complex needs.

The needs assessment identified that in the year October 2020 to October 2021, 69 referrals to the refuge were rejected, totalling 71% of the overall referral rate. The reasons for rejection are exemplified in the chart below, the most common being that the client did not want support.



4.3.2 Community Service Support

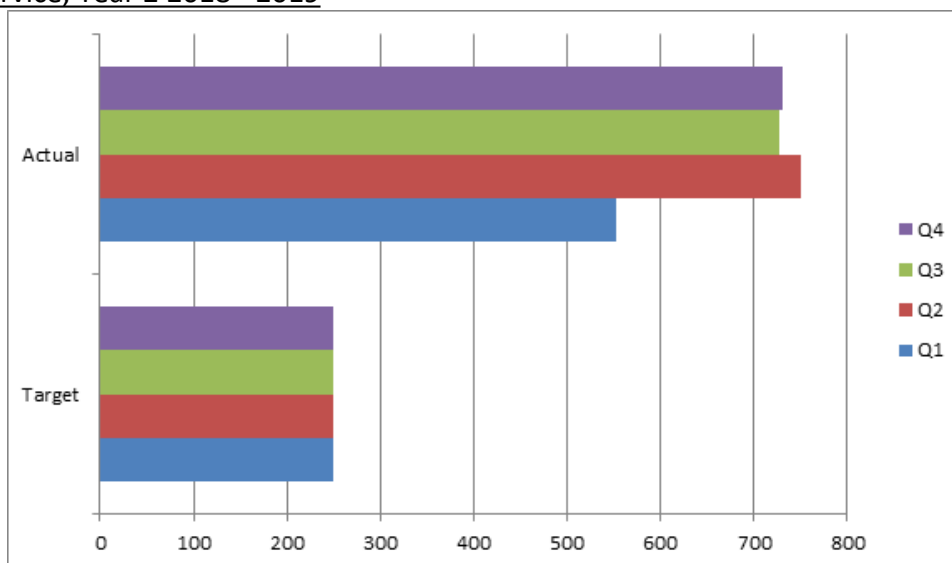
The service offers a range of structured interventions, including delivery of evidence based psycho-social interventions. Clients are offered choice and engaged in discussions about what

approach is right for them. Support and interventions offered as part of the community service include:

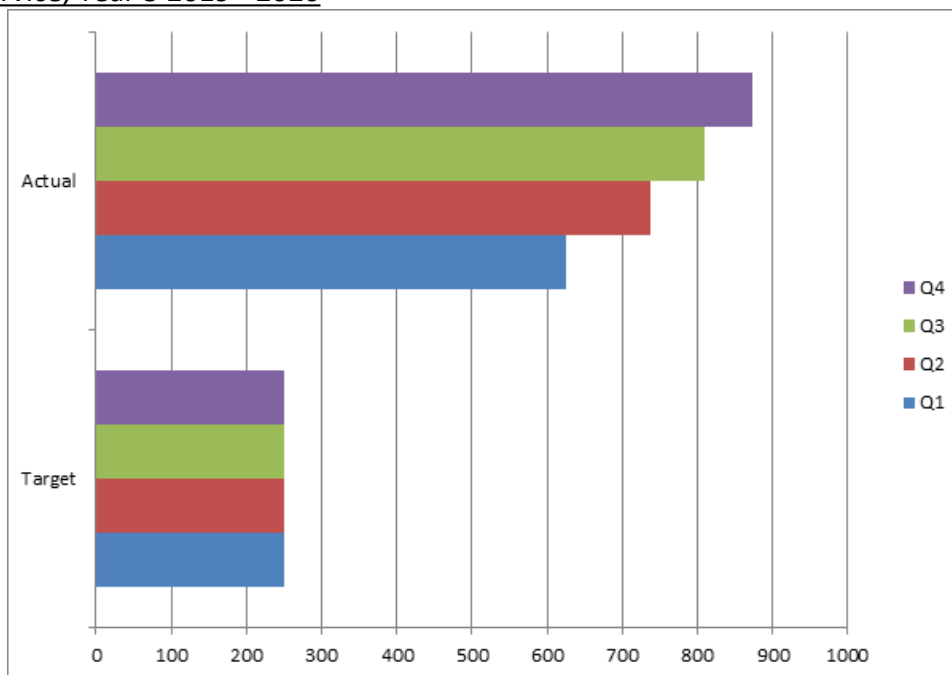
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors/Advocates (IDVA/ISVA)
- Therapeutic groups and counselling
- Recovery care planning and care co-ordination
- Safety planning
- Therapeutic recovery
- Long term recovery

The graphs below reflect the number of clients accessing community service support for each year of the contract since Year 2:

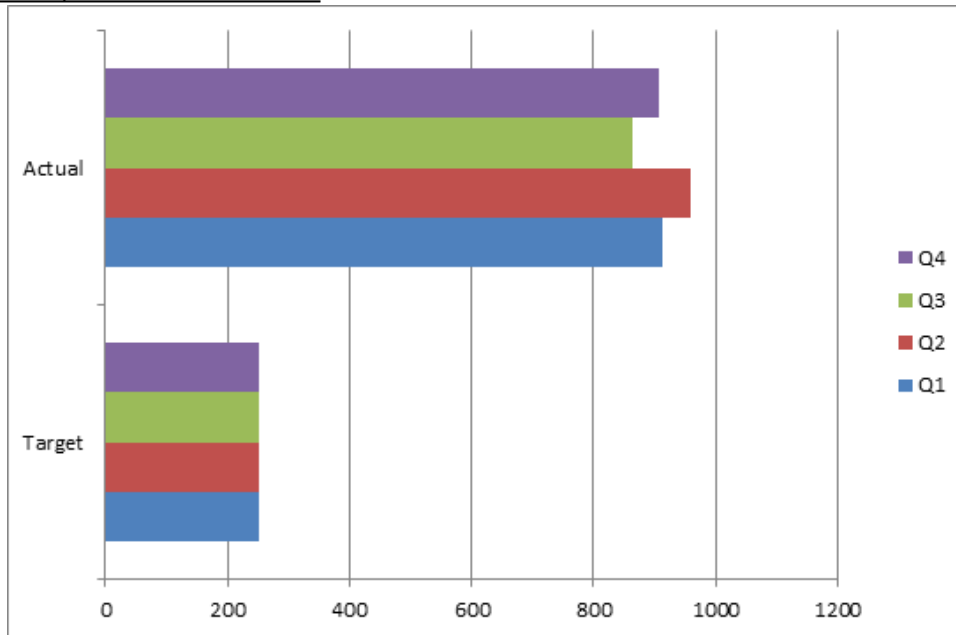
Clients in service, Year 2 2018 - 2019



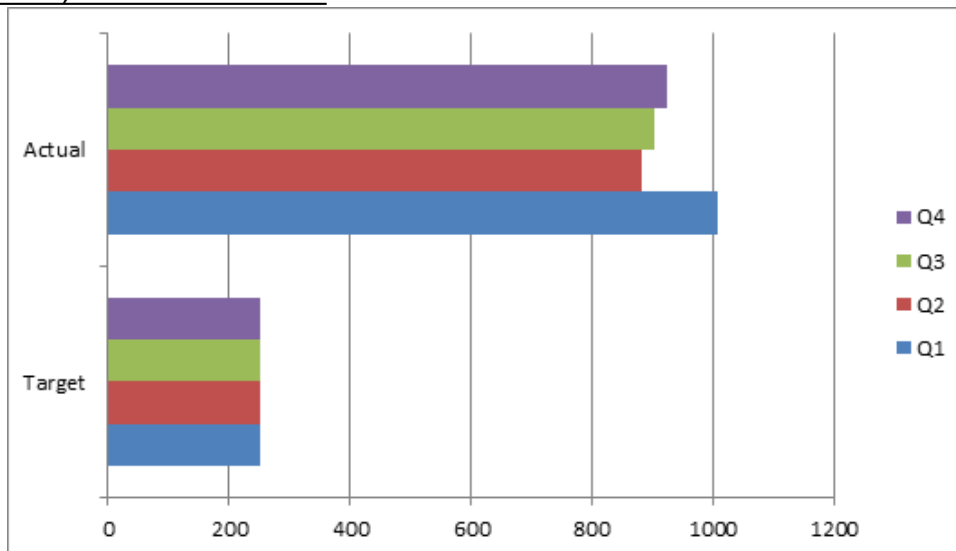
Clients in service, Year 3 2019 - 2020



Clients in service, Year 4 2020 - 2021



Clients in service, Year 5 2021 – 2022



As the graphs show, the service has consistently exceeded their target for the number of clients in service, with the highest number of clients in service in the final quarter of Year 5. The graphs also show a general increase of the number of clients in service, notably increasing during Year 4 of the contract at the start of the pandemic.

4.3.4 Outcomes focused Key Performance Indicators

The service has several clearly defined outcomes for its clients, designed to support victims in recovering from domestic abuse and regaining control of their life. The table below shows when the service has been on target for delivering outcomes since the start of the contract (please note that these outcome focused KPIs in their current format were introduced in the second year of the contract):

| Outcome focused KPI | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | | | | |

| | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Clients supported to manage their substance misuse issues | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clients making positive lifestyle choice e.g. healthy eating, smoking cessation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clients supported to better manage health and wellbeing | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Engage all clients in safety planning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Support to improve awareness around healthy relationships | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supported to attend an IDAS programme | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supported to participate in work/volunteering activity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supported to better manage finances | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supported to maintain/secure and avoid eviction/accommodation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

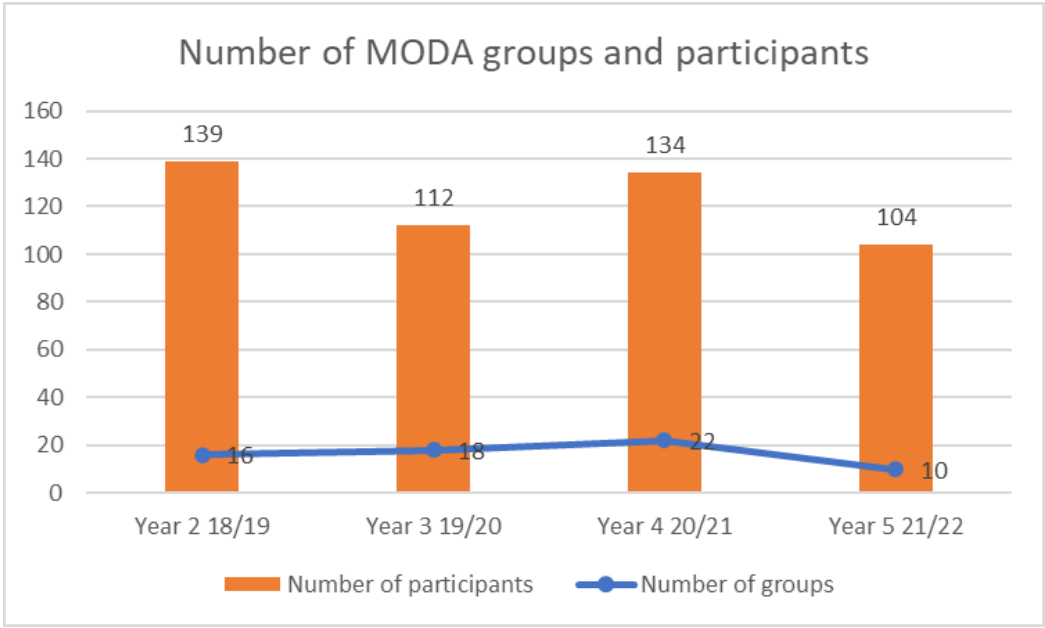
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Supported to better manage their physical health and well being | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

As can be seen from the table above, the service has consistently been on target for most KPIs since the current format was introduced and has been achieving against all targets since Q4 2019/20.

4.3.5 Groups and Activities

As part of the community service offer, the service delivers group sessions for clients under the programme Moving On from Domestic Abuse (MODA). The group sessions are offered to clients who are at an appropriate stage in their journey to participate in and benefit from groupwork.

The graph below shows the number of MODA groups and participants since Year 2 of the contract:



The service responded well to the challenges brought by the COVID pandemic in their response to delivering groups – the service offered group sessions over Zoom to clients who were able to participate, and significantly increased the number of participants from the previous year. In the last year of the contract, difficulties were faced in offering group sessions due to staff sickness and training, but the service nevertheless maintained the facilitation of group sessions throughout the year.

Please see below a selection of feedback comments from clients who have participated in groups throughout the course of the contract:

“It has come at a very good time for me to go on this course. It has given me strength I did not know I had and make me realise this abuse does matter and it is not normal”

“Definitely the best thing I ever did”

“Of course I would recommend IDAS service to everyone who need that type of help. It helped me a lot and looking forward to access another group”

“This course has meant so much. I’ve gained confidence and the hope that I needed, I am aware of what to look out for now and become stronger every day.”

“The course has made me stronger and taught me great life lessons I will always keep with me.”

“Every girl and woman needs to experience a session with IDAS”

“Groups has helped validate my feeling and dispelled any doubt. Met new people who are very supportive”

The service also delivered a programme of Helping Hands groups to schools throughout the contract, a programme designed to provide children with an understanding of their right to feel safe and who they can talk to about any issues. Please see below a selection of feedback comments from children and teachers who have participated in Helping Hands:

“Every week the children look forward to the sessions”

“All the children have thrived on this programme”

“I liked it. I would do it again.”

“I can go to people on my helping hand if I am safe or upset”

4.3.6 Volunteering opportunities

The service offers opportunities for volunteers to assist with the service helpline, make feedback calls, take emotional support referrals, make target hardening deliveries, assist with admin, events, group work and work within the community. The service also offers placements for students and offers training to volunteers to enable them to apply for full-time roles within the service. The service began to report on volunteer hours as part of contract monitoring in Year 5 of the contract and recorded a total of 388 volunteer hours in 2021/22.

4.3.7 Specialist work

The service has always been available to all victims of domestic abuse, regardless of sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, disability, race or religion. However, it is recognised that some victims may face barriers to accessing services. Throughout the contract, the service has endeavoured to offer specialist support to marginalised groups of victims and survivors. As previously covered in the section on prevalence, the service also collects quarterly data on the age, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy status, primary language, employment status and relationship status of clients.

LGBT+ work

The service has engaged with and received training from LGBT+ specialist organisation SayIt and has recently re-established connections with current community groups following the pandemic. The service has also recruited an LGBT Specialist IDVA who will be in post from 16th May 2022.

Young People work

The service recruited to a Young Person IDVA post in Q3 of Year 2 of the contract. The Young Person IDVA works with young people affected by domestic abuse, focusing lots on healthy relationships, and the service works to engage with colleges and schools.

Over the course of the contract, the service has established links with and delivered training and workshops to:

- Barnsley College
- YMCA
- Horizon School
- Outwood Academy
- Darton Academy
- Young Person's Midwife

Health IDVA

The service recruited a specialist Health IDVA to engage with and provide support to health services such as hospitals and GP surgeries. Throughout the contract, the Health IDVA has delivered awareness and DASH training to:

- GP Surgeries
- Family Centres
- Emergency Departments
- Safeguarding Teams
- Midwives

During the past year, the service has engaged with partnership working with Barnsley Hospital through the safeguarding unit, attending on Wednesday morning and attending walk rounds with safeguarding leads on their rounds. Although upskilling staff in the Emergency Department to complete DASH risk assessments proved difficult due to pressure on the department and visits to the hospital became more sporadic due to issues with cover both within the service and the hospital, the service has maintained a good working relationship with the safeguarding team who come to the IDAS Health worker for support and guidance when needed. Going forward, the service will attend the Maternity Department once a month to offer support with safety planning.

Multiple and Complex Needs

Throughout the contract, the service has developed positive relationships with Humankind and Recovery Steps, engaging in both delivering training to and receiving training from the organisations.

4.3.8 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

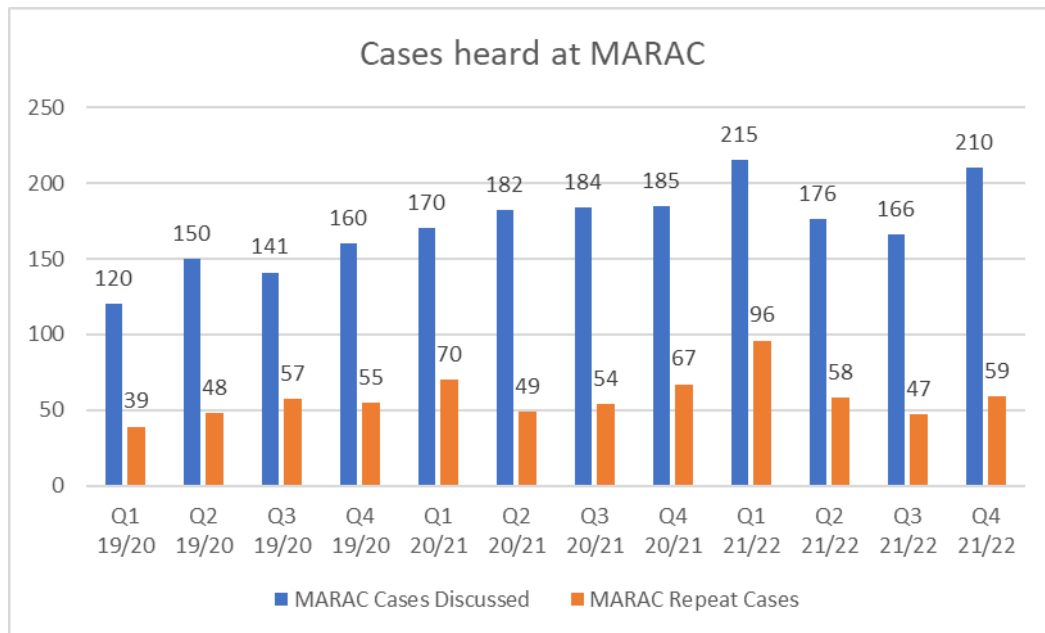
The service manages the MARAC process for the Barnsley area. MARACs are regular, confidential, local meetings attended by multiple relevant agencies to discuss how to help victims at high risk of murder or serious harm. Attendees talk about the victim, the family and perpetrator, and share information to produce an action plan for each victim.

Attending agencies at MARAC include:

- IDAS
- South Yorkshire Police
- Housing Options
- Berneslai Homes
- Children’s Social Care
- Adult’s Social Care
- Probation
- Barnsley Recovery Steps
- 0-19 services
- Family Centres
- Barnsley Hospital
- Safer Neighbourhood Service
- Youth Offending Team
- Mental Health Services
- Education Welfare
- Cranstoun

The service also manages a representative function for MARAC representatives from each service to feedback on the functioning of the MARAC, address any issues arising and ensure that the MARAC is working for agencies and victims. The MARAC maintained its meetings during the pandemic using Microsoft Teams, and representatives have recently agreed that MARAC meetings will continue Teams for the foreseeable future.

The table below shows the number of cases heard at MARAC since Q1 2019/20:



The cases heard at MARAC have gradually increased over the last three years, peaking during Q1 2021/22. There was a 34.3% increase in the number of cases between Q1 19/20 and Q4 21/22. The MARAC have introduced a Gatekeeping process designed to reduce the number repeat cases heard at MARAC through introducing an ‘alert system’ for Standard and Medium repeat cases, and to bring the number of cases heard at each MARAC closer to the Safelives recommendation of 40 cases heard per 10,000 of the adult female population.

4.3.9 Engagement and Communications

Throughout the contract, the service has been responsible for developing and implementing their own communications strategy to promote support available, the pathway into services, short-term initiatives and specific seasonal campaigns, to raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with domestic abuse.

The service has worked closely with Barnsley Council to develop a full spectrum of communications for the public, the client group and professionals to ensure the service is visible and easy to access. The service worked with the Council's communications team to develop the "#SpeakUp" campaign, launched in late 2019 and designed to raise awareness of domestic abuse, signpost to services and let victims know that they are not alone. The campaign continued to run throughout the pandemic, during key holidays such as Valentine's Day, and is still active, having created a recognisable presence through consistent imagery and frequent marketing. The latest development in the #SpeakUp campaign is a vinyl display in Barnsley town centre on the side of the Library @ the Lightbox, building on the messaging developed during the pandemic to encourage people to consider what happens 'behind closed doors.'

