

MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday 6 March 2024
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 21 February 2024 (Cab.6.3.2024/3)
(Pages 3 - 6)

Items for Noting

4. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.6.3.2024/4)

Petitions

5. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.6.3.2024/5)

Items for Decision/Recommendation to Council

Children's Spokesperson

6. Annual Review of the Sufficiency of Childcare Places in the Borough
(Cab.6.3.2024/6) (Pages 7 - 48)

Core Services Spokesperson

7. Quarter 3 (2023/24) Corporate Performance Report (Cab.6.3.2024/7)
(Pages 49 - 54)
8. Corporate Finance Performance Quarter 3 2023/24 (Cab.6.3.2024/8)
(Pages 55 - 88)

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

9. HRA Decent Homes Capital Investment Report 2024/25 (Cab.6.3.2024/9)
(Pages 89 - 104)
10. Exclusion of Public and Press
It is likely that the public and press will be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the items so marked because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, subject to the public interest test.

Regeneration and Culture Spokesperson

11. Goldthorpe Housing Project Design and Delivery (Goldthorpe Towns Fund: Project D) (Cab.6.3.2024/11) (Pages 105 - 150)
Reason restricted:
Paragraph (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
12. Milefield Primary - Re-roofing Works (Cab.6.3.2024/12) (Pages 151 - 164)
Reason restricted:
Paragraph (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

To: Chair and Members of Cabinet:-

Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Cain, T. Cave, Franklin, Frost, Higginbottom, Howard, Makinson and Newing

Cabinet Support Members:

Councillors Bellamy, Bowser, Cherryholme, Moyes, Osborne, Peace and Sheard

Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Chair of Audit Committee

Sarah Norman, Chief Executive
Wendy Popplewell, Executive Director Core Services
Carly Speechley, Executive Director Children's Services
Wendy Lowder, Executive Director Place Health and Adult Social Care for Barnsley
Matt O'Neill, Executive Director Growth and Sustainability
Anna Hartley, Executive Director Public Health and Communities
Neil Copley, Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
Sukdave Ghuman, Service Director Law and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Michael Potter, Service Director Business Improvement, HR and Communications
Katie Rogers, Head of Communications and Marketing
Anna Marshall, Scrutiny Officer

Corporate Communications and Marketing

Please contact Sukdave Ghuman by email governance@barnsley.gov.uk

Tuesday 27 February 2024



MEETING:	Cabinet
DATE:	Wednesday 21 February 2024
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Houghton CBE (Chair), Cain, T. Cave, Franklin, Frost, Higginbottom, Makinson and Newing

Members in Attendance: Councillors Bellamy, Bowser, Cherryholme, Moyes, Peace and Sheard

194. Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Sheard declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Governor at Barnsley Hospital in respect of the agenda as a whole.

195. Leader - Call-in of Cabinet decisions

The Leader reported that no decisions from the previous meeting held on 07 February 2024 had been called in.

196. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 February 2024 (Cab.21.2.2024/3)

The minutes of the meeting held on 07 February 2024 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

197. Decisions of Cabinet Spokespersons (Cab.21.2.2024/4)

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

198. Petitions received under Standing Order 44 (Cab.21.2.2024/5)

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

199. UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) and South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) - Employment and Skills Programme (Cab.21.2.2024/6)

RESOLVED that Cabinet;

1. Give approval is for the Executive Director – Growth & Sustainability in consultation with the Executive Director of Core Services to enter into a partnership agreement with Sheffield City Council to receive UK SPF. This would deliver the following employment support projects under ‘Skills and Employability South Yorkshire’:
 - Strand One - Preparation for Work (young people and adults)
 - Strand Two - Into Employment Support (young people and adults); and

2. Give approval for the Executive Director – Growth & Sustainability in consultation with the Executive Director of Core Services to enter into a partnership agreement with City of Doncaster Council to receive UK SPF. This would deliver the following employment support project under ‘Skills and Employability South Yorkshire’:
 - Strand Three - Progression in Employment (all age); and
3. Give approval for the Executive Director – Growth & Sustainability in consultation with the Executive Director of Core Services to restructure and recruit additional resources to the Employment and Skills Service. This would provide a fit-for-purpose delivery structure to deliver UK SPF ‘Skills and Employability South Yorkshire’ programme.

200. Adoption of Updated Biodiversity and Geodiversity Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (Cab.21.2.2024/7)

RESOLVED that Cabinet refers the report to Full Council for approval to adopt the updated Biodiversity and Geodiversity SPD.

201. Adoption of Updated House Extensions and Other Domestic Alterations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (Cab.21.2.2024/8)

RESOLVED that Cabinet refers the report to Full Council for approval to adopt the updated House Extensions and Other Domestic Alterations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

202. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items, because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as described by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, as follows:-

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Type of Information Likely to be Disclosed</u>
203	Paragraph 2

203. Children's Services Financial Recovery Plan (Cab.21.2.2024/10)

RESOLVED that Cabinet;

1. Note the activity taking place in the delivery of the Financial Recovery Plan for Children's Services; and
2. Approve the increase in payments to be made to Barnsley ‘in-house’ Foster Carers; and
3. Note the approach to identifying further savings and approve the receiving of further reports, pending the outcome of more detailed analysis.

.....
Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CHILDREN’S SERVICES)

TITLE: ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SUFFICIENCY OF CHILDCARE PLACES IN THE BOROUGH

REPORT TO:	CABINET
Date of Meeting	6 March 2024
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Children’s Services
Key Decision	Yes
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

1.To inform Cabinet of the findings of the 2023-24 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for the Barnsley Local Authority area.

Council Plan priority

The annual review primarily supports the Council Plan Priority of a **Learning Barnsley** particularly through enabling young children to obtain a good start and to develop a good level of development during their early years as a platform for achieving good education outcomes later.

Recommendation

That Cabinet notes the outcomes of the annual review of the sufficiency of early years provision in the Borough and endorses the actions to be taken to maintain resilience within the sector which supports the sustainability of provision as indicated in Section 4 of this report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Local authorities are required by legislation to ‘secure sufficient childcare’ under the Childcare Act (2006) and should report annually on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare. Local authorities are responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in their report, the geographical division and date of publication.

- 1.2 The Barnsley Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) was produced from information gathered from providers in the Summer Term 2023 (see Appendix 1). The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment was produced by the Childcare Quality and Sufficiency Team.
- 1.3 The geographical division within the assessment is based on the six Area Council localities although a full background assessment has been undertaken at Ward level. The full report will be shared with existing and potential childcare providers and will be published on the Council's website.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 Key Findings

- 2.2 The number of children aged 0-4 years in the borough has reduced slightly from 13,926 in 2022 to 13,460, a difference of 466 children. This trend is due to continue with the ONS projections for the population aged 0-4 years in the borough reducing to 13,205 by 2026.
- 2.3 The number of early years children who have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and have either an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or require SEN support is 420 increasing from 335 in 2022.
- 2.4 Housing development and business development plans are now all progressing with significant amounts of housing and large business parks expected to be complete before 2030.
- 2.5 The number of early years registered providers in Barnsley is 189 which has fallen by 10 providers from last year. Early years school provision still stands at 55 which is equal to last year. There are a total of 232 providers of early years places in the borough, the remaining 12 registered providers do not offer early years education and instead are offering school age places only.
- 2.6 The reduction in the actual places being offered and the number of registered places has widened significantly again this year with recruitment issues having a huge impact in the reduction of availability of places. Providers also state that increases due to the cost of living, such as energy prices and increases in national minimum wage are impacting on the sustainability of their settings.
- 2.7 Encouragingly, the number of primary schools now delivering 30 hours of child-care has increased to 60%.
- 2.8 The take up rate of funding for eligible 2-year-old children is 73.8% which is 0.1% below the national average and the take up of funding for children aged 3 and 4 is 96.9% which is 3.2 % above the national average.

2.9 The cost of childcare is still rising with Barnsley settings charging above the regional rate for places.

3. Summary

3.1 There is the need to create a significant number of places in the borough in order to meet anticipated demand in line with the expansion of new entitlements, particularly for children aged 0-2 years, as well as the wraparound childcare offer. There is still a good mixture of childcare across Barnsley but some parents may not be able to access their preferred choice and may have to travel to access a place.

3.2 Priority should be firmly placed on the providers who are currently registered within the borough to assist them with the staffing and financial issues they are facing so they can provide the places which they are registered for and to stabilise the market.

3.3 Some of the sessional care currently being provided by early years settings and by schools is not currently meeting the needs of working parents so work should be completed with these providers to support the sufficiency needs of the borough.

3.4 Due to the increase in children with special educational needs and disabilities, the increasing complexities of some of those needs and the potential lack of access due to the lower than average figures in the Census, consideration should be given to if there are barriers to access and how increasing needs can be met.

3.3 There is the need to create further places particularly places that meet the needs of the new businesses that are setting up in the borough and who require employees to work shifts and evenings and weekends.

3.3 Further work is required to promote the existing childcare provision available in localities as well as to promote funded childcare entitlements to support people to access these.

4 Next Steps

4.1 A Steering Group of multi-agency partners and services is in place with a number of task and finish work strands to drive forward the delivery plan of ensuring the sufficiency of childcare places across the borough, taking into account the increased demand as a result of the expansion of new childcare entitlements and wraparound provision.

A focus of the delivery plan actions is to work with all existing early years settings to enable them to provide the places they are registered to deliver and consider expansion where appropriate. Where premises are available to accommodate childcare provision, including recently closed sites, work will be undertaken to seek to bring these back into use. We will work closely with partner services such as Enterprising Barnsley to promote the setting up and expansion of childcare businesses; encouraging the setup of new providers, including childminders, across the borough with emphasis on those Wards that do not currently have full day care provision including Dodworth, Stairfoot and Darfield as well as areas with a low childcare ratio including the Dearne, North and North-East Wards.

Additionally work should continue to encourage further schools to deliver 30 hours of care flexibly to meet the needs of working parents.

- 4.2 Work is to continue to facilitate the forum of providers and relevant agencies to drive forward strategies that will support the sector with the recruitment issues they are facing. This will include targeted work to encourage and support people to join the sector, including promoting opportunities to learn, apprenticeships and support to return to the profession.
- 4.3 Work should be undertaken to investigate ways to further support providers to manage the financial pressures impacting the sector to enable them to sustain their provision during this cost of living crisis. Additionally we should continue to work with large employers to assess their employees needs to inform local childcare providers and encourage them to provide financial support to local providers who can meet their needs.
- 4.4 Promotion of the childcare offer in the locality and funded entitlements should continue maximising the new Virtual Family Hub and designated family hubs sites to improve and widen local information available to residents. This will include further promotion of all childcare initiatives to support parents with the cost of living.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

5.1 Financial and Risk

- 5.1.1 The Council's Director of Finance or his representatives have been consulted in the drafting of this report. There are no direct financial implications emanating from the outcome or findings of the 2023-24 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment carried out by the Council.
- 5.1.2 Early Years providers and settings are currently funded from the Council's Early Years Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding allocation. The EY

funding is allocated through a local funding formula, based on actual participation hours for the year.

- 5.1.3 It should be noted that early years providers (mainly those in the private, voluntary and independent sector) continue to express sustainability concerns due to increasing cost pressures such as pay, cost of living, rising inflation and energy costs. This is due to the fact that the increase in Government funding has not kept pace with rising pay and inflation costs.
- 5.1.4 To address sustainability issues in the early years sector, additional funding was announced by the Government as part of the 2023 Spring Budget, namely £204 million from September 2023 rising to £288 million in 2024/25 to increase the funding paid to nurseries for the existing free hours offered.
- 5.1.5 On 29 November 2023 the DfE announced and released guidance on the expansion of Early Years entitlements of 15 hours childcare provision for 2 year olds for working parents from April 2024 and under 2s from September 2024. Details of the 2024/25 early years funding rates were confirmed on 19 December 2023 along with Barnsley's provisional settlement for the early years block of £25.9m.
- 5.1.6 In October 2023 the DfE announced a 3 year allocation in relation to a Wraparound Childcare Programme, which aims to ensure parents are able to access wraparound childcare during term time outside of the school day from 8am to 6pm. The table below detail the allocated funding:

Wraparound Childcare Programme Grant allocation	
	£
FY 2023/24	16,760
FY 2024/25	1,069,394
FY 25/26 (Provisional)	499,310
Total	1,585,465

- 5.1.7 This funding is expected to be used to either expand existing wraparound childcare provision or introduce provision where it does not exist. This can be in the form of contributing to start-up costs, expansion costs or running costs of a provision whilst demand for the provision builds. DfE expect provision to become self-sustainable through parental payments alone by the end of the funding term.

5.2 Legal

- 5.3 Please see Paragraph 1.1 of the report. There are no unanticipated legal implications emerging for the Council through this report.

5.4 Equality

5.5 An equality impact assessment has been undertaken as part of the annual review and is attached as Appendix 2 of the report.

5.6 Sustainability

5.5 There are no implications for sustainability in the Borough arising through consideration of this report.

5.7 Employee

5.8 There are no direct implications for the Council's employees emerging through this report. However, the report details the broader child-care workforce and the support which the Local Authority intends to offer as part of improving the sustainability of provision within the Borough.

5.9 Communications

5.10 The outcomes of the Annual Review will be published on the Council's Web site and widely shared with partners and the public as part of improving the long-term sustainability of the sector and promoting provision so that child-care and early years needs are fully met in the Borough.

5.11 CONSULTATION

5.12 The outcomes of the Annual Review have been reported to our early years' partners and the Council's Senior Management Team which has endorsed the proposed action outlined in Section 4 of this report.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 The purpose of this report is to set out for Cabinet the findings of the statutory childcare sufficiency assessment and the responsibility for ensuring there are sufficient child-care places to meet the needs of the Borough

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The outcome of the annual review affords Cabinet an insight into the current position of early years provision and its sustainability in the Borough in the context of the expansion of early years entitlements to young children and the development of 'wraparound' support provision.

7.2 As Cabinet is aware, the sustainability of the sector is not only crucial in enabling young children to obtain a good start in life and show a good level of development at an early stage as part of improving life chances and social mobility, sufficient child-care places are also imperative in ensuring parents remain economically active.

8. GLOSSARY

8.1 None, applicable

9. LIST OF APPENDICES

9.1 Appendix 1: Annual Review of the Sufficiency of Childcare Places in Barnsley (2023-24)

Appendix 2: Annual Review of the Sufficiency of Childcare Places in Barnsley Equality Impact Assessment (2023-24).

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

11. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date <i>Joshua Amahwe (16/01/2024)</i>
Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date Marianne Farrell, Team Leader – Social Care Legal Team. 22 nd January 2024

Report Author: Nina Sleight

Designation: Service Director (Education, Early Start and Prevention)

This page is intentionally left blank

Childcare Sufficiency Report 2023 to 2024

Barnsley Council



BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

Contents

Introduction	2
Key Findings	4
Summary	5
Our Plans for Childcare 23-24	5
Recruitment Issues	5
Financial Pressures	5
Creating Childcare	6
Promotion of Childcare.....	6
1.Demand for Childcare	6
Population of early years and school age children	6
Population Projections	7
Number of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	8
Housing Projections and Business Growth.....	8
2. Supply of Childcare	10
Number of settings by type of provision – area and ward.....	10
Number of early years providers and places	11
Early years vacancies	13
Number of school age providers and places	13
3.Funded Early Years Education.....	15
Two-Year-Old Funding.....	15
Three and Four-Year-Old Funding.....	16
4. Prices	17
5. Quality of childcare in our local area	18
Ofsted inspection grades	18
6. Parents and carers views of sufficiency of childcare in our local area	18
Parent and carers survey.....	19
7. Expansion of Early Years Funded Childcare.....	21
8. Expansion of Wraparound Childcare.....	24

Introduction

The Local Authority has a statutory duty under Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that sufficient childcare places are available across the borough for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

Under Section 7 of the Childcare Act 2006 the L.A also has to secure free early education provision for each eligible young child in their area (i.e. all three / four-year-olds and eligible two-year-olds).

The statutory duty includes that the L.A must 'report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare and make this report available and accessible to parents'.

Having sufficient childcare means that families can find childcare that meets their child's learning needs and enables parents to make a real choice about work and training.

Changes in government policy announced in the budget in March 2023 are significant in relation to the sufficiency of childcare:

Budget Announcements

In the Spring Budget 2023 the Chancellor announced significant changes in relation to funded childcare. It was announced that 30 hours of funded childcare would be available for every child from the term after they reach the age of 9 months with working parents by September 2025, where eligibility will match the existing 3–4-year-old 30 hours offer. This will be introduced in phases:

- 15 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn two coming into effect in April 2024
- 15 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn 9 months in September 2024.
- 30 hours childcare for working parents of eligible children the term after they turn 9 months up to the point they are eligible to access full time school in September 2025.

The funding paid to nurseries for the existing offers will also be increased nationally by £204 million from this September rising to £288 million next year. Schools and local authorities will receive £289m nationally in funding to increase the supply of wraparound care, so that parents

of primary school age children can drop their children off between 8am and 6pm – tackling the barriers to working caused by limited availability of wraparound care.

Additionally Childcare costs of parents moving into work or increasing their hours on Universal Credit will be paid upfront rather than in arrears, with maximum claim boosted to £951 for one child and £1,630 for two children – an increase of around 50%.

In recognition of both the importance and short supply of childminders, incentive payments of £600 will be piloted from Autumn of this year for those who sign up to the profession (rising to £1,200 for those who join through an agency) to increase the number available and increase choice and affordability for parents.

In this report, we have assessed current sufficiency using population data, childcare places and vacancy data gathered from early years providers and schools. The future demand detailed in the report is being predicted by using data supplied by the Department for Education.

This assessment of places is presented by area councils; Central, Dearne, North, North-East, Penistone and South.

The information within the assessment informs the work of the Early Start and Families Service and wider Local Authority departments in meeting the duty.

Key Findings

The number of 0-4's in the borough has reduced slightly from 13,926 in 2022 to 13,460 a difference of 466 children. This trend is due to continue with the ONS projections for the 0-4 population in the borough reducing to 13205 by 2026.

The number of early years children who have Special Educational Needs (SEN) and have either an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or require SEN support is 420 increasing from 335 in 2022.