Other communication and engagement activity undertaken during the contract includes:

- Valentine's Day Campaign – in addition to social media posts, the service spread roses with IDAS' information throughout the borough in 2019 and 2022 to raise awareness of the service to potential victims by taking focus away from the Town Centre and ensuring the message was delivered throughout the borough – including in parks, GP surgeries, visitor attractions, family centres and libraries (this activity was suspended in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic)
- Development of a POD course for Barnsley Council employees
- Delivery of training at Safeguarding Awareness Weeks
- Delivery of training and workshops to schools and colleges
- Delivery of training and workshops to healthcare settings
- Delivery of training and engagement with local private sector companies such as ASOS
- Awareness and fundraising events throughout the borough
- Peer support coffee mornings
- Holding a Women's Group alongside the Refugee Council and the Health Integration Team
- Working with the Safe Places campaign
- Presented to the Social Work Development Forum

4.5 Service User Feedback

Service user feedback is routinely collected as part of the contract monitoring process. Please see a collection of feedback and comments from service users throughout the duration of the contract:

Year 1

"[My IDVA] was brilliant, like a breath of fresh air" - Quarter 2

“There isn’t anything I would change about the support received from my IDVA, I couldn’t have asked for more. She went above and beyond what I expected from her, she did everything in her power to help me.” - Quarter 3

“This service has been invaluable to me” - Quarter 3

“My IDVA’s warm, friendly approachable manner meant that you could trust her, be open and talk to her about anything. And in return she was able to give me the help and support I needed” - Quarter 3

Year 2

“[If I did not receive the support...] I would not have been able to pursue my dreams. My life would be miserable and my relationship with my mum would have got worse and more toxic. I wouldn’t have been able to understand what she wants from me and her reasons. All I can say is that she has helped me find myself as a person she’s helped me so much I can’t thank her enough” - Quarter 2

Year 4

“My counsellor was absolutely amazing! Couldn’t thank her enough for all her support, thanks to (my counsellor) I now have my dream job and I’m pursuing all my dreams, I’m in a much better place mentally” - Quarter 3

Year 5

“A client admitted that this was the first time she has opened up about her 48-year relationship as she has been brought up very religious and just ‘stuck at it’ At the end of the helpline call client said she was so very grateful for the support given today, telling me ‘You have lifted me more than you will ever know. You are an angel thank you for everything you are doing’” - Quarter 2

“I been talking to one of your team I would like to say a very big thank you for your help XXXX you help me through a lot of bad day just nothing there was help when I need it I did take me a lot of time to phone but when I did I feel there was help out there e and my daughter would like to say thank you so much you help so much just noting you was just a phone call away and support I need when it get hard I think of your help and time I wouldn’t be here without your help and support he the one to blame I didn’t ask to be treated all that I am getting stronger bit by bit thank you so much for all the help and support – Email sent to info@IDAS” - Quarter 3

“Didn’t know which direction my life was going in when I first called IDAS, would probably not have been in this property now. You saved my life.” - Quarter 3

“I feel trapped but your service has been amazing. There has always been someone to advise me on what to do when I need it.” - Quarter 4

4.6 Summary of Performance Activity

- With the exception of the most recent year, the number of referrals into the service has continued to increase since the start of the contract, affected significantly by the pandemic.

- The number of referrals into refuge has also increased every year since the start of the contract, although the needs assessment identified a lack of move on from refuge and the need to diversify housing options for victims of domestic abuse
- The number of clients within the service has also generally increased since the start of the contract, and the service has significantly exceeded their target for the number of clients in service each year
- The service has consistently been on target for most KPIs since the current format was introduced and has been achieving against all targets since Q4 2019/20.
- The groups delivered by the service are received well by clients, and the service was adaptable in their delivery of groupwork in response to the pandemic
- The service endeavours to engage with specialist work and organisations for marginalised groups of victims, but the new service will enhance this offer and work towards a more consistent approach, particularly for BAME victims, older victims of domestic abuse and victims with multiple and complex needs

4.7 Demand for services

The prevalence of domestic abuse in Barnsley, the findings of the local needs assessment and the summary of performance activity demonstrates a clear demand for domestic abuse services in the borough. The demand for services and the prevalence of domestic abuse has been considerably affected by the pandemic.

Monthly averages of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the police have increased since the beginning of the pandemic, alongside an increase of high risk referrals, also reflected in the increase of MARAC cases over the past three years. Although the increase in incidents may also have been affected by improved police recording and the willingness of victims to report domestic abuse to the police, the increase nevertheless represents an increasing cohort of victims eligible for domestic abuse services.

The number of referrals into the domestic abuse service has consistently increased since the start of the contract, also affected significantly by the pandemic. As a result, the number of clients accessing support within the service has also increased each year since the start of the contract, evidencing an increasing demand for the service. The increase of Domestic Abuse Notification referrals provided from the MASH since 2019/20 also indicates an increasing demand for services for children affected by domestic abuse, particularly in reference to the stipulation in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 in which children who experience domestic abuse are victims in their own right.

There is also a considerable demand for accommodation support – the number of referrals into the refuge has continued to increase every year since the start of the contract, and the needs assessment identified a gap in the provision of support for domestic abuse victims with multiple and complex needs who require accommodation. The needs assessment also identified an increase in approaches to Housing Options citing current or domestic abuse and increase in homeless applications where domestic abuse was the main cause of homelessness.

5 FINANCE

The DA Act 2021 came into law on 1st October 2021 and placed new duties on local authorities to ensure that victims of domestic abuse and their children can access the right support in safe accommodation when they need it. Barnsley Council already plays an important leadership role in delivering domestic abuse services to victims/survivors in Barnsley.

The Domestic Abuse service’s recurrent budget is £651k, which is funded by core council budget (£579k) and PCC contribution (£72k).

The Government has allocated the Council new burden funding of £588k in the current year (£586k in 2021/22) to discharge the statutory responsibilities outlined. In the spirit of the New Burdens Doctrine, the new duty will be funded in future years – however future funding allocations would be determined as part of the next spending review. The funding (revenue) has been provided as a s31 grant, with a legal obligation to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing within safe accommodation.

Acknowledging the identified gap highlighted in the needs assessment, the November 2021 report (‘Domestic Abuse – strategic review’) put forward an option to develop a property portfolio through a social landlord for the bespoke use for victims of domestic abuse. To this end, earmarked funding was made available in 21/22 towards the property acquisition costs (by switching the grant allocation with the council’s core funding for Domestic Abuse service).

Discussions are ongoing with Property services regarding the accommodation / property options with potential independent sector registered housing provider. No estimates of acquisition costs have been provided at this stage – however it is proposed to set aside the 21/22 carry forward resource (£340k) and the anticipated uncommitted balance of funding in 22/23 of £273k.

The registered provider will be asked to maximise the drawdown of intensive housing management through housing benefit, resulting in potential to reduce support costs.

The table below shows the current funding arrangements and the proposed funding arrangements.

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Committed expenditure | £,000 | £,000 |
| IDAS Contract | 651 | 651 |
| Intensive support – IDAS contract | 315 | - |
| Total Costs | 966 | 651 |
| Funded by | | |
| Core budget | 579 | 579 |
| OPCC Funding | 72 | 72 |
| 21/22 Earmarkings | 340 | - |
| DA Accommodation Grant | 588 | - |
| Total Funding | 1,579 | 651 |
| Balance | -613 | - |

5.1 Benchmarking

Benchmarking with areas locally and nationally has taken place to look at the different service delivery models, funding levels and the number of estimated clients vs IDVA capacity in each area.

When looking at service delivery models, these are similar across the region and each area broadly delivers the same type of interventions, to a lesser or greater extent depending on funding levels. The common interventions include,

- Information, advice and guidance.
- Signposting to other agencies that can support victims such as DWP and SYP.
- Emotional support i.e., therapeutic interventions and group work.
- Practical support i.e., completing forms, tenancy advice, support at appointments.
- Emergency safety planning.
- Group advocacy (face to face and digital).
- Training, education and awareness courses.
- Awareness training delivered to professionals and others.
- Access to therapies.
- Partnership working and networking to raise the profile of victims.
- Communication, marketing and social media.

6 COMMISSIONING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

With regards to the re-commissioning of Domestic Abuse Service, three options have been considered:

1. Do nothing.
2. Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process.
3. **Commission a new service developing the model and specification taking into consideration the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and subsequent guidance, via a competitive procurement process.**

Option 1: Do nothing.

If this option is taken, then the current service will expire on 31 March 2023. This option is not recommended as the loss of this provision subject Barnsley Council to reputational damage. The development of sustainable and effective domestic abuse services is a very public agenda as well as creating a gap in support for those affected by domestic abuse, their children, and our communities.

Option 2: Recommission the same service model and service specification via a competitive procurement process.

The second option would be to recommission the same service model using the existing service specification. The findings from the service review show that the service is broadly meeting its aims and objectives, although its reach is still limited, and some improvements have been identified. Additionally, taking into consideration Government guidance, the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, and the Safe Accommodation Grant funding as well as building

on our local ‘lessons learnt’ of what works and what doesn’t, it would restrict development to meet growing need.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

A strategy and delivery plan that reflects the national and local priorities is required for the Borough, not only on a practical level but also to meet statutory requirements that now exist. Hence, we offer a contemporary and most appropriate portal for information to achieve priorities.

The findings from the needs assessment and lessons learnt demonstrates that there is a need for the provision of continued support to victims of domestic abuse.

Based on this feedback, Option 3 - Commission a service based on an updated delivery model and specification via a competitive procurement process” is recommended.

The table below provides an overview and timescales of the procurement exercise:

| Activity | Details | Completion Date |
|--|--|---|
| Completion of PEAD Stage 1 and 2, EIA and DPIA | Procurement Event Approval Doc (PEAD) – acts as gateway process for the procurement. S1 relates to the business case and S2 is the financial approval. Report to cabinet on 27 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |
| Finalise tender docs | Includes Spec, Quality Questions, Social Value requirements, etc. Collection of TUPE information from incumbent provider - We are required to consider social value from the beginning of the commissioning and procurement process to ensure social value is built into the delivery of any contract. | 30 th August 2022 |
| Tender Period | Out to tender. Clarification questions to be actioned and responded to. | 19 th September to 21 October 2022 |
| Tender Closes | Following tender closure – evaluation panel to be sent tender responses and evaluation packs. The panel will include officers from Barnsley council, SYP, OPCC and (CCG). | 21 st October 2022 |
| Initial Contract Award | Issue of successful/unsuccessful letters. Start of standstill period. | 18 November 2022 |
| Final Contract Award | Standstill period ends - Issue of Contract. | 29 November 2022 |
| Mobilisation Period | | 30 November to 31 March 2023 |
| Contract Start Date | | 1 April 2023 |

Appendix 1 – References

Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales: year ending March 2021. Office for National Statistics.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2021>

Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales: year ending March 2020. Office for National Statistics.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabuseprevalenceandtrendsenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

Domestic abuse victim characteristics, England and Wales: year ending March 2020. Office for National Statistics.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/domesticabusevictimcharacteristicsenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

[Domestic Abuse Act 2021](#)

[Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2021](#)

[Domestic Abuse Plan 2022](#)

Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategic Needs Assessment, March 2022. Imogen Blood Associates.

Barnsley Domestic Abuse Strategic Needs Assessment

Executive Summary

March 2022

Imogen Blood, Anita Birchall, Shani Wardle, Shelly
Dulson & Chloë Hands

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Introduction

[Imogen Blood & Associates](#) (IBA) was asked by Barnsley Council to provide an independent strategic needs assessment in relation to domestic abuse. Under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the council has a duty to assess the need for accommodation-based domestic abuse support for victims. The review was funded using a government grant to support the implementation of the Act.

Between July 2021 and January 2022, IBA:

- Interviewed 20 professionals working for the council, health, police, housing and specialist services, and domestic abuse leads for other South Yorkshire authorities
- Ran an online survey open to the public, to which 90 responses were received
- Reviewed statistical data, case studies, research evidence and key documents

Domestic abuse: incidence, needs and demand for services

There are challenges using data to build an accurate picture of domestic abuse: much goes unreported, and where domestic abuse is reported, it is not always possible to identify repeat reports coming from the same household to different services or sometimes even to the same service.

Despite these caveats, the following headlines emerged from our review of local and national data:

- There were an increasing number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police during the pandemic; these have reduced somewhat but the overall trend may be one of increasing demand for services.
- Domestic abuse is a common cause of homelessness
- Increasing numbers of children may be at risk in households where there is domestic abuse
- There is a relationship between domestic abuse and poverty, though it is complex
- Stakeholders interviewed reported that 'domestic abuse' has become much more diverse than the traditional view of a female victim fleeing violence from a male perpetrator. Although victims of domestic abuse are predominantly female and heterosexual, there are significant numbers of male, and LGBT victims in Barnsley
- Services are also seeing more cases of mutual partner conflict, older/ adult children abusing parents or grandparents, and people who do not want to leave the relationship.
- The ethnic profile of survivors broadly reflects that of the borough
- The incidence of mental health conditions and complexity is high amongst victims/ survivors
- There is considerable diversity in the ages of victims/ survivors

Lived experience of domestic abuse support

Barnsley Council does not currently have a formal structure for engagement and coproduction with people with lived experience; though there is a desire to establish one; views about how this might be delivered were gathered via the online survey.

National research from survivors' perspectives is scant; key themes include:

- The importance of empathy and being taken seriously, which can be a particular challenge for women with complex needs and male victims/ survivors.
- Lack of access to services and housing options
- Re-traumatisation by systems, especially in relation to child protection
- Additional barriers for victims/ survivors from minority groups, resulting from institutionalised discrimination, assumptions, stereotypes, invisibility and multiple disadvantage ('intersectionality').

Many of these themes were also reflected in the survey responses and case studies of people with lived experience in Barnsley.

Headlines from the Barnsley survey

90 people responded to the online survey which IBA conducted on behalf of Barnsley Council during December 2021 and January 2022.

Profile of respondents

- 61% were members of the public; with the remainder being professionals working in the public sector.
- 86% of those completing the survey identified themselves as female.
- Three-quarters said they have experienced, are or may be experiencing domestic abuse
- Around 90% know someone else who has experienced, is or may be currently experiencing domestic abuse.
- A quarter of respondents with lived experience were also professionals working in the public sector

Awareness

- Just over half (56%) of respondents said they had been aware of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 prior to completing the survey; 23% of professionals had not.
- 31% of respondents said that, prior to answering this survey, they would not have known which services they could turn to for help if they or someone they know is affected by domestic abuse.
- In addition to IDAS, over 30 different agencies, departments or job roles were mentioned as possible sources of support. This highlights the breadth of the domestic abuse 'system' and the challenge of ensuring a coordinated approach.

Access to and experience of services

Two-thirds of respondents said that they or someone they knew had accessed or tried to access domestic abuse services in Barnsley. When asked to identify barriers in accessing support, common themes included:

- Fear (of perpetrator, of impact on family, and/or of the service response);
- Lack of resources limiting the service offer, or uncertainty around the availability or accessibility of support;
- Lack of education, information or knowledge – both by services and victims’ own lack of awareness that they are experiencing ‘domestic abuse’;
- Stigma, shame and embarrassment; and
- Challenges in relation to the legal and criminal justice systems.

Those who had accessed services particularly valued:

- Professionals who are understanding and non-judgemental with good respect for confidentiality;
- Accurate and knowledgeable advice in relation to legal and other options;
- Clear and consistent communication from services; workers who come back when they say they will;
- Advocacy and coordination;
- Being able to either self-refer or be referred by a range of professionals;
- Peer support, for example through groups;
- Education and improved awareness for victims; and
- Practical support.

Those who had accessed services found the following particularly unhelpful:

- Slow/ lack of response
- Inaccessibility, e.g. in relation to times or online access only
- Lack of empathy/ attitude of staff
- Eligibility criteria or a lack of specialist services, for example, support for men, for abusers, or alternative accommodation for violent under 18s living at home or for pets; or for historical rather than current abuse
- Lack of housing options

Future priorities

When asked which services should be available in Barnsley to help people who are affected by domestic abuse, the following were the most frequently selected:

- Therapeutic support for children affected by domestic abuse
- Mental health support
- Increased support for parents and their children/ families
- Confidential/ incognito support for those who continue to live with the perpetrator

The proposed priorities of the draft strategy were shared and most of those who commented confirmed that these were the right priorities, i.e.

- **Providing victims of domestic abuse with the right support, including safe accommodation:** the needs of children and young people, the importance of mental health support, the need for suitable accommodation options, and the needs of male victims/ survivors were highlighted as key considerations under this heading
- **Preventing domestic abuse:** especially through education and early intervention with children, young people and families
- **Ensuring a strong cooperation between social housing, social care, police, health in response to domestic abuse:** with respondents calling for multi-agency consultation and accountability and 'better coordination within the council itself'
- **Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour:** respondents highlighted the need to improve the criminal justice system, professionals' awareness training on how perpetrators may manipulate, and covering impact on children within perpetrator programmes.

Recommendations

Our recommendations contain a mixture of relative 'quick wins'; others which could be achieved if additional funding is available, or resources can be pooled; and some which require some system re-design, ideally achieved through a process of co-design involving multi-agency and lived experience voices. They are summarised here under the proposed priorities of Barnsley's draft Domestic Abuse Strategy.

Providing victims of Domestic Abuse with the right support

Our overall observations are that there is a clear route into the system (although not all agencies seem to agree). However, the system is not complete, but rather an administrative hub with all pathways leading into [IDAS](#). A full range of support is needed; risk management is clearly a high priority, and practical support is being offered, but the focus on trauma, mental health aspects and on children is lacking. The total amount of resource may be too small (especially in view of the increased levels of demand); however, defining the offer more coherently, and specifying housing and support elements could help to focus delivery.

Agencies providing support tend to operate in pockets, focusing only on the most urgent cases in their part of the system ('what's on top'). There is insufficient focus on creating, providing and evaluating routes out of crisis provision: move on accommodation is lacking and ongoing or follow-up support is limited.

Review the current specialist domestic abuse contract

We recommend a review of the current contract. Despite evident hard work on the part of IDAS in the face of high demand, some elements of the original vision have not yet been delivered and it will be important for both commissioner and provider to consider the barriers and opportunities to this. Specifically, this review should include a consideration of how:

- A stronger pathway can be developed
- More specialist provision, especially in relation to mental health, work with children and cross-tenure housing advocacy might be levered into the current provision. This might include some relatively 'quick wins', e.g. :
 - Reconfiguring the staff team to recruit, train or second specialist staff, particularly in the areas of mental health (counselling) and children's workers.
 - Bringing in additional partners to the contract who can provide further capacity in the specialist areas: mental health, children's but also connecting with local BAME and LGBT communities.
 - Collocating the teams with specialist providers to build capacity within the IDAS team and vice versa. Co-location with Housing Options could have a number of benefits, including: improving access to [DASH](#) risk assessments, searching for refuge space if required, referring into MARAC and advocating with housing options staff for access to accommodation.
- Explore the potential – within the existing resource, or with additional resources – to develop the mobile advocacy offer outlined in the [WHA toolkit](#). This might involve

reconfiguring the current Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) team as a flexible outreach service with small caseloads operating under Housing First principles to provide a more flexible and intensive support offer as part of a more housing-led approach.

- The review should also look at performance monitoring within the contract and consider:
 - How best to capture some of the ‘softer’ outcomes, perhaps using the Women’s Aid/ Imkaan outcome framework¹ as a starting point for discussion
 - How to better track the flows of people into and out of the refuge in terms of their housing tenure, and how – in partnership with Housing Options, to track the profiles, barriers and destinations for those who are not successful in accessing a refuge place.

Ensure join-up between domestic abuse and homelessness/ supported housing

- Continue with plans to develop a women’s pathway within the Multiple and Complex Needs commissioned service, and ensure that specialist support in relation to domestic and other forms of gendered abuse are available to women and those supporting them.
- Ensure that there is training for staff in commissioned and non-commissioned supported housing on trauma-informed approaches to supporting victims/ survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse (including the issues for male survivors)
- Strengthen coordination between Housing Options and IDAS so that, when victims/ survivors of domestic abuse are placed in Temporary Accommodation, specialist domestic abuse support can be provided rapidly by IDVAs outreaching.

Bolster housing options as move-on from/ alternative to refuge

A number of actions should be considered to improve access to housing, including for those needing to move-on from the refuge. These measures should also be seen as resources to support a more ‘housing-led’ approach in which people are re-housed directly wherever possible and desirable, drawing in a range of supports as necessary. These might include:

- A flexible funding pot which could be used to offer loans to cover PRS deposits and requirements for 6 months’ rent upfront (which would be re-paid when UC payments are received), and to cover other expenses – household items, storage, costs of moving, etc
- A specialist Housing Advocacy post, working between Housing Options and IDAS who can provide cross-tenure housing advice to victims/ survivors and/or perpetrators. In addition to their expertise, the Housing Advocate could administer the flexible funding pot.
- A review of the provision of Sanctuary/ target hardening using the information in the [WHA toolkit](#), and set some criteria if these are not already in place.
- Regular case management of move-on progress of current refuge residents could help to focus, problem-solve and unblock, perhaps using a RAG-rated framework.

¹ See p.10 of https://www.dahalliance.org.uk/media/10650/4_-wha-refuge-services.pdf

- A stronger Private Rented Sector (PRS) procurement/ lease offer for survivors and their families, linking into the existing expertise and relationships within Housing Options.
- Acquisition of dispersed properties, perhaps making use of the government's Move On fund
- Building relationships with other social landlords, as well as Berneslai Homes to open up additional sources of properties, perhaps in different areas, since many of the other Registered Providers operating in Barnsley have stock across South Yorkshire.

Review the offer to children affected by domestic abuse

A clear message from our engagement is that a therapeutic offer for children and young people affected by current and past domestic abuse should be developed.

- Map what is currently provided and by whom in relation to both safety planning and recovery support (including processing feelings and experiences) for children and young people; and in relation to support for parents (whether for victim or perpetrator who has access to his/her children).
- Consider appointing children's IDVAs (ChIDVA) and/ or children and young people's IDVAs (CYPIDVA) to provide high-risk children and young people with specialist domestic abuse support and better coordinate resources across the IDAS contract and Children's Services.

Preventing Domestic Abuse/ Holding perpetrators to account and supporting them to change their behaviour

The draft strategy makes some sensible actions in relation to strengthening education in schools around healthy relationships, and there may be opportunities to pool resources or jointly commission programmes or materials in partnership with the other South Yorkshire local authorities, and use the existing Encompass structure of school representatives to cascade these. [Barnsley Sexual Abuse & Rape Crisis Services \(BSARCS\)](#) should be a key partner in this.

We believe there is great potential for at least elements of the [Dutch 'Orange House' model](#) in Barnsley, offering a suite of voluntary, community based, non-stigmatising education programmes, support and counselling. This model could potentially include a range of other programmes which relate to inter-family dynamics, for example:

- [Break4Change](#): a programme designed to help parents/carers and children who are involved in Child-to-Parent Abuse;
- Models to support couples living with dementia, e.g. Innovations in Dementia's [Getting Along](#). <https://vimeo.com/129230156>
- Family Group Conferencing
- Whole family approaches, such as the **Safe & Together™** model²

² Research in Practice (2021) Working with people who perpetrate domestic violence and abuse in families Strategic briefing.

This could and should link to the council's plans for communications and public awareness raising around domestic abuse, both practically and in terms of the ethos and messaging.

If additional funding is available, the Local Authority may wish to consider the provision of a 'crashpad' style offer which could be included in safety planning, for victims and/or perpetrators and which could act as an earlier intervention.

Ensure that perpetrators can also access housing advocacy, and a therapeutic offer since this is likely to be a key part of tertiary prevention, alongside the Criminal Justice pathway.

Ensuring a strong multi-agency response to Domestic Abuse

Whilst there is a high level of multi-agency commitment to the [Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences \(MARAC\)](#), there is also evidence of disconnect within parts of the system. The current system is somewhat precarious in that the impetus to integrate across agencies and departments rests solely with IDAS. Each agency is under huge pressure and there is a risk that this results in defensiveness.

Moving forwards, it will be key to ensure an effective structure for multi-agency governance, involving the right people. Whatever form this strategic governance takes, its functions should include:

- Holding the overarching vision for an integrated system (of which the IDAS contract is a part)
- Bringing together the key stakeholders in the overarching system
- Monitoring the performance of the whole system by:
 - Providing some analysis of the 'flows' of people coming into and out of the system. This may also include monitoring those coming into the area and being housed out of area.
 - Monitoring the effectiveness of the whole package of interventions. This may include reviewing whether the number of perpetrators being referred into the system matches the number of survivors, or even the number of housing interventions.
- Monitoring the relationship between this work and other elements, such as appropriate provision for women elsewhere in the homelessness system with multiple needs which cannot be met by the domestic abuse service (or the supported housing sector) alone.
- Making recommendations about the ongoing relevance of the current provision and flexing resources to meet emerging need/ demand.
- Bringing in additional funding commitments from, for example, health or social care, to enhance the offer where there are gaps
- Monitoring the overall costs, risk levels and impact of the whole system response.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**REPORT OF:** Executive Director, Place**TITLE:** Adoption of updated Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| REPORT TO: | CABINET |
| Date of Meeting | 27 June 2022 |
| Cabinet Member Portfolio | Place (Regeneration and Culture) |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Public or Private | Public |

Purpose of report

This report seeks authority to adopt updated versions of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's).

Council Plan priority

Sustainable Barnsley

Recommendations

That Cabinet:-

- 1. Refers the report to Full Council for approval to adopt the updated Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Local Plan, adopted on 3rd January 2019, contains policies to be considered when determining planning applications. Supplementary Planning Documents contain further advice and explain how these policies will be applied.
- 1.2 A number of Supplementary Planning Documents were adopted following the adoption of the Local Plan, including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's. Amendments are proposed to update the SPD's and clarify some issues to improve their implementation.

- 1.3 Public consultation was carried out for a period of five weeks between 29th November 2021 and 5th January, 2022. A total of 54 comments were received. 29 comments related to the Sustainable Travel SPD, 21 to the Affordable Housing SPD and 4 general comments about the process.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 It is proposed that the updated versions of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's are adopted.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 contains a summary of the comments made during consultation and how those comments have been taken into account. Appendices 2 and 3 contain the updated Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's respectively. Changes that were proposed from the adopted version are highlighted yellow. The changes proposed following consideration of consultation response are shown as struck through or red underlined text.
- 2.3 The changes proposed as a result on consultation are mostly for clarification.

2. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director – Finance (S151 Officer).

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report other than minimal costs associated with the adoption process which involves placing a public notice in the press. These minimal costs will be met from the existing planning budget. No Appendix A is therefore required.

3.2 Legal

Preparation, consultation and adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents is carried out in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)(England) Regulations 2012.

3.3 Equality

Full Equality Impact Assessment completed.

An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out to support the Local Plan. This concluded that all policies and proposals apply to all sectors of the community equally and that it makes provision for a range of housing types to meet differing needs such as affordable housing. A further assessment was carried out when the suite of SPD's was adopted in 2019. This recognised that the key impacts were around providing translation and interpretation assistance to those individuals that require it to help them understand the SPD's. An action for future consultation was to arrange targeted consultation such as face to face meetings with the equality forums as appropriate, relevant to the subject of the SPD. Due to the pandemic face to face

consultation was not carried out. The consultation documents were distributed to the Equality Forums.

3.4 Sustainability



As the minor changes to an existing SPD are the subject of this report, it is considered that in most instances the report has no impact. It is considered that a low positive impact is had on homes.

3.5 Employee

There are no employee implications arising from this report.

3.6 Communications

Communications support will be required to publicise the consultation through press releases and social media.

4. CONSULTATION

Public consultation was carried out for a period of five weeks between 29th November 2021 and 5th January, 2022.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 One alternative approach would be not to update the SPD's. The proposed changes provide useful updates and clarification. Therefore adoption of the amended versions is recommended.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The proposed updated SPD's contain helpful information and amendments that will provide clarity for service users.

7. GLOSSARY

SPD Supplementary Planning Document

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: Summary of consultation responses
Appendix 2: Updated Affordable Housing SPD
Appendix 3: Updated Sustainable Travel SPD
Appendix 4: Equalities Impact Assessment

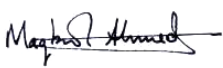
9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Current Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/15706/affordable-housing-spd.pdf>
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/15728/sustainable-travel-spd-adopted-2019.pdf>

Barnsley Local Plan <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/17249/local-plan-adopted.pdf>

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

10. REPORT SIGN OFF

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| Financial consultation & sign off | Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date  10/05/2022 <i>This box must be signed to confirm that there are no financial implications. Alternatively, a signed Appendix A outlining the financial implications is required.</i> |
| Legal consultation & sign off | Legal Services officer consulted and date Jason Field 25/05/22 |

Report Author: Paula Tweed
Post: Planning Policy Group Leader
Date: 9th May, 2022

Introduction

Public consultation took place on 2 updated Supplementary Planning Documents for a period of five weeks between 29th November 2021 and 5th January 2022. A total of 54 comments were received.

The Council adopted both documents on. The adopted documents are:

- Sustainable Travel SPD
- Affordable Housing SPD

Who we consulted

- Duty to Cooperate Bodies
- Bodies and organisations with a topic specific interest
- Developers and Agents active in the Borough
- Housing Associations active in the Borough
- Parish Councils
- Equality Forums

How we consulted

- Emails or letters sent to the above consultees
- Press advert in the Barnsley Chronicle
- Press Releases (including use of the Council's Facebook and Twitter Pages) and press coverage through the course of the consultation period.
- Documents were made available on the Council's website
- Documents were made available at Library@the Lightbox and Branch Libraries across the Borough (online and paper form)

Response to Consultation

The tables below set out the main issues raised during consultation. They summarise the main points and any key changes made to the documents as a result of comments received.

General/ overarching comments

| NUMBER OF COMMENTS: 4 | |
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| MAIN ISSUES RAISED | HOW THE ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED |
| No comments | N/A |
| Recommendation to extend consultation period as it ran over Christmas and New Year and the building industry closes down. | Government guidance is for a consultation period of four weeks for Supplementary Planning Documents. We had added an extra week as the consultation ran over Christmas and New Year. The changes proposed to the SPD's are considered to be minor, therefore we do not feel a further extension to the consultation period was required. |

| SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL SPD | |
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| This SPD seeks contributions to sustainable and active travel. The original was adopted in 2019. This version has been amended for clarity and to make it clear that it relates to all sustainable transport. | |
| Key changes made as a result of comments: | |
| NUMBER OF COMMENTS: 29 | |
| MAIN ISSUES RAISED | HOW THE ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED |
| General support for the proposals and the commitment to sustainable travel. | Support noted. |
| Thinks the following sentence is unclear and will weaken the strategy as drivers will argue they are penalised when carriageways and parking are reduced to accommodate public transport and cycling: <i>They should not, however, be used to penalise drivers or cut provision</i> | This was a supporting statement for clarification. As the preceding sentences set out what the SPD is for, this sentence can be removed. |

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| <p><i>for cars in a way that is unsustainable and could have negative impacts on the surrounding streets or road network (para 3.4)</i></p> <p>Considers that an effective strategy will focus on improving walking and cycling facilities and access for mobility vehicles (queries why these aren't mentioned) and other forms of transport for disabled people, in the process it will also discourage individual car and commercial vehicle use and this has to be acknowledged openly. We should also look to support the development of carbon-free transport solutions like PedalMe which transports passengers and goods using adapted cycles.</p> | <p>The document refers to all modes so it is felt that there is no need to differentiate.</p> |
| <p>Concern about reliance on behavioural change in paragraph 2.1</p> | <p>We consider it important to influence travel behaviour to ensure a more sustainable future. We would contend that there are examples of behaviour change such as the move towards the use of electric vehicles.</p> |
| <p><i>Policy T3 New Development and Sustainable Travel</i> <i>New development will be expected to:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Be located and designed to reduce the need to travel, ...</i> Considers that developments on the MU1 site are being promoted as commuter housing, totally at odds with this philosophy.</p> | <p>Policy T3 is a policy in the adopted Local Plan and cannot be changed through this SPD. Site MU1 is a mixed use allocation in the adopted Local Plan, which went through a rigorous examination process by an independent planning Inspector and was subject to public scrutiny.</p> |
| <p><i>4.12 Whilst the focus for active travel facilities is often on journeys to work, education and shopping, it is important to include access to green space and leisure routes, these should also include provision for running and be fully accessible. If there are traffic free routes, these should feel safe for users, and lit where appropriate.</i></p> <p>People can feel unsafe/be attacked even in trafficked neighbourhoods. What experience is there of successfully implemented and, just as important, utilised facilities of this type. The cost must include lighting and security CCTV.</p> | <p>The final version of the SPD will include a sentence recommended by the Police Architectural Liaison officer to ensure proposals are developed with 'Design to avoid crime' principles in mind. Issues such as the need for CCTV and layouts which give opportunities for natural surveillance etc. will be considered through these principles.</p> |
| <p><i>5.1 Contribution Formula</i> <i>.... This appendix will be amended periodically ...</i> Shouldn't this be qualified in some way (eg time or events) to reflect what may actually cause changes in values?</p> | <p>It is difficult to include a specific time period as it will depend on when there is a change in circumstances or updated evidence that will lead to amendments.</p> |

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| <p><i>5.2 For non-residential schemes contributions will be sought if identified as being necessary to deliver the modal shift targets identified in the travel plan.</i> This is under the “Dwellings”. Should it be under Employment, Speculative and Outline Applications?</p> | <p>5.2 to be deleted and the text used in bullet at 5.6. The heading will also be changed to “Non Residential” for clarity.</p> |
| <p><i>6.1 ... the emerging Transport Strategy.</i> Typo.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |
| <p><i>Rail Park and Ride • Expansion of existing or creation of new rail parking and ride sites, where feasible.</i> What about hospital park & ride?</p> | <p>The SPD gives general support to Park and Ride facilities. It is not appropriate for the SPD to include detail on specific proposals.</p> |
| <p><i>7. Potential Wider Benefits</i> <i>7.1 The Local Plan objectives seek to economic prosperity ...</i> Typo.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |
| <p><i>8. Electric Vehicle Charging Points</i> This proposal is all about 7kW supplies and takes no account of two important issues: 1. Newer vehicles are now capable of being charged at up to 250kW; 2. A common complaint is time to recharge, which explains why 1. above development has been pursued. Suggests household supplies can be kept at 7kW to minimise distribution cabling costs, but queries industrial and commercial locations. Queries whether energy stored in vehicle batteries being available to feed back into the grid should be covered. Raises concerns expressed by some fire brigades about the potential for very serious and hard-to-extinguish battery fires. Queries whether the SPD should deal with consideration of siting and spacing.</p> | <p>As of 15th June Electric Vehicle Charging and specifications will be covered by Building control Regulations Part S. Therefore the information in the SPD will be deleted and a cross reference added to the relevant Building Control documentation.</p> |
| <p><i>9. Planning Permission 9.1 ... Paragraph 110a states applications for development should give priority first to pedestrian and cycle movements, ...</i></p> | <p>Our view is that facilities have to be provided to encourage and facilitate travel by sustainable modes in line with Government policy and the emerging Transport Strategy. The safety of all road users will be taken into account in developments.</p> |


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| <p>View that provision of facilities doesn't automatically translate into increased cycle use. Considers if this is done at the expense of parking and free flow of traffic, it will cause friction Barnsley streets has limited capacity to cater for this sort of priority, particularly in the Town Centre.</p> | |
| <p><i>Travel Plan and Transport Assessment Process</i> Would like to see examples of this being implemented and shown to work.</p> | <p>The whole process is under development and more information will be available in the future once we have gone through the monitoring and reporting process.</p> |
| <p><i>9.8 DMRB will apply to all classified roads and MfS will apply to all other lower category of residential roads.</i> Not clear what DMRB and MfS are and why struck out.</p> | <p>Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) and Manual for Streets (MfS) are related to design issues and do not relate to the assessment process. Therefore, on reviewing the SPD we decided to remove as not relevant.</p> |
| <p><i>Measures to Promote Walking 1. Provision of direct convenient pedestrian routes to local facilities with high levels of natural surveillance (ideally more convenient to use than travel by car);</i> Queries how this be provided on routes between communities, eg between Town and Royston? Does it mean that all pedestrian routes will be lit, where not already covered by street lighting? See also the comment on 4.12.</p> | <p>This SPD will be applied to new development. It will seek some off site improvements where these are necessary and directly related to the development. The final version of the SPD will include a sentence recommended by the Police Architectural Liaison officer to ensure proposals are developed with 'Design to avoid crime' principles in mind. Issues such as the need for CCTV and layouts which give opportunities for natural surveillance etc. will be considered through these principles.</p> |
| <p><i>Measures to Promote Cycling 2. Where possible provision of convenient, segregated cycle paths to link to local cycle network (e.g. direct routes with high levels of natural surveillance, safer routes to school and work, routes to public transport hubs);</i> Thinks this may be feasible in new developments but in existing developments where there is not much room it may discourage use. See also comment on 9.1.</p> | <p>This SPD will be applied to new development</p> |
| <p><i>Monitoring of the Travel Plan</i> • <i>A full staff/occupier/residential survey questionnaire. Surveys should always be conducted at the same time each year for consistency;</i> Support for this point, starting with drivers of large cars and SUVs arriving at schools on the school run.</p> | <p>Surveys are undertaken to determine the mode split of all staff / occupiers and does not discriminate towards individuals personal choice of vehicle.</p> |

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| <p><i>12.10 These agreements are normally an essential means of implementing an agreed Travel Plan. In addition to specifying the agreed measures and targets, an agreement may include remedies in the event of any failure to deliver agreed measures. S106 agreements may provide for the following:</i></p> <p>Considers the aims of this policy laudable, but are subject to changing or encouraging behaviour, not rules and law. Queries whether they can they be translated into meaningful and measurable targets that the developer can really be held responsible for. Queries whether there are examples of this philosophy being applied.</p> | <p>There are examples of where Travel Plans have been secured across the borough.</p> |
| <p><i>Bottom of page 22, last set of boxes – cinema's</i> Typo.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |
| <p><i>Table 2 - Thresholds based on other Considerations</i> Column 5, headed TA/TP deleted, leaving entry 4 without a tick. What did TA/TP mean?</p> | <p>TA/TP stands for Transport Assessment and Travel Plan. Changes are proposed to present this information differently as a list of instances where a Transport Assessment will be required. This list will include item 4, as that should have had a cross in the column.</p> |
| <p><i>Residential Travel Plans Table 6</i> All text in BOLD. Should it be?</p> | <p>To be consistent with the other tables the text in columns 2 and 3 to be changed to normal font, not bold.</p> |
| <p><i>Appendix C.Methodology and calculations used to arrive at contribution figures.</i> Queries whether there are any actual examples of the theory being put to practical, measurable use.</p> | <p>In 2014 the Department for Communities and Local Government ("DCLG") published revised planning guidance introducing a new 10-unit threshold for Section 106 affordable housing and tariff-style contributions aimed at reducing planning costs for small scale and self-build development.</p> |
| <p>No specific comments but advises consideration of Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity enhancement, Landscape enhancement, NPPF design principles and Strategic Environmental Assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment.</p> | <p>Comment noted.</p> |
| <p>Request to add a paragraph with regard to the consideration and obvious benefits of building/developing any project to a recognised security standard such as 'Secured By Design'.</p> | <p>Sentence to be added at paragraph 9.8. Measures to design out crime should be considered at an early stage of the design process. Development should take account of the guidance within the Secured by Design website. Please see link below:</p> |

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| | http://securedbydesign.com/industry-advice-and-guides/ |
| No specific comments. Recommends that the Council reviews the paragraph references to the NPPF to ensure consistency with the most recent 2021 version. | Comment noted. |
| <p>Sustainable Travel</p> <p>5.1 and 5.2 – In accordance with the CIL Regulations Section 106 contributions to transport can only be sought where it is evidenced that the development proposed would result in an unacceptable impact on the transport network, and that a contribution is necessary to enable the development to go ahead.</p> | CIL regulations relate to whether section 106 obligations can be taken into account in the grant of planning permission. Obligations should be necessary, directly related to the development and fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind. The approach in this SPD meets those tests but if there are individual cases where the approach doesn't fit the particular factual circumstances of that development para 5.5 permits the developer to suggest an alternative approach. |
| Section 6 – this gives a general list of items the contributions would be spent on which does not relate to the specific development and therefore does not comply with the CIL/Section 106 regulations. | The list gives examples of what could be sought if relevant to the particular development. |
| 8.1 – It is not clear on what basis or evidence the figures/percentages given have been proposed. | As of 15 th June Electric Vehicle Charging and specifications will be covered by Building control Regulations Part S. Therefore the information in the SPD will be deleted and a cross reference added to the relevant Building Control documentation. |
| Appendix A Table 2 Page 23 – Considers that this adds unnecessary complexity to the process, and is not clear what it means. It will not be possible to know whether a development hits these thresholds until the TS work has been undertaken and the Highway Authority etc have commented on the proposed scheme. Is this table providing additional thresholds for a Travel Plan or specifying when a TS or TA is required? Point 4 in table 2 doesn't have a cross in either column. | <p>TA/TP stands for Transport Assessment and Travel Plan. Changes are proposed to present this information differently as a list of instances where a Transport Assessment will be required. This list will include item 4, as that should have had a cross in the column.</p> <p>Table 2 is a copy of the requirements from DfT Guidance on Transport Assessments. Although now withdrawn, it is still widely used with highways and transportation as the baseline from which to consider assessment forms.</p> |
| Appendix B -should state where relevant. | Paragraph 10.4 states " <i>Table 3 in Appendix B sets out the appropriate headings a Travel Plan should have alongside an indication of what each section should include and an expanded version of this table is set out in Table 4. Individual developments will</i> |

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| | <p>however have their own characteristics which may merit a variation on Travel Plan content, therefore this checklist should be used as a starting point in the preparation of all Travel Plans.” We consider this makes it clear that this is a list of key headings and content that a travel plan should include and is to be used as a starting point. Therefore we don’t think the addition of ‘where relevant’ is necessary.</p> |
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| <p>AFFORDABLE HOUSING SPD Key Changes from previous version: The original was adopted in 2019. Change to Affordable Housing tenure split based on updated evidence in the SHMA 2021. Reference added to First Homes. Key Changes made as a result of comments:</p> | |
| <p>NUMBER OF COMMENTS: 21</p> | |
| <p>MAIN ISSUES RAISED</p> | <p>HOW THE ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED</p> |
| <p>Queries how a developer is expected to make savings to reduce the price by 20% when paragraph 7.3 expects affordable homes to be <i>“indistinguishable from the open market housing in terms of style, quality of specification, finish and materials. They should also be indistinguishable in their external layout...”</i></p> | <p>Delivering sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities is an important planning objective. Developers are aware of planning policy requirements and factor these into their costings. Where developers have issues on a site, they will usually submit a viability assessment and seek to negotiate with the local planning authority. Seeking affordable housing of an appropriate quality and standard is not something that is particular to Barnsley, all local planning authorities adopt this approach.</p> |
| <p>Paragraph 7.3 refers to South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide and asks if it is the 2011 document and does section N3 Local resources, energy and carbon dioxide reduction align with the Council’s Zero45 ambitions.</p> | <p>Yes, the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide currently in use is dated 2011. The Council uses this document as best practice, it has not adopted it in its entirety as a Supplementary Planning Document. It is recognised that this document requires updating in some areas. Work will begin shortly to scope out what sections need to be reviewed.</p> |
| <p>Queries why the sentence at paragraph 7.3 was deleted that read <i>“This will be equivalent to the cost of on-site provision taking into account the fact that there will be a corresponding increase in the market housing on the application site.”</i></p> | <p>Cannot find sentence referred to in current version that is adopted. https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/15706/affordable-housing-spd.pdf</p> |