Housing development and business development plans are now all progressing with significant amounts of housing and large business parks expected to be complete before 2030.

The number of early years registered providers in Barnsley is 189 which has fallen by 10 providers from last year. Early years school provision still stands at 55 which is equal to last year. There are a total of 232 providers of early years places in the borough, the remaining 12

registered providers do not offer early years education and instead offering school age places only.

The reduction in the actual places being offered and the registered places has widened significantly again this year with recruitment issues having a huge impact in the reduction of availability of places.

Encouragingly the number of primary schools now delivering 30 hours has increased to 60%.

The take up rate of 2-year-old funding is 73.8% which is 0.1% below the national average and the take up of 3 and 4-year-old funding is 96.9% which is 3.2 % above the national average.

The cost of childcare is still rising with Barnsley settings charging above the regional rate for places.

Summary

There is the need to create a significant number of places in the Borough in order to meet anticipated demand in line with entitlements expansion, particularly places to meet the demand created by the expansion of entitlements as well as the wraparound offer.

But priority should be firmly placed on the providers who are currently registered within the borough to assist them with the staffing and financial issues they are facing so they can provide the places which they are registered for and to stabilize the market.

Some of the sessional care currently being provided by early years setting and by schools is not currently meeting the needs of working parents so work should be completed with these providers to support the sufficiency needs of the borough.

Due to the increase in children with special educational needs and disabilities, the increasing complexities of some of those needs and the potential lack of access due to the lower than average figures in the census, consideration should be given to if there are barriers to access and how increasing needs can be met.

Our Plans for Childcare 23-24

Recruitment Issues

- Continue to facilitate the forum of providers and relevant agencies to discuss and agree strategies that will support the sector with the recruitment issues they are facing.

Financial Pressures

- Investigate ways in which the Local Authority can further support providers to sustain their provision during this cost of living crisis.
- Work with new employers to assess their employees needs to inform local childcare providers and encourage them to provide financial support to local providers who can meet their needs.

Creating Childcare

- Work initially with all existing early years settings and recently closed sites to enable them to provide the places they are registered to deliver.
- Encourage the setup of new providers, including childminders, across the borough with emphasis on those wards that do not currently have full day care provision including Dodworth, Stairfoot and Darfield as well as areas with a low childcare ratio including the Dearne, North and North-East areas.
- Encourage further schools to deliver 30 hours of care flexibly to meet the needs of working parents.

Promotion of Childcare

- Continue to grow the new Virtual Family Hub to improve and widen local information available to residents.
- Further promotion of all childcare initiatives to support parents with the cost of living.
- Continue to promote the two-year entitlement.

1.Demand for Childcare

Population of early years and school age children

There is an estimated total of 42,185 children aged 0-14 living in Barnsley (Office for National Statistics mid-2020 population estimates). The population is distributed evenly across the 5-9 year and 10–14-year age bands with just under 1000 less children in the lower 0-4 years age band, with 31.90% of total aged 0-four years, 34.06% aged five-nine years and 34.03% aged 10-14 years. These figures show a reduction in the 0-4 year and 5–9-year age groups and a slight increase in the 10–14-year age group compared to the mid 2020 population estimates.

Area Council	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total Children 0-14
Central	2,937	3,160	3,100	9,197
Dearne	1,612	1,548	1,538	4,698
North	2,380	2,505	2,563	7,448
North East	2,867	3,088	2,951	8,906
Penistone	1,089	1,385	1,536	4,010
South	2,575	2,683	2,668	7,926
BARNSELEY	13,460	14,369	14,356	42,185

Population estimates by area locality (mid-2020 estimates)

The highest number of children across all age bands live within the wards covered by the Central Area Council followed by the North-East Area Council and the South Area Council.

Population Projections

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2020-based population projections (released March 2020)¹ estimate the child population (children aged 0-16 years old) is projected to decrease by 2026 by 1.1% to 42,677. Increases are forecast in the 10-14 age range and decreases in the younger age ranges.

In contrast, the total population is projected to increase by 5% in the same period.

Child population forecast 2018 to 2026

Age range	2018	2023	% Change 2018-2023	2026	% Change 2018-2026
0-4	14,227	13,221	-7.1%	13,205	-7.2%
5-9	14,911	14,650	-1.8%	14,071	-5.7%
10-14	14,032	15,377	+9.6%	15,401	+9.8%
Child population 0-14	43,170	43,248	+1.8%	42,677	-1.1%
Overall population	245,199	253,424	+3.4%	257,456	+5.0%

Number of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Childcare providers have reported that 420 children who are accessing a 2,3 or 4-year-old funded place either have a EHCP in place or are receiving SEN support, this figure does not include those children accessing Out of School Clubs. This is a rise of 85 children from 2022 although the percentages of children with EHCP's and on SEN support is below the national percentage across both age bands.

Number of children by special educational needs (SEN) provision' for 15 hour entitlement, EHC plan and SEN support in Barnsley and England between 2020 and 2023									
		England				Barnsley			
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
EHC Plan	Number of registered two-year-olds	826	715	645	824	2	1	4	0
	Number of Registered three and four-year-olds	11603	12444	13330	15411	46	35	43	56
	Percentage of two-year-olds registered	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
	Percentage of three and four-year-olds registered	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	1.1%
SEN Support	Number of Registered two-year-olds	4153	3617	4851	5245	14	31	17	18
	Number of Registered three and four-year-olds year olds	72079	63974	71209	80178	191	146	271	346
	Percentage of two-year-olds registered	2.9%	2.9%	3.6%	4.2%	1.7%	4.2%	2.1%	2.5%
	Percentage of three and four-year-olds registered	5.7%	5.3%	5.9%	6.7%	3.5%	2.7%	5.1%	6.6%

Data from the Early Years Census 2022

Housing Projections and Business Growth

As reported in last year's assessment there are a number of large housing developments planned across the borough with numbers of homes being built increasing significantly from 2024 through to 2027 and beyond.

	No. Of Developments	Sum of 23/24	Sum of 24/25	Sum of 25/26	Sum of 26/27	Sum of 27/28	Sum of Total
Central							
Central	2	9	65	45	45	13	177
Dodworth	4	20	161	252	282	263	978
Kingstone	1	10	0	0	0	0	10
Stairfoot	2	41	45	45	45	45	221
Worsbrough	4	37	40	26	45	15	163
Central Total	13	117	311	368	417	336	1,549
Dearne							
Dearne North	5	52	87	135	162	126	562
Dearne South	7	16	43	145	151	124	479
Dearne Total	12	68	130	280	313	250	1,041
North							
Darton East	9	0	59	158	145	166	528
Darton West	3	32	12	0	40	45	129
Old Town	1	0	0	0	18	0	18
St Helen's	3	23	0	7	45	55	130
North Total	16	55	71	165	248	266	805
North East							
Cudworth	5	36	26	40	50	86	238
Monk Bretton	8	15	79	153	251	198	696
North East	5	24	3	62	45	16	150
Royston	4	32	45	58	90	90	315
North East Total	22	107	153	313	436	390	1,399
Penistone							
Penistone East	4	15	12	14	2	2	45
Penistone West	6	103	86	162	115	115	581
Penistone Total	10	118	98	176	117	117	626
South							
Darfield	7	14	47	95	90	118	364
Hoyland Milton	4	2	62	38	24	0	126
Rockingham	8	15	167	150	150	185	667
Wombwell	2	30	86	45	45	45	251
South Total	21	61	362	328	309	348	1,408
Grand Total	94	526	1,125	1,630	1,840	1,707	6,828

Statistics provided by School Place Planning

Alongside the planned residential developments are large business parks some already occupied by large employers who require a flexible workforce that can work non-standard hours, shifts including evening, weekend and nights.

2. Supply of Childcare

There are a total of 189 registered early years and childcare settings in Barnsley, and 55 maintained nursery classes, which is a fall of 10 settings as reported in the 2021-2022 Childcare Sufficiency Report. Collectively, these settings can provide a total of places 5684 early years places, however they are currently offering 5318 places. Therefore, we have 102 fewer registered places and settings are offering 255 fewer places. Settings that are not offering the full number of places they are registered for state that this is due to recruitment issues.

Childminding provision is available in all areas and day nursery provision in most wards. Wards with no day nursery provision include Dodworth and Stairfoot (Central area); Darfield (South area), although Darfield does have a Family Centre with a nursery. There is maintained nursery provision in all wards and areas.

There are only 4 pre-school/sessional settings registered in Barnsley, two are located in the North East area, one in Dearne and one in Penistone. All apart from the Penistone area has at least one Family Centre that offers sessional childcare places and family services, Penistone Family Centre does not offer childcare but does offer family services. Preschool and sessional settings rely on government funding and do not meet the needs of most working parents therefore they are finding it increasingly difficult to survive.

Number of settings by type of provision – area and ward

Wards	Childminder	Day Nursery	Family Centre	Out of School	Sessional	Maintained Nursery	Sum of Total
Central							
Central	1	6				3	10
Dodworth	1					2	3
Kingstone	6	1				4	11
Stairfoot	7					3	10
Worsbrough	2	2	1			3	8
Central Total	17	9	1	0	0	15	42
Dearne							
Dearne North	2	1	1		1	4	9
Dearne South	5	2	1			3	11
Dearne Total	7	3	2	0	1	7	20
North							
Darton East	14	2		2		3	21
Darton West	5	2		1		1	9
Old Town	9	1		3		2	15
St Helen's	3	1	1			5	10
North Total	31	6	1	6	0	11	55
North East							
Cudworth	10	3		1		2	16
Monk Bretton	2	3				2	7
North East	5	2	1	1	1	3	13
Royston	9	1		1	1	2	14
North East Total	26	9	1	3	2	9	50
Penistone							
Penistone East	4	4		1		1	10
Penistone West	8	4			1	2	15
Penistone Total	12	8	0	1	1	3	25
South							
Darfield	10		1			2	13
Hoyland Milton	4	5		1		3	13
Rockingham	7	2				2	11
Wombwell	8	3		1		3	15
South Total	29	10	1	2	0	10	52
Grand Total	122	45	6	12	4	55	244

Number of early years providers and places

In total, there are 232 early years childcare providers in our local authority offering early years places, this a reduction of 15 providers from 2022, currently offering a maximum of 5,318 early years childcare places:

Type of provision	Number of providers	Number of Registered Places	Number of places currently Offered
Childminders	122	432	392
Number of classes in schools	55	2383	2383
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries (inc. 6 Family Centre Sessional Care)	55	2,869	2,543
Total	232	5,684	5,318

This does not include any childminding places for school aged children or OSC numbers.

For private, voluntary and independent nurseries and childminders, the number of registered places represents the maximum number of children who can be on the premises at any given time. In practice, many providers choose to operate below their number of registered places.

Children may attend childcare full time or part time. This table records places for children who are attending full time, or for as many hours as the setting is open. In some cases, two or more children attending part time may use one full time equivalent place. For example, one child may attend in the morning and one child may attend in the afternoon.

Childcare Penetration Rate

The ratio of childcare places has risen slightly over the past year to an average of 0.34. However, the North-East has fallen once again and remains below average along with the North and Dearne areas. Although, once again, if settings were able to deliver the number of places they were registered for, the percentages would have been 0.37 average with just Dearne, North and North-East still being below this years' average.

The Dearne and North areas are significantly lower than this years' average, as they had been in the previous 2 years.

Area Council	0-4 population 2023	Total of Childcare Places 2023	Places Offered	Maintained Places	Total Maintained and Childcare Places	Childcare Ratio on places offered 2023	Childcare Ratio 2022-2023
Central	2,937	753	627	448	1,075	0.37	0.32
Dearne	1,612	251	191	195	386	0.24	0.22
North	2,380	482	434	208	642	0.27	0.26
North East	2,867	643	636	288	924	0.32	0.34
Penistone	1,089	490	455	78	533	0.49	0.46
South	2,575	702	609	286	895	0.35	0.32
Barnsley	13,460	3,321	2,952	1,503	4,455	0.34	0.32

Early years vacancies

Vacancy Levels have significantly reduced this year, with 562 fewer full-time places available compared with 2022 figures.

Type of provision	Number of providers	Average Number of Vacancies	Number of Full Time Vacancies
Childminders	122	<0.5	0.1
Number of classes in schools	55	8.4	4.2
Private, voluntary and independent nurseries	55	3.5	2.8
Total	232	3.0	1.7

Vacancy rates are a snapshot, and often change rapidly. In some cases, providers may have a vacancy which is only available for a specific age group, or for a particular part time arrangement. [We ask providers to report vacancies to us so we can help promote them. Not all choose to do this]. In general, vacancy rates are higher in the autumn, when children move to school.

Number of school age providers and places

The table below shows the variety of wraparound school age provision on offer across the borough. There are 129 holiday care providers including childminders, 51 of the 55 primary

schools provide a breakfast club with 1,712 places offered. After school care is provided by several provisions including childminders, PVI's and some schools.

Type of Provision	Number of Providers	Number of registered places	Number of places offered
Independent Out of School Clubs	12	358	313
Independent Holiday Clubs	5	170	165
School Breakfast Clubs	51	1,890	1,712
School After School Clubs	13	359	359
School Holiday Clubs	0	0	0
Childminders Term Time	107	735	703
Childminders Holiday	104	703	651
PVI's Out of School Provision	35	366	311
PVI's Holiday Provision	20	301	252
Playgroups / Sessional Out of School Provision	2	66	24
Total	349	4,948	4,490

Tracking supply of childcare for school age children is difficult because not all this type of provision is registered with Ofsted. Parents may also use provision which is not considered 'childcare', for example sports or arts clubs after school or in the holidays.

School age places and vacancies

Although vacancies change daily, the vacancies at the time of the survey for these providers were as follows:

Type of Provision		Number of Providers	Number of places offered	Number of Vacancies	Number of Full Time Equivalent Vacancies	% places vacant	% of full time places vacant
Independent Out of School Clubs	Before School	12	358	35	28	9.8	7.8
	After School			26	25	7.3	7.0
	Holiday	5	165	23	23	13.9	13.9
School	Before School	51	1,712	346	325	20.2	19.0
	After School	13	359	98	92	27.3	25.6
	Holiday	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Childminder	Before School	107	703	29	19	4.1	2.7
	After School			25	18	3.6	2.6
	Holiday	104	651	82	76	12.6	11.7
PVI's	Before School	35	311	26	23	8.4	7.4
	After School			28	25	9.0	8.0
	Holiday	20	252	43	40	17.1	15.9
Playgroups / Sessional	Before School	2	24	0	0	0.0	0.0
	After School			1	1	4.2	4.2
	Holiday			0	0	0.0	0.0

3.Funded Early Years Education

Two-Year-Old Funding

Currently some two-year-old children are eligible for a funded place; eligibility for funding is based on the national criteria for disadvantaged two-year-olds. All eligible two-year-olds are able to access a free early education place from the term after their second birthday. Each eligible child is entitled to 15 hours of free education a week, up to 570 hours per year for a maximum of three terms.

The current take up is 73.8% which is 0.1% below the national average. The figures below show the take up rate comparison between Barnsley LA, all Yorkshire and Humber LA's and the national figure.

		2020	2021	2022	2023	
England	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	207,392	201,562	188,318	168,080	
	Number of Registered 2-year-olds	143,439	124,543	135,410	124,211	
	Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	69.0%	62.0%	72.0%	73.9%	
Yorkshire and The Humber	Yorkshire and The Humber	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	23,904	22,814	21,210	19,149
		Number of Registered 2-year-olds	17,318	15,231	16,143	14,668
		Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	72.0%	67.0%	76.0%	76.6%
	Barnsley	DWP population estimate for 2-year-olds	1,147	1,054	1,059	982
		Number of Registered 2-year-olds	839	738	793	725
		Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds registered	73.0%	70.0%	75.0%	73.8%

Three and Four-Year-Old Funding

All three- and four-year-olds are entitled to 570 hours free early education a year, delivered as a minimum as 15 hours a week over 38 weeks (school term time) but can be taken as a stretched offer with fewer hours a week over more weeks in a year.

Since September 2017 eligible three and four-year-olds have been entitled to an additional 570 hours free childcare, taking the entitlement for some children to 30 hours per week or 1,140 hours a year. Parents of children accessing a funded place can pay for additional hours to meet their childcare needs. This offer is widely available within the sector.

Take up of 3 and 4-year funded places has increased over the last 2 years and is now at 96.9%, which is 3.2% above the national average and 1% above the regional average.

		2020	2021	2022	2023
England	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	1,271,544	1,211,991	1,212,234	1,196,031
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	1,368,723	1,351,161	1,312,363	1,276,447
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	92.9%	89.7%	92.3%	93.7%
Yorkshire and The Humber	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	125,706	119,889	119,937	117,813
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	132,183	130,598	126,917	122,850
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	95.1%	91.8%	94.5%	95.9%
Barnsley	Number of Registered 3 and 4-year-olds	5,531	5,329	5,299	5,246
	ONS population estimates for 3 and 4-year-olds	5,798	5,837	5,673	5,414
	Percentage of eligible 3 and 4-year-olds registered	95.4%	91.3%	93.4%	96.9%

4. Prices

The price of childcare in Barnsley is below all the national average figures by age and by hours, although slightly higher in most categories than the regional average.

Nationally, it has been acknowledged that the cost of childcare in the U.K is higher than most other countries and is unsustainable. The government have introduced the increase in funded age range and hours to support parents with the rising cost of childcare.

Table 1 - Price of 25 hours a week childcare for children aged under three at nurseries and childminders

Area	Nursery		Childminder	
	Under 2	2 year old	Under 2	2 year old
England	£ 140.68	£ 135.28	£ 124.83	£ 122.33
Yorkshire and Humber	£ 122.17	£ 118.23	£ 110.39	£ 108.09
Barnsley	£ 138.83	£ 135.37	£ 116.59	£ 116.41

Table 2 - Price of 50 hours a week childcare for children aged under three at nurseries and childminders

Area	Nursery		Childminder	
	Under 2	2 year old	Under 2	2 year old
England	£ 273.57	£ 265.38	£ 237.58	£ 236.01
Yorkshire and Humber	£ 241.88	£ 234.31	£ 210.07	£ 208.06
Barnsley	£ 259.27	£ 256.68	£ 227.26	£ 225.54

5. Quality of childcare in our local area

Ofsted inspection grades

The grade a childcare setting receives when it is inspected by Ofsted is a key indicator of quality of the care and education it provides. There are four different grades that can be given to childcare settings, outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate.