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| No specific comments. Consider whether Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitats Regulations Assessment is required. | Noted. SEA/HRA not required in this instance. |
| Request to add a paragraph regarding the consideration and obvious benefits of building/developing any project to a recognised security standard such as 'Secured By Design'. | Text to be added at Para 7.2; '...Measures to design out crime should be considered at an early stage of the design process. Development should take account of the guidance within the Secured by Design website. Please see link below: http://securedbydesign.com/industry-advice-and-guides/ |
| Notes reference to First Homes, and will work with the Council as appropriate on future consultations and/or a technical note as appropriate. | Noted, future liaison welcomed. |
| <p>Raises concerns that the 2021 SHMA is not robust and defensible evidence. Considers that it fails the tests of soundness since it is not:</p> <p>Justified – because the evidence base is flawed and does not canvass views of the housing industry,</p> <p>Effective – because it will not identify the full need for affordable housing, nor does it consider all types of housing (such as Executive), and</p> <p>Consistent with national policy – because it deviates from the source data suggested by national policy.</p> <p> P21_3200_R001.SH MA.Dec21.pdf</p> | <p>SHMA's are studies that are meant to be reasonable and proportionate. Arc 4 has a wealth of experience in undertaking SHMA's that are regularly tested at Public Examination. The development industry usually appreciates the approach adopted by Arc 4.</p> <p>In undertaking our SHMA national guidance has been followed. Arc 4 use a standard methodology which is regularly updated based on latest guidance and best practice. Stakeholder consultation has been carried out. As with all consultations we cannot guarantee everyone consulted will respond. Arc 4 is unable to release information to the Council on who responded and who didn't due to GDPR.</p> <p>On affordable housing need, the report presents the position based on evidence at the time of the update. Whilst there is evidence of a shortfall, the Council is working towards meeting the need.</p> <p>Executive Housing is not a PPG objective, the guidance does not ask us to look at specific needs for all specific needs groups.</p> <p>The evidence in the SHMA highlights need for larger market housing dwellings. It is a reasonable assumption that some of those homes could be considered executive housing, However, there is no defined planning definition.</p> |

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| <p>Whilst the Affordable Housing SPD does not seek to amend the Council's current affordable housing policy it does refer and provide weight to the evidence provided within the 2021 SHMA. Makes the point that SPDs are only able to add further detail to plan policies they cannot create new policy. Raises concerns about the reference to the SHMA in paragraph 3.2, and when determining type and tenure.</p> <p>The SPD also refers to a separate 'technical note' in relation to First Homes (para. 2.11). This should be included within this Affordable Housing SPD to ensure that a consistent approach is applied.</p> | <p>Our view is that the SHMA is a legitimate piece of evidence and it makes sense to use the latest evidence base to inform planning decisions. The example of paragraph 3.2 is not considered to be making new policy. We are aligning the SPD with new guidance, not creating new local policy. Paragraph 8.5 of the Affordable Housing SPD adopted in 2019 states "<i>The Council will also take account of future evidence and up-to-date information, therefore Table 1 may be subject to amendment.</i>"</p> |
| <p>The SPD also refers to a separate 'technical note' in relation to First Homes (para. 2.11). This should be included within this Affordable Housing SPD to ensure that a consistent approach is applied</p> | <p>Following First Homes coming into effect in December 2021 in the borough, the tenure split table in the SPD is to be amended so the affordable home ownership is split to reflect the 25% of total affordable provision being First Homes. This does not change the split between affordable rent and affordable home ownership as recommended in the SHMA.</p> <p>It is intended that the forthcoming technical note will remain separate. The note will set out the process and technical requirements, which may be subject to change and require updating regularly. A separate note can be more easily updated than the SPD itself.</p> |
| <p>2.10 - The SPD appears to disregard Starter Homes and Discounted Market Sales from the Council's definition of affordable housing despite these forming part of the NPPF definition. Considers the delivery of these types should be recognised as part of affordable housing delivery in Barnsley.</p> | <p>We acknowledge this point. A reference is included in the early paragraphs of the SPD. However, Government never ratified these measures in terms of providing technical guidance around eligibility. As guidance on First Homes has now been provided we are focussing on those. Focussing on all affordable home products would risk delivery of shared ownership, which the SHMA identifies a need for.</p> |
| <p>2.11 – The information to be provided in an 'additional technical note' should form part of this SPD as an appendix and not follow later.</p> | <p>It is intended that the forthcoming technical note will remain separate. The note will set out the process and technical requirements, which may be subject to change and require updating regularly. A separate note can be more easily updated than the SPD itself.</p> |

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| <p>4.2 suggests that schemes for self-build and custom build homes may not have to provide affordable housing. This is welcomed as these types of housing for self-builders are encouraged by national planning policy and are significantly in demand. It is not clear however what is meant in 4.2 by these types of development being 'genuinely and demonstrably 'not for profit'. How can this be demonstrated? Is the landowner supposed to give away the plots for self-build/custom build housing? What if the houses are subsequently sold by the self-builders? Considers this paragraph unhelpful</p> | <p>Self build and custom build developments by their nature are unlikely to meet the threshold of 15 dwelling or more in Local Plan policy H7 on affordable housing, and therefore there would be no requirement to provide affordable housing. Paragraph 4.2 will be removed.</p> |
| <p>Section 5 indicates that the Council will expect an Affordable Housing Statement to be submitted in order to make a 15+ dwelling scheme valid. It is noted that this is included on the Local list of Validation Requirements and therefore can be required as part of a valid application. It should be acknowledged in the SPD however that the full details of the delivery of the affordable housing (such as the RSL) will not necessarily be available at the time a planning application is submitted (particularly where this is an outline application).</p> | <p>We appreciate that all information may not be available at the time of submitting a planning application. Paragraph 5.2 sets out our expectations, where information is not available we can agree for this to be provided at a later date.</p> |
| <p>9.1 – the paragraph about rounding up/down does not read correctly. It should be made clear that a number less than 0.5 will be rounded down, and 0.5 and above will be rounded up (if that's the case).</p> | <p>Sentence to be added to clarify 0.5 and above rounded up.</p> |
| <p>10.1 – bullet point 2 “No registered provider of off-site provision or a commuted sum is willing to purchase the affordable unit(s)”; does not read correctly: 'or a commuted sum' should be deleted.</p> | <p>Text to be amended as suggested “<i>or a commuted sum</i>” will be deleted.</p> |
| <p>10.3 states “The Council will not consider granting planning permission for a proposal with less than the required proportion of affordable housing without reviewing the financial viability of the proposal”. Contends that the Council cannot refuse to consider a valid planning application. There could be circumstances where the balance of planning issues means that a scheme is considered to be acceptable despite the absence of affordable housing. Could a development of elderly persons or fully accessible homes for persons</p> | <p>We don't think it is unreasonable to review the financial information relating to the viability of a scheme where affordable housing contributions are not being proposed in line with Local Plan policy H7. An Affordable Housing Statement is required for developments of 15 units or more, in order for the application to be validated. With regard to the examples given, there are likely to be few instances where those types of development were of a scale that would meet the threshold of Local Plan policy H7.</p> |

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| with disabilities be exempt from affordable housing provision if it can be demonstrated that it is meeting an evidenced housing need? | |
| 11.1 – the opportunity to provide serviced plots instead of affordable housing is welcomed. However, it is not clear in 11.1 how the equivalent level of contribution would be calculated or how this option would be dealt with in the event of an outline application. | The monetary value of the number of affordable units would be the starting point, and then the land value would be calculated. It would be similar to how a commuted sum is calculated. This would be dealt with either through a section 106 or it could be conditioned on an outline application. |
| 13.5 – It is not clear which party/what this paragraph refers to. | This paragraph intends to ensure that any recycled money from the sale of affordable housing is spent within the borough. An introductory sentence will be added to clarify. |
| 15.1 – Should state that the drafting of any necessary Section 106 agreement will commence as soon as possible during the course of a planning application and not wait until a resolution to grant is achieved. Bullet points at the top of page 14 should state ‘should cover the following where applicable’ as they won’t all be relevant in each case. | The text in paragraph 15.1 does state that “ <i>the Council aims to expedite negotiations in a timely manner to avoid unnecessary delay in the planning process.</i> ” We consider that this text will suffice, it is not practical to draft a Section 106 too early in the process. “ <i>Where applicable</i> ” will be added at the top of the bulleted list. It will be removed from the fifth bullet point. |
| 16 – Needs to be updated to reflect the NPPF 2021. | Noted. |
| Appendix 1 – Does not appear to be examples of Affordable Housing Statements (in terms of the requirements set out at Section 5) | Noted, this appendix will be deleted. |

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Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

1. About this guidance

- 1.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) indicates that Local Development Documents form the framework for making decisions on applications for planning permission. Decisions have to be taken in accordance with the development plan unless other material considerations indicate otherwise. NPPF advises that a local planning authority may prepare Supplementary Planning Documents to provide greater detail on the policies in its Local Plan. Supplementary Planning Documents are a 'material' consideration when planning applications are decided.
- 1.2** As required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 we have prepared a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which sets out how we will involve the community in preparing our Local Plan and consulting on planning applications. In accordance with the SCI we have involved people who may be interested in this Supplementary Planning Document and asked them for their comments. We have produced a consultation statement which summarises all the comments people made to us and our response. This is available on request.

2. Introduction

- 2.1** This Supplementary Planning Document offers guidance on planning contributions for affordable housing.

Local Needs

- 2.2** Some people cannot afford to buy or rent houses that are generally available on the open market. The Council aims to provide homes for everyone in the borough, no matter what their income and the cost of buying or renting a house.
- 2.3** The main source of information on local housing needs is taken from the 2021 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).
- 2.4** The 2021 SHMA identifies an annual net shortfall of 190 affordable dwellings.
- 2.5** The Local Plan seeks to achieve at least 21,546 net additional homes during the plan period 2014-2033. This equates to 1,134 net additional homes per annum. The Local Plan housing growth target seeks to meet the need for market and affordable housing in full, including the backlog from previous years.
- 2.6** The Council's housing waiting list for the whole borough, as of 1st June 2022, is 8,978¹.

¹ This may include an element of double counting as customers can choose to be on the waiting list for more than one housing management area.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.7** In accordance with the NPPF (paragraph 62), where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required and expect it to be met on-site unless:
- a. Off-site provision or an appropriate financial contribution in lieu can be robustly justified; and
 - b. The agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities.
- 2.8** Where major development² involving the provision of housing is proposed, planning policies and decisions should expect at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership, unless this would exceed the level of affordable housing required in the area, or significantly prejudice the ability to meet the identified affordable housing needs of specific groups.

Defining Affordable Housing

- 2.9** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) defines affordable housing as:

'Housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers)'

- 2.10** Annex 2 of the NPPF provides the following definitions of affordable housing. It is acknowledged that the NPPF definition of affordable housing includes starter homes and discounted market sales housing, however this has not been ratified by government and regulations have not been published.

Affordable housing for rent – meets all of the following conditions:

- a. The rent is set in accordance with the Government's rent policy for Social Rent or Affordable Rent, or is at least 20% below local market rents (including service charges);
- b. The landlord is a registered provider, except where it is included as part of a Build to Rent scheme;
- c. It includes provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households, or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.

For Build to Rent schemes affordable housing for rent is expected to be the normal form of affordable housing provision otherwise known as 'Affordable Private Rent'.

Starter homes³ – are expected to be well designed and suitable to purchase for qualifying first time buyers that are at least 23 years old but have not yet reached 40 years old.

² For housing where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

The new dwelling should be sold at a discount of at least 20% of the market value up to the price cap of £250,000.

Discounted market sales housing – are dwellings sold at a discount of at least 20% below local market value. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Provisions should be in place to ensure housing remains at a discount for future eligible households.

Other affordable routes to home ownership – is housing provided for sale that provides a route to ownership for those who could not achieve home ownership through the market. It includes:

- Shared ownership
- Relevant equity loans
- Other low cost homes for sale (at a price that is 20% below local market value)
- Rent to buy (which includes a period of intermediate rent)

Where public grant funding is provided, there should be provisions for the homes to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households, or for any receipts to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision, or refunded to Government or the relevant authority specified in the funding agreement.

2.11 In May 2021 the Government announced a new kind of discounted market sale housing, First Homes, which is now the Government's preferred discounted market tenure. Subject to a transition period from 28th June 2021 First Homes are required to account for at least 25% of all affordable housing units delivered. The Council will publish a separate technical note detailing the minimum discount(s), local eligibility criteria and restrictions on the initial sale and subsequent resales.

³ as per the definition and restrictions set out in the Housing and Planning Act

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

3. Policy

3.1 This guidance supplements Local Plan policy H7 Affordable Housing which states as follows:

Policy H7 Affordable Housing

Housing developments of 15 or more dwellings will be expected to provide affordable housing.

30% affordable housing will be expected in Penistone and Dodworth and Rural West, 20% in Darton and Barugh; 10% in Bolton, Goldthorpe, Thurnscoe, Hoyland, Wombwell, Darfield, North Barnsley and Royston, South Barnsley and Worsbrough and Rural East

These percentages will be sought unless it can be demonstrated through a viability assessment that the required figure would render the scheme unviable.

The developer must show that arrangements have been put in place to keep the new homes affordable.

Limited affordable housing to meet community needs may be allowed on the edge of villages.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

3.2 Supporting text paragraph 9.29 states:

"We recognise the importance of providing affordable homes in rural settlements that are constrained by or washed over by Green Belt. Policy H7 makes provision for rural exception sites to be considered. These may in some instances be on the edge of the settlement. Sites on the edge of settlements will need to provide acceptable mitigation of their impact on the countryside or they will not be considered to be acceptable locations for residential development We will require a planning obligation to make sure the homes remain affordable. If provision of some market housing is necessary to make the affordable housing viable, this would be considered and would be subject to an open book viability appraisal. "

When negotiating the level of affordable housing provision on site, the Council will take account of the most recent evidence, such as the SHMA and any subsequent updates or other relevant and recent information.

Where a site is to be split and delivered in phases, the affordable housing contribution will be calculated for the whole site.

4. Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing

- 4.1** In line with the NPPF, we encourage the delivery of self-build and custom-build developments in Barnsley. In general most of these projects are suited to smaller development sites. In Barnsley the threshold for seeking affordable housing contributions is 15 dwellings, therefore it is unlikely that self build and custom build developments will reach this threshold. For self-build and custom-build developments of 15 or more properties anywhere in the Borough 10% of the houses must be available for affordable home ownership and this will be secured via Section 106 planning obligations.
- 4.2** ~~In order to avoid the full affordable housing contributions set out in Policy H7, the Council will need to be satisfied that the self-build and/or custom-build development model is genuinely and demonstrably 'not for profit' and this will require developers to fully engage in transparent open book accounting with the Council during the planning application process.~~

5. Affordable Housing Statements

- 5.1** For applications which meet or exceed the 15 unit threshold, the Council will expect applicants to submit an Affordable Housing Statement setting out how they propose to deal with affordable housing before an application is validated. Developers will need to submit an Affordable Housing Statement for a:
- Full planning application.
 - Material alteration that changes the number and/or type of housing.
- 5.2** Affordable Housing Statements will be expected to contain:
- The total number of residential units proposed.
 - Schedule containing the number, type, tenure, floor area and plot number/location of affordable homes.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

- Site plan identifying affordable plots.
- Details of any Registered Provider acting as a partner in the development.
- The timing for the construction of the affordable housing and its phasing in relation to the occupancy of the market housing.
- Evidence of existing local market rent and/or sales values.
- The arrangements to ensure that such provision is affordable for both first and future occupiers of the affordable housing or, if not possible, for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.
- Proposed transfer value (if available).

5.3 The National Planning Policy Framework states at paragraph 57 that:

"Where up-to-date policies have set out the contributions expected from development, planning applications that comply with them should be assumed to be viable. It is up to the applicant to demonstrate whether particular circumstances justify the need for a viability assessment at the application stage. The weight to be given to a viability assessment is a matter for the decision maker, having regard to all the circumstances in the case, including whether the plan and the viability evidence underpinning it is up to date, and any change in site circumstances since the plan was brought into force...." Viability was tested at Local Plan examination and therefore should not be tested again. Should a developer seek to justify affordable housing provision below the Council's requirements, the onus will be on the developer to justify what circumstances have changed and submit sufficient evidence. Any viability appraisal should be carried out in accordance with the approach set out in the latest National Planning Practice Guidance.⁴ The Council will recover costs associated with a viability review, and this will be agreed in writing prior to commissioning a viability review.

The Planning Practice Guidance on viability identifies a developer profit range of 15% - 20%, which the Council deems reasonable.

6. Engagement with Registered Providers

- 6.1** Affordable housing will usually be provided on-site and transferred to a Registered Provider. If practicable, negotiations with a Registered Provider should begin well in advance of when a planning application is submitted. This will enable the Council to complete the S106 agreement promptly and determine the application within the necessary timescales. Developers should also continue to involve the Council's **Strategic Housing, Sustainability and Climate Change Team** at an early stage and should refer to any Neighbourhood Plan that may have been prepared for the area.
- 6.2** The Council has a list of Registered Providers that usually work in the Borough and have signed up to our Registered Provider Framework and Nominations Agreement (available upon request). It should be noted that Berneslai Homes is the Council's Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO) and will work with developers to deliver new affordable housing. Berneslai Homes, as a Registered Provider, should be approached alongside other Registered Providers prior to submitting a planning application.

⁴ Paragraphs 010 to 019 NPPG July 2018

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7. Design Requirements

- 7.1** It is important to consider affordable housing from the inception of a design concept. The requirement for affordable housing could significantly alter the design of a scheme depending on the percentage of affordable housing and the size, type and tenure required.
- 7.2** The Council expects affordable housing to be built to a high standard of design and be in-keeping with housing on the rest of the site. In the interests of delivering sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, the affordable homes should be indistinguishable from the open market housing in terms of style, quality of specification, finish and materials. They should also be indistinguishable in their external layout, including the balance of soft and hard landscaping where front of dwelling parking is proposed. This will help ensure transfer of housing to a Registered Provider. Measures to design out crime should be considered at an early stage of the design process. Development should take account of the guidance within the Secured by Design website. Please see link below: <http://securedbydesign.com/industry-advice-and-guides/>
- 7.3** Whilst buyers of market housing may upsize when they outgrow a property, affordable housing generally has to accommodate larger households for longer periods of time. As such new affordable housing will be expected to meet the minimum internal and external floorspace requirements set out in Design of Housing SPD. **All developments should achieve the internal spacing standards set out in the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide –Technical Requirements section 4A.2, (p130-131).**
- 7.4** Government Guidance states that, in the interest of creating mixed and balanced communities, affordable housing should be provided on-site and integrated with market housing wherever possible.
- 7.5** The Council will not support the grouping of affordable units together in large numbers as this can reinforce the feelings of social exclusion and can have a negative impact on the establishment of sustainable communities. Smaller clusters of affordable housing should be dispersed throughout a housing development to aid integration rather than congregated in specific areas such as at the end of cul-de-sacs.

8. Type and Tenure of Affordable Housing

- 8.1** The various types of affordable housing that can be provided in accordance with the implementation of Policy H7 are identified in the NPPF definition of affordable housing. The Council will seek to negotiate the type of housing preferred which will vary from site to site according to local circumstances. This will be determined, in discussion with the applicant at pre-application and planning application stage, by consideration of a combination of information including:
- Local housing needs studies (latest SHMA)
 - Waiting list/Choice Based Lettings data
 - Availability and type of existing stock
 - Local housing market data

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

- 8.2** The Council will generally expect to see a mix of affordable property types that could include; 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses along with 2+ bedroom level access accommodation/bungalows and 1/2 bedroom flats⁵⁶.
- 8.3** Based on our current housing needs evidence base and the NPPF's requirement to deliver 10% affordable homes for ownership (where it would not undermine the ability to address local affordable housing needs), the Council will require the following tenure split. Reference to SHMA update removed.

Table 1: Affordable Homes - Tenure Split ⁷

| Area | Local Plan Policy Requirement | Affordable Housing Tenure Split |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Penistone and Dodworth | 30% | 70% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 30% affordable home ownership |
| Rural West | 30% | 70% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 30% affordable home ownership |
| Darton and Barugh | 20% | 70% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 30% affordable home ownership |
| Bolton, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe | 10% | 60% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 40% affordable home ownership |
| Hoyland, Wombwell and Darfield | 10% | 60% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 40% affordable home ownership |
| North Barnsley and Royston | 10% | 60% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 40% affordable home ownership |
| South Barnsley and Worsbrough | 10% | 60% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 40% affordable home ownership |
| Rural East | 10% | 60% affordable homes for rent |
| | | 40% affordable home ownership |

⁵ This list is not exhaustive.

⁶ Appropriateness of flats/ individual house types will be determined on a site by site basis.

⁷ Table 1 updated in line with Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2021. These reflect the requirement in paragraph 64 of NPPF 2019 that 10% of overall total affordable housing provision on a site should be available for affordable home ownership.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

- 8.4** Evidence in the 2020 2021SHMA suggests that the overall tenure split should remain weighted towards affordable rent across the borough. We aim to achieve the affordable housing delivery target through on-site provision across the whole of the Borough, however the mix of affordable tenures on each individual site will be agreed with the developer depending on local circumstances. Notwithstanding this position, in order to facilitate development, and to ensure that a mix of different housing types and tenures is available both in specific localities and across the borough, the Council will consider proposals for different types of properties, as well as homes for sale and affordable rented units and any emerging hybrid models where this is supported by evidence of local need or development viability.
- 8.5** The Council will also take account of future evidence and up-to-date information, therefore Table 1 may be subject to amendment.

9. Calculating Affordable Housing

- 9.1** Where the percentage of affordable housing sought does not give rise to an exact number of dwellings e.g. 2.5 units, the number will be rounded up to 3 units whereas 2.4 would be rounded down to 2 units. Figures of 0.5 and above will be rounded up.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

10. Indirect Delivery of Affordable Homes

10.1 In the interest of creating mixed and balanced communities, and in line with paragraph 62 of the NPPF, the Council will expect affordable housing to be delivered on-site. Discussions regarding alternative delivery will take place in exceptional circumstances. These circumstances exist where:

- An independent viability assessment confirms delivery on-site is not viable;
- No registered provider of off-site provision or a commuted sum is willing to purchase the affordable unit(s); or
- Delivery of off-site or a commuted sum would deliver more sustainable development and/or more affordable units.

10.2 The Council will consider the following alternatives:

- Transfer of free serviced land.
- Off-site provision.
- Commuted sum.

10.3 The Council will not consider granting planning permission for a proposal with less than the required proportion of affordable housing without reviewing the financial viability of the proposal.

11. Transfer of Free Serviced Land

11.1 An alternative option is to transfer free serviced land, equivalent to the level of contribution secured, to a Registered Provider or the Council to enable them to deliver affordable housing within the site.

11.2 Free serviced land is defined as cleared, remediated land with all services (e.g. gas, electricity, water, sewerage, telephone, broadband, lighting etc) and infrastructure (e.g. roads to an adoptable standard, footpaths, boundary walls etc) necessary for development right up to the edge of the land. There must be no legal, physical or financial barriers to the servicing of the land by the developer constructing the affordable housing.

11.3 For full or reserved matters applications, developers will be expected to provide details of the specific location of the serviced plots within the site in the form of a block plan. The Council will usually expect the plots to be clustered. The appropriateness of proposed locations for affordable housing will be determined in consultation with the Council as part of the planning process taking into consideration the Council's strategic priorities.

12. Off-site provision

12.1 Where a developer can robustly justify that on-site provision or the transfer of land to a Registered Provider is not appropriate, or where on-site provision would not meet the Council's strategic priorities, off-site provision will be considered by the Council.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

12.2 Examples of robust justification, although not exclusive, include provision that will contribute to other policy objectives, for example enabling empty homes to be brought back into use or where the development location is unsuitable for affordable housing. Applicants will be required to provide evidence-based reasons to demonstrate that:

- The original housing site is in an area where there is little or no local need for affordable housing; and
- There is an identified local need for affordable housing in the area where the alternative affordable units are proposed; or
- There is other reasoning and justification for off-site provision.

12.3 Off-site provision can include improvements to, or refurbishments of, existing stock, or new provision on alternative parcels of land. Improvements to, or refurbishments of, existing or acquired stock must be to a level which meets the Barnsley Homes Standard and must provide the same number of units or units to the value of those which would have been provided on the original site.

13. Commuted Sum

13.1 Where the applicant can robustly justify that on-site provision is not appropriate or where this would not meet the Council's strategic priorities, the affordable housing contribution can take the form of a commuted sum. This will be equivalent to the cost of on-site provision.

13.2 A mix of the above (part on-site provision, part off-site provision and part commuted sum), will be considered by the Council where this can be robustly justified by the developer and is in line with the Council's strategic priorities. For example on larger sites or where the development of specialist homes are proposed to be included in the affordable housing requirement for the site and/or where there is a need to use commuted sums to bring back long-term empty properties into use for affordable housing in the borough. However, this must still meet the overall affordable housing contribution level required by this policy.

13.3 Commuted sums will be secured via a Section 106 agreement.

13.4 A formula will be applied to agree a commuted sum based on the Open Market Value ("OMV") of dwellings less the Transfer Values and agreed developer profit. Transfer Values are:

- 50% of OMV for Affordable Home Ownership Properties
- 50% of OMV for Affordable Homes for Rent

Open Market Value – Transfer Values - the agreed developer profit = commuted sum

Committed sums will be used to deliver affordable housing activity within the wider borough and improve or make more effective use of the existing housing stock for affordable housing purposes.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

- 13.5** To ensure that any recycled money from the sale of affordable housing is spent within the borough, any sums received from receipts from the sale of affordable homes or the repayment of equity loans will be used for the alternative future provision of affordable housing in the Borough in Barnsley.

14. Transfer Values

- 14.1** Data collected from Land Registry transactions from 2017 and 2018 indicate that affordable properties were transferred at 51% of Open Market Value (OMV).
- 14.2** The indicative transfer values below are a starting point for negotiations and are included to provide clarity to developers on the amount they may expect to receive from a Registered Provider:

Table 2: Transfer Values⁸

| Tenure | Percentage of Open Market Value |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Affordable homes for rent | 50% |
| Affordable home ownership | 50% |

- 14.3** Changes in rent setting and other national affordable housing policies may impact on the ability of some Registered Providers to achieve transfer values similar to these percentages and on their overall capacity to acquire S106 properties.
- 14.4** The indicative transfer values will be used to calculate the commuted sum should it not be possible to reach an agreement with a Registered Provider.
- 14.5** These values will be updated periodically through the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report to ensure they remain relevant and responsive to the current policy climate and market conditions.

15. Section 106 Agreements

- 15.1** Where affordable housing will be delivered off-site or as a commuted sum, the Council prefers to use S106 agreements to secure this provision. The Council aims to expedite negotiations on S106 agreements in a timely manner to avoid unnecessary delay in the planning process.

⁸ To be agreed with developer based on the most recent quarter's verifiable publicly available data e.g. Land Registry price paid data for postcode sector.

Supplementary Planning Document: Affordable Housing

S106 agreements and unilateral undertakings should cover the following where applicable:

- How completed dwellings or land are to be transferred to an approved development partner, including costs and phasing of handover;
- How the occupancy of the affordable housing is to be preserved for people in housing need;
- The number, size and tenure of affordable housing or the area of land to be made available; or the level of financial contribution if it is to be provided off-site (commuted sum);
- A restriction requiring that no more than a specific proportion of the site will be sold or occupied before the affordable housing has been contractually secured;
- ~~Where applicable, t~~he means of restricting 'stair casing' to full ownership on grant-funded low-cost home ownership properties;
- How dwellings, completed as affordable units, are retained as such to benefit future occupants;
- The level and timing of payment of any commuted sum.

16. Vacant Building Credit

The Council supports the re-use of brownfield land, and where vacant buildings are being re-used or redeveloped, the Council will allow a proportionate reduction in the affordable housing contribution in line with Paragraph 63 64 of the NPPF.⁹ This does not apply to vacant buildings which have been abandoned as set out in footnote 30 associated with paragraph 63 64 of the NPPF.

⁹ Proportionate amount equivalent to the existing gross floorspace of the existing buildings. This does not apply to vacant buildings which have been abandoned.

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Appendix 1. Affordable Housing Statement Examples

Below are some worked examples of the on-site affordable housing ask for each policy area (30%, 20% and 10%).

| Example 1 | |
|---|--------------|
| Site Location | Penistone |
| Planning Application Yield | 40 dwellings |
| Local Plan Policy Requirement | 30% |
| Number of affordable units required on-site | 12 |
| Affordable rent (20%) | 8 |
| Affordable home ownership (10%) | 4 |

| Example 2 | |
|---|---------------|
| Site Location | Darton |
| Planning Application Yield | 100 dwellings |
| Local Plan Policy Requirement | 20% |
| Number of affordable units required on-site | 20 |
| Affordable rent (14%) | 14 |
| Affordable home ownership (6%) | 6 |

| Example 3 | |
|---|--------------|
| Site Location | Royston |
| Planning Application Yield | 58 dwellings |
| Local Plan Policy Requirement | 10% |
| Number of affordable units required on-site | 6 |
| Affordable rent (6%) | 4 |
| Affordable home ownership (4%) | 2 |

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Supplementary Planning Document: Sustainable Travel

1. About this guidance

- 1.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) indicates that Local Development Documents form the framework for making decisions on applications for planning permission. Decisions have to be taken in accordance with the development plan unless other material considerations indicate otherwise. NPPF advises that a local planning authority may prepare Supplementary Planning Documents to provide greater detail on the policies in its Local Plan. Supplementary Planning Documents are a 'material' consideration when planning applications are decided.
- 1.2** As required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 we have prepared a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which sets out how we will involve the community in preparing our Local Plan and consulting on planning applications. In accordance with the SCI we have involved people who may be interested in this Supplementary Planning Document and asked them for their comments. We have produced a consultation statement which summarises all the comments people made to us and our response. This is available on request.

2. Introduction

- 2.1** The spatial strategy in the Local Plan seeks to locate development in the most sustainable locations. The settlement pattern within the Borough, the location of rail and road networks, public transport and environmental constraints all limit the number of reasonable alternative strategies, therefore the spatial strategy in the Local Plan is considered to be the most appropriate. Better connectivity, affordable and inclusive travel including walking and cycling, a cleaner environment and a healthier population are the key outcomes sought through the Barnsley Transport Strategy, Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy and various existing and emerging [SCR SYMCA](#) plans. The Local Plan's spatial strategy focuses development in locations with good access to public transport or where networks can be easily extended. The Accessibility Improvement Zone in the east of the Borough is a focus for transport investment to improve connectivity and support economic growth. However it is recognised that development in the areas where development is to be focused will put pressure on existing transport infrastructure and create the need for new infrastructure that secures behavioural change so that public transport and active travel can increase.
- 2.2** Where levels of accessibility through public transport, cycling and walking are unacceptable, we will expect developers to take action or make financial contributions in accordance with policy I1. Section 4 of this document sets out the starting point for establishing when contributions are required.

Supplementary Planning Document: Sustainable Travel

3. Policy

- 3.1** This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) primarily supplements Local Plan Policies T1 Accessibility Priorities, T3 New Development and Sustainable Travel and I1 Infrastructure and Planning Obligations:

Policy T1 Accessibility Priorities

Working with city region partners and other stakeholders transport investment will be set out in Transport Strategy programmes focused on development-transport corridors as shown in the Accessibility Priorities diagram below to:

- A. Improve sustainable transport and circulation in the Accessibility Improvement Zone (AIZ) area particularly between Principal Towns.
- B. Implement transport network improvements as supported by evidence from modelling, feasibility studies, consultation, surveys, community engagement etc.
- C. Facilitate sustainable transport links to and from existing and proposed employment, interchange, community and leisure and tourism facilities in the borough, including provision for car parking and enhancing the non car role of the transport corridor shown on the Accessibility Priorities diagram as 'potential enhanced road based public transport corridor'.
- D. Promote high quality public transport linking the AIZ to significant places of business, employment and national / international interchange in the Leeds - Sheffield City Region corridor including neighbouring Wakefield, Kirklees, Doncaster, Sheffield and Rotherham.
- E. Improve direct public transport and freight links to London, Manchester, other Core Cities, national/international interchanges and the Humber ports.

Policy T3 New Development and Sustainable Travel

New development will be expected to:

- Be located and designed to reduce the need to travel, be accessible to public transport and meet the needs of pedestrians and cyclists;
- Provide at least the minimum levels of parking for cycles, motorbikes, scooters, mopeds and disabled people set out in the relevant Supplementary Planning Document;
- Provide a transport statement or assessment in line with guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework including where appropriate having regard for cross boundary local authority liaison; and
- Provide a travel plan statement or a travel plan in accordance with guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework including where appropriate having regard for cross boundary local authority liaison. Travel plans will be secured through a planning obligation or a planning condition.

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Where levels of accessibility through public transport, cycling and walking are unacceptable, we will expect developers to take action or make financial contributions in accordance with policy I1.

If it is not possible or appropriate for the minimum amount of parking for cycles, motorbikes, scooters and mopeds to be met on site, the developer must provide, or contribute towards, off-site parking, or improve or provide other forms of travel.

Policy I1 Infrastructure and Planning Obligations

Development must be supported by appropriate physical, social, economic and communications infrastructure, including provision for broadband.

Development must contribute as necessary to meet all on and off site infrastructure requirements to enable development to take place satisfactorily.

Where the necessary provision is not made directly by the developer, contributions will be secured through planning obligations.

Where appropriate, pooled contributions will be used to facilitate delivery of the necessary infrastructure.

- 3.2** The objective of this SPD is to ensure that the accessibility of new development via public transport, walking and cycling is acceptable in order to promote sustainable transport and active travel and where possible enhance the safety, efficiency and sustainability of the transport network to meet Barnsley MBC's economic, health and air quality aspirations. This document also supports the Council's 'Zero to 40' Climate Change strategy. Reference should be given to the parking guidance in BMBC Parking SPD, the BMBC Planning Obligations SPD, the [Sheffield City Region \(SCR\) South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority \(SYMCA\)](#) and Barnsley Transport Strategies, as well as the Barnsley Active Travel, Public Health Strategies and Air Quality Action Plan.
- 3.3** All sustainable travel schemes sought through this SPD will be expected to cater for the needs of disabled people and therefore meet current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate.
- 3.4** This SPD sets out guidance for applicants in assessing the transport impacts of their proposed developments **by all modes as set out within the NPPF (sections 108-111), and any required mitigation**, which would be considered through the preparation of Transport Assessments, Transport Statements and Travel Plans. Each may influence the other and will need to be regularly reviewed. They are based on evidence of the anticipated transport impacts of development and set measures to encourage sustainable travel. ~~They should not, however, be used to penalise drivers or cut provision for cars in a way that is unsustainable and could have negative impacts on the surrounding streets or road network.~~

Supplementary Planning Document: Sustainable Travel

4. Financial Contributions towards Public Transport and Active Sustainable Transport

4.1 Why are developer contributions to public transport and active travel necessary?

It would clearly be inappropriate for the Local Planning Authority to grant planning permission for a development which without appropriate mitigation would either cause an unacceptable impact on the public transport system or exacerbate a situation which is already unsatisfactory. When assessing applications for development, NPPF states it should be ensured that;

- a) appropriate opportunities to promote sustainable transport modes can be – or have been – taken up, given the type of development and its location;
- b) safe and suitable access to the site can be achieved for all users; and
- c) any significant impacts from the development on the transport network (in terms of capacity and congestion), or on highway safety, can be cost effectively mitigated to an acceptable degree.

The developer would be required to provide the necessary mitigation. ~~Without making the necessary provision to mitigate the transport impact of the scheme.~~

4.2 Contributions towards the cost of public transport and active travel improvements or enhancements are necessary in order to:

- help address the travel impact of a proposed development (i.e. the trips to and from the site, by all modes, that it will generate);
- ensure compliance with Local Plan policies T1 and T3, and the emerging Transport Strategy to promote more sustainable transport choices, to promote accessibility by public transport and to reduce the need to travel, especially by car;
- reflect the fact that (unlike vehicular access arrangements) provision of public transport services and active travel opportunities or enhancements are normally outside the scope and control of individual applicants and developers;
- assist the Local Planning Authority and the Local Transport Authorities to finance and provide for the cumulative impact of individual new developments on the infrastructure, capacity and operation of public transport services and sustainable travel opportunities in Barnsley;
- raise awareness of and remove barriers to accessing public transport.

What are the benefits for applicants and developers of paying contributions to public transport and active travel improvements?

4.3 The additional cost to the developer (or applicants) of paying a public transport contribution may potentially be offset against the following benefits:

- In the most sustainable/sustainable locations (ie town centre) a potential reduced requirement for car parking spaces and associated reduction in the cost of providing and maintaining car parking (normally £1,000-5,000 p.a. per space);
- Release of car parking spaces for development;
- Providing the opportunity for higher densities;

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- Opportunity to market/ promote a development offering sustainable transport choices;
- Planning consent would not be granted unless the appropriate contribution (either financial or in kind) is made towards providing adequate public transport access.

Infrastructure Requirements

- 4.4** In order to deliver a sustainable pattern of development, the Local Plan site selection process considered which sites were the most accessible or could be made accessible by public transport. This goes some way to reducing transport infrastructure requirements but the infrastructure delivery plan presented at the Local Plan examination identified a number of transport issues for Barnsley. These relate to the lack of external connectivity, affordability and accessibility together with the low quality passenger experience, journey time, performance of aged rail rolling stock and line-speed restrictions. Accordingly, it was identified that the public transport provision (both bus and rail) needs further significant improvements if it is to be an attractive alternative to the private car. Within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan it is identified that the Accessibility Improvement Zone predominantly to the east of the M1 is intended to enable significant improvement to be made to Barnsley's sustainable integrated transport system focusing on the need to improve passenger and freight connectivity whilst encouraging development in the most sustainable locations. This will include investment in walking, cycling and public transport services. This investment could cover physical infrastructure or initiatives to encourage people to make smarter choices about how they travel. Interventions will build on existing programmes and might include quality bus corridors, improved capacity on existing rail lines, interchanges, smart ticketing, personalised journey planning and a number of other similar initiatives.
- 4.5** Specifically in relation to Rail, the Council has just adopted an update of its Rail Vision which, amongst other things, sets out the asks of delivery partners and also includes endorsements from partners. Amongst these, Network Rail have stated that they "welcome the approach set out in the Barnsley Rail Vision to work with Network Rail to identify opportunities to develop enhancements on the back of renewals planned for Control Period 6 utilising third party funding sources which may be available". South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive is progressing community station improvements outlined within the Integrated Rail Plan for South Yorkshire.
- 4.6** In terms of bus, the infrastructure delivery plan identified poor levels of accessibility in parts of the Dearne Valley and to the west of the borough. To address this in January 2017 a Barnsley Bus Partnership (BBP), also known as a Voluntary Bus Agreement (VBA), was established. It is a negotiated agreement between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC), South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYTPE) and bus operators. It sets out minimum standards which will apply to all services covered by the scheme and any additional negotiated standards with individual operators on a voluntary basis depending on their particular service patterns and circumstances, with BMBC committed to providing improved highway measures. The objectives of the BBP are to provide a network which is high quality, reliable, affordable and punctual and which increases bus patronage.
- 4.7** The cumulative costs of these improvements would far outweigh what could reasonably be secured through developer contributions. However, given the potential opportunities for match funding, it is clear that there is a necessity to maximise developer contributions to

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ensure that levels of accessibility through public transport, cycling and walking are acceptable

- 4.8** Based on the above it is apparent that there is a significant transport infrastructure gap, therefore the Council considers that there is a requirement for improving accessibility through public transport, walking and cycling.
- 4.9** In order to meet policy T3 by promoting reduced car usage and dependency, developers will be expected to provide a capital contribution towards public transport and or active travel infrastructure. This includes on site provision as part of the development proposal and a contribution towards provision or enhancement of facilities off site.
- 4.10** Local Plan policy T3 requires transport assessments to be provided in line with guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Planning Practice Guidance on transport assessments can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transport-evidence-bases-in-plan-making-and-decision-taking>
- 4.11** Planning applicants can comply with the policy framework by making financial contributions to enable the Council to improve and enhance facilities for public transport, walking, cycling and parking, thereby helping to meet the Council's specific transport objectives and policies, as well as those related to wider issues such as the economy and health.
- 4.12** Whilst the focus for active travel facilities is often on journeys to work, education and shopping, it is important to include access to green space and leisure routes, these should also include provision for running and be fully accessible. If there are traffic free routes, these should feel safe for users, and lit where appropriate.

5. How Contributions will be calculated

Dwellings

- 5.1** Contributions will be sought on developments of 10 dwellings or more. The following formula will be used to determine the level of contribution:

Contribution Formula

Number of residential units x person trip rate x £figure to be determined x reduction factor

Appendix C contains the cost per trip figure (£figure) that will be used in the above calculation. The appendix also contains information that the calculations for the cost per trip have been based on. This appendix will be amended periodically when scheme information, costings and trip figures are updated.

The reduction factor relates to the following:

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- If a development is located within Barnsley Town Centre or a district centre there will be a 50% reduction (as amenities within the Town Centre and district centres are within easy walking distance).
 - If a development is located within the Accessibility Improvement Zone (AIZ)(where access to more sustainable forms of transport are less available) there will be a 25% reduction.
 - Developments that are outside Barnsley Town Centre, district centres and the AIZ will be required to pay the full calculated amount.
- 5.2** ~~For non-residential schemes contributions will be sought if identified as being necessary to deliver the modal shift targets identified in the travel plan.~~
- 5.3** The nature and extent of these contributions will be identified throughout the Transport Assessment process and pre-application discussion.
- 5.4** The amount of the financial contribution is generally based upon the net increase in movement by all forms of transport which is created by the development. This demand is based on the net change in the number of daily total person trips. Daily person trips have been used as the most appropriate unit as this indicates the total likely level of demand placed upon the borough's entire transport infrastructure. Table 8 in appendix C provides guidance on average person trip rates for the most common forms of development.
- 5.5** Should a developer consider this approach inappropriate in the case of their development, an alternative approach to determining an appropriate contribution can be put forward as part of the transportation assessment for the scheme.

Employment, Speculative and Outline Applications Non-residential Schemes

- 5.6** Financial contributions for employment sites will be determined on a site by site basis secured through the travel plan process. For non-residential schemes contributions will be sought if identified as being necessary to deliver the modal shift targets identified in the travel plan.

6. What will the contributions be used for?

- 6.1** The contributions will be used to help finance and deliver the programme of public transport improvements and enhancements identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, the updated Barnsley Rail Vision, and other relevant documents, in line with the targets set out within the emerging Transport Strategy.
- 6.2** These improvements and enhancements would be to provide the transport enhancements and additional capacity necessary to ensure that accessibility to sites through public transport, walking and cycling is considered acceptable in order to maximise use of the more sustainable modes of transport.
- 6.3** In the case of those new developments located in the town centre (as defined on the Local Plan policies map inset map 1) contributions will be used to help deliver the necessary public transport enhancements throughout the town, with the proviso that, in each case, it

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can be demonstrated that there is a direct relationship between the development and the infrastructure provided.

- 6.4** In the case of new developments located outside the defined town centre contributions will be used to help finance the necessary public transport enhancements scheduled for that settlement or corridor of the town in which the development is located.
- 6.5** The contributions will not however be used to contribute to basic on-site public transport infrastructure such as pedestrian links, bus stops, shelters, and real time displays which should be provided as standard for all developments. These will typically be covered under S278 or S38 agreements where appropriate.
- 6.6** In terms of the individual types of infrastructure, where possible specific measures will be detailed in the Section 106 agreement but, from time to time, agreements will have to be worded with an element of flexibility in recognition of the fact that there is often a significant time between agreements being completed and the milestone for scheme delivery being reached, during which it could be possible that priorities have changed. Although planning obligations must be directly related to the proposed development, a degree of flexibility will sometimes be necessary as to how transport contributions are spent. This is particularly the case where infrastructure or services are required to support multiple developments, from which contributions will be pooled. It may not be possible to predict the sequence in which those developments will come forward, and that sequence may determine which transport measures should properly be funded by each of the developments. Nonetheless, agreements will typically cover the following:

Reducing Emissions

- In addition to provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure the ECO Stars Fleet Recognition Scheme will work with HGV, Bus, Coach, vans and Taxi operators to improve efficiency, reduce fuel consumption and emissions and make cost savings. Typical savings of £2,600 per vehicle pa can be made in fuel costs alone.