The following table shows the percentage of providers achieving good or above outcomes. The percentage of good and outstanding outcomes has fallen by 1% in Barnsley with national outcomes falling by 2% in the same period.

Area	August 2016	August 2017	August 2018	August 2019	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022	August 2023
Barnsley	92%	96%	97%	98%	99%	98%	98%	96%
Yorkshire and Humber	91%	95%	95%	96%	97%	98%	97%	97%
National	91%	93%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%	96%

Figures Ofsted Statistics

The Local Authority has provided support to all childcare settings in the borough, with those that are likely to be inspected in the near future being offered specific support on an individual and bespoke basis.

Providers can also receive a met or not met outcome if they are inspected when they: have no children on roll or have no children present on the day of the inspection. Out of School Clubs and those on the Childcare Register can only receive a met or not met outcome however some do still carry the old outcomes and therefore when these have been reinspected, it has resulted in some 'Good' and 'Outstanding' grades becoming 'Met' grades which has resulted on a change to percentages of outcomes.

6. Parents and carers views of sufficiency of childcare in our local area

Parent and carers survey

A parents and carers survey was undertaken in November 2023 to ascertain the view of parents with regards to childcare availability and accessibility.

The survey was promoted and distributed by the Barnsley Families Information Service (FIS), Family Hubs and through Barnsley Council social media platforms and 63 families responded to this survey. A further 124 survey forms were started but not completed. 23% of respondents have a child/children with identified or suspected additional need/s

83% of respondents stated that they prefer to access childcare Close to home, with 11% preferencing childcare close to work.

The main reason given for accessing childcare was to enable access to work.

Reason	Number of responses	Percentage
To allow me to work	56	48%
To help with my child's learning and development	28	24%
So my child can play with others	20	17%
My child has an additional need or disability and needs support with learning and development	6	5%
To allow me to study	4	3%
To give me time for myself	3	3%

52% felt they could arrange flexible childcare to meet their needs. Most respondents stated they use childcare via a day nursery – 52%, followed closely by informal childcare (family/friends) – 43%. At total of 75% of respondents had the same childcare needs week to week, whilst 25% needs varied.

68% of respondents did not need to access childcare on evenings, weekends or overnight. However, 22% stated they needed childcare in the evenings, with 6% needing weekends and 4% needing overnight.

16 per cent of respondents stated they do not use formal childcare because they find it too expensive. A further 10 % stated that they cannot find a vacancy.

No respondents found it easy to find suitable childcare for Free Holiday clubs or Children with Special Educational needs and/or disabilities, and Early Years (0-4 years) plus Holiday Club/Childcare respondents found it more difficult than easy.

	Very Easy	Quite Easy	Quite Difficult	Very Difficult	Not Applicable
Early Years (0-4 years)	2%	32%	33%	14%	19%
Breakfast Club (from 5 years)	13%	19%	8%	6%	54%
After School Club (from 5 years)	5%	24%	10%	10%	52%
Holiday Club/Childcare (8-6)	2%	10%	11%	14%	63%
Free Holiday Club (3 or 4 hours per day i.e. HAF)	0%	0%	14%	24%	62%
Child with SEND	0%	0%	2%	14%	84%

Comments from respondents included:

- Very few childminders/ day nurseries start at 7 to allow for travel to work.
- Holiday clubs are generally 9/10 until 3pm so may not work for everyone.
- Early years is easy to find - however if you want a school nursery place, this then limited your options for longer / full day care as they would need to swap / change provision which is not ideal.
- It was easy as they had availability, but my children took the last two places on one of the days so if they were full, it wouldn't have been.
- I found childcare easy enough, in the location and with the flexibility I needed. I hear others find it less easy.
- The after school club is only until 4.30, I work until 6pm
- I currently have to use childcare in Sheffield for school holidays as there is nothing in Barnsley other than 10-2 free holiday camps, which is no good for working 8-hour shifts.

The majority of respondents pay for all of their own childcare costs, the second highest is using the Tax Free Childcare Scheme.

Some of the comments from the survey demonstrate the need to further promote the childcare available across the local authority area as well as the entitlements to funded childcare.

	Eligible and using this entitlement	Eligible but not using this	Checked but I am not eligible	Aware of it but I have not checked eligibility	Unaware of this offer
2-year-old entitlements (15 hours a week)	12%	6%	55%	16%	12%
3 and 4-year-old funded early years education (15 hours childcare in school nursery or childcare provider, including childminders)	19%	13%	38%	21%	9%
extended 3 and 4-year-old funded early years education (30 hours childcare in school nursery or childcare provider, including childminders)	23%	14%	29%	25%	9%

7. Expansion of Early Years Funded Childcare

The DfE has provided Local Authorities with assessment data provided in Medium Super Output Areas (MSOA). Although we can compare some of this data against the collated data from our 100% return this year for the Childcare Sufficiency Data, some data cannot be compared due to the MSOA crossing some ward boundaries.

Estimated demand for the new childcare entitlement in April 2024: 15 hours funded childcare extended to all eligible working families for all 2-year-olds from the term following their second birthday.

MSOA	Est. 2-year-olds	Projected users of new entitlement	Low scenario : new demand	Central scenario : new demand	High Scenario : new demand
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	71	33	3	8	16
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	63	24	2	6	12
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	46	21	2	5	11
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	97	36	4	9	18
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	68	27	3	7	13
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	113	39	4	10	19
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	118	35	4	9	18
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	87	26	3	6	13
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	64	30	3	8	15
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	97	38	4	9	19
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	100	40	4	10	20
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	105	48	5	12	24
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	137	47	5	12	24
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	122	31	3	8	16
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	70	25	3	6	13
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	37	18	2	4	9
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	76	28	3	7	14
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	82	25	2	6	12
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	46	19	2	5	9
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	114	36	4	9	18
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	79	26	3	6	13
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	99	29	3	7	15
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	99	33	3	8	17
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	89	50	5	13	25
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	84	29	3	7	14
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	113	42	4	10	21
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	49	29	3	7	15
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	81	35	4	9	18
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	79	33	3	8	17
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	65	25	2	6	12
Totals	2550	957	98	237	480

We currently have 87 more 2-year-olds across the borough than the DfE have estimated. If we consider the central scenario for new demand when entitlements change in April 2024, there will be an additional 237 2-year-olds that will be eligible for funding.

As we cannot be certain about how many of these children would be new users to childcare, we may find that quite a number are already accessing childcare places. We do know however that

there are 139 registered places for 2-year-olds across the borough that are not being offered at the moment due to the staffing constraints that providers are experiencing.

Estimated demand for the new childcare entitlement in September 2024: 15 hours of funded childcare for all eligible children from the term following when a child reaches 9 months of age.

MSOA	Est. under 2's	Projected users of new entitlement	Low scenario: new demand	Central scenario: new demand	High Scenario: new demand
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	168	63	6	21	42
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	154	47	5	15	31
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	110	42	4	14	28
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	236	70	7	23	46
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	149	50	5	17	33
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	275	77	8	25	50
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	278	68	7	22	45
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	198	49	5	16	33
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	156	60	6	20	39
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	229	74	7	24	49
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	226	75	8	25	50
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	226	90	9	30	60
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	303	89	9	29	58
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	273	58	6	19	38
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	175	51	5	17	33
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	91	34	3	11	23
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	161	51	5	17	34
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	189	47	5	16	31
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	93	34	3	11	22
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	275	70	7	23	46
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	189	51	5	17	33
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	238	57	6	19	38
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	215	62	6	20	41
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	212	97	10	32	64
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	210	57	5	19	38
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	261	80	8	27	53
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	121	58	6	19	38
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	170	65	7	22	43
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	177	63	6	21	42
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	159	48	5	16	32
Totals	5917	1837	184	607	1213

The estimate of 0–2-year-olds from the department for education is almost 700 higher than the figures detailed above. There are, as a central scenario of increased demand, over 600 newly eligible children. There are currently 383 0–2-year-old places being offered across the borough

in group provision but there are a further 51 places that registered but not being offered at this time. As childminders can only normally look after 1 child under the age of 1, it is reasonable to assume that there are a maximum of 244 0-2 places in the borough with childminders and as detailed above, the average childminder has less than half of a full-time equivalent place vacant as of July 2023.

Therefore, we envisage that although more detailed work must be done to identify just how many of these children will be new users to childcare and therefore equate to a need for new and additional places and where these places are needed, we can estimate that Barnsley will most probably need more 0–2 year old places to be created than 2 year old places and this will also lead to increases when all eligible children that are in receipt of 15 hours, become eligible for the new 30 hours entitlement.

The DfE have mapped supply and estimated demand that predicts that Barnsley needs 98 new places for April 2024, a further 159 places for September 2024 and 727 places by September 2025.

8. Expansion of Wraparound Childcare

The Governments expansion to Wraparound care is expected to generate demand once the provision is in place. It has been identified that families that work have had to reduce their working hours, change their employment or seek support from others to provide childcare when their child has begun full time school. This is in most part due to their being much more accessible childcare for children up to school age. Therefore, with the expansion for early years childcare, there should be a genuine need for an increase in wraparound when those children reach compulsory school age and throughout at least their primary school education.

The current Wraparound Market is as follows:

These figures include all out of school provision that meets the governments definition of childcare of 8am to 6pm provided to all children that need it on every school day (childminders, day nurseries and pre-schools, out of school clubs and primary schools).

MSOA	Breakfast	After School	Holiday
Barnsley 001 (E02001509)	142	32	32
Barnsley 002 (E02001510)	91	91	62
Barnsley 003 (E02001511)	87	87	87
Barnsley 004 (E02001512)	134	94	62
Barnsley 005 (E02001513)	85	55	25
Barnsley 006 (E02001514)	64	14	12
Barnsley 007 (E02001515)	183	123	13
Barnsley 008 (E02001516)	150	66	30
Barnsley 009 (E02001517)	110	24	38
Barnsley 010 (E02001518)	55	55	30
Barnsley 011 (E02001519)	90	20	20
Barnsley 012 (E02001520)	61	61	39
Barnsley 013 (E02001521)	144	144	67
Barnsley 014 (E02001522)	90	55	6
Barnsley 015 (E02001523)	67	57	22
Barnsley 016 (E02001524)	115	115	40
Barnsley 017 (E02001525)	104	14	6
Barnsley 018 (E02001526)	81	38	18
Barnsley 019 (E02001527)	33	40	0
Barnsley 020 (E02001528)	168	56	31
Barnsley 021 (E02001529)	88	38	38
Barnsley 022 (E02001530)	37	17	17
Barnsley 023 (E02001531)	75	75	54
Barnsley 024 (E02001532)	178	178	111
Barnsley 025 (E02001533)	79	24	24
Barnsley 026 (E02001534)	167	93	61
Barnsley 027 (E02001535)	42	50	26
Barnsley 028 (E02001536)	177	125	101
Barnsley 029 (E02001537)	111	19	4
Barnsley 030 (E02001538)	123	23	23
Totals	3131	1883	1099

This page is intentionally left blank

Equality Impact Assessment

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Stage 1 Details of the proposal

Name of service Directorate	Children Services – Early Start, Prevention and Sufficiency
Name of officer responsible for EIA Name of senior sponsor	Laura Hammerton – Early Start and Families Strategy and Service Manager Claire Gilmore – Head of Service, Early Start, Prevention and Sufficiency
Description / purpose of proposal	The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment provides an assessment of the availability, sustainability and sufficiency of childcare places across the borough.
Date EIA started	June 2022
Assessment Review date	January 2024

Stage 2 - About the proposal

What is being proposed?	A Childcare Sufficiency Assessment which supports local authorities in shaping the childcare market in their area. Working with providers from the private, voluntary, independent and maintained sectors, the local authority will look to create a strong, sustainable and diverse childcare market that meets the needs of parents. It focuses in particular on sufficient, sustainable and flexible childcare that is responsive to parents' needs.
Why is the proposal required?	The Childcare Act 2006 places a legal duty on all local authorities to ensure that there is sufficient childcare in their area.

What will this proposal mean for customers?

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment supports parents to gain an understanding of the types of childcare and the places on offer in Barnsley, to inform decisions about childcare options for their family. It also supports childcare providers to understand the local childcare market and to help them make informed choices to better meet the childcare needs of families in Barnsley.

Stage 3 - Preliminary screening process

Use the Preliminary screening questions to decide whether a full EIA is required

Yes - EIA required (go to next section)

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

Stage 4 - Scoping exercise - What do we know?

Data: Generic demographics

What generic data do you know?

The report incorporates data provided by settings on the amount of places they provide and the vacancy levels that can be accessed. The report assesses the places and vacancy data against the ONS population data for 0-14.

Data: Service data / feedback

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

The CSA is completed to ensure there are sufficient childcare places across the borough and identifies any potential/actual gaps. It is the responsibility of childcare providers to ensure they meet the requirements of the EYFS which is the framework including legal duties in which they operate.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets the standards that all early year's providers must meet to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure children's 'school readiness' and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.

The EYFS seeks to provide:

- quality and consistency in all early years settings, so that every child makes good progress and no child gets left behind
- a secure foundation through planning for the learning and development of each individual child, and assessing and reviewing what they have learned regularly

- partnership working between practitioners and with parents and/or carers
- equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every child is included and supported

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

The assessment will be reviewed termly and refreshed annually as the new CSA is completed

The creation of new places will be monitored and further work will be completed on access for those children with EAL and SEND and also by area.

Data: Formal consultation

What information has been gathered from formal consultation?

The following information has been gathered by formal consultation:

- Information on the number of childcare places across the borough
- Information on the vacancies held by childcare providers
- Information from parents about unmet need

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 negative impact is substantial and highlight with **red text**)

Negative (and potentially positive) impacts identified will need to form part of your action plan.

Protected characteristic	Negative '-'	Positive '+'	No impact	Don't know	Details
Sex			✓		Data not collected on sex. There is no known adverse impact.
Age		✓			The report covers childcare needs for all pre-school and school age children and funded early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
Disabled <i>Learning disability, Physical disability, Sensory Impairment, Deaf People ,invisible illness, Mental Health etc</i>		✓			The childcare needs of Children with Special Educational needs and disability are covered. Children with disabilities are included in the 2 year old offer and the extended 30hour offer. The Council supports children with complex needs through high needs block funding and through the Early Education Funding via the Early

					Years Inclusion Grant. Targeted funding supports the delivery of appropriate places for children with a disability.
Race			✓		There is no known adverse impact as all childcare providers must meet the requirements of EYFS ensuring their environments represent the communities/children and families they support as well as the wider world.
Religion & Belief			✓		There is no known adverse impact as all childcare providers must meet the requirements of EYFS ensuring their environments represent the communities, families and children they support as well as the wider world.
Sexual orientation			✓		There is no known adverse impact.
Gender Reassignment			✓		There is no known adverse impact.
Marriage / civil partnership			✓		There is no known adverse impact.
Pregnancy / maternity		✓			The report covers the childcare availability and gaps for children 0-5 years to support those who need to find childcare after having a baby.

Other groups you may want to consider					
	Negative	Positive	No impact	Don't know	Details
Ex services		✓			The report covers the childcare availability and gaps for those 0-5 which may be required by ex services families settling in the Barnsley area
Lower socio-economic		✓			The report specifically covers the places for 2 year olds some of whom may be eligible for paid places under the two year old entitlement for children from low socio economic families
Other ... Afghanistan Resettlement Programme		✓			Links will be made to establish how many families will be resettled in Barnsley and support to find childcare will be offered.

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 to be taken to ensure the new service complies with the minimum access standards for reasonable adjustments for disabled people.

Not yet live

- The proposal will meet the minimum access standards.
- The proposal will not meet the minimum access standards. –provide rationale below.

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
The assessment will be reviewed refreshed annually as the new CSA is completed	Melanie Szoke - Childcare Quality and Sufficiency Manager	December 2024
The creation of new places will be monitored and further work will be completed on access for those children with EAL and SEND and also by area.	Melanie Szoke – Childcare Quality and Sufficiency Manager	December 2024

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

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:	Completion date
Not yet live	

Stage 8 – Assessment findings

Please summarise how different protected groups are likely to be affected

Summary of equality impact	<p>The assessment will be reviewed refreshed annually as the new CSA is completed</p> <p>The creation of new places will be monitored and further work will be completed on access for those children with EAL and SEND and also by area.</p>
-----------------------------------	---

Summary of next steps	<p>This equality and impact assessment enables the L.A to consider the impact of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and its impact on different protected groups. As there was deemed to be sufficient childcare across the borough when the assessment was completed and the setting must provide equal access and suitable childcare to reflect and support children from all the different protected groups covered by the assessment there is currently no adverse impact identified for any group. But this will be monitored as there are some uncertainties about demand and availability due to the current workforce crisis. Therefore, further data will need to be collected to ensure the lower vacancy levels do not impact unfairly on any protected group.</p>
------------------------------	---

Signature (officer responsible for EIA) Date	 5/1/24
---	--

**** 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?

This page is intentionally left blank

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CORE SERVICES

TITLE: Quarter 3 Corporate Performance Report

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting	06 March 2024
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Core Services
Key Decision	No
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to introduce the Council Plan Performance Report, drawing upon information available for October - December 2023 (Quarter 3) period and to provide an overview of achievement in delivering the priorities and outcomes of the Council Plan 2021-24 .

Council Plan priority

All

Recommendations

That Cabinet:-

- 1. Review, challenge and scrutinise the contents of the Corporate Performance Report in relation to the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities and outcomes.**
- 2. The Performance Report is shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform and support their ongoing work programme.**

1. INTRODUCTION

Our [Council Plan for 2021 to 2024](#) sets out what we aim to achieve over three years. Our plan gives us a clear direction to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and build our borough back better and fairer. It focuses on how we collectively deliver our services across the council to best support residents, communities, partners and business. It explains what we want to do, how we

plan to do it, and how we'll measure whether we're on track to achieve it.