Rail Park and Ride

- Expansion of existing or creation of new rail parking and ride sites, where feasible.

Rail

- Measures outlined in the Barnsley Rail Vision, SCR Integrated Rail Plan and SYPTE Station Options Review;
- Measures which encourage occupiers to travel by train, such as better waiting or information systems and improved pedestrian and cycle access to stations and cycle parking facilities.

Bus

- To enhance or bring a service within walking distance of the development, or increase the frequency of an existing service;

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- To provide seats, raised kerbs to assist access by wheelchair and pushchairs, and/or crossing facilities, or other facilities as required, all of which have the capacity to make bus travel more attractive;
- To provide bus priority measures which benefit the development.

Walking and Cycling

- Improving facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in the vicinity of the site, including the creation of links to reduce walking and cycling distances to public transport and other local facilities;
- Directional signage, lighting, crossing facilities and public cycle parking;
- The [SCR SYMCA](#) active travel programme is currently developing infrastructure guidelines and it is important that walking and cycling provision is of sufficient width, quality and accessible to all;
- Where feasible and practical new developments will connect into and develop the active travel network.

7. Potential Wider Benefits

- 7.1** The Local Plan objectives seek to **improve** economic prosperity and quality of life for all people who live and work in Barnsley. The Local Plan sets out several ways this will be achieved and one is “enabling the provision of critical infrastructure to support sustainable communities” The Local Plan process provided the opportunity to review the borough’s green belt. Some former Green Belt sites have been allocated and will assist in creating a more sustainable pattern of development.
- 7.2** The contributions will be used to enlarge and or enhance the core public transport network including improving pedestrian/cycle access to it and extend the active travel network.
- 7.3** By developer contributions and other investment funding the core public transport network will increasingly be able to be readily accessed by all existing and future development and be increasingly attractive to users.
- 7.4** Similarly the active travel network will become an increasingly attractive alternative to vehicular travel.

8. Electric Vehicle Charging Points

- 8.1** From the 15th June 2022 the requirements for provision of electric vehicle charging points falls under ‘The Building Regulations 2010 Approved Document S Infrastructure for the charging of electric vehicles.’ As a minimum development will be required to provide electric vehicle charging points as follows:— It is important that future electric vehicle charge point (EVCP) requirements are met as we transition from the internal combustion engine to electric vehicles, ensuring that new development in the Borough meets future demands. Consequently, the Council aspires that future development provides the following:—

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| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Residential | 1 charging point per unit (dwelling with dedicated parking), or 1 charging point per 10 spaces (unallocated parking). This is an expected requirement for residential development. |
| Commercial/Retail | 10% of parking |
| Industrial | 10% of parking |

The minimum electric vehicle charge point specification shall be mode "3", 32 AMP, 7 kW.

The Council will however consider alternative solutions for commercial, retail and industrial development, should the applicant submit an Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy for the agreement of the Local Planning Authority.

8.2 ~~These figures are~~ **This approach is** consistent with the Barnsley MBC Air Quality and Emissions Good Practice Planning Guidance (<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/16257/pdc-2020-mar-bmbc-ae-technical-planning-guidance-v12.pdf>) (<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/8747/air-quality-and-emissions-good-practice-planning-guidance.pdf>), which requires developers to propose mitigation of the air quality impact of development. The level of mitigation required is related to the classification of the proposed development within this guidance (minor, medium, major) according to air quality impact.

8.3 ~~These figures may be revised periodically subject to evidence and any subsequent review of the Air Quality and Emissions Good Practice Guidance.~~ **This approach may be revised periodically in future subject to new evidence and any subsequent review of the Air Quality and Emissions Good Practice Guidance.** It is intended that the Air Quality and Emissions Good Practice Guidance will reflect the continuing evolution of local and national electric vehicle charge point understanding.

9. Planning Permission

9.1 The NPPF states that transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals to promote sustainable transport and mitigate environmental impacts. Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. Paragraph 110a states applications for development should give priority first to pedestrian and cycle movements, both within the scheme and with neighbouring areas; and second – so far as possible – to facilitating access to high quality public transport, with layouts that maximise the catchment area for bus or other public transport services, and appropriate facilities that encourage public transport use.

When is a Transport Statement/Assessment and Travel Plan Required

9.2 The NPPF states that all developments that will generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan, and the application should be supported by a transport statement or transport assessment so that the likely impacts of the proposal can be assessed.

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Local Plan Policy Requirements and Interpretation of Significant Transport Impacts

- 9.3** The thresholds at which Transport Assessments, Transport Statements and Travel Plans will be required are set out in Appendix A. These thresholds identify the scale of development which will have a significant impact on the local highway and public transport network. Early pre-application discussions with the BMBC's Highway Development Management section and Highway's England (where development is likely to be generated on its network) are strongly recommended to determine the level of assessment that may be required.
- 9.4** Other circumstances where a Transport Assessment, Statement and a Travel Plan may be required include:

Where extensions and new development fall below indicative thresholds – Proposals for extensions will also potentially be subjected to requirements to submit a Travel Plan when the following circumstances apply:

1. The scale of the extension exceeds the threshold set out in Appendix A; or
2. In the case of a premises or uses which do not have an agreed Travel Plan, the aggregate size of the existing premises and extensions combined exceed the thresholds identified; or
3. Where a Travel Plan would help to address a particular local traffic problem associated with a planning application; or
4. Where a development forms part of a wider allocation for future development or master plan and the size of allocation exceeds the thresholds identified.

Multi-occupation of one site – Several small developments on one site may individually fall below the thresholds set out in Appendix A however the cumulative impacts of these developments could be enough to justify a 'Framework Travel Plan' for the whole site. Additional 'subsidiary' Travel Plans, may also be required in respect of sub-uses, depending on the scale and circumstances of a development e.g. single subsidiary Travel Plan for all the small retail uses.

Travel Plan and Transport Assessment Process

- 9.5** A travel plan is defined as a long-term management strategy for an organisation or site that seeks to deliver sustainable transport objectives and is regularly reviewed. Barnsley Borough Council requires developers to produce and implement travel plans to a consistent standard to help mitigate the likely overall transport impacts of their development. A Transport Assessment is a comprehensive document that assesses the future impact of the development on the highway network and identifies what measures will be taken to mitigate any definite impact of development, particularly in relation to sustainable transport modes such as walking, cycling and public transport. The first step in the production of a Travel Plan is to carry out a Transport Assessment of the proposed development. This includes an estimation of its likely overall impact on travel (i.e. the anticipated number of person and vehicle trips to and from the site that will be generated by the development).
- 9.6** Following completion of the Transport Assessment/ Travel Plan, a package of measures can then be drawn up, aimed at delivering the modal split targets, as set out within the

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emerging Transport Strategy and the **SCR SYMCA Transport Strategy**. These will influence the design layout and detailed site proposals for the development. This series of measures/ initiatives, designed to encourage and deliver the preferred measures will form the basis for the draft Travel Plan to be submitted alongside the planning application and Transport Assessment for the scheme. In certain circumstances more sophisticated modelling such as VISSIM will be required to assess the impact on the highway network.

- 9.7** The measures and modal split targets agreed during the planning application process will be incorporated into planning conditions and/or heads of terms for a legal agreement between the applicant and the Council. The agreement will provide for the delivery and monitoring of the travel plan, including steps that will need to be taken if targets are not achieved.

Design Guidance

- 9.8** ~~DMRB will apply to all classified roads and MfS will apply to all other lower category of residential roads.~~

- 9.8** Measures to design out crime should be considered at an early stage of the design process. Development should take account of the guidance within the Secured by Design website. Please see link below: <http://securedbydesign.com/industry-advice-and-guides/>

10. What the Council can do to help?

- 10.1** The production of a Travel Plan will ideally represent a partnership approach between the applicant, the developer, the Council and any third parties, such as Highways England, car club providers, public transport operators and active travel providers.
- 10.2** In order to assist in the process as much as possible the Council can offer:
- Policy advice, guidance and technical information, including Travel Plan information packs (based on the information and references given in this document);
 - Pre-application meetings where clarification is sought on the written information available;
 - Appropriate contacts and support for discussions with key third parties (such as car club operators and public transport operators);
 - Advice on appropriate modal split targets for specific areas; and
 - Advice on green sustainable transport and accessibility for all.

The Role of the Applicant

- 10.3** Applicants/developers can help the Travel Plan process to be as efficient as possible by:

Accepting the importance of Travel Plans as an integral part of the transport assessment/planning application process:

- Ensuring that the results of the Transport Assessment and draft Travel Plan are taken into account and integrated into their scheme and layout;

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- Ensuring that the scope of Transport Assessments and Travel Plans are considered during pre-application discussions and, if possible provide drafts of the documents;
- Ensuring planning applications are accompanied by a Transport Assessment and draft Travel Plan;
- Identifying the contact Person(s) with relevant background to act as Travel Plan co-ordinator(s) for the preparation, implementation, marketing, monitoring and review of the Travel Plan;
- Taking advantage of joint initiatives involving public transport travel discount schemes, car sharing databases, car clubs, shared Travel Plan co-ordinators and joint monitoring; and
- Working in partnership with the Council to achieve shared benefits.

Contents of a Travel Plan

- 10.4** Table 3 in Appendix B sets out the appropriate headings a Travel Plan should have alongside an indication of what each section should include and an expanded version of this table is set out in Table 4. Individual developments will however have their own characteristics which may merit a variation on Travel Plan content, therefore this checklist should be used as a starting point in the preparation of all Travel Plans.

Workplace Travel Plans

- 10.5** The recommended basic process for creating a workplace Travel Plan is set out in Appendix B Table 5. It sets out the various stages in the production of a basic Travel Plan where the occupier is known.

Residential Travel Plans

- 10.6** The principles for producing Travel Plans set out above equally apply to Residential Travel Plans, however, there are a number of particular issues and requirements specific to Residential Travel Plans which are set out in Table 6.

Speculative Developments and Outline Applications

- 10.7** Barnsley MBC acknowledges that when a planning application is submitted for a speculative development such as an outline proposal the identity of future occupants may not be known. In these cases it will not be possible to draw up a full Travel Plan to suit travel needs/patterns of a still unidentified occupier/end-user.
- 10.8** Where an applicant is seeking consent for a range and scale of planning uses at a location it will be possible:
- To carry out a site assessment and accessibility audit and gain an understanding of site constraints and opportunities; and
 - To undertake an assessment of the travel impact and likely number of trips that the proposed use will generate.

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- 10.9** An assessment on this basis will allow the setting of targets and the drawing up of a site layout and design that anticipates the overall travel needs/constraints of the site. It will therefore be possible, as a minimum, for the applicant/developer to prepare an 'interim Travel Plan for submission alongside the planning application, which will help to establish the basis and timetable for drawing up a final detailed Travel Plan when the end user(s)/occupier(s) are known.
- 10.10** In the case of outline or speculative developments (where the end user is initially not known) an 'interim' Travel Plan, setting out the key objectives, measures and targets for the site should be submitted with the planning application.
- 10.11** An indicative example of how this process can be agreed and included in a S106 Agreement is set out in Table 7.

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Interim Travel Plans

10.12 An interim Travel Plan has to include the following:

1. The site assessment and audit;
2. The impact assessment of the proposed uses;
3. The objectives and overall strategy;
4. The overall site specific (design and layout) measures;
5. The overall site targets; and
6. Timetable for production and implementation of the final Travel Plan(s).

10.13 The final Travel Plan is prepared once the end users/occupiers are known should be produced in line with tables 5 and 6 and include the following:

1. Appropriate measures to encourage/deliver outcomes/targets agreed in the Interim Travel Plan;
2. Measures tailored to suit the specific occupiers needs;
3. Arrangements for carrying out reviews and monitoring; and
4. Steps to be taken to promote/disseminate agreed measures to staff/occupiers/visitors.

10.14 As well as being responsible and agreeing the interim Travel Plan, the applicant/developer will also be responsible for passing the requirements for a final Travel Plan onto the occupier. This will be irrespective of whether that occupier rents, leases or buys all or part of the development. The occupier(s) would be responsible for negotiating and agreeing with the Local Planning Authority with details of the final Travel Plan(s) prior to the occupation of the building(s)/premises. The targets and measures agreed in the Interim Travel Plan will be regulated by appropriate clauses in the S106 Agreement (signed by the applicant, the land owner and the local planning authority). The Travel Plan obligation contained in the agreement will need to be implemented by any future occupants of the development.

Mixed Use Developments

10.15 A variation of this approach can be adopted for larger mixed-use developments which incorporate different occupiers and phases. Again an Interim Travel Plan will need to be drawn up. Specific final Travel Plans will then need to be drawn up for different uses/areas within the site and fit in with the agreed overall Interim Travel Plan.

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11. Travel Plan Measures

- 11.1** All Travel Plans will need to include a set of measures to boost the sustainability of developments and to increase sustainable travel. The type of measures promoted will vary depending on the particular circumstances of the development or the proposed use, the requirements and travel patterns of the site users, and the constraints and opportunities offered by the site itself.
- 11.2** Measures included in this section are not a definitive list and it is important to choose measures appropriate to the unique circumstances/requirements of the proposed schemes, as some may be more effective than others. Evidence will be required that all possible measures have been considered.
- 11.3** For the Travel Plan to be effective:
- Measures should be chosen so as to work together as a single strategy aimed at delivering the Travel Plan objectives; and
 - The site layout and facilities must be designed to encourage and facilitate the provision and use of the Travel Plan measures chosen.
- 11.4** An example of possible measures which could be considered includes:

Measures to Reduce the Need to Travel

1. Alternative working practices (e.g. flexitime, teleworking, homeworking, video conferencing, compressed working week/9 day fortnight);
2. Local recruitment of staff;
3. Local sourcing of raw materials/produce;
4. Provision of on-site facilities (e.g. shopping, eating);
5. Provision of home delivery of products;
6. Co-ordination of deliveries and route prioritisation;
7. Promotion of Car Sharing.

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Measures to Promote Walking

1. Provision of direct convenient pedestrian routes to local facilities with high levels of natural surveillance (ideally more convenient to use than travel by car);
2. Site layout to be designed to maximise and encourage walking options;
3. Advice on personal safety.
4. Production of Mapping showing 1.2km and 2km walking isochrone from site.

Measures to Promote Cycling

1. Site layout designed to maximise and encourage opportunities to cycle;
2. Where possible provision of convenient, segregated cycle paths to link to local cycle network (e.g. direct routes with high levels of natural surveillance, safer routes to school and work, routes to public transport hubs);
3. Provision of secure, sheltered and adequate cycle parking facilities for employees and visitors. (N.B. cycle parking should be shown on development site plans);
4. Provision of changing/shower facilities, drying rooms and cycle lockers at work places;
5. Introduction of financial incentives (e.g. mile allowance for work use and signing up the 'Cycle to Work Scheme')
6. Provide information on health benefits of cycling (e.g. maps, leaflets and online references);
7. Promotion of wider cycling infrastructure in Barnsley;
8. Production of mapping showing 5km and 8km cycling isochrone from site.

Measures to Promote Public Transport

1. Provision in site layouts for public transport (shelters and raised kerbs);
2. Pedestrian links to public transport to be at least as convenient and attractive as links to car parks;
3. Provision of site specific bus and rail travel information including bus and rail (e.g. maps, leaflets, way-finding signs to key transport nodes, such as rail stations);
4. Provision of discounted ticketing;
5. Provision of Season Ticket Loans;
6. Promotion of Barnsley Bus Partnership.

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Measures to Promote and Market the Travel Plan

1. Travel Plan measures included in an organisation's own marketing material to promote walking, cycling and public transport, (e.g. welcome packs at residential sites, employment packs at the workplace, newsletters at schools, sales details and staff inductions, notices boards, leaflet drops);
2. Introductions of workplace, residents or school newsletters or website (as applicable) to promote/market travel plan measures;
3. Joint incentives with other local organisations/community groups to promote wider community, economic and health benefits of Travel Plan measures.

12. Approval, Securing, Monitoring and Review of Travel Plans

Monitoring of the Travel Plan

12.1 It is essential that all Travel Plans are monitored in order to assess its effectiveness and to identify any failure to deliver agreed measures and targets. Targets will normally be trip and mode related (i.e. number/proportion of journeys by car, public transport, cycle or on foot) and the applicant/occupier will normally be responsible for recording the number of trips to and from the site. This can be done by a variety of methods:

- A 'snapshot' modal split survey of employees, occupiers, residents and/or visitors;
- A full staff/occupier/residential survey questionnaire. Surveys should always be conducted at the same time each year for consistency;
- Regular traffic counts of vehicles coming to and from the site, including cycles and pedestrians as well as motorised vehicles;
- Uptake of public transport or other alternative modes;
- Use of parking spaces and any problems of overspill parking;
- A combination of two or more of the above methods (as appropriate).

12.2 The monitoring of the Travel Plan should normally take place annually and the outcomes of any surveys will be reported in writing to the Council at a mutually agreed date after the monitoring has been completed (normally within 3 months). The length of time over which monitoring will occur and the frequency will depend on the nature and scale of the development and should be agreed as part of the Travel Plan with the developer.

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- 12.3** A Travel Plan Co-ordinator shall be appointed and they will be responsible for the effective implementation of the Travel Plan and the measures it contains. The role of the Travel Plan Co-ordinator and their responsibilities, which are specific to each individual Travel Plan will be set out within the Travel Plan and usually include:
- Implementing Travel Plan measures;
 - Liaising with users of the development and promoting sustainable travel;
 - Liaising with stakeholders, including the Local Planning and Transport Authorities;
 - Monitoring the effectiveness of the Travel Plan, and
 - Reviewing the Travel Plan and preparing Action Plans.
- 12.4** A charge will be applied where it is agreed the Council will carry out the monitoring of the development. The rate will be fixed annually by the Council.
- 12.5** In certain circumstances, it may be appropriate to use a mutually agreed independent monitoring agency. The costs of any agency shall be met by the applicant/developer. This approach will be appropriate when financial payments (as specified in the S106 agreement) are dependent on the outcomes.

Review of the Travel Plan

- 12.6** The Travel Plan should incorporate agreed dates for the Council to carry out a review/assessment of the Travel Plan to assess to what extent it has achieved its agreed objectives and targets. Reviews will normally be carried out 3 and 5 years after the occupation date of the scheme.
- 12.7** If, as a result of the review, it is found that targets are not being met, the applicant will be required to either:
- Carry out the appropriate remedial measures as defined in the S106 Agreement; or
 - If circumstances have changed significantly, prepare a revised time scale and targets for the Travel Plan which should be agreed with the Council.

Securing the Travel Plan

- 12.8** The mechanism for securing a Travel Plan will be agreed on a case-by case basis. For smaller scale schemes, where there is a known end user and the proposed Travel Plan measures and requirements are straight-forward, the Travel Plan and its implementation can be secured by means of a condition as part of the planning permission.
- 12.9** A S106 Agreement will usually be required for more complex schemes. These involve the delivery of outcomes and targets. If specific financial contributions, where there are significant ongoing financial commitments or commitments involving third parties, such as transport providers, this will be agreed between the applicant/developer and the Council.

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12.10 These agreements are normally an essential means of implementing an agreed Travel Plan. In addition to specifying the agreed measures and targets, an agreement may include remedies in the event of any failure to deliver agreed measures. S106 agreements may provide for the following:

- Payments to the Council (or use of a Bond deposited with the Council) to guarantee the implementation of previously agreed measures;
- A system of financial payments to achieve targets;
- A requirement to undertake specified works that are expected to remedy problems created by the development;
- Specified payment to the Council (or use of a Bond deposited with the Council) to meet the cost of taking action to achieve the agreed outcome (e.g. the implementation of a controlled parking zone around the development, and/or additional infrastructure/finance to support public transport);
- Specified change in the way the site/development is used in order to achieve previously agreed outcomes (e.g. the prevention of occupation of part of the development until a specified element of the Travel Plan has been implemented as agreed);

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Appendix A.**Table 1 - Thresholds for Requiring a Travel Plan**

The thresholds in the table below should be taken as a guide. The need for a Transport Statement, Transport Assessment and Travel Plan will be determined on a site by site basis.

| Land Use | Use/Description of Development | Indicative Threshold – by gross floor area m ² | |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| | | Transport Statement | Transport Assessment/Travel Plan |
| Food Retail (A1) | Retail sale of food goods to the public – Food Superstores, Supermarkets, Convenience Food Stores. | 250 - 800 | Over 800 |
| Non-Food Retail (A1) | Retail sale of non-food goods to the public: but includes Sandwich Bars – Sandwiches or other cold food purchased and consumed off the premises, Internet Cafes. | 800 - 1500 | Over 1500 |
| Financial & Professional Services (A2) | Financial services – Banks, Building Societies and Bureau de Change, Professional Services (Other than Health or Medical Services) – Estate Agents & Employment Agencies, other services – Betting Shops, principally where services are provided to visiting members of the public. | 1000 - 2500 | Over 2500 |
| Restaurants and Cafes (A3) | Restaurants and Cafes – Use for the sale of food consumption on the premises. Excludes Internet Cafes (Now A1). | 300 - 2500 | Over 2500 |
| Drinking Establishments (A4) | Use as a Public House, Wine-Bar or other Drinking establishments. | 300 - 600 | Over 600 |
| Hot Food Takeaway (A5) | Use for the sale of hot food for consumption on or off the premises. | 250 – 500 | Over 500 |
| Business (B1) | A - Offices other than use within Class A2 (Financial & Professional services), B– Research and Development – Laboratories, Studios, C – Light Industry. | 1500 - 2500 | Over 2500 |
| General Industrial (B2) | General Industrial. | 2500 - 4000 | Over 4000 |

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| | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Storage or Distribution (B8) | Storage or Distribution Centres – Wholesalers Warehouses, Distribution Centres and Repositories. | 3000 - 5000 | Over 5000 |
| Hotels (C1) | Hotels, Boarding Houses & Guest Houses. Development falls within this use class if 'no significant element of care is provided'. | 75 – 100 (Bedrooms) | Over 100 (Bedrooms) |
| Residential Institutions – Hospitals, Nursing Homes (C2) | Used for the provision of residential accommodation and care to people in need of care. | 30 – 50 (Beds) | Over 50 (Beds) |
| Residential Institutions – Residential Educational Facilities (C2) | Boarding Schools and Training Centres. | 50 – 150 (Students) | Over 150 (Students) |
| Dwellings Houses (C3) | Dwellings for individuals, families or not more than six people; living together as a single household. Not more than six people living together includes – students or young people sharing a dwelling and small group homes for disabled or handicapped people living together in the community. | 50 – 80 (Units) | Over 80 (Units) |
| Non-Residential Institutions (D1) | Medical & Health Services – Clinics & Health Centres, Crèche, Day Nursery, Day Centres & Consulting rooms (not attached to the consultants or Doctor's House), museums, public libraries, art galleries, exhibition halls, Non-residential education and training centres, places of worship, religious instruction and church halls. | 500 - 1000 | Over 1000 |
| Assembly & Leisure (D2) | Cinema's, dance and concert halls, sports halls, swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums, bingo halls and casinos. Other indoor and outdoor sports and leisure uses not involving motorised vehicles or firearms. | 500 - 1500 | Over 1500 |

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| Others | For example: Stadium, Retail Warehouse clubs, amusement arcades; launderettes, petrol filling stations, taxi businesses, car/vehicle hire businesses & the selling and displaying of motor vehicles, nightclubs, theatres, hostels, builders yards, garden centres, Post Offices, Travel and Ticket Agencies, Hairdressers, Funeral Directors, Hire Shops, Dry Cleaners. | On their merits – to be discussed with Highways DC Officers. | On their merits – to be discussed with Transportation Officers. |
|--------|--|--|---|

Thresholds based on other Considerations

A Transport Assessment will be required for the following:

- Any development generating 30 or more two-way vehicles movements in any hour.
- Any development generating 100 or more two-way vehicle movements per day.
- Any development proposing 100 or more parking spaces
- Any development that is likely to increase accidents or conflicts among motorised users and non-motorised users, particularly vulnerable road users such as children, disabled and the elderly.
- Any development generating significant freight or HGV movements per day, or significant abnormal loads per year.
- Any development proposed in a location where the local transport infrastructure is inadequate, for example, substandard roads, poor pedestrian/cycle facilities and inadequate public transport.
- Any development proposed in a location within or adjacent to an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

***Travel Plan requirement will be assessed on an individual basis, in accordance with the guidance set out within the DfT’s Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements document.**

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| | Other Considerations | TS | TA |
|----------|---|-----------|--------------|
| 1 | Any development generating 30 or more two-way vehicles movements in any hour. | | × |
| 2 | Any development generating 100 or more two-way vehicle movements per day. | | × |
| 3 | Any development proposing 100 or more parking spaces. | | × |
| 4 | Any development that is likely to increase accidents or conflicts among motorised users and non-motorised users, particularly vulnerable road users such as children, disabled and the elderly. | | |
| 5 | Any development generating significant freight or HGV movements per day, or significant abnormal loads per year. | | × |
| 6 | Any development proposed in a location where the local transport infrastructure is inadequate, for example, substandard roads, poor pedestrian/cycle facilities and inadequate public transport | | × |
| 7 | Any development proposed in a location within or adjacent to an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). | | × |

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Appendix B.**Components of a Travel Plan****Table 3**

| Heading | Issue to Cover |
|--|--|
| Background/Context/Site Assessment and Audit | Details of the site, its location, the intended use, number of staff, dwellings or pupils, existing site constraints and opportunities. |
| Transport Impact | The travel requirements of the organisation/development, the number of trips it will generate and the transport/travel issues which will ensure. |
| Objective/Overall Strategy | What the plan is trying to achieve (e.g. encourage access to the site by sustainable means of travel/to accommodate travel demand within site constraints). |
| Measures/Actions | What specific measures and actions will be introduced to help deliver the stated objectives (refer to the toolkit of travel plan measures). |
| Targets and Time Frames | Appropriate targets, such as vehicle trips at peak hours (including the percentage of trips by different modes), against which the effectiveness of the measures/actions to be taken will be reviewed/monitored. |
| Responsibility/Ownership | Who is responsible (the owner) for delivering each stage of the Travel Plan and for implementing the proposed measures, actions and targets. |
| Implementation | Agreed Travel Plan (site layout and design) measures carried out as part of construction work. Measures relating to occupiers/end users to be in place prior to occupation. |
| Monitoring and Review | What arrangements will be put in place to review and monitor the plan and to assess whether the objectives are being met. |

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| Communication Strategy | How information on the plan, its progress, impacts, benefits and successes will be disseminated to staff/residents/pupils and visitors (e.g. by newsletter, internet, notice boards, external publicity). |
|------------------------|---|

Table 4 – Travel Plan Tool-Kit

| Heading | Issues to Cover | Steps to be Taken | Y/N | Date |
|--|--|--|-----|------|
| A: Background/Context/ Site Assessment and Audit | Details of the site, its location, the intended use, number of staff, dwellings or pupils, 'existing site constraints and opportunities. | 1. Survey site characteristics | | |
| | | 2. Carry out 'accessibility audit' | | |
| | | 3. Plot existing Highway network – mapping. | | |
| | | 4. Record existing Public Transport provision. | | |
| | | 5. Estimate proposed floor space. | | |
| | | 6. Estimate number of employees, residents and visitors. | | |
| | | 7. Identify transport opportunities (new pedestrian, cycle or public transport links). | | |
| B: Transport Impact | The travel requirements of the organisation/ development, the number of trips it will generate and what transport/travel issues these will give rise to. | 8. Identify proposed land uses. | | |

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|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <p>C: Objectives/Overall Strategy</p> | <p>What the plan is trying to achieve (e.g. to encourage access to the site by all means of travel/to accommodate travel demand within site constraints) and what strategy will be adopted to achieve them.</p> | <p>9. Set out the objectives of the Travel Plan, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reduce car usage to & from the site; - encourage car sharing; - Encourage the use of sustainable modes (public transport, walking and cycling); - Rationalise/ reduce delivery movements; - Reduce need for car parking; - Maximise site potential; - Achieve sustainable development. | | |
| <p>D: Measures/Actions</p> | <p>What specific measures and actions will be introduced to help deliver the stated objectives (refer to the toolkit of measures in the SPD for possible measures to be considered).</p> | <p>10. Draw up site design brief to accommodate Barnsley Transport Strategy.</p> <p>11. Consider what measures can be adopted to reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>12. Consider what measures can be introduced to encourage public</p> | | |

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| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | transport. | | |
| | | 13. Consider what measures can be introduced to encourage other sustainable modes. | | |
| E: Targets and Timeframes | Appropriate targets and time frames against which the effectiveness of the measures/actions to be taken will be reviewed/monitored. | 14. Set targets for proportion of occupiers, visitors coming by car, public transport and active travel. | | |
| | | 15. Specify the date which the targets will be achieved. | | |
| | | 16. Specify a timetable for the implementation of each of the measures proposed. | | |
| F: Responsibility and Ownership | Who is responsible for delivering each stage of the Travel Plan and for implementing the proposed measures, actions and targets (e.g. by appointment of a travel plan co-ordinator), and how this will be passed on/managed. | 17. Appoint Travel Plan Co-ordinator with overall responsibility for the delivery of measures, targets and timetables. | | |
| | | 18. Identify who or which organisation/body will have delegated responsibilities for the implementation and financing to each of the Travel Plan measures proposed. | | |

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| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <p>G: Implementation</p> | <p>Agreed Travel Plan (site layout and design) measures carried out as part of construction work. Measures relating to occupiers/end users to be in place prior to occupation.</p> | <p>19. Indicative when site layout and design measures implemented.</p> | | |
| <p>H: Monitoring and Review</p> | <p>What arrangements will be put in place to review and monitor the plan and to assess whether the objectives are being met?</p> | <p>20. Indicative when measures relating to end users/occupiers implemented.</p> | | |
| | | <p>21. State what will be measured (e.g. number of trips to and from the site by car, public transport, cycle and walking, level of use of parking spaces).</p> | | |
| | | <p>22. Detail when this monitoring will take place (normally annually).</p> | | |
| | | <p>23. Identify who will carry out the survey/monitoring.</p> | | |
| | | <p>24. Identify how the survey/monitoring will be funded.</p> | | |
| | | <p>25. Agree with the Council how the outcomes will be reviewed.</p> | | |
| | | <p>26. Identify what measures will be introduced if targets are not met.</p> | | |
| | | <p>27. State how each of the Travel Plan measures will be disseminated to staff, residents, and visitors (e.g. by newsletter, intranet, notice</p> | | |

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| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | boards, external publicity, welcomes packs). | | |
| | | 28. Identify what incentives will be offered (staff, residents and visitors) to promote, encourage and deliver each of the Travel Plan measures. | | |

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Workplace Travel Plans

Table 5

| Stage | Activity | Responsibility |
|--|--|--|
| 1. (Pre-application) Site Assessment | To consider existing transport provision to the site (i.e. pedestrian, cyclist, public transport and vehicular access). | Applicant/Developer (in consultation with BMBC Highways DC and Transportation). |
| 2. (Pre-Application) Transport Assessment | To establish the transport impact (i.e. predict the likely number of total person trips to and from the site/organisation including visitor sites. | Applicant/Developer |
| 3. (Pre-Application) Draft Travel Plan | Consideration of appropriate objectives and measures capable of dealing with the identified travel impact, taking full account of existing constraints and opportunities. Applicant/Developer Draw up a package of measures to address travel impact and needs of organisation, including setting of relevant targets. | Applicant/Developer |
| 4. Submission of Draft Travel Plan | The draft Travel Plan and Transport Assessment should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority alongside the planning application. The proposed development (design and layout) must incorporate the Travel Plan measures identified. | Applicant/Developer |
| 5. Approval | Secure approval for scheme Travel Plan. Agree planning condition or heads of terms for S106 legal agreement to cover to cover Travel Plan requirements as appropriate. | BMBC Development Management/Transport Policy teams/Highways England and the applicant/developer. |

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| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 6. Implementation | Notify the Council's Travel Plan Officer of commencement. Appoint Travel Plan Co-ordinator. Travel Plan measures put in place, including promotion and publicity measures (job packs, company brochures and newsletters etc. | Occupier |
| 7. Monitoring, Review and Reporting (to BMBC). | Outcomes of Travel Plan (modal shift) to be monitored and evaluated against objectives and targets. Review will need to amend/revise plan to address changing circumstances/failure to achieve agreed targets. | Applicant/Occupier (together with BMBC Travel Plan contact) and (where appropriate) agreed independent Monitoring Body. |

Residential Travel Plans

Table 6

| Stage | Activity | Responsibility |
|--|--|--|
| 1(a) (Pre-application) Transport Assessment/Statement | Transport Assessment prediction of total person trip generation Sites which are likely to impact on road network will need to estimate the level of vehicle trips created on their network. | Applicant/Developer |
| 1(b) (Pre-application) Site Audit | Carry out Accessibility Audit and audit of site constraints and opportunities. | Applicant/Developer |
| 1(c) (Pre-Application) Draft Travel Plan | Draft Travel Plan measures drawn up to accommodate multi-modal measures identified in Travel Plan. | Applicant/Developer/BMBC Travel Plan Contact Officer |

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| | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1(d) (Pre-Application) Site Design and Layout | Site layout and design drawn up to accommodate multi-modal measures identified in the Travel Plan. | Applicant/Developer/Highways Development Control/ Development Management/BMBC Travel Plan Contact Officer |
| 2 Application/Negotiation | Submit Transport Assessment and draft Travel Plan alongside planning application; Negotiate an acceptable scheme and Travel Plan. | Applicant/Developer |
| 3 Approval | Secure approval for scheme Travel Plan. Agree planning condition or heads of terms for S106 legal agreement to cover Travel Plan requirements as appropriate. | Applicant/Developer |
| 4 Construction | Appointment of a Travel Plan Co-ordinator and establish liaison/steering group of relevant agencies (Applicant/Developer/House Builder/Public Transport Operator/as appropriate); implementation of agreed Travel Plan measures. | Applicant/Developer/House Builder |
| 5 Initial Completion/Marketing | Travel Plan Co-ordinator in place (include site presence). Travel Plan information/requirements included in marketing/welcome pack for residents; Individual Travel Plan measures completed and promoted. | Applicant/Developer/House Builder |
| 6 Final Completion | Set up management structure to take over responsibility for Travel Plan (e.g. ideally made up of a management company) or Community Trust Travel Plan Co-ordinator initially retained to advise/support management structure. | Applicant/Developer/House Builder |

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| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 7 Monitoring and Review | Monitor travel patterns achieved against agreed targets. Review plan in light of findings and changed circumstances. Carry out mitigating measures if agreed targets not being achieved. | Applicant/Developer/House Builder/BMBC Travel Plan Contact Officer |
|--------------------------------|--|--|

Travel Plan Process for Speculative Developments and Outline Applications**Table 7**

| Stage | Activity | Responsibility |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1.'Interim' Travel Plan | Applicant /developer submits an Interim Travel Plan alongside the planning application and transport assessment. This 'Interim' Travel Plan has to identify the transport measures/ modal split required at a specific site and be agreed before planning consent is granted. Further detailed Travel Plans covering specific uses/area (as appropriate) should then be submitted (at the latest) before development commences. | Applicant/Developer |
| 2. Construction | Development begins (incorporating measures agreed in the Travel Plan) | Applicant/Developer |

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| | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <p>3. End user/Occupier Identified</p> | <p>Applicant/developer reaches agreement with end- user/occupier. Individual end user(s)/ occupier (s) prepare final Travel Plan for specific use/occupier or area in accordance with agreed 'Interim Travel Plan'.</p> <p>Final Travel Plan has to be agreed with the Council before development /premises can be occupied by the end user.</p> | <p>End User/Occupier</p> |
|---|--|--------------------------|

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Appendix C.

Methodology and calculations used to arrive at contribution figures.

The daily person trip rates used in the formula are set out below in table 8.

| Development Type | Daily Person Trip Rate* |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Residential – Houses** | 10 per dwelling |
| Residential – Flats** | 6 per dwelling |

*Based on TRICS version 7.3.1

**Privately owned

The current starting point used for establishing a figure for Barnsley's cost per daily person trip figure is as follows:

- **Relevant schemes from Infrastructure Delivery Programme**
 - M1 junction 37 Claycliffe. Private sector element of cost is: £4,469,908. The private sector element only of the indicative costs for this scheme has been included. The improvements and mitigation works will be of wider benefit to the borough as a whole and therefore it is considered reasonable to include this scheme in the basis.
 - Penistone Station Park and ride and footbridge. The indicative cost of this scheme is £1,750,000. For the purposes of this exercise 50% of this indicative figure has been used.

- **Schemes in the Transforming Cities bid** - The indicative costs of the schemes in the bid have been totalled. 50% of that total has been used in the calculations for the cost per trip figure.

$$(\pounds 4469908 + \pounds 875,000 + \pounds 9,480,000 = 14,824,908)$$

- **Dwelling numbers** (based on indicative dwelling figures for allocations minus those that have got permission) = 14,641
- **Number of trips arising from those dwellings** (using TRICS figure person trip rate per dwelling version 7.3.1 set out in table 1 above) = 146,410

For residential schemes the proposed scheme cost is £101.26 per trip. It is proposed to round this figure to £100 per trip (Scheme costs divided by total number of trips. $(14,824,908 / 146410 = 101.26)$)

The £100 per trip figure will then be applied to individual residential schemes of 10 dwellings or over. Where applicable this will be reduced, depending on location.

- If a development is located within Barnsley Town Centre or a district centre there will be a 50% reduction (as amenities within the Town Centre and district centres are within easy walking distance).

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- If a development is located within the Accessibility Improvement Zone (AIZ)(where access to more sustainable forms of transport are less available) there will be a 25% reduction.

Developments that are outside Barnsley Town Centre, district centres and the AIZ will be required to pay the full calculated amount

Table 9 below sets out the list of schemes and indicative costs that have been used to derive the contribution rate per daily person trip.

Table 9

| Scheme | Indicative cost |
|--|------------------------|
| M1 junction 37 Claycliffe. (private sector element) | 4,469,908 |
| Penistone Station park and ride and footbridge | 1,750,000 |
| A61 Town Centre to Royston via Smithies Lane | 4,440,000 |
| Barnsley Road/Doncaster Road, Goldthorpe – | 1,680,000 |
| Barnsley Station Access Improvements | 500,000 |
| Bolton upon Dearne Station Access Improvements – | 600,000 |
| Goldthorpe Station Access Improvements – | 840,000 |
| Stairfoot, Ardsley, Goldthorpe Active Travel Links – | 2,688,000 |
| Thurnscoe Station Access Improvements – | 750,000 |
| Town Centre Triangle – £2,400,000 | 2,400,000 |
| Wombwell Station Access Improvements – | 1,800,000 |
| A61 River Dearne Long Scheme | 1,320,000 |
| A61 River Dearne Short Scheme | 730,000 |
| Alhambra to Stairfoot | 420,000 |
| Elsecar Station Access Improvements | 672,000 |
| Wath Road Roundabout to Broomhill | 120,000 |

The calculations in this appendix will be updated periodically when updated evidence and information is available. The Transport Strategy and associated delivery programme together with the SYPTE station plan and other relevant **SCR SYMCA** documents as they emerge will provide further information.

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Appendix D

Electric Vehicle Charging Point Specification**1. Introduction**

It is important that future electric vehicle charge point (EVCP) requirements are met as we transition from the internal combustion engine to electric vehicles, ensuring that new development in the Borough meets future demands.

Furthermore, it is also necessary that the Council keeps in step with developments and that subsequent guidance reflects the Council experience of developing our own EVCP network and our continued dialogue with industry experts, developers and end-users in order to ensure that the ongoing installation of EVCPs locally meets the requirements of end users. Consequently, the Council has aspirations that future development provides the following:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Residential | 1 charging point per unit (dwelling with dedicated parking), or 1 charging point per 10 spaces (unallocated parking). This is an expected requirement for residential development |
| Commercial/Retail | 10% of parking |
| Industrial | 10% of parking |

The Council will however consider alternative solutions for commercial, retail and industrial development, should the applicant submit an Electric Vehicle Charge Point and Infrastructure Strategy which identifies the optimum EVCP capability for that development.

2. EVCP Minimum Specification

Barnsley MBC require a minimum specification for EVCPs for new development, this being “mode 3”, minimum 7 kW (32 AMP). The justification for this minimum specification is based upon current Government proposals for EVCPs for residential development and this justification is detailed below.

In 2019, the Government published a consultation (<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/electric-vehicle-chargepoints-in-residential-andnon-residential-buildings>) relating to future requirements for electric vehicle charging points, and the following is taken from the Government’s proposals as our justification for the minimum required specification for EVCPs (Government guidance paragraphs 6.7 to 6.9).

- “Government proposes specifying a minimum 7 kW (32 AMP) chargepoint both for residential and non-residential buildings. Some early home installations are 3.6 kW (16 AMP) chargepoints, however, today the majority of the installations are 7 kW and expected increases in battery sizes and technology developments could make chargepoints less than 7 kW obsolete for future car models. Our discussions with industry indicate 7 kW is a sufficiently future-proofed standard for home charging.
- A 7-kW standard also better enables some of the smart charging benefits (i.e. managing of the supply of electricity to the vehicle over time) than slower speed chargepoints because any modulation in charge can be more quickly compensated for at other times. This reduces the impact on the local network and could reduce the spare capacity needed to operate the chargepoint.