The Council Plan has been developed alongside the work that has taken place for the [Barnsley 2030](#) project through a series of activities with residents, businesses, employees and other key stakeholders across the borough to build a picture of what Barnsley is like now and what we want it to be like by 2030.

We have five priorities which are supported by 12 Outcomes: 63 Critical Success factors (Key Performance Indicators) have been aligned to the Outcomes to allow us to assess our performance against each Outcome.

Our priorities

- **Healthy Barnsley** – People can access all the care and support they need, at the right time and in the right place.
- **Learning Barnsley** – The opportunities available for young and adult learners mean that everyone can fulfil their learning potential, helping them build the skills they need to get into work and progress their careers.
- **Growing Barnsley** – Barnsley is an inclusive place where everyone can find suitable employment, live in a high-quality home that's right for them, and access the fast and affordable digital resources they need.
- **Sustainable Barnsley** – Protecting our borough for future generations
- **Enabling Barnsley** – Our priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing.

Our priorities and outcomes

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

Q3 Performance

40 Critical Success factors were reported in Quarter 3. 19 Were Rag rated green, 9 were amber and 12 were red. There are no significant fluctuations to report within priorities at the end of Q3 and the red rag rated indicators were distributed across each of the Council priorities, however the highest ratio of Red and Amber indicators were in the Enabling Barnsley Priority.

Viewing the Report

Progress against our priorities and outcomes at the critical success factor level can be viewed via the new council performance dashboard and can be accessed via the link below. It is important to review the quarterly dashboard as it provides a detailed review of each of our Critical Success Factors including a red, amber and green (RAG) rating. This RAG rating is applied to each of our Critical Success Factors (CSF), which tracks our progress to achieving our vision of Barnsley, the place of possibilities.

[Link to Dashboard](#)

2. PROPOSAL

That Cabinet:-

1. Review, challenge and scrutinise the contents of the Corporate Performance Report in relation to the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities and outcomes.
2. The Performance Report is shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform and support their ongoing work programme.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

3.1 Financial and Risk

The report includes finance related performance information

3.2 Legal

None

3.3 Equality

Not applicable – our Corporate Plan is aligned with our public sector Equality Duty and therefore Equality is inherent within the framework.

3.4 Sustainability

Decision-making wheel not completed as this is the regular performance report and it is therefore not applicable. This report updated on performance against out sustainability ambitions.

3.5 Employee

None

3.6 Communications

A press release will be released when these papers become public.

4. CONSULTATION

Consultations have taken place with a number of officers from all Directorates within the council who have contributed to the report and its content.

Consultation has also taken place with all members of the Senior Management Team who have collectively reviewed the report.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not Applicable

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 This is a regular report where cabinet are invited to scrutinise and comment on performance.

7. GLOSSARY

CPR – Corporate Performance Report
Rag – Red, Amber, Green Rating of indicators

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

N/A

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

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	<i>This report contains financial performance information and has been produced in conjunction with HOS and Service Director of Finance</i>
Legal consultation & sign off	No Legal Implications – Regular Report

Report Author: Matthew Malloy
Post: Senior Performance and Intelligence Officer
Date: 15/02/2024

This page is intentionally left blank

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

TITLE: CORPORATE FINANCE PERFORMANCE QUARTER 3 2023/24

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting	06 March 2024
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Core Services
Key Decision	No
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

To consider the financial performance of the Authority during the third quarter ended 31st December 2023 and assess the financial implications against the Council's Medium-term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

Council Plan Priority

All

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

CORPORATE FINANCE PERFORMANCE

- 1. Note the £20.7M projected cost pressure on the Council's 2023/24 General Fund budget, a slight improvement of £0.5M since Quarter 2.**
- 2. Note the significant ongoing cost pressures within Children's Social Care and the plans the Executive Director of Children's Services in conjunction with the Director of Finance are undertaking to mitigate these pressures.**
- 3. Receive further updates from Executive Directors on the delivery of their service reviews / efficiencies and future spending plans, ensuring that these are managed within agreed resource envelopes.**
- 4. Note the requirement to utilise reserves as agreed in Quarter 2.**
- 5. Note the current forecast pressure of £1.0M on the Housing Revenue Account, an increase of £0.2M since Q2.**

6. Endorse the accounting write-off of historic bad debts totalling £0.512M as detailed in the report [NB: all debts remain liable for collection].

CAPITAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

7. Note the forecast position on the Capital Programme (paragraph 3)
8. Note scheme slippage totalling £19.1M.
9. Note scheme rephasing totalling £1.4M.
10. Endorse new schemes to be released into the programme totalling £2.2M in line with the agreed 2023/24 Capital Programme.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT

11. Note the key messages from the Council's Q3 Treasury Management activities (paragraph 4).

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council's 2023/24 budget of £230.4M was agreed by Full Council on 23rd February 2023. During the year, £6.1M has been drawn down from specific earmarked reserves, increasing the revenue budget to £236.5M.
- 1.2 A balanced budget for 2023/24 was predicated on the delivery of several key assumptions, whilst also highlighting several significant emerging risks that would also require addressing over the planning period.
- 1.3 At the meeting on 13th December 2023, Cabinet noted the Quarter 2 cost pressure of £21.3M against the revised budget of £236.5M. This report provides an update as at Quarter 3 (to the end of December 2023) with a cost pressure of £20.7M now reported, an improvement of £0.6M.

2. PROPOSAL

Overall General Fund Position to the Quarter Ending December 2023

- 2.1 The table below summarises the Council's forecast financial performance for 2023/24.

Directorate	Opening (Approve) Budget	Use of Earmarked Reserves	Other Budget Adjustments	Revised Net Budget 2023/24	Projected Net Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Position @ Q2	Movement since Q2
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services	49,553	3,669	1,731	54,933	71,597	16,664	15,574	+1,090
Growth & Sustainability	55,892	1,064	2,471	59,427	62,247	2,820	1,830	+990
Place Health & Adult Social Care	55,061	1,448	645	57,154	54,732	(2,422)	(782)	(1,640)
Public Health & Communities	10,498	(537)	545	10,506	9,892	(614)	(596)	(18)
Core Services	23,760	1,507	1,365	26,632	28,586	1,954	1,725	229
Directorate Totals	194,744	7,151	6,757	208,651	227,053	18,402	17,751	650
Corporate / General Items	35,678	(1,103)	(6,757)	27,819	30,119	2,300	3,500	(1,200)
TOTAL General Fund	230,423	6,048	0	236,470	257,172	20,702	21,251	(549)
HRA					980	980	787	193

- 2.2 The revised budget at Quarter 3 totals £236.5M, an increase of £6.1M from the original budget approved by Full Council (£230.4M). This reflects the drawdown of specific earmarked reserves required to fund expenditure during 23/24 (e.g. school balances). Furthermore, Directorate budgets have increased by £6M reflecting the 2023 employee pay award that was agreed on 1st November, together with other minor budget adjustments during the period.
- 2.3 The forecast position for 2023/24 shows a year-end cost pressure of £20.7M compared to the revised net budget, a reduction of £0.6M from the position reported in Quarter 2. This includes a deterioration in the Children's Services position of £1.1M compared to Quarter 2. Similarly, the position in the Growth and Sustainability Directorate has also worsened by almost £1.0M.
- 2.4 These increased cost pressures have been offset by forecast underspends within Place Health and Adult Social care [£2.4M] and in Public Health and Communities totaling [£0.6M], together with an improvement in the Treasury Management position of £1.2M.
- 2.5 As agreed by Cabinet (Cab 20.9.2023/8 refers), £7.4M of resources previously set aside will be used to partly offset this pressure, with the remaining £13.3M to be addressed via a re-prioritisation of existing reserves (£0.6M less than in Quarter 2).
- 2.6 However, the Executive Director of Childrens Services in conjunction with the Director of Finance are compiling a financial recovery plan to help mitigate the pressures within Children's Services with the intention of reducing the currently reported overspend by the end of 2023/24. This plan is due to be presented to Cabinet during Quarter 4.

2.7 Detailed explanations of each Directorate's position are highlighted below at paragraph 2.12. However, in summary the main pressures are as follows:

Pressure	£M	£M
Children In Care (LAC/Other)	10.4	
Children's Development Plan	4.6	
Other Children's Services	1.7	
Sub Total – Children's Directorate		16.7
Commercial Income	1.0	
Home to School Transport	0.8	
Waste Collection	0.6	
Winter Maintenance	0.8	
One-off income / savings	(0.4)	
Sub Total - Growth & Sustainability		2.8
Legal Fees (Children's Services related)	1.3	
Net Staffing Pressures (Structure/agency staff)	0.7	
Sub Total - Core Directorate		2.0
Employee Pay	3.5	
Treasury Management Activity	(1.2)	
Sub Total - Cross Council Pressures		2.3
Total Cost Pressures		23.7
Underspend within Place Health / Other		(3.0)
Net Cost Pressure (current call on reserves)		20.7

2.8 A formal moratorium on expenditure across all services has been in place since Q1 to help mitigate the above cost pressures as far as is possible. It is anticipated that the increased scrutiny of all spending above £10,000 and the tightened recruitment / procurement processes will prevent further cost pressures before the end of the financial year.

2.9 However, most of these pressures will continue over the medium term, so it remains imperative that the development and delivery of a transformation and efficiency plan to address the anticipated budget gaps over the medium term progresses at pace.

2.10 Therefore, it is recommended that Executive Directors continue to provide regular updates on actions to mitigate the above costs, including an update on the delivery of service reviews (transformation) and future spending plans, ensuring that these are managed within agreed resource envelopes.

Corporate Resources

2.11 The above position (as reported in the table at paragraph 2.1) excludes any impact in relation to the collection of core taxation income (Council Tax and Business Rates). The Council Tax collection rate is currently 96.63%, which is 0.13% above the stretch target of 96.5%. This is an improvement on Q2 (96.37%). Collection below 95% would result in a financial pressure over and above that reported in this report and therefore this position will be closely monitored throughout the remainder of the year.

2.12 Business Rates collection is also above target at 98.34% [compared to the stretch target of 98%]. This is an improvement of 1.22% on the Q2 position. Although this falls short of the 22/23 position by 0.19%, it is an excellent position considering the wider economic challenges and increased cost pressures that businesses are experiencing.

2.13 Overall, the current arrears (debt) position as at the end of December 2023 stood at £20.904M, a net reduction of £0.109M in the quarter. The Council's overall bad debt provision has also been revised to reflect current arrears. Approval is now being sought to write off historic debts [in accounting terms] against the approved provision for bad debts (Cab.14.6.2023/9 refers) of £0.512M which have become uneconomical to pursue any further at this time. [NB: all debts remain liable for collection]. T.

2023/24 Efficiency Proposal Update

2.14 The following table provides an update against the agreed 23/24 efficiency proposals.

Directorate	Target £	Already Delivered £	To be Delivered £	Progress
CHILDRENS SERVICES				
Education, Early Start and Prevention	283,000	283,000	-	Fully delivered
Children's Social Care and Safeguarding	479,600	249,600	230,000	Savings attached to a new residential care home and student placements is yet to be delivered
Total Children's	762,600	532,600	230,000	
GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY				
Regeneration & Culture	1,540,000	1,040,000	500,000	The efficiency saving attached to Gateway Plaza is unlikely to deliver in full during this year
Highways & Engineering	200,000	200,000	-	
Total Growth & Sustainability	1,740,000	1,240,000	500,000	
PLACE HEALTH & ADULTS				
Adult Social Care	3,010,000	3,010,000	-	Fully delivered
Total Place Health & Adults	3,010,000	3,010,000		
PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITIES				
Public Health	700,000	700,000	-	Fully delivered
Communities	360,000	360,000	-	Fully delivered
Public Health & Communities	1,060,000	1,060,000	-	
CORE				
Finance	190,000	190,000	-	Fully delivered
Business Improvement, HR & Comms	275,000	275,000	-	Fully delivered
Customer Information & Digital Services	299,000	299,000	-	Fully delivered
TOTAL	7,336,600	6,060,600	730,000	

DIRECTORATE UPDATES

2.15 The following detailed updates have been provided by Executive Directors.

SECTION 1 - Executive Director's Summary for Children's Services

Highlights

The latest approved budget for 23/24 for the Children's Services Directorate is **£54.933M**. The Directorate is forecasting an outturn of **£71.597M** as at the end of Quarter 3, resulting in a forecast cost pressure of **£16.664M**. Key pressures include:

- Children in Care (LAC / Other) £10.355M
- Children's Development Plan £4.598M
- Other Children's Services £1.711M

Quarter 3 position to the end of December 2023

Children's Directorate	Approved Net Budget	Projected Net Outturn	Variance	Devt Plan Costs	Other BAU Costs
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education, Early Start & Prevention	11,522	11,330	-192	-50	-142
Children Social Care	38,835	55,691	16,856	4,648	12,207
Sub-Total	50,357	67,021	16,664	4,598	12,066
Schools	4,576	4,576	0	0	0
Total – Children's	54,933	71,597	16,664	4,598	12,066

Explanation of Key Variances

Education, Early Start & Prevention (Underspend of £0.192M)

2.16 An overall underspend of -£0.192M is forecast for the Business Unit. This represents a decrease of £0.050M compared to the Q2 position. The following explain the key operational variances in Q3:

Inclusion Services (overspend of £0.190M):

- The overspend mainly relates to increased Mediation contract costs (£0.070M) and the use of agency staff (£0.163M) to deal with EHCP demand pressures within the SEND Assessment & Review team.

- The overall cost pressure has been offset by vacant posts across Inclusion Services; particularly within the Education Psychology Service (-£0.087M) where there has been difficulty in recruiting qualified psychologists.

Education and Partnerships (underspend of £0.191M):

- The underspend relates to reduced spend on externally procured professional support for schools and staff vacancies within School Improvement (-£0.062M) and Education Welfare (-£0.100M). A further contribution to the underspend is an increase in Fixed Penalty Notices income.

Early Start and Family Services (underspend of £0.179M)

- The underspend is mainly due to staff turnover and slippage in recruitment to vacant posts in the Family Centre's and Targeted Youth Support teams, as well as the increase in the 2-year funding rate, which is partially offset by agency use in the contextual safeguarding team (£0.148M).

BU3: Children Social Care (overspend of £16.856M)

- 2.17 An overspend position of **£16.856M** is currently forecast for the year, this is an increase as compared to Q2 of £1.039M. The latest forecast overspend is due to significant cost pressures in LAC placements, Children Disability Service and increased agency spend (relating to the Children's Services Development Plan).
- 2.18 The above forecast outturn includes the costs of implementing the range of actions included in the Development Plan aimed at improving and strengthening Children's Services.
- 2.19 The following explains the key cost pressures across Children's Social Care for Q3.

Children in Care (overspend of £10.355M):

The above pressure represents an increase of £0.450M compared to Q2 and relates to an increase in agency staff costs (Fostering and Children in Care Teams) and increased LAC costs.

The overall forecast overspend is mainly attributable to increased placements in residential care homes as well as the continued competitive pressures in the children's care home provider market. The Council continues to face challenges (and increasing costs) in placing young children, especially those with complex / multiple needs. The following explains some of the key issues / pressures:

- LAC Population: - Barnsley's LAC number at the end of Q3 is 403, this represents a net decrease of 21 since the end of Sept 2023. We continue to face challenges relating to placement moves (due to breakdowns) and changes due to complexity of needs. This explains the change in forecast cost since Q2.

- External Residential Care (+£8.675M): - The number of placements (and costs) in external residential care continues to exert pressure on resources – with an overspend of £8.7M forecast for the year (an increase of £0.164M compared to Q2).

There are currently 82 young people placed in external care homes (including 39 in semi-independent accommodation) at the end of Q3, compared to the planned number of 65 for the financial year.

The above pressure is due to the competitive pressures in the care market, particularly for young people with complex needs. It is also evident that the change to regulated provision of a number of semi-independent homes has contributed to the increase in the weekly cost charged by providers.

- Foster Care: (+£0.017M)- no significant cost pressure is currently forecast for foster care for the year. The increase in independent foster agency placements costs has been offset by a forecast reduction in placements with in-house foster carers.
- Other Placements Costs: (+£0.065M) - The cost pressure is due to a higher number of placements than planned for the following placement options - Special Guardianship Orders, Adoption support and S38(6) support payments made in advance of the issue of formal court care orders.
- Other Children in Care budgets (+£1.598M): Staffing cost pressures are currently forecast across the Children in Care social worker teams (including fostering) and the Council owned homes (Spring Lane and Newsome Avenue). Most of these pressures relate to the use of agency staff (to address increased caseloads; cover staff vacancies / absences) and the outcome of job evaluation of staff at both Council owned homes. This cost pressure is an increase of £0.282M compared to Q2.

Children's Social Care Development Plan Phase 2 - £4.648M

As previously reported, there are further cost pressures associated with the Development Plan. The total cost now stands at £8.090M, with a forecast overspend against budget of £4.648M. The forecast cost pressure, which mainly relates to unbudgeted Phase 2 costs, represents an increase of £0.277M compared to Q2. Key variances are highlighted below:

- Care Leavers (overspend of £0.680M) - The overspend is mainly due to increased staffing costs (personal advisers) and the use of agency staff. The forecast position also includes additional spending associated with the improved local offer to care leavers.
- Children in Care (overspend of £0.157M) - The forecast cost pressure relates to increased agency cover costs for Service Manager posts.

- Assessment & Care (overspend of £3.305M) – The forecast pressure relates to the use of project teams / agency staff (across the Integrated Front Door and Children & Young People Teams) to address increased caseloads, vacancies and long-term staff absences.
- Safeguarding & Quality Assurance (overspend of £0.147M) - The forecast overspend is mainly attributable to the increased use of agency staff to cover absences, vacancies and to provide extra capacity where needed.
- Children’s Disability & Short Breaks (overspend of £0.292M) – a forecast overspend is anticipated on staffing related costs due to the increased use of agency staff.
- Service Management (overspend of £0.067M) - The forecast overspend is due to project management / support costs associated with the Development Plan and Ofsted readiness work.

Other Children Social Care cost pressures (£1.853M)

The forecast cost pressures on other children social care service areas are £1.853M (an increase of £0.312M compared to Q2) and is mainly attributed to the following:

- Assessment & Care (overspend of £0.329M) – relates to S17 / family support costs, IT, and car mileage / travel costs as well as agency spend in the Emergency Duty Team.
- Care Leavers (overspend of £0.360M) – relates to the increased placement costs and other staffing, travel, and operating costs.
- Safeguarding & QA (overspend of £0.617M) - relating to increased use of agency staff to cover absences, vacancies and to provide extra capacity mainly in the Independent Review Team.
- Children Disability Team (overspend £0.664M) - is attributable to increased direct payments / childminding / family support costs and a reduction in continuing care funding to meet identified health needs.
- Targeted Early Help (underspend of £0.122M) – relates to staff vacancies and turnover across the teams transferred from BU1.

Schools Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

- 2.20 The latest DSG budget for 23/24 totals £99.9M, comprising £63.2M delegated to schools and £36.7M retained centrally by the Council. The following outlines the forecast position for the schools’ budgets:

Schools Delegated budgets (underspend of £1.9M)

The schools delegated budget consists of funding allocated directly to schools and includes formula funding, high needs, and early years funding. The latest reported schools position shows a projected surplus of £1.9M for the year. This balance is held in schools' bank accounts and therefore is not included in the Council's outturn reported above as under the DSG grant conditions surplus balances at year end will be carried forward and earmarked for spend by schools. It is expected that a reduction in school surplus balances will be seen as schools continue to raise sustainability concerns relating to cost of living pressures, inflation and energy costs.

Schools Centrally Retained budgets (overspend of £3.2M)

This consists of schools' budgets retained by the Council and managed on behalf of schools. An overall DSG overspend of £3.2M is currently forecast for Q3 (a worse position compared to Q2). This represents an increase of £0.6M when compared with the planned deficit of £2.6M for the year. The overspend mainly relates to the high needs funding block. The change in the reported position for the year can be explained as follows:

- Inflationary pressures (£0.3M) – higher than planned increases in fee rates for placements in independent non-maintained settings and special academies in other local authorities.
- Increase in average unit cost and numbers (£0.7M) – this cost pressure has arisen due to growth in placements (24) higher than planned growth (20) and an increase in the average unit cost of new INMSS placements in the year – compared to the budgeted average unit cost and reflects the increasing complexity of needs of the pupils placed in independent non-maintained settings.
- Slippage in new SEND places (-£0.2M) – whilst the Council has exceeded its target number of new commissioned SEND places for the year, there has been minor slippage [although with no detriment to plan placements].
- Other Variances (-£0.2M) – reflects other variances and adjustments to the Council's high needs grant allocation.

The latest overall financial risk to the system for 23/24 is forecast at £15.8M comprised of the cumulative deficit carried forward from 22/ 23 net of the DfE support funding received under the Safety Valve programme.

Approved Savings Position

2.21 The Directorate has total approved savings of £0.762M to deliver in 23/24 including:

- £0.170M - decommissioning of the MST contract.
- £0.068M - Maximising the use of the Supporting Families Grant.
- £0.045M - Targeted Youth – deletion of vacant post.
- £0.200M - LAC placements (developing a new children's care home).

- £0.249M - LAC placements (increase in in-house foster carers).
- £0.030M - Safeguarding (increase in student placement income).

2.22 A £0.230M shortfall is currently forecast against the delivery of the approved savings target due to slippage on developing a new children's care home (£0.200M) and reduced student placement income (£0.030M).

Current Actions and Risks

2.23 Children's Social Care

A key risk facing Children's Social Care is the continued increase in service demand / caseloads; the number of looked after children and the increasing use of agency staff (on the back of the Development Plan).

A financial recovery plan has been developed by the Executive Director of Children's Services in conjunction with the Director of Finance and presented to SMT / Cabinet to address the key areas of cost pressures in the Business Unit, with particular focus on reducing the number and cost of agency staff by 31st March and stemming the rise in LAC placement costs.

Going forward, any further increase in LAC numbers beyond those anticipated will continue to exert pressure on the budget in future years. Implementing the commissioning actions set out in the refreshed LAC Placement / Sufficiency Plan continues to be the focus of the service. These would ensure that children are placed in the right placements that meet needs and where possible are placed in family type placements.

2.24 Education, Early Start, & Prevention

Rising EHCP numbers and demand for SEND support may continue to pose financial / sustainability risks in the current year and beyond. The development of the DSG management plan and the commencement of the Safety Valve Programme will help address the sustainability issue over the medium term.

SECTION 2 – Executive Director's Summary for Growth and Sustainability

Highlights

The latest approved budget for 23/24 for the Growth and Sustainability Directorate is **£59.427M**. The Directorate is forecasting an outturn of **£62.247M** as at the end of Quarter 3, resulting in a cost pressure of **£2.820M** (This includes £0.750M relating to Winter Maintenance)

The Council's Housing Revenue Account is also reporting cost pressures of **£0.980M**

Quarter 3 position to the end of the quarter ending December 2023

Directorate	Approved Net Budget 2023/24 £'000	Projected Net Outturn 2023/24 £'000	Variance £'000
Regeneration & Culture	18,887	19,737	850
Environment & Highways	40,540	42,510	1,970
Total Growth & Sustainability	59,427	62,247	2,820
Housing Revenue Account	Nil	980	980

Key Variances

Regeneration & Culture – Overspend of £0.850M:

2.25 Regeneration and Culture are reporting a forecast overspend of £0.850M. Key variances are as follows.

Commercial Income £1.000M overspend - Underachievement of commercial income is forecast due to an unachieved Gateway occupancy KLOE and under occupancy more generally across the estate.

Markets £0.200M overspend - An overspend is currently forecast within the Markets Service relating to outside market stall set up cost pressures. Work is ongoing to review alternative arrangements and proposals are being developed with a view to mitigating costs.

Planning £0.375M overspend underachievement of planning income due to a decline in planning application fees mainly due to the current external socio-economic climate.

Transformation (-£0.315M underspend) early transformation savings released by Economic Development, Learning & Skills & Culture & Visitor Economy.

(£0.410M) vacancy factor across the business unit is expected due to current market conditions.

Environment & Highways – Overspend of £1.970M:

2.26 Environment and Highways are reporting a forecasted overspend of £1.970M. Key variances are as follows.

Home to school transport £0.770M overspend which is mainly due to an increase in pupil numbers & ongoing inflationary pressures.

Waste £0.565M overspend due to additional disposal requirements in relation to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), together with the continued decline in the mixed recyclates market and a decline in the paper/card market due to increased contamination. Collection costs have also increased due to increased vehicle and staffing costs.

Highways £0.380M overspend increased costs on reactive pothole works and Traffic Signals maintenance in this financial year.

Winter Maintenance £0.750M pressure. The winter maintenance service began in November and runs through to the end of March. The currently reported pressure is based on historical 3-year average costs. This is subject to change depending on the severity of the winter season.

Car Parking Income (-£0.325M underspend) additional car parking income is currently forecast mainly due to one off income from a time limited commercial car parking agreement.

Staffing costs (-£0.150M underspend) a vacancy factor across the business unit is expected due to current market conditions.

Housing Revenue Account - Outturn £0.980M

- 2.27 The HRA is reporting an increased call on reserves to fund a projected overspend of £0.980M; key information is as follows.

Disrepair claims £0.350M overspend due to an increase in disrepair claims from tenants based on the estimated value of claims in the system to date.

Fuel Costs £0.530M overspend a forecast overspend relating to fuel costs as a result of the Bio Mass fuel contract price increase and an increase in usage and prices across the District Heating scheme

Consultant Fees £0.100M overspend unbudgeted consultant fees on the Service Charge and PRIP contract review.

Dwellings rental income breakeven it is expected that budgeted rent levels will be achieved despite an increase in void turnover levels. The balanced position is achieved due to stock levels being higher than originally anticipated due to a downturn in the Housing Market resulting in less Right to Buy sales.

Repairs and Maintenance budget balanced a balanced position is forecast on the repairs and maintenance budget. The responsive repairs budget has been realigned to reflect the volume of work experienced in the last financial year and uplifted to reflect an anticipated CPI contract inflation uplift. Berneslai Homes are undertaking detailed monitoring under their delegated powers to deliver responsive repairs on budget and ensure all resources are utilised in an efficient way to deliver value for money and ensuring the Council's tenants are safe and that stock is maintained to the agreed decency standards.

Approved Savings Position

- 2.28 The Directorate has total approved savings of £1.740M to deliver in 23/24 as below.
- Town Centre Building Review £0.500M
 - Industrial Properties rent review £0.070M
 - Fees & Charges £0.550M
 - Contracts review £0.300M
 - Closure of Glassworks Cultural Units £0.170M
 - Right to Buy income £0.050M
 - Reduction in agency costs £0.100M

- 2.29 The £0.500M saving from the Town Centre Buildings Review will not be fully achieved in this financial year. Work is ongoing to resolve the issue. All other efficiencies currently remain on track to be delivered in full.

Current Actions and Future Risks for the Directorate

- 2.30 The current outturn position for the Directorate shows a Business-as-Usual overspend of £2.820M. The Directorate continues to work hard to bring forward necessary mitigations for all pressures and deliver a balanced budget. The key current actions and risks to note are as follows:

2.31 Regeneration & Culture

Work continues to implement the key elements of the recently approved Asset Management Strategy, which is expected to deliver significant efficiencies (£5.8M FYE over 5 years). This programme includes ensuring buildings are fully utilised, reviewing the operating cost of buildings and implementing interventions to reduce costs, and undertaking a programme of rationalisation and disposal of surplus assets.

Planning applications have continued to steadily fall mainly due to the high levels of inflation on the construction costs of new houses, high interest rates impacting house sales and private developments. This impacts income generation within the service, although it is hoped that conditions will improve as inflation and interest rates start to fall.

2.32 Environment & Highways

A Home to School transport action plan is in place to review routes, bring more routes in-house, increase travel training along with an external end-to-end review of the service planned in Quarter 4. Nonetheless demand and inflation continue to increase costs.

Highways are continuing to review their approach to vacancy management to reduce the dependency on outside agency workers to fulfil statutory functions.

The winter maintenance programme is dependent on several factors including the weather which could have an impact on budget forecasts. An independent external review of winter maintenance is also planned during Quarter 4.

2.33 HRA

There are wider strategic risks to note in relation to the finances and business plan for the HRA such as damp / mould, emerging Government legislation, BHS, disrepair claims, new IT system, responsive repairs, inflationary pressures, stock condition surveys and developing strategies including but not limited to – Asset Management, New Build / Housing Growth, Stock decarbonisation. BH are currently working in conjunction with the Council on these to assist in mitigating expected cost pressures.

Finally, the current socio-economic climate and the cost-of-living crisis are putting pressure on services throughout the Directorate. Energy and fuel costs have seen unprecedented price rises but are currently forecast to be contained within approved resources. However, this could change dependent on consumption and how the flexible utility tariffs work in practice. An energy group has been established to closely monitor the situation as well as working with Utilidex on improving reporting and sensitivity analysis.

SECTION 3 - Executive Director's Summary for Place Health and Adult Social Care

Highlights

The latest approved budget for 23/24 for the Place Health and Adult Social Care Directorate is **£57.154M**. The Directorate is forecasting an outturn of **£54.732M** as at Quarter 3, resulting in a forecast underspend position for the year totaling **£2.422M**.

Quarter 3 position to the end of the quarter ending December 2023

Directorate	Approved Net Budget 2023/24 £'000	Projected Net Outturn 2023/24 £'000	Variance £'000
Older People	25,854	25,470	(384)
Working Age Adults	27,697	27,154	(543)
ED / SD Management	3,603	2,108	(1,495)
Total for Directorate	57,154	54,732	(2,422)

Adult Social Care – Underspend of £2.422M

2.34 The Place Health and Adult Social Care Directorate is reporting an overall underspend totalling £2.422M as at Quarter 3. This position includes underspends on provisioning costs and staffing vacancies / turnover across the Directorate.

2.35 The key operational variances for the Directorate are as follows:

Older People (underspend of -£0.384M)

- Locality Teams (-0.263M underspend) – an underspend is currently forecast for the Assessment and Care Locality Teams. This underspend relates to staffing vacancies / turnover (-£0.243M), reduced care provision costs (-£0.081M) and other minor variances relating to non-staffing spend (£0.061M) across the service.
- Re-ablement (-£0.121M underspend) – a forecast underspend is also reported within Re-ablement, relating to staff turnover and vacancy savings on support worker posts – a reflection of the continued difficulty of recruiting and retaining care workers / staff.
- Assisted Living Technology balanced position – a forecast balanced position is reported for the year as at Quarter 3.

Working Age Adults (underspend of -£0.543M):

- Specialist / Mental Health teams (-£0.429M underspend) – an overall underspend is reported across the Specialist and Mental Health teams. This relates to a reduction in care provision costs (-£0.273M), underspends relating to staffing vacancies / turnover (-£0.136M) and other minor underspends totaling (-£0.020M).
- In-house Day Services / Shared Lives Team (-£0.114M underspend) – an underspend is reported across these services due to staff turnover / vacancy savings (-£0.142M), partly offset by minor miscellaneous overspends.

SD/ED/Management Services (underspend of -£1.495M):

- ED/SD Management (-£1.475M underspend) – this underspend mainly relates to specific grant funding which is pending allocation.
- Commissioning/Safeguarding/Quality/Training Services (-£0.020M underspend) – an underspend of £0.020M is reported across the Commissioning/ Safeguarding/ Quality and Training services. The underspend relates to staff turnover / vacancy savings (-£0.050M), various other minor underspends totaling (-£0.025M) offset by overspends within the Quality Team relating to carers support payments (£0.055M).

Approved Savings Position

2.36 The Directorate has total approved savings of £3.010M to deliver in 23/24 including:

- £1.350M - Review of the ASC operating model (Re-ablement and Front Door)
- £0.320M - Targeted reviews of high-cost care packages
- £0.200M - ACSES Contract - TUPE cost reduction
- £0.840M - Maximising the use of grant funding (e.g., Winter Pressures / DFG)
- £0.300M - Direct Payments - surplus balances claw back

All the above savings are currently forecast to be delivered in full.

Current Actions and Future Risks

2.37 Whilst the current outturn forecasts a balanced position, work is ongoing to manage emerging risks and changes in the care market and operating landscape. The following outline some of the issues / risks facing the Directorate over the medium term:

- Adult Social Care continues to respond to the pressures / challenges facing the NHS in relation to **hospital discharges**. Government grant funding has been used to enhance capacity in the care market and within adult social care services to facilitate discharges from hospital and ensure support at home or in the community.
- **Staff workforce** challenges (in terms of recruitment / retention) continue to be evident in the year so far. The Government has recently launched a Call for Evidence to develop the first ever national care workforce pathway for adult social care. This 'pathway' would set out the skills, knowledge, and behaviors that people working in adult social care need to deliver high-quality, personalised, compassionate care and support.
- Barnsley Place faces significant **financial pressures across the health and care system**, in relation to increased demand for NHS services and delivery of efficiencies. It is unclear what impact the actions / measures being implemented by the Barnsley ICB would have on the Council's financial position. However, it does present opportunities for ensuring value in the way services are delivered and resources deployed.
- The Council is embarking on a significant **Service Review** programme, with adult social care expected to transform its services and deliver efficiency savings by 2026. This would bring the total savings to be delivered by 2025 to £4.4M (made up of £3M in 23/24; £1.2M in 24/25; and £0.2M in 25/26). The Better Lives Programme continues to form the focal point for improving adult social care provision and for delivering savings.

SECTION 4 – Executive Director’s Summary for Public Health & Communities

Highlights

The latest approved net budget for the Public Health & Communities Directorate is **£10.506M**. The Directorate is projecting a net outturn underspend for the year of **£0.614M**

Quarter 3 position as at the end of December 2023

Directorate	Approved Net Budget 2023/24 £'000	Projected Net Outturn 2023/24 £'000	Variance £'000
Communities	7,061	6,547	(514)
Public Health	3,445	3,345	(100)
Total for Directorate	10,506	9,892	(614)

2.38 The Public Health and Communities Directorate is currently reporting a more favorable position than at Q2. Variances include:

2.39 **Communities – Underspend of £0.209M**

SD Account (-0.019M underspend) The underspend within the SD account is mainly due to transport and supplies and services.

Healthier Communities (-£0.209M underspend) The underspend within the Healthier Communities Service mainly relates to vacancies (£0.095M) and the switching of core budget with grant funding (£0.092M).

Safer Communities (-£0.189M underspend) the Safer Communities service is currently forecasting an underspend of £0.189M which is mainly due to staffing vacancies and switch funding of the Homeless Prevention top up grant with base budget.

Library Service (-0.074M) An overall underspend of £0.074M is currently forecast within the Libraries Service mainly due to staffing vacancies/turnover.

Stronger Communities (-£0.023M) A minor underspend is currently forecast within Stronger Communities due to staffing/employee costs.

2.40 **Public Health – Underspend of £0.100M**

An underspend is also currently forecast within Public Health (£0.100M). This relates to an underspend on Integrated Sexual Health contracts (£0.070M) and staff vacancies within Health Improvement (£0.030M).

2.41 Approved Savings Position

The Communities Business Unit is currently going through a Service Review, efficiency savings of £360K have been achieved in 23/24 and further efficiency savings of £170K are to be delivered in 24/25.

The Public Health Business Unit implemented their initial service review activity during 23/24 achieving £0.700M of savings.

2.42 Current Actions and Future Risks

- Government requirement to provide long-term accommodation for rough sleepers; locally there are several pressing issues, a lack of affordable housing, under supply of social housing & the changing landscape in the private rented sector.
- New Burdens Domestic Abuse Bill and Protect Duty - the Government has placed new duties on local authorities to ensure families can access the right support in safe accommodation when they need it.
- There are currently issues with recruitment and retention across the Directorate and this is expected to be an ongoing problem for the rest of the financial year. A plan is currently in place to train existing staff to be able to complete roles.

SECTION 5 - Executive Director's Statement for Core

Highlights

The latest approved budget for 23/24 for the Core Directorate is **£26.632M**. The Directorate is forecasting an outturn of **£28.586M** as at the end of Quarter 3, resulting in a cost pressure of **£1.954M**.