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- *Most new homes have a 100 Amp connection as standard. In most cases, it is possible to accommodate a 7 kW chargepoint within this connection, even when assuming the minimum diversity factor. This means that in single houses there is often no additional electrical capacity cost as a result of adding a 7kW chargepoint.”*

3. Commercial / Retail / Industrial EVCP Requirement

In considering this minimum specification requirement, we also require mode “3”, minimum 7 kW (32 AMP) for commercial/retail/industrial development.—

We acknowledge the differing circumstances for non-residential development and will consider alternative solutions to the 10% aspiration detailed above, should the applicant submit an EVCP Strategy which identifies the optimum capability for that development.—

Any submitted Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy may wish to consider likely future use of the proposed development, likely end-user profile of the charge points, likely future use of the charge points themselves and provision of additional infrastructure in order to unlock demand when appropriate.—

Other issues that could be considered include likely “user” dwell time at the charge point, back office systems, grid capacity and subsequent type of charge point in order to meet these and any other relevant requirements as identified within the Strategy. The developer may also wish to consider the financial and commercial models to successfully operate the subsequent agreed charge points. This is not an exhaustive list and it will be for the applicant to determine the relevant issues to be addressed in the Strategy.—

If submitted, the Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy shall be agreed with the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The LPA recognises however that the Strategy may result in the provision of actual numbers of charge points less than the current 10% requirement, should the Strategy provide enough justification for these reduced numbers of charge points considering the issues detailed above. For instance, this may result in the proposal for a lower number of EVCPs but of a higher specification (e.g. fewer number of rapid chargers).—

4. Assessment of EVCP requirement

The Council’s default position is that EVCPs will be required for new development, including change of use from commercial/retail/industrial to residential. We do however consider the requirement of the National Planning Policy Framework. Paragraph 110 of the NPPF requires a scheme proposal to “be designed to enable charging of plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles in safe, accessible and convenient locations”.—

Therefore, a standard level of electric vehicle recharging provision is expected unless:—

- the proposal has no parking provision;—
- the site is accessed for less than 20 minutes, or;—
- the site does not attract motorised vehicles on a daily basis.—

Furthermore, there may applications where it is not considered appropriate to require EVCPs, such as change of use from one form of commercial/retail/industrial to another where no net increase in new car parking spaces is proposed. Conversely, change of use from commercial to residential, even with net decrease in car parking spaces will likely require the provision of EVCPs.—

There may be other circumstances, which come to light because of the application, which render the requirement of EVCPs not appropriate, but only where enough justification for these circumstances can be provided and agreed. All applications will therefore be considered on individual circumstances as well as within the framework of this guidance. Of course, the applicant may wish to install EVCPs, regardless of meeting this guidance.—

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5. Electrical Safety Standards

The applicant shall conform with all electrical and safety standards / regulations etc required for the installation of EVCPs. Future liability for conforming with these requirements will be the responsibility of the applicant. The applicant shall determine which electrical safety standards are appropriate.

6. Guidance

The Council does not provide specific guidance for the safe and proper installation of EVCP, but further guidance can be found at the following sources listed in the table below. the following sources are not definitive nor exhaustive, and the applicant is expected to ensure that all electrical and safety standards / regulations etc. are considered and adhered to and obtain expert advice where necessary Furthermore, Barnsley MBC does not take responsibility for the below tabulated guidance.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Electrical Safety | https://electrical.theiet.org/wiring-matters/years/2020/80-may-2020/the-iet-code-of-practice-for-electric-vehicle-charging-equipment-installation-4th-edition/ |
| Electrical Safety | https://www.beama.org.uk/resourceLibrary/beama-guide-to-electric-vehicle-infrastructure.html |
| General Guidance | https://www.local.gov.uk/electric-vehicles-charge-points-and-planning-policies This guidance has links to additional guidance resource |

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Equality Impact Assessment

Supplementary Planning Documents

Stage 1 Details of the proposal

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name of service | Regeneration and Culture |
| Directorate | Place |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Name of officer responsible for EIA | Paula Tweed |
| Name of senior sponsor | Joe Jenkinson |

| | |
|--|--|
| Description / purpose of proposal | <p>This EIA covers all the Supplementary Planning Documents and Planning Advice Notes prepared by the Council to date since the adoption of the Local Plan on 3rd January, 2019.</p> <p>It has been updated to include proposed updates to three of the adopted SPD's. Amendments to the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Travel SPD's were consulted on in November/ December 2021. Minor amendments are also proposed to the Design of Housing SPD, which will go out to consultation late Spring/ Summer 2022.</p> |
|--|--|

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Date EIA started | 24/10/19 |
|-------------------------|----------|

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Review date | 24/10/2020 or when any further SPD's are prepared |
|--------------------|---|

Stage 2 - About the proposal

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| What is being proposed? | Following adoption of the Local Plan on 3 rd January, 2019, the Council has prepared 26 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's) and Planning Advice Notes (PAN's). 18 |
|--------------------------------|---|

of these were adopted in May 2019. A further 8 were out to public consultation between 16/9/19 and 14/10/19.

Full council approval to adopt them following changes arising from consultation is being sought on 28/11/19.

The Local Plan was subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA). This EIA considers the implications of all the SPD's and PAN's prepared in 2019.

The documents considered in this EIA are listed below:

Adopted May 2019

- Financial Contributions for schools SPD
- Barn Conversions SPD
- Trees and Hedgerows SPD
- Shop Front Design SPD
- Advertisements SPD
- House Extensions and other Domestic Alterations SPD
- Residential Amenity and the siting of buildings SPD
- Design of Housing Development SPD
- Open Space Provision on New Housing Developments
- Removal of Agricultural Occupancy Conditions SPD
- Mortar Mixes for pointing historic buildings
- Hot Food Takeaways SPD
- Walls and Fences SPD
- Lawful Development Certificates
- Affordable Housing
- Heritage Impact Statements
- Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Hot Food Takeaways PAN

Consulted on Sept/ Oct 2019

- Sustainable Travel SPD
- Planning Obligations SPD
- Parking SPD
- Section 38 Agreements PAN
- Section 278 SPD
- Development on land affected by contamination SPD
- Elsecar Conservation Area Design and Maintenance Guide SPD
- Cawthorne Village Design Statement SPD

Consultation November/ December 2021

- Update to Sustainable Travel SPD
- Update to Affordable Housing SPD

The Sustainable Travel and Affordable Housing SPD's are proposed for adoption in July 2022.

Proposed consultation Spring/ Summer 2022

Minor amendments are proposed to the Design of Housing SPD

Why is the proposal required?

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and Planning Advice Notes (PAN) provide further advice and guidance to people submitting planning applications. They set out guidance on various policy topics and how Local Plan policies will be applied.

What will this proposal mean for customers?

The documents mean that anyone submitting a planning application will have more clarity on certain topics. The documents deal with a wide range of issues including design so will have implications for future residents of new homes, users of businesses etc.

Stage 3 - Preliminary screening process

Use the questions in the Guidance (**Preliminary screening process**) to decide whether a full EIA is required

X Yes - EIA required (go to next section)

No – EIA not required (provide rationale below)

Stage 4 - Scoping exercise - What do we already know?

Data: Generic demographics

What generic data do you know about the people who will be affected by the proposal?

This could be internal data held such as ward profiles, JSNA results, if the proposal is inward facing look at the current workforce data,

Are there any external data publications relevant to the proposal? For example from the Office of National statistics, Census data, Public Health England, Charity publications

The documents will be used by anyone who submits a planning application in the borough. For example this could be residents who wish to extend their home, or could be developers undertaking larger scale developments, for example building houses or employment land.

Data: Service data / feedback

What do you already know about the equality impact of the service/location/policy/contract? This could be from complaints / compliments, stakeholder feedback, staff anecdotal evidence etc.

Data: Previous / similar EIA's

Has there already been an EIA on all or part of this before, or something related? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

An EIA was undertaken on the whole of the Local Plan and the policies it contains. The SPD's link to the Local Plan policies relevant to the particular topic. The Local Plan EIA concluded that all policies and proposals apply to all sectors of the community equally. The policies make provision for a range of housing types to meet differing needs for example affordable housing etc. The Design policy D1 seeks to ensure development is designed to be accessible to all.

The full document can be found here

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/5105/localplanpublicationequalityimpactassessment.pdf>

Data: Formal consultation

Has there been a formal consultation process? External engagement with equality forums? If so, what were the main issues and actions it identified?

There is a formal consultation process required to produce supplementary planning documents. Approval to consult on draft documents is sought from cabinet. A four week public consultation process then takes place which is advertised in the press, on social media. Documents are made available on the Council's website. Hard copies are made available at the Library@thelightbox and all branch libraries. Once the documents are amended in light of comments made, Cabinet and Full Council approval is sought to adopt them.

Consultation on the documents that were adopted in May 2019 took place between 4th March 2019 and 1st April 2019.

Consultation on the 8 documents that have yet to be adopted took place between 16/9/19 and 14/10/19.

The consultation information was sent to all the Equality Forums for this latest consultation. No response was received.

The same formal consultation process described above has taken place on the updated Sustainable Travel and Affordable Housing SPD's late 2021. The Equality Forums were sent the updated documents and asked if they wish to engage in the consultation.

As above the same process will be followed if consultation on the minor amendments to the Design of Housing SPD is approved.

Stage 5 - Potential impact on different groups

Considering the evidence above, state the likely impact the proposal will have on people with different protected characteristics

(state if disproportionately high negative impact and highlight with red text)

Positive and negative impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.

| Protected characteristic | Negative ' - ' | Positive ' + ' | No impact | Don't know | Details |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| Sex | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |
| Age | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |
| Disabled <i>Learning disability, Physical disability, Sensory Impairment, Deaf People ,invisible illness, Mental Health etc</i> | | X | | | <p>A reference is included in the Parking SPD to ensure adequate parking is provided to cater for the needs of people with disabilities to ensure that all parking is designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate.</p> <p>The Sustainable Travel SPD seeks contributions towards public transport and active travel enhancements and improvements to ensure developments are accessible to all. Whilst the document does not deal with the design of particular schemes, a cross reference has been added</p> |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | to ensure that all schemes that contributions are collected towards using this document, meet the needs of disabled people and are designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate. This is still the case in the updated version. |
| Race | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use. Translation and interpretation assistance will be made available upon request. |
| Religion & Belief | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use. Translation and interpretation assistance will be made available upon request. |
| Sexual orientation | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |
| Gender Reassignment | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |
| Marriage / civil partnership | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |
| Pregnancy / maternity | | | X | | All the documents are available for all to use |

| Other groups you may want to consider | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| | Negative | Positive | No impact | Don't know | Details |
| Ex services | | | X | | As above |
| Lower socio-economic | | | X | | As above |
| Other ... | | | | | |

Stage 6 - BMBC Minimum access standards

If the proposal relates to the delivery of a new service, please refer to the Customer minimum access standards self-assessment (found at)

If not, move to Stage 7.

Please use the action plan at Stage 7 to document steps that need to be taken to ensure the new service complies with the Equality Act duty to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled people.

- The proposal will meet the minimum access standards.
- The proposal will not meet the minimum access standards. –provide rationale below.

Stage 7 - Next Steps

To improve your knowledge about the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: community engagement with affected groups, analysis of performance data, service equality monitoring, stakeholder focus group etc.

| Action we will take: | Lead Officer | Completion date |
|---|--------------|---|
| Arrange targeted consultation such as face to face meeting with the equality forums as appropriate. Disability Forum likely to be the most relevant to the subjects covered by SPD's. | Paula Tweed | As required when new SPD's are prepared or adopted SPD's reviewed |

To improve or mitigate the equality impact . . .

Actions could include: altering the policy to protect affected group, limiting scope of proposed change, reviewing actual impact in future, phasing-in changes over period of time, monitor service provider performance indicators, etc.

| Action we will take: | Lead Officer | Completion date |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| N/A | | |

To meet the minimum access standards . . .(if relevant)

Actions could include: running focus group with disability forum, amend tender specification, amend business plan to request extra 'accessibility' funding, produce separate MAS action plan, etc.

| Action we will take: | Lead Officer | Completion date |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| N/A | | |

Stage 8 – Summarised findings

Please summarise the main findings and next steps identified in this EIA.


The outcomes of this EIA must be documented in cabinet report. You could also include the EIA as an appendix to the report or reference it as a background paper.

You must also record which stakeholders need informing and how you will do this.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Summary of equality impact | <p>The key equality impacts will be around providing translation and interpretation assistance to those individuals that require it to help them understand the SPD/PAN.</p> <p>A reference is included in the Parking SPD to ensure adequate parking is provided to cater for the needs of people with disabilities to ensure that all parking is designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate.</p> <p>The Sustainable Travel SPD seeks contributions towards public transport and active travel enhancements and improvements to ensure developments are accessible to all. Whilst the document does not deal with the design of particular schemes, a cross reference has been added to ensure that all schemes that contributions are collected towards using this document, meet the needs of disabled people and are designed in accordance with current regulations and standards including Building Regulations, Equalities Act, relevant British Standards and the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide as appropriate. This is still the case in the updated SPD.</p> |
|-----------------------------------|---|

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Summary of next steps | <p>As stated earlier should any further documents be produced or when SPD's are reviewed, we will seek to arrange targeted consultation such as face to face meeting with the equality forums as appropriate. Disability Forum likely to be the most relevant to the subjects covered by SPD's/ PAN's.</p> <p>No face to face consultation took place on the Sustainable Travel SPD and Affordable Housing SPD due to Covid 19.</p> <p>EIA will be updated when further updates to existing SPD's or new SPD's are consulted on.</p> |
|------------------------------|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| How stakeholders will be informed | SPD's/PAN's are only applicable to individuals |
|--|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| | submitting planning applications. Any language/access issues will be addressed based on the merits of the individual application submitted. |
| Signature (officer responsible for EIA) Date 8/11/21 Updates added 9/5/22 |  |

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: Service Director, Place Regeneration and Culture

TITLE: Extension to Property Repair Improvement (PRIP) Contract

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| REPORT TO: | CABINET |
| Date of Meeting | 27 June 2022 |
| Cabinet Member Portfolio | Place |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Public or Private | Public |

Purpose of report

To seek approval to extend the PRIP Contract for an additional year to 31st March 2031.

Council Plan priority

Healthy, Growing, Learning and Sustainable Barnsley

Recommendations

That Cabinet:-

1. Note the contents of this report, the rationale provided and the benefits of the recommended course of action.
2. Approve the extension of the PRIP contract with Berneslai Homes and Wates Property Services
3. The Executive Director Place, in consultation with the Service Director Finance/S151 Officer, be given authority to proceed with the extension.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Property Repair Improvement Programme (PRIP) Contract was let in April 2020 to run for a 10-year period to 31st March 2030. The contract is split across two providers – Berneslai Homes (BH) (2/3rd of contract value) and Wates Property Services (1/3rd). The total annual contract value is c.£30M

- 1.2 At the point the contract was due to go live [1st April 2020], it was not possible to enter into the agreement with Wates and consequently, a three month extension with the previous provider was agreed. This meant that the Wates element of the contract did not go live until 1st July 2020.
- 1.3 As a result, the end dates for the two parts of the service provision are not aligned.
- 1.4 By aligning the contract end dates, this will remove the potential complexity from any future re-tendering exercise by allowing the two elements of the contract to be considered simultaneously.
- 1.5 Furthermore, the alignment will assist with the strategic management of the contract, including aligning reporting periods to the Council's year end dates i.e. 31st March which helps in terms of comparability of key performance indicators over the same period. There are also further strategic and operational benefits to aligning both contracts in terms of transparency / ease relating to data collection, better opportunities for the alignment of social value and sustainability initiatives and wider strategic planning considerations.
- 1.6 The decision was therefore taken to consider the options to align the end dates.
- 1.7 Two options are possible. The Council could shorten the contract with Wates by 3 months which would see both contracts end in March 2030. Currently, the contract with Wates runs to June 2030. Alternatively, both contracts can be extended to March 2031. In effect, extending the BH contract by 12 months and the Wates contract by 9 months.
- 1.8 Officers have undertaken discussion with Wates regarding shortening the contract. Wates would be happy to reduce the contract term by 3 months but highlighted the costs to them of doing this. As the costs are fixed, based on their commitment to the contract term, they would need to be passed onto the Council. These costs are detailed in Table A below -

Table A

| DOV Reduction in Contract Period. | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------|--|
| | | 2022 price | Including Inflation at year 10 say 25% |
| Rent | 3 months | 12,500.00 | 15,625.00 |
| Rates | 3 months | 4,249.00 | 5,311.25 |
| TP rent | 3 months | 10,500.00 | 13,125.00 |
| TP Rates | 3 months | 3,900.00 | 4,875.00 |
| Los of Profit | No Claim for a good client | | - |
| 3 Months fixed Cost | | | 38,936.25 |

- 1.9 Should the decision be taken to shorten the contract terms with Wates, there would also be some in-year costs incurred by Wates which the Council would be required to cover. These would vary, dependent upon the timing of the re-alignment but could run into 10's of thousands of pounds based on estimates.
- 1.10 It should be noted that this extension does not represent additional expenditure for the Council as the requirement is on-going. The extension would see an additional £25M - £30M being spent through the current contract. That sum being the annual repairs and maintenance budget across both responsive and planned repairs (including the decent homes programme).
- 1.11 The contract has a break clause at 5 years. As such the Council retains the right to terminate the contract at the 5-year point should it wish to do so. In addition, the contract contains a clause which would allow it to bring the contract to an end at 6 months' notice in the event of poor performance. The proposed extension would retain these flexibilities.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 It is proposed that the option to extend the contract is taken with the Wates contract extended by 9 months and the BH contract extended by 12 months, to both conclude on 31st March 2031.
- 2.2 Officers have engaged extensively with colleagues in Finance, Procurement and Governance. With Finance and Procurement, as well as the Client Team, having taken shared responsibility for the drafting of this report. All parties are therefore happy to agree to the proposed extension.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

- 3.1.1 Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director – Finance (S151 Officer).
- 3.1.2 The PRIP contract currently costs the Council broadly £30M p.a. which is split between the two contractors - Berneslai Homes (BH) who have approximately 2/3rds of contract value and Wates Property Services who have the remaining 1/3rd.
- 3.1.3 The implications of extending the contract by 12 months for BH and 9 months for Wates respectively totals an additional estimated cost to the Council of £27.5M, split between BH (c.£20M) and Wates (c.£7.5M).
- 3.1.4 From a budgetary perspective, the Council produces a rolling 30 year HRA Business plan which incorporates the assumed ongoing requirement for revenue repairs and capital replacements to its Council housing stock, delivered currently through the PRIP contract.

- 3.1.5 Using that longer term perspective and context, the Council sets out a HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the forthcoming 2 year period which in turn, delivers an annual budget for the HRA. Therefore, it is expected that the additional cost estimated as a result of this proposal would be contained within the annual HRA budget.
- 3.1.6 The Council will continue to closely assess its financial standing over this period and consider its position in terms of its strategy with regards to Council housing. The Council will determine the most appropriate course of action in respect of both the 5 year break clause and upon the conclusion of the extended PRIP contract, and report back to Cabinet at the appropriate time.
- 3.1.7 The Council would also see a benefit of aligning the end dates of both elements of the contract, more so towards the latter stages of the contract, particularly around the logistics from a procurement perspective when the contract is due for retender, should the Council opt to do so.
- 3.1.8 The financial implications are summarised in the accompanying Appendix A.

3.2 Legal

The proposed modification to the contract is lawful under regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

3.3 Equality

Not applicable – This is an extension to an existing contract where an EIA will have been completed.

3.4 Sustainability

Decision-making wheel not completed – This report relates to the extension of an existing contract where sustainability will have already been considered.

3.5 Employee

There are no employee implications arising from this report. However, extending the contract will provide security for the contractors, providing security to the primarily local labour force.

3.6 Communications

Our intention to extend the contract has been communicated to Wates and BH. Once approval to extend is received there will be a need to formally engage further with both parties to deliver a legally binding amendment to the contract document

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Extensive consultation has taken place with the Council's Finance Team, The Head of Strategic Housing, Sustainability & Climate Change, and the Head of Procurement & Contract Management.
- 4.2 Sign off has also been sought from the Service Director Place & Service Director Finance. Both of whom have confirmed their support for the approach.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 As detailed in Section 1 above, two options have been considered. It is felt that the option to shorten the contract with Wates does not represent best value for the Council. Whereas the option to extend the contract provides the opportunity for on-going efficiencies within the Finance Team and removing the need for a complex Procurement process in 2029/30

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 Exercising a 12-month extension to the PRIP contract represents the most cost-effective way of aligning the end dates for the two elements of the contract.
- 6.2 In turn delivering efficiency benefits for the Council by aligning the Wates element with our own financial year. As well as avoiding a complex procurement programme in 2030 to bridge the gap between the differing contract end dates.

Social Value

- 6.3 Extending the contract by 12 months will also extend the social value opportunities generated from this contract. The PRIP contract was designed to ensure that social value and sustainability are embedded throughout contract delivery; ensuring that directly employed staff across both BHCS and Wates live within the borough and that supply chains remain local. There are KPI's within the contract to ensure that staff are locally employed (restricting sub-contracts), that training, and development opportunities run through the heart of operations and that contract spend benefits the Borough. Both contractors have signed up to deliver a social value plan which requires them to have a minimum number of apprentices at any time during the duration of the contract (c.30) and to ensure that they are adding value to the localities within which they work. This includes providing training and up-skilling for tenants, school visits, tree planting initiatives and an annual contribution to the Better Barnsley Bond Scheme and/or other social value initiatives. Each year, each contractor pays a sum of funding to support social value (split 2/3 to 1/3 across BHCS & Wates respectively) to a sum of £150k. This funding is used to support local groups and charities to deliver vital services and support to residents across the borough.

7. GLOSSARY

None

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A – Financial Implications

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background papers regarding this report are held on file within the Procurement & Contract Management team

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


10. REPORT SIGN OFF

| | |
|--|--|
| Financial consultation & sign off | Appendix A attached |
| Legal consultation & sign off | Legal Services officer consulted and date <i>Jason Field 04/05/22</i> |

Report Author: Adrian.D.Griffith
Post: (Interim) PRIP Contract Manager
Date: 4th May 2022

Report of the Executive Director for PlaceFINANCIAL IMPLICATIONSEXTENSION OF PRIP CONTRACT

| | 2022/23 £M | 2023/24 £M | Later Years £M | TOTAL £M |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Expenditure: | | | | |
| Extension of PRIP Contract - BH Element | - | - | 20.000 | 20.000 |
| Extension of PRIP Contract - Wates Element | - | - | 7.500 | 7.500 |
| Total Expenditure | - | - | 27.500 | 27.500 |
| Resources: | | | | |
| Resources as identified as per HRA 30 Year Business Plan | - | - | 27.500 | 27.500 |
| Total Resources | - | - | 27.500 | 27.500 |

Agreed by: On behalf of the Service Director- Finance, Section
151 Officer

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