Quarter 3 Position to the end of the quarter ending December 2023

Core Directorate	Approved Net Budget 2023/24	Projected Net Outturn 2023/24	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Customer Information & Digital Services	10,803	10,740	-67
Financial Services	5,601	5,611	10
Business Improvement, HR & Communication	5,449	5,699	250
Law & Governance	4,779	6,536	1,757
Total – Core	26,632	28,586	1,954

Key Variances

- 2.43 Cost pressures totalling £1.954M are currently forecast within the Core Services Directorate. Key variances include:

Customer Information & Digital Services (-£0.067M underspend)

- 2.44 The underspend is primarily due to staff vacancies (-£0.963M), offset by an overspend on the cost of the Council's IT contracts and Developments (including one-off contracts such as CoPilot) - (£0.670M) and other minor variances of £0.076M. These figures include spending of £0.126M relating to the Children's Services Development Fund.

Financial Services –£0.010M overspend

- 2.45 A minor cost pressure of £0.010M is forecast within Financial Services mainly relating to underspends on staffing costs (-£0.304M) and the early implementation of service reviews savings within Internal Audit and Procurement (£-0.097M). These are offset by an overspend in Catering Services (£0.276M) due to the rising cost of food, together with the loss of income from the South Yorkshire Police audit contract (£0.127M).

Business Improvement, HR and Communication – £0.250M overspend

- 2.46 A cost pressure of £0.250M, after earmarkings of £0.105M for Corporate Training, is currently forecast. This predominantly relates to the cost of additional staffing and IT costs within the Business Improvement Service to support the Children's Services Development Plan (£0.465M), partially offset by staff vacancies.

Law and Governance – £1.765M overspend

- 2.47 Law and Governance is forecasting an overspend of £1.765M. This predominantly relates to the use of barristers and other external legal support to address the rising number of complex children in care caseloads (£0.988M), the use of locum (agency) solicitors to temporarily fill vacant positions pending recruitment (£0.662M), together with cost pressures within the Elections Service (£0.122M).

Approved Savings Position

- 2.48 The Directorate had total approved savings of £0.764M to deliver in 23/24.
- Staffing savings across the Directorate £0.434M
 - Fraud income £0.050M
 - Contracts review £0.030M
 - Smart Working £0.250M

All savings will be delivered in full-by the end of 23/24.

Current Actions and Future Risks

- 2.49 MTFS / Transformation – The current MTFS position requires transformation and efficiencies to be delivered from all services across the Authority. The following Core Services will be reviewed in the first tranche with an implementation date of 1st April 2024.
- Customer Information & Digital – Service Design & Compliance
 - Law & Governance - Business Support
 - Law & Governance - Legal Services
 - Law & Governance – Governance
 - Internal Audit, Anti-Fraud & Assurance
 - Strategic Procurement & Contract Management
- 2.50 Technology - The delivery of the Cloud Enrolment for Dynamics solution will be key in supporting the workforce to operate with the right infrastructure, which should enable the rationalisation of other contracts, licences and systems across the Authority.
- 2.51 Customer Information and Digital Services - Uncertainty remains regarding the increased cost of software licenses along with changes in contracting arrangements from external suppliers. Work is ongoing to monitor these arrangements with a view to mitigating these pressures and driving out value for money wherever possible.
- 2.52 Benefits & Taxation - Further delays associated with the implementation of Universal Credit are impacting the Benefits and Taxation structure. Household Support Grant has also been extended to March 2024 and may be extended further, again causing resourcing issues within the Service.
- 2.53 Legal Services - Potential impact on Legal services and the need to appoint locums to meet increasing demands as a result of commercial contract variations and other policy changes. The cost of Children’s Social Care continues to place a burden on the budget. Work is being undertaken to monitor these arrangements with a view to mitigating these pressures and driving out value for money wherever possible.
- 2.54 Staffing - Workforce challenges (in terms of recruitment / retention) are expected to continue in 2023/24. There are recruitment issues across the Business Unit which reduces the effectiveness of services and the ability to create income generation.

Section 6 Corporate / Council Wide Budgets

Highlights

There is currently a projected overspend within Corporate Budgets of **£2.300M**.

Pay Costs - £3.500M overspend

- 2.55 The budget approved in February 2023 assumed an employee pay award of 4% (equivalent to a cost of £4.0M), but it was highlighted at the time that this may not be sufficient given the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.
- 2.56 The 2023/24 Local Government pay award was agreed on 1st November 2023. The pay award of at least £1,925 on all NJC pay points 1 and above backdated to 1st April 2023 equates to a year-on-year cost increase of circa £7.5M, £3.5M more than originally anticipated.

Treasury Management Activity - £1.200M additional income

- 2.57 The Treasury Management team has been able to take advantage of the current high Bank Interest Rate (5.25%) and earn additional investment on temporary cash balances.

Current Action

- 2.58 In anticipation of the emerging risks highlighted in the 23/24 budget proposals, a provision of £7.4M (equivalent to the full increase in the General Social Care Grant) was set aside as a mitigation strategy. It is now clear that this provision is not sufficient to meet the £20.7M cost pressure currently forecast at Q3. As a result, a full review to re-prioritise existing general fund reserves to address the remaining gap has been undertaken.
- 2.59 A formal moratorium on expenditure was implemented in August 2023 which increased scrutiny on procurement and recruitment expenditure to help address these cost pressures together with working with services, particularly Children's Services, on a financial recovery plan.

Future Action

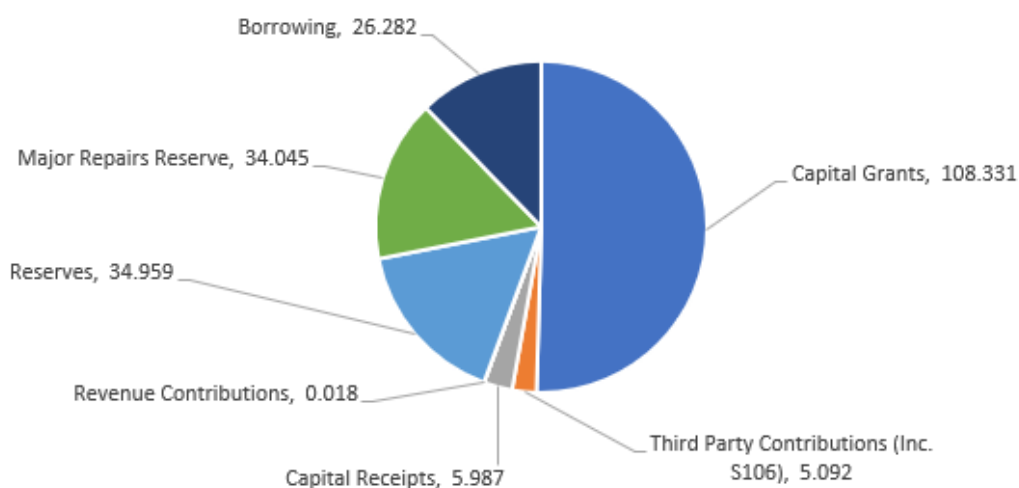
- 2.60 The cost pressures highlighted within this report are likely to have an ongoing detrimental impact on the MTFS, with significant budget deficits forecast for future periods. The financial strategy is in the process of being revised, including providing an update on the ongoing programme of transformational / efficiency activity to address the anticipated budget gaps on an ongoing and sustainable basis over the medium term.

3. Overall Capital Programme Position to the Quarter Ending December 2023

3.1 The Council's capital programme is planned over the five-year period 23/24 through to 27/28 and has a total budget of £214.712M (£141.991M in 2023/24). Forecast spend for 23/24 is £124.832M, £17.2M lower than originally planned:

<u>Directorate</u>	2023/24 Capital Programme £M	2023/24 Actuals £M	2023/24 Projected Outturn £M	2023/24 Variance £M	Total Capital Programme £M	Total Projected Outturn £M	Total Variance £M
Children's Services	8.157	3.567	7.203	(0.954)	8.985	8.985	-
Growth & Sustainability	79.411	38.581	63.377	(16.034)	145.631	146.214	0.583
Public Health & Communities	0.571	0.125	0.439	(0.132)	0.571	0.571	-
Place Health & Adult Social Care	5.656	4.280	6.248	0.592	7.253	7.253	-
Core Services	8.960	4.707	8.960	-	9.515	9.515	-
Housing Revenue Account	39.236	19.712	38.605	(0.631)	42.757	42.757	-
Total	141.991	70.792	124.832	(17.159)	214.712	215.295	0.583

3.2 The above costs are to be funded from a variety of sources as highlighted in the chart below, the majority of which are from external grants and reserves specifically earmarked for capital priorities:



3.3 The table below shows the breakdown of variations across the totality of the programme. Further detail is provided in the following paragraphs.

	2023/24 £M	Future Years £M	Total £M
Slippage	(19.116)	19.116	-
Rephasing	1.368	(1.368)	-
Funding Increase/(Decrease)	0.589	(0.006)	0.583
Total	(17.159)	17.742	0.583

Scheme Slippage

3.4 Of the total 23/24 variation in expenditure against approved plans, £19.116M relates to scheme slippage (where expenditure plans are expected to be utilised in a future year rather than the current year, due to events largely outside of the Council's control). This position is constantly reviewed by Finance Officers in conjunction with project leads to ensure schemes progress as planned and that there are no adverse implications in terms of funding. Those schemes that have seen significant slippage are explained further below:

Directorate	Scheme	£M	Explanation
Growth & Sustainability	Glass Works Development Phase 2	4.500	Budget related to the letting of vacant units to be used in 24/25
Growth & Sustainability	Youth Zone	4.117	Project is currently in the planning stage. The budget is to be realigned to 24/25 in line with the revised timescales.
Growth & Sustainability	Property Investment Fund	2.397	Start of the programme has seen delays, a detailed report will be submitted to cabinet in due course to reflect updated plans
Growth & Sustainability	Parkside Sports Facilities	1.979	An application for grant funding to the Football Foundation will be made during January 2024. Pending the outcome of this, construction is now not expected to begin until the 24/25 financial year.
Growth & Sustainability	Cultural Development Fund – Elsecar	1.978	Most of the works will be completed in 24/25.
Children's Services	Children in Care Residential Home	0.990	Proposals currently under review for the purchase of a site, with the formal purchase expected to take place in 24/25
Various	Other	3.155	
	Total	19.116	

Re-phasing

3.5 Of the total 23/24 variation in expenditure against approved plans, £1.368M relates to scheme rephasing. This is where additional works have been or are anticipated to be completed earlier than originally planned due to proactive project planning. This position is constantly reviewed by Finance Officers in

conjunction with project leads to ensure schemes progress as planned and that there are no adverse implications in terms of funding. Those schemes that have been accelerated are explained further below.

Directorate	Scheme	£M	Explanation
Place, Health & Adult Social Care	Disabled Facilities Grant	0.592	Funding has been accelerated into 2023/24 due to a combination of an increased number of reviews taking place compared to previous estimates, complexity of these cases leading to increased costs and overall inflationary pressures.
Growth & Sustainability	Junction 36 Phase 2	0.363	Work has accelerated at a faster pace than initially anticipated, with the majority of works now due to be completed in the current financial year. The re-phasing will also align with the related Towns Fund spend profile for the project.
Various	Other	0.413	
	Total	1.368	

Overall Variation in Scheme Costs

- 3.6 An amount totalling £0.583M relates to an overall estimated net increase in expenditure across several schemes within the highways programme. Members should note that the overall increase will be fully funded by additional grant funding due to be received in quarter 4, so there is no additional cost to council resources. Further detail provided below.

Highways Programme Update

- 3.7 The Highways Capital Programme for 2023/24 has a budget of £16.560M, whilst a further allocation of £0.842M has been accepted from SYMCA for pothole maintenance (as awarded by the Department for Transport). At quarter three it is expected that £0.582M, of this pothole maintenance funding will be claimed, following a programme of carriageway patching.
- 3.8 Highways and Engineering has delivered an accelerated programme of works, with final programmed carriageway/footway schemes being completed shortly before Christmas and the start of Winter.
- 3.9 At quarter three the programme includes total slippage of £3.967M and re-phasing of £0.413M. £0.408M has also been re-profiled within the programme to support overspends on Carriageways, Footways, Principal Roads, Bridges & Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance. This is due to increased costs arising from both inflationary pressures and the extended scope of works carried out.
- 3.10 As well as planned works, Highways and Transport service have identified several emerging unforeseen risks that will put additional strain on the resources available. These include emergency maintenance work in the Town Centre, replacement of stolen gully grates and infrastructure damage due to a car fire. At current, this is expected to be managed within budget, but this will be closely monitored throughout the financial year.

New Approvals

3.11 In addition to the above, several new schemes have been approved during the Quarter totaling £2.213M:

Reconciliation Between 23/24 Quarter 2 and 23/24 Quarter 3 Positions:	Directorate	Total Capital Programme £M
23/24 Quarter Two Approved Programme		139.778
<u>Approved Schemes During Quarter 3:</u>		
Libraries Refurbishment	Public Health & Communities	0.409
Transforming Cities Fund	Growth & Sustainability	0.311
Locke Park Works	Growth & Sustainability	0.226
Town Centre to Oakwell	Growth & Sustainability	0.210
TPT – Bullhouse Bridge Deck	Growth & Sustainability	0.156
Cremulator Upgrade	Growth & Sustainability	0.150
Other	Various	0.751
Total New Approvals		2.213
23/24 Quarter Three Programme		141.991

Future Funding

3.12 The below paragraphs identify funding which the council has set aside for future projects, however is yet to see formal approval for specific projects and is therefore yet to be included in the approved programme. All figures are subject to change and are additional to the funding identified at Paragraph 3.1.

3.13 The Council currently receives various external funding allocations which, whilst approved, have yet to be formally allocated to specific projects. This primarily relates to Section 106 Contributions and School's grant monies, currently totalling £26.2M [currently shown as 'unallocated' resource].

3.14 Furthermore, there are additional funding streams the council has available which have been identified for use on capital schemes over the reporting period, however are awaiting formal approval to be drawn into the programme. This includes:

- Internal resources set aside for future schemes and/or contingency amounts for any urgent works (33.5M)
- Annual Allocations (HRA/replacement works) to be approved via the capital strategy (£32.7M)
- External resources granted and to be drawn down upon specific reports being approved. This primarily includes CRSTS monies identified in paragraph 3.19 (£51.5M)

These amounts totalling £117.7M will be released into the programme when formal approval is granted [currently shown as Funding Identified For Use on Future Capital Projects].

3.15 Amounts are analysed in the table below, showing the total indicative position currently expected over the reporting period.

Indictive Future Funding	2023/24 £M	Later Years £M	Total £M
Schools Grant Funding	4.819	10.000	14.819
Section 106 Grant Funding	5.358	6.000	11.358
Total Unallocated Resources	10.177	16.000	26.177
Funding Identified For Use on Future Capital Projects	0.750	117.007	117.757
Total Future Funding	10.927	133.007	143.934
Current Approved Funding	141.991	72.721	214.712
Total Indictive Funding over the Reporting Period	152.918	205.728	358.646

- 3.16 Of the total indictive funding projected over the period, £42.549M is projected to be funded via prudential borrowing in line with the treasury management strategy.
- 3.17 Ongoing reviews of existing resources / unallocated balances will be carried out by the Capital Oversight Board. Any unrestricted resources will be considered as part of the update on the strategic reserves strategy.

Capital Funding Available / Potentially Available Moving Forward

- 3.18 Work continues to identify and secure those external funding opportunities that can be utilised to support the delivery of the Council's strategic objectives.
- 3.19 The following paragraphs outline some of the key capital funding opportunities that have either recently been awarded or are being pursued (via 'live' bids with funder decisions pending).

Secured Funding.

- **Levelling Up Round 2** – the Council recently secured £10.2M in LUF2 grant and is currently working with local partners to deliver the Town Centre Barnsley Futures programme which comprises:
 - **Youth Place & Space:** a new outdoor Activity Park and revamped Youth Services Hub providing health and wellbeing support;
 - **The NAVE:** a new facility offering outstanding musical experiences for young people from Barnsley and the North; and
 - **Young Civic:** supporting the further development of Barnsley Civic Arts Centre, offering better space for young people to participate in cultural and creative activity.
- **Cannon Hall Roof** – £0.900M was recently awarded to the Council by Arts Council England for funding from the Museum Estate Development Fund (MEND) for Cannon Hall Roof repairs / replacement.

A bid to secure further funding to support Phase 2 of renovations at Cannon Hall is currently in development.

- **Cultural Development Fund** – good progress is being made in terms of the utilisation of the £3.9M in funding awarded by the Arts Council England to support a range of capital schemes at Elsecar Heritage Centre. The total value of the capital element of the award is £3.2M and this is accompanied by a £0.7M revenue allocation to support project management and the delivery of a range of cultural activities in hubs across Principal Towns.
- **The Towns Fund (Goldthorpe)** - £23.1M has been awarded to support the delivery of the schemes in Goldthorpe, Thurnscoe and Bolton upon Dearne.
- **City Region Sustainable Transport Funding (CRSTS)** – several key sustainable transport/active travel schemes are now progressing through SYMCA's governance processes - these will utilise the circa £50M in funding awarded to Barnsley via the MCA.

Capital Funding Bids Submitted/Pending

- **SYMCA Gainshare Allocations:** collaboration remains ongoing between the Council and SYMCA regarding the allocation, governance processes and ultimate release of the Council's Capital Gainshare allocations – detailed updates in respect of Gainshare availability will feature in future reports.
- **Long Term Plan for Towns Funding** – the Government recently announced that Barnsley would be one of 55 towns to receive a total of £20m over a 10-year period from 24/25. The fund is being provided to focus “on the issues that matter most to local people; including high streets, heritage and regeneration, and public safety and security.”

4. Treasury Management Update as at 31st December 2023

Highlights

Economic Summary

- The UK Bank Rate was held at 5.25% during the Quarter.
- A decline in PWLB borrowing rates during the third quarter of 2023/24.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation in the UK reduced to 3.9% in November 2023.
- Latest forecasts are that the Bank Rate has reached its peak of 5.25%.

Borrowing Activity

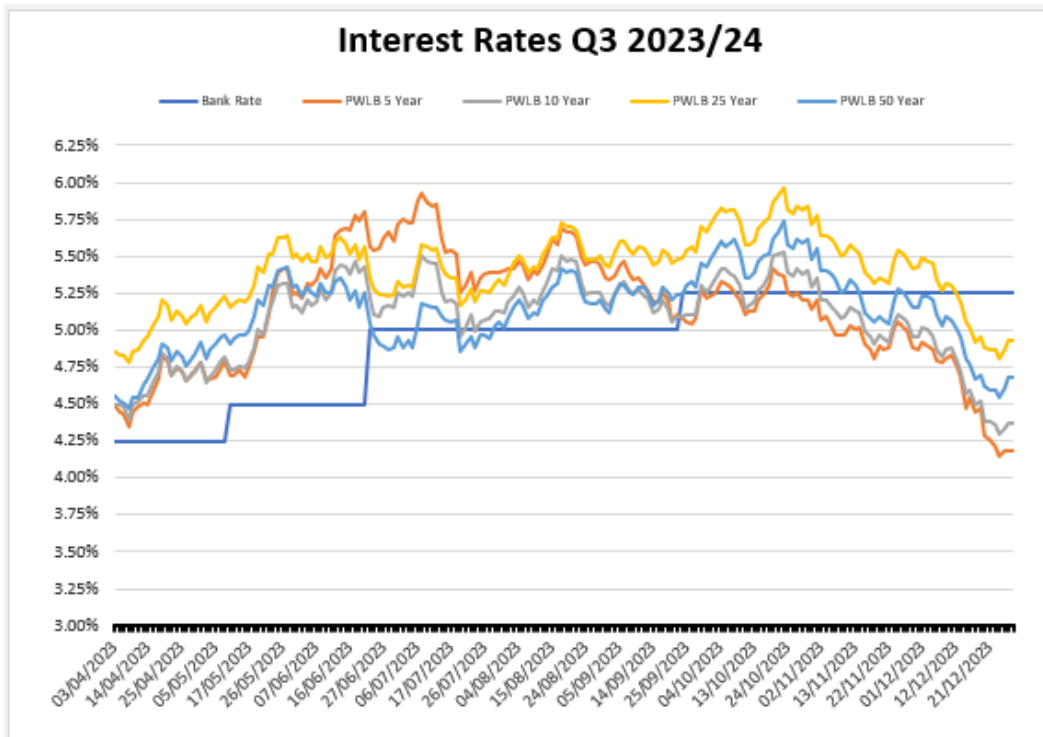
- The Council repaid £55 Million of LOBO loans during the Quarter, generating in the region of £10 Million in savings over the remaining lifetime of the loans (32 years).
- No new long-term borrowing was undertaken during the Quarter. Short-term temporary loans were secured for cashflow purposes in relation to the LOBO loan repayment.
- There is an underlying need to borrow up to £91.1 Million by the end of 25/26.
- Of this, approx. £50.0 Million may need to be secured in fixed rate borrowing to meet the Council's agreed interest rate exposure targets.

Investment Activity

- A net decrease in investment balances of £48.0 Million during the Quarter primarily due to the LOBO loan repayment.
- Security and liquidity remained the key priorities, and with this in mind an appropriate balance of cash was deposited in secure Money Market Funds and instant access accounts;

Key Messages – Economic Summary

- 4.1 The UK economy performed better than expected during 2023, but the outlook is currently weak, and the economy remains vulnerable to shocks. The concern for the UK continues to relate to containing inflation alongside avoiding recession within a stagnant economy. CPI inflation fell to 3.9% in November; a bigger than expected fall and a sign of an easing in domestic inflationary pressures. However, the latest forecasts are for the recent downward trends in CPI to stall over the next few months before starting to decline more decisively again in February 2024.
- 4.2 PWLB rates were on a downward trend during the latter part of the year and officers continue to closely monitor interest rates and forecasts.



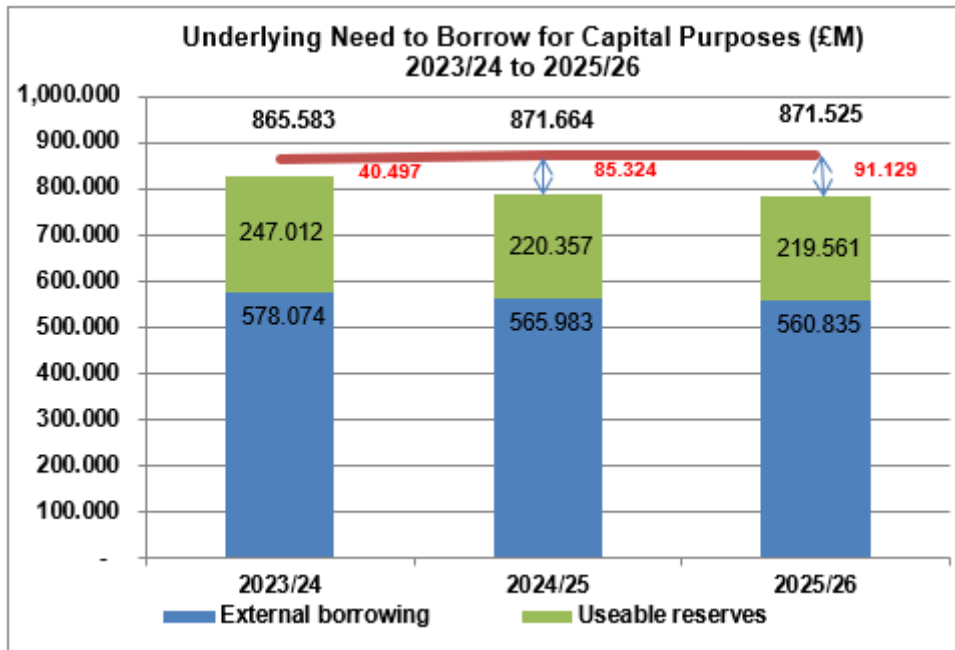
4.3 The latest forecast (as at 7th November 2023) is that the Bank Rate has reached its peak of 5.25%, with a first rate cut to 5% in Q3 2024, to be followed by further rate cuts through 2024 and 2025. As there are so many variables at this time, caution must be exercised in respect of all interest rate forecasts.

	<i>Latest</i>	<i>Sep-23</i>	<i>Mar-24</i>	<i>Sep-24</i>	<i>Mar-25</i>	<i>Sep-25</i>	<i>Mar-26</i>
UK Base Rate ~ Link Group	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	5.00%	4.00%	3.25%	3.00%
UK Base Rate ~ Capital Economics	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	4.75%	3.75%	-
PWLB Certainty 50 Years ~ Link Group	5.30%	5.30%	5.10%	4.70%	4.30%	4.00%	3.90%
PWLB Certainty 50 Years ~ Capital Economics	5.30%	5.20%	5.00%	4.60%	4.50%	4.60%	-

Key Messages – Borrowing Activity

- 4.4 The Council’s borrowing strategy is to limit its exposure to interest rate risk whilst maintaining an appropriate level of internal borrowing to minimise its financing costs.
- 4.5 During 23/24 debt rescheduling opportunities increased due to market conditions and the rising interest rate environment. The Council took a pro-active approach and explored several options, including the repayment of LOBO loans to rebalance the debt portfolio and provide more certainty. Exiting these loans early also helps to de-risk the investment portfolio by reducing cash balances, thereby reducing exposure to credit and counterparty risk.
- 4.6 Options were discussed at the Treasury Management Panel and officers worked with the Council’s Treasury Management Advisers, LINK Group, to negotiate the repayment of £55M of outstanding LOBO loans. This repayment was based on using existing cash balances and delaying further long-term borrowing. The repayment has generated in the region of £10M in savings over the remaining lifetime of the LOBO loans (32 years).
- 4.7 The chart shows the Council’s underlying need to borrow for capital purposes

(represented by the blue arrows) is £91.1M over the period to 2025/26. This is an updated position based on the latest capital spend projections and the temporary use of available reserves:



Projected external borrowing requirement 2023/24 – 2025/26	£M
Planned capital investment	42.549
Maturing loans / reduced support from useable reserves	65.124
Amounts set aside to repay debt	(16.544)
Total	91.129

- 4.8 The Director of Finance has previously advised that a target of 70% fixed rate borrowing be maintained to manage risk and provide cost certainty, and the Authority has been working to this target over several years whilst interest rates have remained low.
- 4.9 To deliver against this target, the Council would require in the region of £50M of fixed rate debt over the period to 2025/26. As borrowing costs are at their highest since 2008, it is not considered prudent to undertake this additional borrowing at this time with the precise timing to be kept under review.
- 4.10 The recommended approach for the remainder of 23/24 is to hold off further long-term borrowing and closely monitor the profile of capital spend and funding requirements over the planning period. Temporary reserves and balances can be utilised in lieu of external borrowing until a time when rates begin to fall from their current high levels. This prudent approach allows flexibility to use the under borrowed position to minimise costs and defer long-term borrowing until it becomes less expensive.

Key Messages – Investments

- 4.11 There has been a net decrease in investment balances of £48.0M during the Quarter mainly as a result of the LOBO loan repayment. The use of cash balances to repay debt enables the Authority to reduce exposure to credit and counterparty risk.

- 4.12 The Council's investment strategy remains focused on security (loss avoidance) and liquidity (ensuring cash is available when needed to meet the Council's spending commitments).
- 4.13 To reflect this strategy, officers continue to place investments in secure Money Market Funds and instant access accounts. The Council has also placed a significant level of short-term deposits with reputable banks and other local authorities to diversify the investment portfolio and help spread counterparty risk.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

5.1 Financial and Risk

- The Authority's outturn as at the end of December 2023 stands at a cost pressure of £20.702M, an improvement of £0.549M on the position reported as at the end of September 2023.
- This position is mainly due to the continuing cost pressures within Children's Social Care (£16.664M). The Executive Director of Children's Services in conjunction with the Director of Finance are formulating a financial recovery plan to help mitigate these pressures. Furthermore, the moratorium on all non-essential expenditure is to continue.
- Subject to this recovery plan, the remaining cost pressure is to be partly offset by the approved release of previously earmarked reserves of £7.4M with the remaining balance (currently £13.3M) to be funded via a re-prioritisation of strategic reserves.
- However, it is highly likely that a large proportion of these pressures will continue so it is recommended that Cabinet receive further updates from Executive Directors on the delivery of their service reviews / efficiencies and future spending plans, ensuring that these are managed within agreed resource envelopes.
- The current forecast pressure of £0.98M on the Housing Revenue Account. This is to be funded via HRA Reserves.
- Approval is also sought to write-off of historic bad debts totalling £0.512M as detailed in the report [NB: all debts remain liable for collection].

5.2 Legal

There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report, however part of the cost pressure relates to legal costs mainly linked to addressing rising caseloads in Children's Services. Plans are being progressed to address this pressure ongoing.

5.3 Equality

Not applicable as individual EIA's will have been completed in relation to the budgets proposals as appropriate.

5.4 Sustainability

Decision Wheel not applicable.

5.5 Employee

There are no direct employee implications as a result of this report.

5.6 Communications

Communication will be made in line with the normal performance monitoring arrangements of the Council.

6. CONSULTATION

N/A

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 N/A

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Whilst the corporate pressures currently being experienced were, in general, anticipated as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process, the overspend position reported is significantly higher than expected. Therefore, Executive Directors are requested to bring forward action plans to address the pressures within their respective areas to address the current position.

9. GLOSSARY

N/A

10. LIST OF APPENDICES

N/A

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Service and Financial Planning 2023/24 – The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy – 2023/24 Budget recommendations (Cab.8.2.2023/6).

12. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Steve Loach 06/02/24
Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date. Andrew Perriman 14 February 2024

Report Author: Neil Copley

Post: Director of Finance (S151 Officer)

Date: 31st January 2024

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

TITLE: HRA Decent Homes Capital Investment Report 2024/25

REPORT TO:	CABINET
Date of Meeting	06 March 2024
Cabinet Member Portfolio	Regeneration and Culture
Key Decision	Yes
Public or Private	Public

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to inform Cabinet of, and seek approval for, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Investment Programme for 2024/25, delivered through the Property, Repairs, and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) contract and tendered elemental works programmes.

Council Plan priority

Healthy, Growing, Learning & Sustainable Barnsley

Recommendations

That Cabinet:-

- 1. Approves the HRA 2024/25 Barnsley Homes Standard Programme; and**
- 2. Approves the HRA 2024/25 Supplementary Investment Programme.**
- 3. Approves the HRA 2024/25 Other Investments.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This paper sets out the proposed programme for the Council’s core housing capital programme for both the Barnsley Homes Standard (BHS) programme and the annual programme of supplementary investments that compliments BHS. These investments will allow Berneslai Homes to continue to maintain its Decent Homes target of 100% [set in conjunction with BMBC] through 2024/25.
- 1.2 As part of the 2024/25 budget setting process, the Council and Berneslai Homes have reviewed the in-year approach to planned investment in housing

stock, with the approach recently agreed by Cabinet as part of the HRA Budget. To accommodate the prioritised delivery of allocated works from 2023/24, the 2024/25 Barnsley Homes Standard programme will be a smaller programme than in previous years.

- 1.3 The development of a strategic approach that addresses the allocated works during 2024/25 will ensure that tenants receive outstanding works in line with the Council's set of standards and those set by the Regulator of Social Housing i.e., Social Housing Consumer Standards.
- 1.4 During 2024/25, the decency programme will focus on maintaining 100% decency but targeting those areas requiring immediate decency works (e.g., any components failing by the end of the calendar year 2025) rather than delivering a wider whole house programme. There will be a focus on completing elemental decency works around kitchens, bathrooms, and roofs, with a smaller number of properties (200) continuing to receive the whole-house approach. This work will include retrofit measures to bring properties up to EPC C or above, in line with an agreed specification, where this is required. This approach ensures that the Council remains compliant in maintaining 100% decency across all stock, whilst releasing budget to complete outstanding allocated works on a prioritised basis during 2024/25 and utilising the 100% stock condition data.
- 1.5 The properties on the BHS 2024/25 programme with an Energy Performance Certificate [EPC] rating of D will receive retrofit energy efficiency improvement measures, which will be delivered in conjunction with decency works so they achieve a minimum of EPC C.

Decent Homes Standard

- 1.6 The Council first met the Decent Homes Standard for all its stock in December 2010, having delivered a £300M programme between 2004 and 2010 to achieve this. The standard is set by the government and requires a home to meet the following four criteria:
 - a) It meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing – containing none of the 29 serious [Cat 1] hazards set out under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System [HHSRS].
 - b) It is in a reasonable state of repair where building components [Key and Other] do not require replacement or major repair due to age and condition.
 - c) It has reasonably modern facilities and services - dwellings which fail to meet this criterion are those which lack three or more of the following:
 - a reasonably modern kitchen (20 years old or less);
 - a kitchen with adequate space and layout;
 - a reasonably modern bathroom (30 years old or less);
 - an appropriately located bathroom and WC;
 - adequate insulation against external noise (where external noise

- is a problem); and,
 - adequate size and layout of common areas for blocks of flats.
- d) It provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort - this criterion requires dwellings to have both effective insulation and efficient heating.
- 1.7 Since January 2011, Berneslai Homes has implemented and managed the Barnsley Homes Standard programme [BHS] designed to maintain the social rented housing stock at the Decency Standard. Appropriate Council/ BH strategic targets are set annually to ensure this. The social housing White Paper, The Charter for Social Housing Residents, which preceded the Social Housing Regulation Act 2023, indicates that the Decent Homes standard will be reviewed to consider whether it needs to be updated to strengthen the definitions of safety, energy efficiency and decency. Initially expected to be completed by Summer 2022, this has now been pushed back by the Government to Summer 2024. The implications of the revised Decency Standard on the Council's HRA will need to be considered in due course.
- 1.8 The Government's Decent Homes standard covers a range of components whose useful lifespan is time-limited (for example, 20 years for a kitchen) and different components have different lifecycles. Berneslai Homes manages and uses its asset management database [PIMSS] which tracks the installation date of all home standard components within a property. This database is used to establish both the 30-year HRA business plan and the annual programme contained within this report. The annual programme details where work is required to maintain the standard in the coming year.
- 1.9 Actual lifespans for individual components vary from the government guidance, and components are not replaced where they are in good condition and their expected remaining life extended for a further period. Every home and every component is surveyed in advance of replacement within the annual programme with variations recorded in the asset management database. In addition to these property inspections, stock condition surveys of 20% of the stock per annum have been undertaken since April 2022. Following approval from the Council in December 2022, the programme has been accelerated to achieve a full 100% position for March 2024. As of the end of October 2023, Berneslai Homes had attained approximately 75% of stock condition surveys. These stock condition surveys ensure we have full visibility of the housing stock, providing data and 30-year business plan accuracy.
- 1.10 The schemes proposed within the 2024/25 programme are addresses that were last improved during the early years of the previous decent homes programme pre-2010. The scope of works from the database shows that such elements as PVCu windows and doors, full rewires and central heating distribution systems will be unlikely to require replacement, but a high proportion of kitchens, bathrooms, roofs, and central heating boilers are likely to require replacement. The programme will also pick up other elements that were deemed not to fail at the time, as well as original tenant refusals if not replaced as part of void works.

- 1.11 It has been identified that the stock has a high number of kitchens and bathrooms that were fitted during the Decent Homes period that are now nearing the end of their 20- and 30-year life cycles respectively. Following analysis and physical surveys, 200 kitchens and bathrooms will be replaced on the BHS 2024/25 programme.
- 1.12 During the original Decent Homes programme only a small proportion of roofs were replaced due to not failing against the Decent Homes standard upon survey. Officers are now seeing, via the asset management database, and through stock condition surveys, that there are an increasing number of full roofs needing replacement within the next 5 years. Berneslai Homes will thus be including a roofing replacement to 200 properties on the BHS 2024/25 programme.

SOCIAL VALUE

- 1.13 The Barnsley Home Standard programme is required to meet the Council's decency target and the Council has contractual agreements with Construction Services and Wates for the delivery of the work through the PRIP 2020 Contract.
- 1.14 The PRIP contract is designed to add social value including directly employing staff who live within the borough, a requirement to have over 30 directly employed apprentices and annual programmes of work experience. Further, the contract makes a significant financial contribution to the Better Barnsley Bond Scheme.
- 1.15 The contract has targets for equality and diversity in the workforce, including encouragement of women into construction and carbon footprint sustainability. It sets stringent targets for re-cycling waste materials (more than 96%) and investment in the Barnsley Pound (more than 75%) tree planting and green initiatives.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 Barnsley Home Standard - Core Programme

The proposed core Barnsley Homes Standard programme for 2024/25 will be delivered by Berneslai Homes Construction Services (CS) and Wates and is summarised per area in the table below:

Barnsley Homes Standard 2024/25

Delivery Partner	Scheme	Number of Properties	Budget Cost £M
CS	Kendray	28	£0.273
CS	Smithies	25	£0.243
CS	Royston	8	£0.078
CS	Staincross	19	£0.185
CS	Elemental Kitchen and Bathroom programme	86	£1.075
CS	Elemental Roofing programme	47	£0.441
Wates	Birdwell	20	£0.195
Wates	Goldthorpe / Bolton on Dearne	2	£0.019
Wates	Hoyland	70	£0.681
Wates	Elemental Kitchen and Bathroom programme	20	£0.250
Wates	Elemental Roofing programme	113	£1.060
TOTAL		438	£4.500

2.2 The programme, together with other works detailed, will maintain the Council's Housing Stock within its strategic target by the end of March 2025.

2.3 Budget costs are derived by using previous year's outturn costs and include all associated fees. Following a detailed survey of every property within each scheme, and agreement on individual scopes of work for every property, partner contractors propose guaranteed maximum prices for each package.

Urgent Individual Property Heating Replacements - £0.541M

2.4 In all cases following a heating breakdown, a repair is attempted in the first instance. In some cases, the boiler cannot be repaired or is beyond economic repair which cannot wait for a planned programme. The budget is sufficient for approximately 200 such replacements within the housing stock of 18,000 properties. This work is delivered through the Property Repairs and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) with the works carried out by Berneslai Homes Construction Services or Wates.

Reactive Component Replacements - £3.512M

2.5 The proposed replacement items budget is to be used to replace items in council stock which aren't scheduled for renewal as part of the Core BHS programme as outlined above, where they cannot be repaired, are reasonably urgent in nature and are not heating related (where there is a separate budget allocation). The items are placed in planned programmes which are released monthly through the Property Repairs and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) to Berneslai Homes Construction Services and Wates respectively. These batched releases enable the work to be properly planned and priced, making delivery efficient and costs more controllable. The works typically consist of:

- Full or Partial Kitchen Replacements;

- Full or Partial Bathroom Replacements;
- New Guttering;
- New Doors; and
- New Windows.

2.6 The proposed budget is sufficient to fund around, on average, 1,975 replacements at an average cost of £1,778 (2023-24 average price) and will contribute towards maintaining the Council's Decent Homes target and assist in clearing the current rolling programme of allocated works throughout the 2024/25 financial year.

Supplementary Investment Programme

2.7 The Supplementary Investment Programme is additional to the Barnsley Homes Standard Programme and is complimentary in maintaining the housing stock to the Decency Standard. The individual elements are outlined in the paragraphs below.

Planned Works to District Heating Networks - £0.338M

2.8 The Council has 24 District Heating Networks serving 1,212 dwellings, independent living schemes, community centres, and a school. Properties have heat meters and pay at cost of the heat they use. The systems should operate on an 'at cost' basis for revenue income and expenditure.

2.9 The plans for 2024/25 include improvements to two heating schemes that will improve the overall efficiency of the schemes and reduce running costs. These improvements include additional insulation to plant rooms and new heat meters that will allow the schemes to maintain a lower running temperature.

2.10 A smaller part of this capital budget is planned as a contingency that may be required for any major failures that occur during the year, for example, major boiler failure requiring a renewal or a burst underground main requiring section renewal rather than repair.

Major Adaptations for Tenants with Additional Needs - £3.240M

2.11 The population in Barnsley is aging and tenants are living longer, and consequently, the number of these demand led adaptation requests are rising year on year meaning we must have sufficient resources to be responsive and reactive to fulfil our obligations.

2.12 All applications are first assessed by the Council's Equipment, Adaptation and Sensory Impairment Service, to determine exact requirements. The applications are then assessed by officers from the Equipment and Adaptation Service jointly with Berneslai Homes' officers. Following the introduction of a new Equipment & Adaptations Policy back in 2022, the right to appeal was removed, with individual cases now being reviewed and managed between Berneslai Homes SMT and key stakeholders withing BMBC to ensure the

needs of tenants are fully met and all options are explored including re-housing.

2.13 The three most frequent types of adaptations requested are:

- Level Access Shower
- Entrance Ramps; and
- Stair lifts and Ceiling Hoists.

2.14 The proposed budget also covers significant conversions to the Council's properties where tenants have specific needs that cannot be met through this work. The demand for such conversions is managed through the process outlined above.

2.15 It is estimated that 289 adaptations will be completed at an average cost of £11,081 per property allowing for a reactive budget of £3.204M.

2.16 Where appropriate, the proposed budget is also used to build a small number of extensions to properties where tenants cannot be re-housed to more suitable accommodation, with four requests going to panel for decision in January 2024. Officers from BMBC Housing are working closely with Berneslai Homes to continue to align the new build and acquisition programmes to best meet the needs of our tenants; including where that need might be a purpose built or adapted unit on a council build scheme and/or the acquisition of a unit not currently available amongst our stock. This often enables the tenant and their family to be suitably housed, without compromise, and makes best use of resources in the longer term.

Structural Extensive Works - £1.000M

2.17 The proposed Structural Works budget is used to fund extensive, one-off structural works that are deemed urgent, and which cannot reasonably wait for the Barnsley Homes Standard Programme. This budget is also utilised to carry out works agreed as part of Disrepair Claims against BMBC.

2.18 All these works are delivered through the Property Repairs and Improvement Partnership (PRIP) by Berneslai Homes Construction Services or Wates.

2.19 Typically, structural works will include:

- Re-roofing;
- Subsidence Underpinning;
- Major Damp Works; and
- External Retaining Wall Failure.

Void Replacements - £3.196M

2.20 The proposed Void Replacements budget is to fund replacement items in void properties that are required to bring the properties back to the lettable

standard which needs to be carried out quickly to let the property and keep void rent loss to a minimum. Costs of bringing acquisitions to a lettable standard are also covered within this proposed budget.

- 2.21 Void replacements are typically home standard type works of kitchens, bathrooms, replacement heating replacements and rewires, which take place in empty properties following tenant vacation or property purchase. 2023/24 has seen a large influx in voids requiring extensive works with common trends being extensive plastering, re-wires and kitchens being required before they can be re-let. The 2024/25 budget has been uplifted in line with demand to allow us to manage the works and keep the overall void rent loss to a minimum.

Community Refurbishment Schemes - £0.375M

- 2.22 Berneslai Homes has run a very successful Community Refurbishment and Training Scheme which has been operational for the last 15 years. The scheme helps young, unemployed and some older, long-term unemployed Barnsley residents into work-based learning and employment. It provides level 2 basic skills training in construction, mainly groundworks and bricklaying. Work programmes are based on a trainee profile of up to 16 in total at any one time. They are split between working on site under Team 1 and Team 2, as well as undertaking off site training in line with their qualification. Training is delivered in Partnership with Barnsley Community Build. Berneslai Homes have also recently joined in partnership with Barnsley College, offering work placements and practical experience for T-Level and full-time students.
- 2.23 The types of work undertaken on Council owned properties and estate includes:
- General tidying up and clearance of open space;
 - Brick boundary walls;
 - Installation of metal fencing and gates;
 - Timber fencing;
 - Construction of footpaths and driveways in concrete, tarmac and block paving;
 - Pavement crossings and dropped kerbs; and
 - Minor / incidental hard landscaping works.
- 2.24 Given the continuing success of this scheme, it was agreed in 2020 for Berneslai Homes to launch a second Community Refurbishment Scheme, which has been based with the original CRS staff in Athersley South. The aim for Team 2 is to relocate in 2024/25 to where it has been previously identified that Estate Environmental works are urgently required. A high priority scheme has been identified at Summer Lane, Barnsley.
- 2.25 The proposed budget is used to undertake general boundary estate works inclusive of fencing, drives, walls, paths, and minor landscaping. The scheme is currently working in Athersley South and has been very popular with residents. In addition to skills training, it is a cost-effective way of delivering environmental improvements.

Barnsley Homes Standard Capitalised Salaries - £0.190M

- 2.26 A number of Berneslai Homes support staff work specifically on the Barnsley Homes Standard capital schemes throughout the year, whose cost is charged to the HRA via the Berneslai Homes Management fee. This proposed budget is to be used to fund the cost of those project managers which are capitalised during 2024/25.

Timber Floor Replacement - £0.440M

- 2.27 The Mapplewell timber floor replacement scheme is ongoing until August 2024. Utilising current costs to date, and forecasting forward, sees an additional investment of £440k required to successfully complete this programme.

High Rise Wall Ties - £0.250M

- 2.28 In line with the recent changes in legislation in relation to Fire & Building Safety, Berneslai Homes has produced the required Safety Cases for our three High Rise Buildings, Buckley, Britannia & Albion House located in the town. As part of this, structural surveys were carried out which highlighted the need to consider replacement wall ties to the three buildings. Given the importance of actioning this work in a timely manner, an initial works estimates of £250k has been provided. The works will be competitively tendered.

Contingency - £0.204M

- 2.29 Due to the current volatility surrounding costs of resources and materials to deliver the above works, a contingency of £204k has been built into the budgets in line with robust and pro-active financial account management with spend being monitored and reported on quarterly.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

Financial and Risk

- 3.1 Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Director of Finance (S151 Officer).
- 3.2 This report details to cabinet how Berneslai Homes intend to deploy the total HRA Capital Investment Programme for 2024/25.
- 3.3 The resources in respect of these proposals have been set aside as part of the HRA budget papers for 2024/25 which have been already approved by Cabinet (Cab.24.1.2024/7).
- 3.4 The total capital resources of £18.642M has been allocated between The Barnsley Home Standard (BHS) Investment Programme totalling £9.001M

and the Supplementary Investment Programme totalling £9.641M. This is shown in the tables below:-

Barnsley Homes Standard Programme:	2024/25		
	Estimated No. of Units	Estimated Unit Costs exc. Fees	Budget £M
Barnsley Homes Standard	438	£10,274	£4.736
Urgent Domestic Heating	200	2,706	£0.569
Reactive Component Replacements	1,800	£1,951	£3.696
Sub Total Barnsley Homes Standard Programme			£9.001

Supplementary Investment Programme:	Estimated No. Units	Estimated Unit Costs exc. Fees	Budget £M
District Heating Network			£0.356
Major Adaptations - Reactive	720	£4,500	£3.410
Extensive Structural	130	£7,692	£1.052
Voids	398	£8,035	£3.364
Community Refurbishment Scheme			£0.375
Timber Floor Replacements			£0.440
High Rise Wall Ties			£0.250
Capitalised Salaries			£0.190
Contingency			£0.204
Sub Total Supplementary Investment Programme			£9.641

Total HRA Core Capital Investment Programme 2024/25	£18.642
--	----------------

- 3.5 There are risks associated in the delivery of any building contract and working in occupied homes can also involve additional risks. These risks will be managed and monitored by a contract Core Group consisting of staff from BPS, Berneslai Homes and our contract partners. The Core Group, who will meet regularly throughout the scheme, will monitor progress, costs, cash flow, performance and customer satisfaction. This should result in timely interventions or value engineering to take place should the situation arise.
- 3.6 Berneslai Homes are currently accelerating the stock condition surveys of the council's stock to achieve 100% coverage by March 2024. This improved data will improve the business planning process and align the capital programme budgets towards frontline delivery plans.
- 3.7 Financial risks will be monitored throughout the programme and contained with the resources allocated and detailed in this paper.

3.8 The financial implications of these proposals are summarised in the attached Appendix A.

Legal

- 3.9 There are direct legal implications for the Council/ BH arising from this work. The Council has a requirement to ensure that its properties meet the decent homes standard as a minimum. Compliance with decency is also included in the Regulator of Social Housing's Home Standards and is a key indicator in the Tenant Satisfaction Measures being implemented from April 2023. Schemes proposed to be carried out under the PRIP contractors are already covered by existing contractual arrangements. However, elemental works will be undertaken following procurement under the Contract Procedure Rules and the signing of a standard form of building contract.
- 3.10 Consultation with tenants in respect of major works and/ or any qualifying long-term agreement must comply with the procedures set out in sections 20 and 20ZA of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 (as amended) and the Service Charges (Consultation Requirements) (England) Regulations 2003.

4. Equality

- 4.1 The provision of a home that is warm, safe and comfortable is a fundamental requirement of the Decency standard, promotes good health and wellbeing and is a fundamental component of basic human rights. These works will form an essential part of ensuring that the housing stock meets these requirements. A Full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for the wider Decency Programme.

5. Sustainability



- 5.1 The management and maintenance of the Council's 18,000 stock will need significant focus, investment, and strategic asset management if it is to increase the energy efficiency of homes to an average of SAP rating C or above by 2030. A key focus for the 2024/25 budget, BH Strategic Plan and Business Plan is to ensure that there is robust data to inform the retrofit plan, to embed retrofit works into the decency programme, going forward, and to ensure that the Council and Berneslai Homes are best placed to access external funding for retrofit works.
- 5.2 In delivering investments via the agreed HRA Budgets, the Sustainability Wheel shows a strong positive impact on homes, communities and creating quality neighbourhoods in line with the priorities of B2030 and thus scores green on all areas. The Sustainability Wheel shows a positive impact from the development/retrofit of quality of housing, energy use, renewable energy production and reduction of fuel poverty. These can be linked the investment in existing stock via the installation of insulation, more efficient heating systems and renewable technologies – such as air source heat pumps and solar panels and batteries. Retrofit installation and building new homes does increase construction waste and pollution in the short-term; however, these should be offset by the reduction in the use of energy once completed and the reduction in emissions via renewable energy sources.
- 5.3 Working with tenants to encourage recycling and to look after greenspaces should both reduce waste and improve biodiversity; particularly if our estate green spaces are used to promote opportunities for rewilding, the development of tiny forests and district eating schemes. There are also opportunities to make better use of estate car parks and garage sites to provide EV infrastructure and charging points.
- 5.4 Finally, social housing providers have a real opportunity to develop retrofit programmes at significant scale (and across tenures) to encourage local supply chains and training and development opportunities for green industry.

6. Employee

- 6.1 There are no direct employee implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

7. Communications

- 7.1 All tenants and leaseholders involved will be fully consulted before works take place. Customers have choice for kitchen and bathroom ranges, and all customers have a right of refusal if they do not wish the works to be carried out.
- 7.2 Where leaseholders are affected by works, they will be consulted within the prescribed leaseholder timescales. Where leaseholders are required to pay for jobs, several established easy payment options have been devised, including interest-free and monthly term payments.

- 7.3 As part of the BHS works, customers receiving new boiler installations will benefit from digital programmable timers and multiple location heat controls. They will receive both face to face and written instructions on the use of the heating systems. Berneslai Homes will also encourage customers as part of the programme to take up smart meters from their energy supplier and provide advice on keeping the home warm. Support is available for those struggling with energy and other bills.
- 7.4 Before and during the programme of works, tenants will receive dedicated tenant support from Project Liaison Officers. The officers prepare tenants for the work, explain what will be taking place, support them during the process and provide aftercare. Tenants are also eligible for a redecoration grant following major works.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Consultations about the programme have been undertaken within BMBC and Berneslai Homes. Tenants are consulted about the works as described above.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 A robust budget setting process is undertaken by the Council and Berneslai Homes as part of the preparation for the annual HRA budget (Cab.24.1.2024/6). The budget prioritises investment in stock/services/resources to ensure that HRA funding is balanced (against income) and effectively prioritised to meet all statutory and regulatory requirements/standards for the management, repair and maintenance of the Council's stock and the needs of tenants. This report sets out the detailed work programmes and planned works required to ensure that our council homes continue to meet decency standards, directing funding to rolling decency and replacement programmes in line with asset management data and property inspections. Supplementary works focus on building safety and compliance works as well as adaptation and environmental projects to improve health and well-being, neighbourhoods and support local training and development.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 This paper sets out the proposed programme for the Council's core housing capital programme for both the Barnsley Homes Standard (BHS) programme and the programme of supplementary investments that compliments BHS. These investments will ensure that Berneslai Homes to continue to maintain the Council's housing stock to required decency standards throughout 2024/25.

11. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Financial Implications

12. REPORT SIGN OFF

Financial consultation & sign off	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date See Appendix A.
Legal consultation & sign off	Legal Services officer consulted and date <i>Ian Goldsmith 16.01.24</i>

Report Author: Sarah Clyde (in partnership with Berneslai Homes)

Post: HOS Housing

Date: 04/01/2024

Report of the Executive Director for PlaceFINANCIAL IMPLICATIONSHRA Capital Investment Programme 2024/25

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
	£M	£M	£M	£M
Expenditure:				
<u>Barnsley Homes Standard Investment Programme</u>				
Barnsley Homes Standard	4.736			4.736
Urgent Domestic Heating	0.569			0.569
Reactive Component Replacements	3.696			3.696
Total Barnsley Homes Standard	9.001	-	-	9.001
<u>Supplementary Investment Programme</u>				
District Heating Network	0.356			0.356
Major Adaptations - Reactive	3.410			3.410
Extensive Structural	1.052			1.052
Voids	3.364			3.364
Community Refurbishment Scheme	0.375			0.375
Timber Floor Replacements	0.440			0.440
High Rise Wall Ties	0.250			0.250
Capitalised Salaries	0.190			0.190
Contingency	0.204			0.204
Total Supplementary Investment Programme	9.641	-	-	9.641
Total Core Programme	18.642	-	-	18.642
Resources:				
Resources as identified per HRA Budget Papers 2024/25	18.642	-	-	18.642
Total Resources	18.642	-	-	18.642

Agreed by:  Ashley Gray (SFBP) 04/01/24

On behalf of the Service Director- Finance,

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank