

ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL



Council Offices,
Urban Road,
Kirkby in Ashfield
Nottingham
NG17 8DA

Agenda

Council

Date: **Thursday, 29th September, 2022**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield**

For any further information please contact:

Lynn Cain

lynn.cain@ashfield.gov.uk

01623 457317

COUNCIL

Membership

Chairman: Councillor David Walters

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Dale Grounds

Councillors:

John Baird
Kier Barsby
Will Bostock
Melanie Darrington
Andy Gascoyne
Andrew Harding
Tom Hollis
Rachel Madden
David Martin
Lauren Mitchell
Warren Nuttall
Kevin Rostance
Dave Shaw
Helen-Ann Smith
Caroline Wilkinson
John Wilmott
Vacancy

Chris Baron
Jamie Bell
Christian Chapman
Samantha Deakin
Arnie Hankin
David Hennigan
Trevor Locke
Sarah Madigan
Andy Meakin
Keir Morrison
Matthew Relf
Phil Rostance
John Smallridge
Lee Waters
Daniel Williamson
Jason Zadrozny

FILMING/AUDIO RECORDING NOTICE

This meeting may be subject to filming or audio recording. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Members' Services on 01623 457317.

SUMMONS

You are hereby requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.



Theresa Hodgkinson
Chief Executive

AGENDA

Page

1. To receive apologies for absence, if any.
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests.
3. To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7 July 2022. 11 - 18
4. To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet and the Head of Paid Service.
5. To receive questions from the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, if any.
(None received for this meeting)
6. To receive and consider any petitions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, if any.
(None received for this meeting)
7. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (viii) to receive reports from the Cabinet in relation to the Council's budget and policy framework, reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for debate and reports from Officers of the Council:-
 - a Report on an Urgent Key Decision.
 - b Devolution Deal for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. 19 - 34
 - c Polling Places Review. 35 - 44
 - d Changes to Committees, Panels and Outside Bodies. 45 - 48
 - e Annual Scrutiny Report 2022. 49 - 90
8. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (ix), to receive recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and resolve in accordance with the Council's rules of debate as per the attached schedule. 91 - 196
9. Updates from Members of the Cabinet on their Portfolio Activity.

10. Notices of Motion.

Motion 1

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Rachel Madden and seconded by Councillor David Martin, as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council is committed to providing exciting events that bring our communities together. The Council’s “Summer of Fun” was hugely successful and brought together thousands of residents in a variety of Council organised and Council supported events.

This year, the Council and partners have organised popular Food and Drink Festivals in Hucknall as well as the 100th Anniversary of Titchfield Park. The recent Hucknall Film Festival was an enormous success.

The first ever Ashfield Day saw over 12,000 residents come together on Sutton Lawn to celebrate everything that is great about our District.

In the Selston Parish, popular events included the outdoor cinema and fun day and the “Party in the Park” to celebrate the late Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee hosted at Selston Country Park. Councillors were also involved in organising the popular Underwood Festival.

In Kirkby-in-Ashfield, the Council has organised several flag raising ceremonies to mark days of commemoration including Armed Forces Day, Merchant Navy Day and the 40th Anniversary of the end of the Falkland’s War.

Ashfield District Council will continue to support Remembrance Sunday events across the District, continue marking the Green Flag status at Brierley Forest Park, Kingsway Park, Portland Park, Selston Country Park, Sutton Lawn and Titchfield Park, Hucknall and organise Christmas Festivals in Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Sutton-in-Ashfield and support stakeholders in other events across the District.

Ashfield District Council is committed to playing a central role in the life of our communities. We therefore pledge to continue to organise events and look for more opportunities that bring our communities together and support others.”

Motion 2

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Jason Zadrozny and seconded by Councillor Matthew Relf, as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council welcomes the recommendation of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority that will lead to the “Conversion of Ashfield (Fire Station) from one day shift crewing and one On-call appliance to one wholetime and one On-call appliance.”

This Council notes the announcement by Councillor Jason Zadrozny, Chairman of the authority's community safety committee on April 29th 2022 of a full-scale assessment of resources across Nottinghamshire's fire station network, with the review also assessing whether each station has sufficient equipment to serve their communities.

This Council acknowledges the role of the Ashfield Independents who have been campaigning relentlessly since 2018 to ensure the people of Ashfield have a fully staffed, 24 hour Fire Station.

Ashfield District Council believes that this decision will save lives and therefore instructs the Leader and Chief Executive of Ashfield District Council to write to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority formally asking for this decision to be implemented as soon as practically possible."

Motion 3

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor Daniel Williamson and seconded by Councillor Helen-Ann Smith, as follows:-

"The Independent Review of Children's Social Care headed by Josh McCallister published in May 2022 a final report and recommendations that included:

"Government should make care experience a protected characteristic" and "New legislation should be passed which broadens corporate parenting responsibilities across a wider set of public bodies and organisations."

On Protected Characteristics for Care Experience – (Care Review May 2022)

"Many care experienced people face discrimination, stigma, and prejudice in their day to day lives. Public perceptions of care experience centre on the idea that children are irredeemably damaged and that can lead to discrimination and assumptions being made.

One young person told the review that a teacher had told them "You're smart - for a kid in care", another young person said "I don't want people to point out that I am in care if I don't want that mentioned. It makes me so cross – that shouldn't happen."

This stigma and discrimination can be explicit, and often comes with assumptions about the likely characteristics of children and adults that have care experience. They can also be implicit and are evidenced in the way care experience is discussed in schools, workplaces, and the media.

At its worst this can lead to care experienced people being refused employment, failing to succeed in education or facing unfair judgements about their ability to parent when they have children and families of their own.

Hearing testimony from care experienced people sharing the discrimination they have experienced, even from a very young age, it is clear that such discrimination can be similar in nature to other groups that have a legally protected characteristic under the Equality Act (2010). So, while there may be ways that society can help reduce stigma and discrimination, including creating greater public consciousness on these issues, just as with other areas of equality, there is a case to go further. Therefore, the government should make care experience a protected characteristic.

Making care experience a protected characteristic would provide greater authority to employers, businesses, public services, and policy makers to put in place policies and programmes which promote better outcomes for care experienced people. It will make the UK the first country in the world to recognise care experienced people in this way. As a measure, it will bolster and pave the way for a number of the recommendations in this chapter.”

Care Review May 2022

Ashfield District Council notes that

1. *District councils in England must publish information about services which it offers that may assist care leavers in, or in preparing for adulthood and independent living. (Children and Social Work Act 2017 Section 2 (1) (a))*
2. *For the purposes of Section 2 (1) (a) of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The services that may assist care leavers in, or in preparing for, adulthood and independent living include services relating to;*
 - (a) *health and well-being;*
 - (b) *relationships;*
 - (c) *education and training;*
 - (d) *employment;*
 - (e) *accommodation;*
 - (f) *participation in society.*
3. *On Corporate Parenting Principals Ashfield District Council accepts that it is a relevant local authority in England by virtue of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 Section 1 (3) (b) and in carrying out functions in relation to the children and young people who are care leavers as defined at paragraph 4 of this motion must have regard to the need;*

- (a) *to act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people;*
- (b) *to encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings;*
- (c) *to take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people;*
- (d) *to help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners;*
- (e) *to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people;*
- (f) *for those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work;*
- (g) *to prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.*

4. *Children and care leavers relevant for the purposes of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 Section 1 (2) (a) (b) and (c) are;*

- (a) *children who are looked after by a local authority, within the meaning given by section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989;*
- (b) *relevant children within the meaning given by section 23A(2) of that Act;*
- (c) *persons aged under 25 who are former relevant children within the meaning given by section 23C(1) of that Act.*

5. *Ashfield District Council acknowledges that Children entering the care system are often split from their siblings and placed outside their home Local Authority Area. That they don't choose to enter the care system, that they don't choose to be split up from their siblings and don't choose to be placed outside their local area.*

6. *Ashfield District Council believes that*

- (a) *Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives;*
- (b) *Despite the resilience of many care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account;*
- (c) *Care experienced people often face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships employment and in the criminal justice system;*
- (d) *Care experienced people often face a postcode lottery of support;*

- (e) *As corporate parents, councillors in a district council have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible support and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by a local authority and who are leaving the care system;*
- (f) *All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work;*
- (g) *Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and care leavers and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society;*
- (h) *The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation of people with protected characteristics;*

Ashfield District Council is proud that

7. *It published the first joint Local Offer in England in partnership with Mansfield District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Rushcliffe District Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council and Broxtowe Borough Council and;*
 - (a) *That the council tax exemption policy for care leavers across our district and all other districts of Nottinghamshire provides equality of opportunity because it includes care leavers that may have moved into our districts from other Local Authority Areas.*
 - (b) *That our district and all other districts of Nottinghamshire has a free leisure centre membership offer for all Care Leavers up to the age of 25*
 - (c) *It is a signatory to the Nottinghamshire Looked After Children and Care Leavers Partnership Strategy 2022-2025.*

Ashfield District Council Resolves to.

8. *That when making any decisions in relation to its policies or formulating its Council plan that it recognises that care experienced people are an oppressed group who face discrimination;*
9. *That it recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of oppressed people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;*

10. *That it Includes people with care experience within the Council's Equality Impact Assessment process as a voluntary addition to the 9 protected characteristics.*
11. *That in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual publication of information relating to people who share a Protected Characteristic in services and employment in so far as available data allows for meaningful monitoring.*
12. *To formally call upon all other bodies to treat care experience as a protected characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation.*
13. *To formally call upon all other bodies to adopt the corporate parenting principal until such time as it may be introduced by legislation.*
14. *For the council to proactively seek out and listen to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views.*
15. *That in accordance with the Care Leavers Agreement across Nottinghamshire this council aims to remove the Local Connection area test for Care Leavers as defined at paragraph 4 of this motion*
16. *That where a care leaver is found intentionally homeless consideration of additional priority will be given through the Housing Register to ensure suitable accommodation can be secured.*
17. *For this council to increase participation in democracy for Care leavers of all ages by inviting them to attend to give their views and experiences at relevant scrutiny committees."*

11. To answer any questions submitted in writing by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, if any.
(None received for this meeting)

12. To receive a list of minutes and a web link to access Cabinet and Committee meeting minutes that have been published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council for Members to give notice of their intention to ask a question of a relevant Chairman under Procedure Rule 13.2.

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COUNCIL

Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield,

on Thursday, 7th July, 2022 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor David Walters in the Chair;

Councillors John Baird, Chris Baron,
Kier Barsby, Jamie Bell, Christian Chapman,
Melanie Darrington, Samantha Deakin,
Andy Gascoyne, Dale Grounds (Vice-Chair),
Arnie Hankin, David Hennigan, Tom Hollis,
Trevor Locke, Rachel Madden, Sarah Madigan,
David Martin, Andy Meakin, Lauren Mitchell,
Keir Morrison, Warren Nuttall, Matthew Relf,
Kevin Rostance, Phil Rostance, Dave Shaw,
John Smallridge, Lee Waters,
Caroline Wilkinson, Daniel Williamson,
John Wilmott and Jason Zadrozny.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Jim Blagden, Will Bostock,
Andrew Harding and Helen-Ann Smith.

Officers Present: Lynn Cain, Ruth Dennis, Theresa Hodgkinson,
Peter Hudson, Mike Joy, Chris Stephenson and
Shane Wright.

**C.14 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests
and/or Non-Registrable Interests**

No declarations of interest were made.

C.15 Minutes

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 May 2022, as now
submitted, be received and approved.

**C.16 Announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet
and the Head of Paid Service**

Chairman of the Council

The Chairman of the Council took the opportunity to offer his congratulations
and best wishes to Councillor Jason Zadrozny for his upcoming wedding to
Jack.

Chief Executive

The Chief Executive introduced and welcomed Robert Docherty, the Council's new Director of Place and Communities who had commenced work with the Authority that week.

Leader of the Council

In the absence of the Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction, the Leader informed Council that an announcement in relation to Safer Streets funding was imminent but had been delayed due to issues at Government level.

It was almost certainly going to be good news for the Authority and there was also mention of further Safer Streets funding becoming available in the future due to an underspend on the original pot. Officers had already been instructed to prepare a bid for the potential funding with an emphasis on crime reduction initiatives for Hucknall.

C.17 Questions from the Public

No questions were received for consideration.

C.18 Petitions

No petitions were submitted for consideration.

C.19 Proposed Amendments to the Capital Programme for 2022/23

Council was requested to consider adding one new Scheme to the 2022/23 Capital Programme and to approve an increase in funding for an existing Scheme.

RESOLVED

that the proposed Capital Programme adjustments, as set out in this report, be approved.

C.20 Review of Polling Places

Council was requested to approve the considerations and recommendations of the Polling Place Review Working Group, established to review existing premises following issues with some locations, and endorse the undertaking of a public consultation exercise.

RESOLVED

that the draft recommendations set out in the report be approved for the purposes of a public consultation exercise, to be reported back to Council in September 2022.

C.21 Recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2(ix), Council considered the following recommendations:-

Minute No. CA.4

Cabinet, 21 June 2022

Local Government Association Recovery & Renewal Panel - Key Reflections

RESOLVED

that the Local Government Association Recovery and Renewal Panel Key Reflections, as presented, be received and noted.

Minute Nos. CA.6 and CC.3

Cabinet, 21 June 2022 and Charities Committee, 28 June 2022

Teversal Community Centre and Recreation Ground (Teversal Grange)

(Charity Number 522310)

RESOLVED that

- a) in respect of land described as Teversal Social Welfare Centre, Carnarvon Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield (shown as "A" on Appendix 2), delegated authority be granted to the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager, Commercial Development in consultation with the Chairman of the Charities Committee, to negotiate, agree terms and finalise the disposal of land, in principle, to Teversal Sports and Recreation Trust;
- b) in respect of land described as land lying to the North East of Fackley Road, Teversal, being 3.62 acres (shown as "B" on Appendix 2), delegated authority be granted to the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager, Commercial Development in consultation with the Chairman of the Charities Committee, to negotiate, agree terms for the removal of the restriction with the Coal Authority and to finalise the disposal, in principle, to Teversal Sports and Recreation Trust;
- c) in respect of land described as land to the South East of Teversal Grange Complex, Carnarvon Street, Fackley Road, Teversal, being 0.95 acres (shown as "C" on Appendix 2), delegated authority be granted to the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager, Commercial Development in consultation with the Chairman of the Charities Committee, to negotiate, agree terms for the removal of the restriction with the beneficiaries of the restriction and to finalise the disposal, in principle, to Teversal Sports and Recreation Trust;
- d) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager, Commercial Development to secure public access rights to the Council's retained land as part of any potential future land transfer to the Teversal Sports and Recreation Trust;
- e) in the event that the Teversal Sports and Recreation Trust take over the Teversal Grange site, the outstanding debt owed to the Council by the Trust of approximately £174k be written off to allow the new Trust to take over debt free;

- f) the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager, Commercial Development be authorised to finalise negotiations regarding ensuring that in the event the transfer of the Trust goes ahead, that it is transferred fit for purpose and operational and to bring a report back to Charities Committee and Council to approve any associated expenditure.

C.22 Updates from Members of the Cabinet on their Portfolio Activity

The following Cabinet Members gave updates in relation to their portfolio activity:

Councillor Rachel Madden – Executive Lead Member for Leisure, Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Matthew Relf – Executive Lead Member for Regeneration and Corporate Transformation

Councillor Sarah Madigan – Executive Lead Member for Customer Services and Strategic Planning

Councillor David Hennigan, Executive Lead Member for Climate Action Strategy and Corporate Communications

Councillor John Wilmott – Executive Lead Member for Licensing, Environmental Health and Regulatory Services

Councillor David Martin – Executive Lead Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits.

C.23 Notice of Motion 1

The Council received a notice of motion moved by Councillor Jason Zadrozny and seconded by Councillor Christian Chapman.

Members were asked to note an amendment to paragraph 5 of the motion, with the number of pupils claiming free school meals being corrected from 17,987 to 5,076.

“Ashfield District Council notes that:

- *Prices are continuing to rise at their fastest rate for 40 years with food costs, particularly for bread, cereal and meat, climbing. UK inflation, the rate at which prices rise, edged up to 9.1% in the 12 months to May, from 9% in April according to the Office for National Statistics. (ONS)*
- *On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54 per cent. In light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £693 per year. The average pre-pay meter energy bill will increase by £708 per year (Ofgem, 2022)*

- *On 6 April 2022, the Government increased National Insurance by 1.25 percentage points, which is projected to cost the average Ashfield family an additional £108 per year.*
- *The Government has suspended the pensions 'triple lock' for 2022/3, meaning that Ashfield's 24,919 pensioners (ONS) will see a rise of 3.1 per cent this year (instead of 8.3 per cent under the triple lock formula). This year, this will cost an Ashfield resident on the full new state pension an average of £487, and for an Ashfield resident on the full basic state pension an average of £373 (TUC, 2022)*
- *The number of pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals in the Ashfield District is 5,076 – which is 28.2% of all pupils. This is the highest figure since records began. Thousands of Ashfield families face destitution and hunger as their earnings are just over the threshold for free school meals.*
- *According to the Trussell Trust, food banks in the food charity network provided more than 2.1 million emergency food parcels between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022. Of these, 832,000 were for children. This represents an 81% increase compared to the same period five years ago.*

This Council therefore declares a 'Cost of Living Emergency' and asks the District's 2 MPs to urgently lobby the Government to:

- *Reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20 per cent to 17.5 per cent, saving the average Ashfield household a further £600 this year.*
- *Re-introduce the pensions triple lock to support Ashfield's pensioners.*
- *Re-introduce the £20 Universal Credit uplift immediately."*

Having been fully considered, the motion was put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED

that this Council duly declares a 'Cost of Living Emergency' and asks the District's 2 MPs to urgently lobby the Government to:

- Reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20 per cent to 17.5 per cent, saving the average Ashfield household a further £600 this year;
- Re-introduce the pensions triple lock to support Ashfield's pensioners;
- Re-introduce the £20 Universal Credit uplift immediately.

(During consideration of this item and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 30, it was moved by Councillor Jason Zadrozny and seconded by Councillor David Hennigan that Procedure Rules 10 (Duration of Meeting) and 23 (Conclusion of Proceedings) be suspended, for the duration of the meeting, to enable all matters on the agenda to be satisfactorily concluded. Having been put to the vote, the Council agreed with this course of action.)

C.24 Notice of Motion 2

Motion 2

To consider a notice of motion proposed by Councillor David Hennigan and seconded by Councillor Caroline Wilkinson (in Councillor Jim Blagden's absence), as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council would like to acknowledge the work of the time limited Covid Response and Recovery Panel / COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel. The time limited panel was set up in response to the challenges faced by the COVID-19 pandemic. The panel has been praised for leading the Council's response to an unprecedented pandemic.

Highlights of the panel's achievements include:

- *Successfully campaigning for an asymptomatic testing centre in Sutton-in-Ashfield.*
- *Successfully campaigning for a vaccination centre in Hucknall.*
- *Ensuring business support during successive lockdowns – helping dozens of businesses with grant applications throughout the Ashfield District.*
- *Working with partners including the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Group, The Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham University Hospital's NHS Trust, Nottinghamshire Police and the voluntary sector to deliver a ground-breaking communication's strategy.*
- *Led on the formation of the COVID information officer team – working with them to support businesses across Ashfield.*
- *Installing hand sanitisers in all Council-run car parks.*
- *Worked with the Council to ensure that we not only maintained all bin collection services but enhanced them – the only Council in the UK to do this.*
- *Worked with schools to get 4 benches commissioned to commemorate our key workers during the pandemic. These will be located in Hucknall, Kirkby, Selston and Sutton-in-Ashfield.*

This Council would like to put on record thanks to all members of Ashfield District Council who played a part in the success of the committee and the staff in Committee Services for facilitating its success and the dozens of people, retailers and health professionals from across the community who gave evidence to assist the panel in its work.

This Council notes that the pandemic is not over and will always remain alert to the challenges faced by public health issues like this. This Council pledges to ensure that public health and fighting health inequalities will continue to be central to everything Ashfield District Council does.”

Having been fully considered, the motion was put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED that

- a) the Council puts on record its thanks to all Members of Ashfield District Council who played a part in the success of the Committee and the staff in Committee Services for facilitating its success and the dozens of people, retailers and health professionals from across the community who gave evidence to assist the Panel in its work;
- b) the Council notes that the pandemic is not over and will always remain alert to the challenges faced by public health issues like this. The Council pledges to ensure that public health and fighting health inequalities will continue to be central to everything Ashfield District Council does.

(Prior to consideration of this item, Councillors Chris Baron and Melanie Darrington left the meeting at 8.54pm.)

C.25 Emergency Notice of Motion

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5 (Urgent Items), the Council received an emergency notice of motion moved by Councillor Lee Waters and seconded by Councillor Dave Shaw as follows:-

“Ashfield District Council notes the planning application for a new £15.7m new Nottinghamshire County Council office block at Top Wighay Farm. This Council notes the period in which to submit representations to County Hall expires on 12 July 2022.

Whilst this office is in the Gedling Borough – this Council believes that it will have a detrimental impact on the infrastructure of Hucknall. This Council therefore resolves to formally object to this application.”

Having been fully considered, the motion was put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED

that the Council agrees to formally object to the planning application for a new £15.7m Nottinghamshire County Council office block at Top Wighay Farm.

C.26 Questions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13

There were no questions submitted by Members.

C.27 Questions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.2 - In relation to Cabinet and Committee Meeting Minutes published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council

There were no questions submitted by Members.

The meeting closed at 9.28 pm

Chairman.



Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	29 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR DERBY, DERBYSHIRE, NOTTINGHAM, AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR JASON ZADROZNY, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Ward/s:	N/A
Key Decision:	N/A
Subject to Call-In:	N/A

Purpose of Report

To update Council on the progress of the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Devolution programme.

Recommendation(s)

1. Note the progress to date on the devolution and joint working programme, including the announcement of a 'level 3' deal offer from Government on 30 August 2022.
2. Note the requirement for a formal public consultation process scheduled to take place over winter 2022.
3. Note the proposed formation of an East Midlands Mayoral Combined County Authority with a new elected mayor, with elections expected to take place in Spring 2024.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To advise Council about the devolution agreement that has been reached in principle between Government and the four upper tier authorities across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and next steps.

Alternative Options Considered

None. Report is for noting.

Detailed Information

The Government has confirmed a devolution deal for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire which includes a range of powers and over £1.14bn investment over the next thirty years. The leaders of Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council signed up to the deal in principle at a launch event with Greg Clarke MP, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, on 30 August 2022.

The deal will include the first of a new type of combined authority, designed for two-tier areas, which will be established through new legislation by central government. The legislation would enable the formation of an East Midlands Mayoral Combined County Authority (EMMCCA). The devolution deal is a 'Level 3 Deal', which offers the most local powers and funding. It would mean a new elected mayor, with elections currently expected to take place in Spring 2024. Level 1 or 2 Deal options that do not involve a new elected mayor and have reduced devolved powers and funds have been considered with the (Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) Economic Prosperity Committee favouring the higher Level 3 Deal.

Governance and decision making for the EMMCCA is in the process of being determined.

The offer of a devolution deal, if approved, will bring in much needed investment, funding and powers with more major decisions being made locally and a bigger voice for the region. The deal offer includes:

- A new guaranteed funding stream of £1.14 billion, or £38 million a year over the next 30 years, as well as an extra £16.8 million for new homes on brownfield land
- £18m capital in this spending round period to support local housing and net zero priorities (subject to business case approval)
- Control over a range of budgets at a local level to ensure they are better tailored to the needs of people in our communities. This includes the Adult Education Budget
- Opportunities to deliver more and better jobs through investment in our area
- New powers to improve and better integrate local transport and an integrated transport settlement starting in 2024/25
- A commitment from Government to work jointly with the EMMCCA and other relevant partners to tackle homelessness, domestic abuse, community safety, social mobility and to support young people through their journey to adulthood.

A summary of the opportunities and additional investment the deal offers is included as Appendix 1. The full deal text can be viewed here: [East Midlands devolution deal - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/east-midlands-devolution-deal). The deal marks the culmination of an intensive period of negotiation between local partners, including District and Borough Councils, the LEP and 4 upper tier Councils.

The agreement entered into is subject to ratification by each of the four upper tier Councils who are signatories to the deal. A period of public consultation will take place afterwards, likely to be November / December 2022 and the deal will also be dependent on the passage through Parliament of primary and secondary legislation to enable the EMMCCA to be established

This offer of a devolution deal is deemed to be the beginning of the journey, not the end with opportunities to build and enhance it over time. Local partners have secured a number of

commitments to explore further devolution in the future as set out in the deal text. Government have confirmed funding for the establishment of a new combined authority over the coming 2 years, and further funding would be considered as part of future national government spending reviews.

Discussions continue to be held with borough and districts as the deal is progressed.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Additional investment, funding and powers with more major decisions being made locally would support delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities

Legal:

There are no legal issues identified in the report. As the legislation is passed through Parliament and the new authority established, legal advice will be provided as appropriate including in relation to consequential governance impacts for the Council. [RLD 16/09/2022]

Finance: No financial implications at this stage. [PH 14/09/2022].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Not applicable
General Fund – Capital Programme	Not applicable
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	Not applicable
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	Not applicable

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Not applicable	

Human Resources:

Not applicable

Environmental/Sustainability

Not applicable

Equalities:

Not applicable

Other Implications:

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Not applicable

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DEVOLUTION:

A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR
THE EAST MIDLANDS



£1.14 BILLION deal for Derbyshire,
Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham

- 
- MORE INVESTMENT IN OUR AREA
 - ECONOMIC GROWTH
 - MORE AND BETTER JOBS
 - BETTER TRANSPORT, SKILLS TRAINING, HOUSING
 - AN ENHANCED GREENER ENVIRONMENT
 - MORE POWER IN LOCAL HANDS

#EASTMIDLANDSDEVOLUTION
#EASTMIDSCOMBINED

MORE FUNDING,
MORE CONTROL,
A BRIGHTER FUTURE

A DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS: ONE OF THE BIGGEST IN THE COUNTRY

Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council have been offered a **£1.14 billion devolution deal** by Greg Clarke MP, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The deal with the government would see an extra **£38 million a year** coming to the East Midlands from 2024, addressing years of historically low investment in our area.

It would mean funding and powers move from a national level to a regional level to help the 2.2 million people who live here.



Barry Lewis
Derbyshire
County Council



Ben Bradley MP
Nottinghamshire
County Council



Christopher Poulter
Derby City Council



David Mellen
Nottingham
City Council

“ We want to make the most of every penny so this can be used to make a real difference to people’s lives.

As Leaders, we have all fought for a fairer share for our cities and counties, and a bigger voice for our area, to give us the clout and the influence we deserve, and to help us live up to our full potential. This deal would help make that a reality.

More and better jobs through greater investment in our area, economic growth, better transport, housing, skills training, and an enhanced greener environment, as we move towards being carbon neutral, are what we all want to see. We will work together for the common good of the East Midlands.

We haven’t always had the same level of funding or influence as other areas, which has held us back. This is a golden opportunity to change that and put the power to do so in our own hands.

There is a lot still to be agreed, and this is the beginning of the journey, not the end. We’re determined to build on this deal over time, as other areas have done.





£1.14 BILLION OF FUNDING

The deal would mean a new guaranteed funding stream of **£1.14 billion**, or **£38 million** a year over the next 30 years to help level up the East Midlands, as well as an extra £16.8 million for new homes on brownfield land and control over a range of budgets like the Adult Education Budget.

The deal offers the joint largest Investment Fund in the country, matching the amount offered to West Yorkshire, with other similar deals attracting lower Investment Fund figures.

Other areas with devolution deals have been able to make their funding go even further by offering loans to businesses so they can invest and grow, with devolved areas making money from the interest – so the true financial benefit is likely to be greater still.

Building on our regional strengths...

- Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham have a combined population of 2.2 million people and contribute **£50.5 billion** to the UK economy in terms of GVA (Gross Value Added).
- The area has more than **88,000 businesses** providing over **930,000 jobs** in sectors with potential for growth, including advanced manufacturing, engineering, clean energy, logistics, creative and digital, education, health, pharmaceuticals, and wholesale and retail trade.
- The region is home to Toyota UK, Rolls Royce, Alstom, and Boots, as well as the University of Derby, Nottingham Trent University, and the University of Nottingham, which provide centres of research excellence with expertise in aerospace, rail, life sciences, and strong transport links.
- The area is home to major tourist attractions including the Peak District National Park, the National Forest, Nottingham Castle, Derby's Silk Mill and Sherwood Forest.
- There are major strategic opportunities presented through the East Midlands Freeport, the East Midlands Development Corporation, and the announcements in the Integrated Rail Plan on HS2.
- The two cities and counties are geographically close and already work closely together on many collaborative large-scale initiatives.

...and helping us to overcome the challenges we face.

- Productivity in the East Midlands is behind the UK average - we need an increase of **14.6%** to close the gap.
- Public spending per person has historically been below the UK average.
- There are areas within our region with high levels of poverty and poor social mobility.
- More local powers will help us tackle these challenges and harness the true economic potential of our area, for the benefit of everyone who lives here, and which would also benefit the whole country.
- Devolution for the East Midlands would give us more control and flexibility to respond to local needs including transport, skills training, regenerating our villages, towns, and cities, and more.



WHAT WOULD DEVOLUTION MEAN?

Devolution would create a new legal entity known formally as a Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA). This would include Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council and cover the areas of both cities and both counties.

The four authorities would still exist as individual councils and would work together on a formal and legal basis to improve the region for our communities and businesses.

It would mean we can work more effectively across council boundaries. People move across these boundaries every day to get to their homes, for work, for leisure, and to visit friends and family, and so it makes sense that we all work together to improve things on a regional level.

Councils in our counties and cities already work in partnership in many different ways. Devolution would mean we can do this more efficiently and do more than is currently possible.

Rather than a brand-new tier of government, this devolution deal would move existing funding and powers from London, directly to us in the East Midlands, which means that local voices would play a greater role in decision making.

The new MCCA would include representatives from existing county, city, borough, and district councils. It would be led by a new regional mayor, and there would also be opportunities for private, public, and voluntary sector organisations to contribute and have their voices heard.

Devolution is a major opportunity to bring decisions closer to where they have an impact, and to get a fairer share to help to close the gap in public investment in the East Midlands, so we can see more economic growth and new and better jobs. Devolved funding is allocated for specific purposes. For example, the adult skills budget must be used on training.

The deal would give us much more control over our own area. Rather than many major decisions being made for us in London, as happens now, local people would have a say in the region's priorities, and devolution would give us a national platform and greater representation in London.

Devolution has seen real improvements in other parts of the country where it has been successfully adopted.



A MORE PROSPEROUS FUTURE

Devolution is a great chance for us to improve our economy and prepare for the industries of the future. It would mean we could develop new commercial spaces to maximise jobs and business opportunities.

We can build on our region's existing knowledge and expertise, for example in transport and green technology, promoting the growth of a future low carbon economy by investing in related skills training at colleges and other training facilities.

By playing to our strengths and tailoring our approach to the needs of our area, we can encourage economic growth and make sure local people benefit.

Devolution also means we can take advantage of economies of scale by using combined and devolved budgets to deliver more value for taxpayers and more cost-efficient services.





A FUTURE WITH MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Devolution means we'd get more say locally, and get to make decisions about our area, in our area. For example, we'd have a fully devolved adult skills budget, which means we'd no longer be constrained by rules set nationally on what we can use adult education funding for – only on specific age groups, for instance – and could instead tailor this to the needs of people in our communities.

We could help this funding be available to the people who need it, so they can fulfil their potential and help them get the jobs they want. We'd also help employers hire people with the skills they need by addressing the skills gap, by removing barriers to better paid work.

We can play to our strengths in research and industry, including aerospace, life sciences, advanced manufacturing, and energy, as well as make the most of opportunities in the future associated with the East Midlands Freeport, HS2 and rail, and the East Midlands Development Corporation,



A BETTER-CONNECTED FUTURE

Devolution would give us the opportunity to:

- combine local transport plans together, so we have a single integrated plan, rather than four
- develop new smart integrated ticketing on public transport
- create new concessionary fare schemes

It would also mean we could set up and coordinate a Key Route Network, which would be made up of some of the busiest and most important roads in our area, so we could better manage our highways.





A GREENER FUTURE

Devolution means we can work more effectively on a larger scale so we can all benefit from cleaner air, lower heating costs, and so we can move towards being carbon neutral, with:

- new low carbon homes
- retrofitting existing homes with external wall insulation
- promoting the use of renewable energy
- protecting and enhancing our green spaces.

It would make £18 million available to support housing and drive Net Zero ambitions in the East Midlands.



BETTER HOUSING FOR US AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

With devolution, we could work at a regional level with Homes England to build more affordable homes, using new powers to buy land and housing, with the consent of district and borough councils.

It could mean new and better standards for homes, low carbon measures, and improvements to existing housing.

It would mean £16.8 million a year would be available for building new homes on brownfield land, subject to suitable areas being identified.





AND MORE...

Devolution also means we could work with national government at a regional level on new initiatives to support young people and to tackle:

- Homelessness
- Domestic abuse
- Community safety
- Social mobility

OUR FIRST REGIONAL MAYOR

A new regional mayor would give us a bigger voice, more influence, and a higher profile across the country. It would create a single point of contact for businesses and other organisations looking to move into our region or expand.

A regional mayor would help us speak with one voice and help us make a strong case to the Government for more investment in the East Midlands.

The mayor would be directly elected by residents in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham, giving them more influence over issues which affect them.

The first election for a regional mayor would be in spring 2024.



WHAT'S NEXT?

All four city and county council leaders in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham have signed up to work on this devolution deal with the government.

We want to hear your views. Each council will look at the details of the deal in the autumn to approve the deal for a consultation later this year, so that residents, businesses, and other organisations can have their say. The deal also needs new legislation from central government.

A devolution deal is the beginning of the journey, not the end. There would be opportunities to build and enhance on it over time, as has happened in other areas. A new combined authority would be considered at future national government spending reviews.

There is still a lot to do and details to work out for devolution to become a reality in 2024. We will have to work hard to make devolution work for us, and to ensure it results in the improvements we want to see. But we're convinced it's the right move and would be a massive step forward for the East Midlands.

Our region has so much potential, but we've not always had the investment or control over our own future to make a difference. A devolution deal is our chance to create a better future.





WHO'S BACKING DEVOLUTION?

Those supporting devolution include local leaders across the political spectrum, the Chamber of Commerce, the East Midlands D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), the University of Derby, Nottingham Trent University, and the University of Nottingham.

It is supported by a wide range of different organisations and local leaders because they see the great potential it offers for improving our area, our communities, and the lives of people who live, work, and visit our region.



#EASTMIDLANDSDEVOLUTION
#EASTMIDSCOMBINED



Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	29 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	POLLING PLACES REVIEW
Executive Lead Member:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the proposals for revised polling places and consequential boundary changes following the conclusions of the Polling Places Review Working Group. The draft changes were previously reported to and approved by Council on the 7 July 2022 for a public consultation exercise.

Recommendation(s)

That the Council;

- a) Approve the changes detailed in Table 1 of this report
- b) Note the consequential boundary changes in Table 1 of the report
- c) Should a polling place be unavailable in the run up to an election, the (Acting) Returning Officer be delegated authority to select an appropriate alternative and formal retrospective approval be sought by Council following the election should this be a permanent proposed change;
- d) To note that approved changes will take effect on 30 September 2022.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances and that, as far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to disabled electors

Alternative Options Considered

All options were considered by the Polling Stations Review Working Group

Detailed Information

The Polling Places Review Working Group have met on four occasions to conduct an interim review and report its final recommendations to Council, in line with the timetable and remit as set out and approved by the Council.

Following ongoing work being undertaken by the Elections Team in contacting, reviewing and assessing viable locations, Members of the working group have discussed possible alternative venues, taking into consideration;

- Size
- Accessibility
- Location
- Parking
- Availability

Members of the cross party working group considered the most suitable locations based on the above factors for recommendation to Council. Council approved the recommendations for public consultation at a meeting held on the 7 July 2022. Table 1 details the changes as agreed by the working group and presented to Council.

Public consultation ran from the 18th July to the 16 August, with hard copies also being made available at Selston Parish Council and both Sutton and Hucknall Libraries. No representations or objections were made during this period.

Table 1. Polling Station / Boundary Changes

ABBEY HILL:- ABH1 Proposed new polling place					
Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
ABH1	Abbey Hill Primary School	2,312	Polling Place: The Summit Centre	Kirby North	No access issues
<p>Comments:</p> <p>In line with the Councils commitment to reduce the number of schools used as polling places and minimise disruption to education it is proposed that the temporary move, due to Covid in 2021, become permanent.</p> <p>The proposed polling place is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area</p>					

Ashfields: ASH1 Proposed Boundary Change

ASH1	The Changing Rooms off Bluebell Wood Way	2,057 / 1,682	Polling District change as detailed in Appendix A	Ashfield	No access issues
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Comments:

The following streets be added in to ASH1:-

- Blueberry Croft,
- Field View,
- Oakleaf Crescent,
- Primrose Way,
- Sunnycroft

The following existing streets be moved into new polling district ASH3:-

- Garth Ave,
- Highland Drive,
- Hillsborough Ave,
- Hillsborough Way,
- Kirkby Road (38-206),
- Longwood Drive,
- Oakfield Ave,
- Off The Avenue,
- Pemberley Chase,
- Pendean Way,
- Rosing Court,
- Sutton Road,
- (207-215) The Avenue,
- Walton Drive

Some electors will be brought in from ASH2 to make it a shorter distance to travel to cast their vote, otherwise they would be voting at The Snipe.

To lessen the burden on The Changing Rooms some streets to be moved into a newly created polling district called ASH3.

The proposed polling place for this polling district is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for the reduced number of electors in this area.

Ashfields: ASH2 Proposed Boundary Change

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
ASH2	The Snipe	904 / 760	Polling Place: The Changing Rooms off Bluebell Woods Way	Ashfield	No access issues

Comments:

The proposed boundary change provides a shorter distance for electors to travel in order to cast their votes. The following streets would vote at the Changing Rooms should the proposals be approved:

- Blueberry Croft,
- Field View,
- Oakleaf Crescent,
- Primrose Way,
- Sunnycroft

The proposed polling place for this polling district is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Ashfields: ASH3 Proposed new Polling District

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
Proposed new Polling District ASH3	The Changing Rooms off Bluebell Wood Way	520	Polling Place: Heathcote Court	Ashfield	No access issues

Comments:

Due to the large electorate in the existing polling district of ASH1 it is proposed that an additional polling district ASH3 be created and the electors therein will vote at Heathcote Court. Additionally, this will ease the burden on the Changing Rooms as this is a relatively small building.

ASH3 will include the following streets;

- Garth Ave,
- Highland Drive,
- Hillsborough Ave,
- Hillsborough Way,
- Kirkby Road (38-206),
- Longwood Drive,
- Oakfield Ave,
- Off The Avenue,
- Pemberley Chase,
- Pendean Way,
- Rosing Court,
- Sutton Road,
- (207-215) The Avenue,
- Walton Drive

The proposed polling place for this polling district is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Hucknall North: HNO2 Proposed New Polling Place

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
HNO2	Holy Cross/Leen Mills Primary Schools	1,954	The Interchange Centre	Hucknall North	No access issues

Comments:

In line with the Councils commitment to reduce the number of schools used as polling places and minimise disruption to education it is proposed that the temporary move, due to Covid in 2021, become permanent.

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Hucknall West: HWE3 Proposed New Polling Place and Boundary Change

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
HWE3	Edgewood Primary School	2,389 / 2,231	Boundary Change as detailed in Appendix Polling Station: St Peters and Pauls Church Hall	Hucknall West	No access issues

Comments:

In line with the Councils commitment to reduce the number of schools used as polling places and minimise disruption to education it is proposed that electors use St Peters and Pauls. This does fall just outside of the polling district, however, it offers good transport links and access.

The following streets to be included in the boundary for HWE4:

- Stainsborough Road
- Badger Close
- Rockley Close
- Bluebell Close

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Hucknall West: HWE4 Polling District Boundary Change

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
HWE4	Edgewood Primary School	1,717 / 1,885	Beauvale Court	Hucknall West	No access issues

Comments:

The rationalisation of the polling districts will assist electors in having better access to a polling place. The following streets to be included in the boundary for HWE4:

- Stainsborough Road
- Badger Close
- Rockley Close
- Bluebell Close

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Kingsway: Proposed New Polling Place

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
KWY2	St Thomas's Church Hall	667	Forest Street Baptist Schoolroom	Kirkby North	No access issues

Comments:

Forest Street Baptist Schoolroom is already used as a polling place and will become a double station

The proposed polling place for this polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Kingsway: KWY4 Proposed New Polling Place

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
KWY4	St Thomas's Church Hall	546	Forest Street Baptist Schoolroom	Kirkby South	No access issues

Comments:

Forest Street Baptist Schoolroom is already used as a polling place and will become a double station

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Kirkby Cross and Portland: KXP4: Proposed New Polling Place

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
KXP4	Kingsway Cemetery Chapel	763	The Kingsway Pub	Kirkby south	No access issues

Comments:

The Kingsway public house is again available for use as a polling place following the relaxing of regulations in relation to Covid-19.

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Selston: SEL2 Proposed Boundary Change

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
SEL2	Selston Parish Hall	1,269 / 1,382	The following street and single property to be added into SEL2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonside • 1A Pines Close 	Selston	No access issues

Comments:

Some electors will be brought in from SEL4 to make it a shorter distance to travel to cast their vote, otherwise they would be voting at it's newly proposed venue of The Railway Inn

The rationalisation of the polling districts will assist electors in having better access to a polling place.

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Selston: SEL4 Proposed new Polling Place and Boundary Change

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
SEL4	Horse and Jockey Public House	292 / 179	The following street and single property to be removed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonsie • 1A Pines Close New Polling Place Change: Railway Inn	Selston	No access issues

Comments:

The Horse and Jockey no longer meets the access requirements which we expect to be detailed in the 2022 Elections Act Regulations later in the year.

The Railway Inn has previously been used as a polling place and meets all access needs. Some electors to be moved over into SEL2 to make it a shorter distance for them to travel to cast their vote.

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Underwood: UND2: Proposed New Polling Place

Existing Polling District	Existing Polling Place	Current Electorate / Proposed Electorate	Proposed Change	County Division	Access Issues
UND2	Mobile Unit – Woodnook Recreation Ground	238	The Church of Christ	Selston	No access issues

Comments:

Due to the closure of the White Lion a mobile polling station was used in the 2021 polls. Complaints were received from electors residing close to the site. The Church of Christ, whilst sitting just outside of the polling district, offers good facilities with good transport links. This polling place will become a double station.

The proposed polling place for these polling districts is considered to provide reasonable and convenient facilities for electors in this area.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Enable thriving, prosperous and self-sufficient communities where people shape their own futures. Ensure effective community leadership, through good governance, transparency, accountability and appropriate behaviours.

Legal:

A full review of polling places and polling districts will take place in 2023 in line with legislative requirements. This interim review has been carried out to deal with urgent polling place issues identified in readiness for the District Elections in 2023. **(RLD 21/09/2022)**

Finance:

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Costs arising from the review can be met from existing budgets
General Fund – Capital Programme	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	N/A

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Elector access to polling places and confusion over venues following Covid-19 Pandemic where some interim arrangements were necessary.	Effective communications and public consultation around proposed changes.

Human Resources:

There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

Environmental/Sustainability

There are no Environmental / Sustainability implications arising from this report.

Equalities:

The purpose of the review is to ensure that all electors have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances and that, as far as is reasonable and practicable, polling places are accessible to disabled electors.

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

None

Reason(s) for Exemption

None

Report Author and Contact Officer

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Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	29 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	CHANGES TO POLITICAL BALANCE, COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES
Executive Lead Member:	
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

To consider the consequential impact of political proportionality, Committee Membership and membership on outside bodies following the sad passing of Councillor Jim Blagden. Further vacancies have also arisen on seats assigned to the non-aligned independents.

Recommendation(s)

That the Council;

- a) Note the overall allocation of seats by group as detailed in Table A.
- b) Note the allocation of seats on Committees detailed in Table B
- c) Appoint, where appropriate to the vacancies detailed in Table C
- d) Appoint, where appropriate, to the vacancies on Outside Bodies detailed in Table D

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To comply with the provisions of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989, requiring the Council to allocate seats on its Committees in a politically proportional way.

Alternative Options Considered

No other options were considered with respect to the consequential impact on seats on Committees/Panels as the Council is required to allocate places on its committees in a politically proportional way, in accordance with the Local Government & Housing Act 1989.

Detailed Information

The Council is required by law to ensure that it allocates places on its Committees in a politically proportionate way. It does not apply to the Council's Executive, the Cabinet.

At the start of the year or as circumstances require, the Council is asked to allocate places on the relevant Committees in a politically proportionate way. There are 76 such places in total. Council is asked to make amendments to these allocations during the course of the year, as required to reflect any changes to its overall political composition.

In order to restore as far as possible political proportionality on the Council (for practical purposes some element of 'rounding up' of the figures is required) the number of places allocated to the Ashfield Independents is to be reduced by 1 seat and the number of seats allocated to the Labour Group is increased by 1 seat.

Councillors that are not members of political groups have no entitlement to an allocation of seats on Committees. Political groups are entitled to their proportion of seats and once their entitlement has been reached, the remaining seats may be filled by Councillors not belonging to a political group.

This current allocation of politically proportional places on the Council are as follows:

Table A – Overall Allocation of Seats

Group	Seats on Council (34)	Allocation of the 76 places subject to political proportionality
Ashfield Independents	27	60 (-1)
Conservative	3	7
Labour	2	5 (+1)
Non-Aligned	2	4
Total	34	76

Table B – Allocation of Seats on Committees

Relevant Group Leaders to make appropriate changes to the Panels indicated below in red.

	Ashfield Independents	Conservatives	Labour	Non-Aligned
Planning	7	1	1	0
Licensing	7	1	0	1
Standards and Personnel	5	1	0	1
Local Plan Development Panel	7	1	1	0
Overview and Scrutiny	6	1	0	0
Scrutiny Panel A	6	0	1	0
Scrutiny Panel B	6	0	0	1
Chief Officers Employment Committee	5 (-1)	1	1 (+1)	0
Charities	5	0	1	1

Audit	6	1	0	0
Total	60	7	5	4

Table B demonstrates total number of seats available on each Committee for each group. It also indicates where the deductions or additions in group seats have been made as a consequence of changes to the number of Elected Members on Council.

Table C – Current Vacancies on Committees by Group

Panel / Committee	Vacancy by Group (to be appointed if Appropriate)
Overview and Scrutiny	1 Ashfield Independent, (Cabinet Members cannot sit on Scrutiny)
Scrutiny Panel A	1 Ashfield Independent, (Cabinet Members cannot sit on Scrutiny)
Scrutiny Panel B	1 Ashfield Independent, 1 Non-Aligned (Cabinet Members cannot sit on Scrutiny)
Licensing	1 Ashfield Independent, 1 Non-Aligned
Audit	1 Ashfield Independent,
Charities	1 Ashfield Independent,
Chief Officers	1 Ashfield Independent,
Standards and Personnel Appeals	1 Labour

Table D – Current Vacancies on Outside Bodies

Outside Body	Number of Vacancies⁷
Byron Charity Hucknall	1 Vacancy
Hucknall Relief in Need Charity	1 Vacancy

Implications

Corporate Plan:

There are no implications in respect of the Corporate Plan

Legal:

The Local Government & Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities to allocate places on its committees in a politically proportional way.

Finance:

No financial implications contained in this report.

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	N/A

General Fund – Capital Programme	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	N/A

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Should the changes not be made to allocated seats and political proportionality the Council would be contravening the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 (which requires local authorities to allocate places on their committees in a politically proportionate way).	Committee Membership and Political Balance be altered accordingly.

Human Resources:

There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

Environmental/Sustainability

There are no Environmental / Sustainability implications arising from this report.

Equalities:

There are no Equality implications arising from this report.

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

None

Reason(s) for Exemption

None

Report Author and Contact Officer

Ruth Dennis DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE (MONITORING OFFICER)

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Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	29 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2022
Executive Lead Member:	NOT APPLICABLE
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

The Annual Scrutiny Report 2022 summarises the activity of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Panels A and B, and the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel from 2021 to 2022. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Panels A and B, and the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel have considered a wide range of topics focused on achieving improvements to service delivery and quality of life for Ashfield residents.

Recommendation(s)

Council is recommended to:

- a. Note and comment on the work undertaken by scrutiny from 2021 to 2022 as detailed within the Annual Scrutiny Report 2022 appended as Appendix A.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Scrutiny has a statutory responsibility to produce an annual report on the work undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Panels A and B, and the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel.

Alternative Options Considered

No alternative options have been considered.

Detailed Information

The Annual Scrutiny Report 2022 is appended to this report as Appendix A.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Every review undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Panels A and B, and the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel is aligned with the established objectives and key priorities set out within the Council's Corporate Plan.

Legal:

There are no direct legal implications resulting from this report.

Finance:

There are no direct financial implications resulting from this report.

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
There are no risks associated with this report.	None.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications resulting from this report.

Environmental/Sustainability:

There are no direct environmental or sustainability implications resulting from this report.

Equalities:

There are no direct equalities implications resulting from this report.

Other Implications:

There are no other implications resulting from this report.

Reason(s) for Urgency

None.

Reason(s) for Exemption

None.

Background Papers

None.

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Annual Scrutiny Report 2022



Chairman's Foreword



I am pleased to present an overview of the work carried out by scrutiny over the last twelve months. Following my appointment as the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in May 2022, my role is to promote the scrutiny function both inside and outside of the Council and guide the process through the undertaking of evidence led reviews of strategic and local issues.

Scrutiny is a key part of the Council's democratic structure and governance framework and continues to spotlight and review issues of concern raised by the community, Members, and service delivery performance.

I would like to thank the Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Panels A and B, and the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel for their hard work during the last year. I would also like to make special mention of Councillor Jim Blagden. Throughout his tenure as both Vice Chairman and Chairman of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel, Jim dedicated his time to tackling the issues and effects of the pandemic on the community and businesses in Ashfield and played a key strategic role in guiding the recovery process throughout the District. He will be sadly missed.

Whilst the time limited remit of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel concluded in May 2022, the effects of the pandemic and recovery within the community will continue to be a focus in the development of appropriate work programme topics.

Work undertaken during the last twelve months and ongoing throughout 2022, continues to be varied and wide reaching, engaging both the community, partner agencies, and Officers. This includes reviews of the cost of living crisis, gambling harms, dog fouling and littering, social value and selective licensing. Furthermore, Scrutiny continues to monitor service delivery through performance and the Council's budget.

I look forward to continuing the key work undertaken by Members of scrutiny throughout 2022/23 in delivering a function that remains open, participatory, investigatory, and flexible to deliver positive outcomes for both the community and the delivery of services.

Councillor Kier Barsby, Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairman

Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Chairman – Councillor Kier Barsby
Vice Chairman – Councillor Andrew Harding



Scrutiny Panel A

Chairman – Councillor Dave Shaw
Vice Chairman – Councillor Caroline Wilkinson



Scrutiny Panel B

Chairman – Councillor Christian Chapman
Vice Chairman – Councillor Trevor Locke

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Cost of Living

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recently began a review focused on the national cost of living crisis. The Cost of Living topic was added to the scrutiny work programme in June 2022, with Members discussing how prices continue to rise at an alarming rate, including groceries, fuel, and energy with an ever-increasing reliance on free school meals and food banks throughout the country. This was followed by Members voting to declare a 'Cost of Living Emergency' at a Council meeting held in July 2022.

As part of this declaration, Ashfield District Council noted that, at the time:

- *Prices are continuing to rise at their fastest rate for 40 years with food costs, particularly for bread, cereal, and meat, climbing. UK inflation, the rate at which prices rise, edged up to 9.1% in the 12 months to May, from 9% in April according to the Office for National Statistics.*
- *On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54 percent. In light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £693 per year. The average pre-pay meter energy bill will increase by £708 per year.*
- *On 6 April 2022, the Government increased National Insurance by 1.25 percentage points, which is projected to cost the average Ashfield family an additional £108 per year.*
- *The Government has suspended the pensions 'triple lock' for 2022/23, meaning that Ashfield's 24,919 pensioners will see a rise of 3.1% this year (instead of the 8.3% under the triple lock formula). This year, this will cost an Ashfield resident on the full new state pension an average of £487, and for an Ashfield resident on the full basic state pension an average of £373.*
- *The number of pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals in the Ashfield District is 17,987 – which is 28.2% of all pupils. This is the highest figure since records began. Thousands of Ashfield families face destitution and hunger as their earning are just over the threshold for free school meals.*
- *According to the Trussell Trust, food banks in the food charity network provided more than 2.1 million emergency food parcels between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022. Of these, 832,000 were for children. This represents an 81% increase compared to the same period five years ago.*

In declaring the 'Cost of Living Emergency', Council resolved to ask Ashfield's two District MPs to urgently lobby the Government to:

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- *Reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20 percent to 17.5 percent, saving the average Ashfield household a further £600 this year.*
 - *Re-introduce the pensions triple lock to support Ashfield's pensioners.*
 - *Re-introduce the £20 Universal Credit uplift immediately.*

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members are committed to understanding the scale of the cost of living crisis in Ashfield to residents, businesses, communities, and to the Council as an organisation. Members will explore what steps the Council can take to support residents, communities, and businesses in Ashfield facing rising costs across the board that may face many difficult decisions going forward.

The Committee will maintain awareness of any and all emerging initiatives and support measures announced by Central Government to understand how they will translate to Ashfield, such as the recent announcement of a Government-imposed price cap for energy prices.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be advancing with the Cost of Living review through the remainder of 2022 and into the New Year, with a view to submitting a final report to Cabinet in Spring 2023.

Social Value

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee held a meeting in March 2022 focused on Social Value. During the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's consideration of the Annual Budget and Corporate Plan at the February 2022 meeting, Members expressed a desire to learn the benefits and requirements of social value and how methodology relating to it has been incorporated into the Council's procurement procedure.

The Council's Procurement and Project Officer attended the March 2022 meeting of the Committee and delivered a presentation on what Social Value means and how it is incorporated into the Council's procurement strategy.

Members were informed that the Council's Social Value Policy was approved mid-2020 and the Council was now starting to see real outcomes from its implementation. Current social and local economic value delivered from January 2021 to January 2022 stood at £184,677.89 with a committed value over the life of its procurement so far of £1,445,640.23.

The procurement, measurement, management, and reporting of social value were currently administered through a national 'Social Value Portal' which provided Council's with a dashboard for collating information.

It was explained that the recording and use of Social Value methodology enhanced and reinforced:

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- Legal compliance with Social Value
 - Increased value for money/return on investment
 - Increased local employment growth
 - Public health and wellbeing benefits
 - Community resilience
 - Improved local place
 - Join working around commissioning and procurement

Members were pleased to learn that a Supplier Directory/Portal was in development, designed to grow local opportunities and to provide a reference point to Officers for low value procurement. Following the detailed presentation, Members took the opportunity to question the Procurement and Project Officer. At the end, Committee Members felt significantly more informed on the subject and assured that the knowledge around social value will assist Members during future scrutiny work.

Scrutiny Panel A

Selective Licensing Scheme

Scrutiny Panel A carried out a review of the Council's Selective Licensing Scheme that concluded in March 2022. The review was carried out concurrently with the review of the Selective Licensing Scheme as it reached the conclusion of the originally agreed 5-year pilot period.

Carrying out the review, Members looked to understand why the Selective Licensing Scheme was initially implemented, and looked back to the 2016 report that proposed the initial introduction of the Scheme, learning that the following objectives underpinned the initial its establishment:

- Improve housing standards, properties, conditions within the private rented stock
- Improvement management practices
- Improve levels of demand for housing and reduce the number of empty homes
- Contribute towards partnership working to improve wider community issues including crime, anti-social behaviour, and domestic nuisance

To inform eventual recommendations to Cabinet, Panel Members worked to determine if the Scheme had achieved the objectives set out above, and if any new objectives should be considered in renewing the Scheme.

Throughout the review, Members worked closely with the Service Manager for Strategic Housing & Lettings and the Environmental Health Team Leader to gather information and evidence regarding the implementation of the Scheme, as well as the benefits achieved, and areas for improvement needed within the Scheme.

Members held two informal working group meetings focused on the Scrutiny Review: Selective Licensing Scheme as well as two formal Panel meetings. From the onset, it was clear that selective licensing was a divisive topic with Panel Members having numerous concerns that needed to be addressed before any recommendation could be made to renew the Scheme.

Members were presented with a variety of information and evidence to assist with formulating final recommendations for the review. Most notably, Members were given the opportunity to review case study photograph examples of the Selective Licensing Scheme being utilised to improve living conditions for tenants in Ashfield. Members were informed of the benefits achieved by the Scheme in the first five-year period of implementation for tenants, landlords, the Council, and the wider District.

Members were informed of the number of properties within the designated areas that required a license under the Scheme. Furthermore, information was shared regarding the number of licenses issued, licence refusals, and any penalties issued as a result of the Scheme. The Panel also examined the legislation behind selective licensing to understand the conditions required to be met for selective licensing designation in an area.

Recommendations and Explanations

At the conclusion of the review, Members of Scrutiny Panel A formulated the following recommendations and reasons for recommendations that were presented to the March 2022 meeting of Cabinet for consideration, alongside a report recommending that Cabinet renew the Selective Licensing Scheme for a further five-year period:

- a. Support the renewal of the Selective Licensing Scheme in designated parts of Stanton Hill and Sutton Central (New Cross) for a further 5 years.*

Upon reviewing all of the information and evidence provided, taking into consideration the primary objectives of the Selective Licensing Scheme, and the benefits and improvements that have been achieved in the first 5-year period of implementation, Scrutiny Panel A Members feel it would be most appropriate for Cabinet to support the renewal of the Selective Licensing Scheme for a further five-year period.

Panel Members make this recommendation with the knowledge that numerous lessons have been learned from the original implementation of the Scheme following a comprehensive evaluation report and consultation exercise, and that some proposed changes to geographical boundaries, fee structure, license conditions, scheme administration, and support for landlords will be put forward to Cabinet, as set out in the Selective Licensing of Private Rented Homes report to Cabinet in March 2022.

- b. Explore the feasibility of expanding the Selective Licensing Scheme to other areas in the District that might meet the conditions for selective licensing designation.*

At the onset of the review, Scrutiny Panel A Members learned the conditions that need to be met in an area to achieve a selective licensing designation. These conditions are specified in Selective Licensing in the Private Rented Sector: A Guide for Local Authorities, a guidance document published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in March 2015.

A selective licensing designation may be made if the area to which it relates satisfies one or more of the following conditions:

- Low housing demand (or is likely to become such an area)*
- A significant and persistent problem caused by anti-social behaviour*
- Poor property conditions*

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- *High levels of migration*
 - *High level of deprivation*
 - *High levels of crime*

Furthermore, in considering whether to designate an area for selective licensing on the grounds above on property conditions, migration, deprivation, and crime the local housing authority may only make a designation if the area has a high proportion of property in the private rented sector.

Authorities are also required to identify the objective or objectives that a designation will help it achieve, and an authority must also consider if there are any other courses of action available to it that would achieve the same objective or objectives without the need for a selective licensing designation to be made.

With the knowledge of the conditions needed to be met to achieve a designation, Panel Members have discussed the possibility that other areas in Ashfield may meet these conditions and benefit from the implementation of a selective licensing designation. Therefore, Scrutiny Panel A recommends to Cabinet that exploration is undertaken to identify any such areas that would meet the criteria required to implement a selective licensing designation.

- c. Ensure that, if approved, the Selective Licensing Scheme continues to be self-funded through the license fee structure.*

Members of the Panel raised some concerns that the refocussing of dedicated officer(s) could have longer term financial implications to the Housing Revenue Account. Members have been assured that the Scheme would not have any General Fund/HRA implications as all costs would be contained within the income generated by the license fee structure.

- d. Ensure that the Council continues to provide available support to private sector tenants outside of designated Selective Licensing Scheme areas.*

Members are aware that it is not possible to designate every area in Ashfield for selective licensing, and that the absence of selective licensing in areas leaves the Council with limited powers in regard to the private rented sector.

However, it is recognised that even in the absence of a licensing designation, the Council still has a responsibility to Ashfield residents who may be experiencing issues, and must continue, through signposting and appropriate advice, to support private sector tenants in areas outside of the proposed Selective Licensing Scheme.

All recommendations presented to Cabinet as part of the final report were accepted. The Selective Licensing Scheme was renewed for a further five-year period in designated areas of Ashfield.

Gambling Harm

Members of Scrutiny Panel A are currently working through a review of Gambling Harm. Gambling Harm was added to the scrutiny work programme following debate from a previous Council meeting relating to the revised Statement of Gambling Policy where numerous Members raised growing concerns on the serious impact of gambling on local communities and individuals, with a desire for the Council to identify what it can do to mitigate these issues.

In addition to this, the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) is working on a project with the Gambling Commission to raise awareness and increase the involvement of elected members in overview and scrutiny roles in tackling gambling related harms. As part of the project, the CfGS have released a document detailing how local authorities are using scrutiny to tackle gambling harms. In the document, the CfGS have provided recent examples of local authorities tackling gambling related harms through scrutiny – using the function to understand, evaluate, and improve efforts that prevent and treat gambling harms in the community.

The CfGS set out common themes for scrutiny involvement in gambling harm that have been identified. Scrutiny Panel A Members are applying these themes throughout the review:

- Mapping areas of risk and vulnerable populations
- Bringing together local partners
- Involving stakeholders and victims
- Seeking to understand individual, social, economic, environmental, and cultural factors that influence experience of gambling harm
- Understanding gambling harm as a public health issue

The Local Government Association (LGA) have also published a councillor handbook designed to assist councillors in understanding gambling regulations and the role local authorities have in managing those regulations. A section of the handbook Members have been particularly interested in during the review is titled 'Protecting Vulnerable People'. This section sets out how protection children and vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling is one of the three key licensing objectives.

Members are awaiting the publication of a Gambling Reform White Paper from Central Government before formulating a final report with recommendations for the review. The White Paper will include proposals to reform gambling laws. Unfortunately, publication of the White Paper has been postponed for a fourth time. Members are hopeful that the Paper will be published soon so it can be understood the proposals within can contribute to mitigating gambling harm and related issues.

Scrutiny Panel B

Climate Change Mitigation

Scrutiny Panel B Members undertook a wide ranging and lengthy review into Climate Change Mitigation. Climate Change Mitigation was added to the scrutiny work programme following the Council declaring a 'Climate Emergency' at a meeting held in July 2019. Panel Members held five formal meetings and three informal working group focusing on Climate Change Mitigation.

Through the course of the review, Members worked closely with the Council's Assistant Director for Assets and Investments and Strategic Asset Manager. Working so closely with both Officers was invaluable for Members and allowed scrutiny to play a clear role in the Council's emerging policy regarding climate change. The review was commenced with Members setting out clear terms of reference and gaining an initial understanding of what climate change was, the international context, and how it is impacting Ashfield.

Members used the motion passed by Council at the July 2019 meeting to form the partial basis of the review. In this motion, the Council confirmed a commitment to continue with tree planting schemes, supporting blue and green infrastructure, and working with community groups across the District towards climate change mitigation.

In passing the motion, Council resolved to:

- Reaffirm its commitment to doing everything possible to combat climate change including committing to a robust climate change strategy.
- Include an assessment of the implications for sustainability and the environment in all relevant reports to committees.

Members also give consideration to the Council's established Corporate Plan and the key priorities set out within relating to climate change mitigation. These included some key objectives such as:

- Deliver against our Environmental Charter
- Refresh the Green Business Scheme to engage businesses and promote environmentally sustainable behaviours
- Work with community volunteers and local business volunteers to encourage an increase in ownership of community open spaces
- Contribute to a reduction of CO2 emissions by increasing tree coverage in Ashfield
- Develop a Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan

It was clear to Panel Members that the development of a robust Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan was a key priority for the Council and would be central priority for the Scrutiny Review: Climate Change Mitigation.

To inform the review, Members utilised guidance published by the CfGS on how to practice scrutiny and enquiry into climate change at a local level, with a focus on the implications for any council declaring a climate emergency.

Members worked to understand the steps the Council had already taken towards climate change mitigation. These included commissioning Nottingham City Council to produce a Carbon Management Plan specific for Ashfield, moving to green electricity across the Council's assets, expanding use of photo voltaic power generation, biomass boilers, and improved external wall and general insulation on Council properties.

The Panel were informed of the different categories of emissions:

- Scope 1 – Direct (Ashfield District Council offices and fleet to provide services)
- Scope 2 – Indirect utilities (purchasing utilities for offices and communal housing courts)
- Scope 3 – Indirect other (Ashfield District Council investment properties, housing stock, staff commuting, purchased goods/materials)

Regarding scope 1 and 2 emissions, Members were informed that the largest contributors were the Council's Fleet at 41%, gas usage at 39%, and electric usage at 20%.

As part of the evidence gathering process, Panel Members examined a series of case studies compiled by the LGA highlighting the work of local authorities across the country towards climate change mitigation. Emerging government policy and legislation was also key to the information base built upon by Members, including the Net Zero Strategy, published by the Government, setting out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet a net zero target by 2050.

As mentioned, contributing to the development of the Council's emerging Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan was a key priority for Scrutiny Panel B during the review. Members had the opportunity, at every stage of the review, to examine the documents in draft format, providing direct feedback to the Officers responsible for drafting the documents. Members held a question and answer session to go through the targets set out within the draft Climate Change Strategy and assessed each step set out within the draft Climate Change Action Plan.

Recommendations and Explanations

At the conclusion of the Scrutiny Review: Climate Change Mitigation, Scrutiny Panel B submitted a final report to Cabinet in June 2022 with the following recommendations and reasons for each recommendation:

- a. *Support the approval of a proposed target of net-zero by 2030 for the Council's scope 1 and 2 emissions*

The draft Climate Change Strategy sets out a target for the Council to reach net-zero for the Council's direct and indirect (scope 1 and 2) emissions by 2030. Panel Members support this target in recognition of the Climate Change Act 2008 and the emissions reduction targets set out within. Members also acknowledge the significant steps the Council has made in reducing carbon emissions, such as installing solar PV panels on many Council owned buildings, operating smarter working practices, and launching a Climate Change Officer Working Group.

- b. *Support the approval of proposals to minimise scope 3 emissions by 2050*

The draft Climate Change Strategy also sets out a target to minimise scope 3 emissions (outside the Council's direct control) by 2050. Panel Members recognise the extra difficulty of this target due to the nature of scope 3 emissions. However, the Panel is confident the Council can utilise its position as a community leader to work towards achieving this target.

- c. *Support the approval of the Climate Change Strategy, Climate Change Action Plan, and Carbon Management Plan*

Understanding the Council's developing policies regarding climate change mitigation was a key objective of the Panel as part of the review process. Members were made aware of the developing draft Climate Change Strategy, Climate Change Action Plan, and the Carbon Management Plan at an early stage of the review. Policy development is one of the key roles of scrutiny, and Panel Members have worked closely with the Assistant Director of Assets and Investments and Strategic Asset Manager to have input into the developing documents.

Members fully support the steps that are being taken to ensure that the Council has robust policies in place regarding climate change mitigation and recommend that Cabinet approve and adopt the draft documents.

- d. *Continue to ensure an increase in the number of electric charging points available to the Council and the wider public*

Central Government have announced that from 2030, the sale of new petrol and diesel cars will no longer be permissible. This announcement, alongside the continued advancement in

electric vehicle technology, will lead to increased demand for electric charging points throughout the District.

Panel Members are recommending that Cabinet ensure that this increase in demand is met.

e. Continue the commitment towards the expansion of a greener transport fleet

As stated in the draft Climate Change Strategy, in 2019/20, the Council's fleet accounted for 39.9% of the Council's scope 1 and 2 emissions. Because of this, one of the main priorities of the Council's aim to achieve net-zero in scope 1 and 2 emissions will be the decarbonisation of the Council's fleet.

The Panel have been made aware that the Council will be undertaking a full fleet management review, with strong consideration given to full electrification of the Council's fleet. Panel Members welcome the fleet management review, and also endorse other initiatives undertaken by the Council to reduce transport and fleet emissions, such as promoting agile working to reduce commuting and encouraging carsharing.

f. Continue to invest appropriately in renewable technology opportunities

Members are aware that there continues to be advancements in renewable technologies, such as with electric vehicles, and recommend that Cabinet continues to identify and invest in opportunities that will contribute to a reduction in emissions. This could include opportunities such as continued investment in solar PV technology, achieving a greener transport fleet, and exploring renewable technologies in house building and repairs.

Panel Members would also like to see, where possible, renewable measures implemented in the Council's leisure centres.

g. Promote low carbon and sustainable procurement across the Council

Panel Members recommend that the Council promotes and embeds sustainable procurement within the organisation. As set out by the Local Government Association in the Sustainable Procurement – Delivery Local Economic, Social, and Environmental Priorities toolkit, sustainable procurement is a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works, and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the local economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment.

h. Continue to support tree planting schemes throughout Ashfield

Members agreed that continuing to establish tree planting schemes throughout Ashfield will be an important step to helping the Council achieve its emission reduction goals. Tree

planting is an effective method used to offset emissions that cannot be removed. Furthermore, tree planting is an important step to support biodiversity.

The Forestry Commission's Plant Your Future: The Case for Trees details the wide-ranging benefits of tree planting schemes for businesses, land, local communities, and nature and the environment. These include:

- Carbon offsetting*
- Natural flood management*
- Cutting pollution*
- Supporting health and wellbeing*
- Improving air quality*
- Boosting biodiversity*

i. Continue to support and promote energy saving initiatives to Ashfield residents

Panel Members agreed that ensuring residents have the most up-to-date knowledge and information regarding climate change mitigation and energy saving initiatives is pivotal. The Council already puts out messages on the website, through social media, and inside Ashfield Matters.

Ensuring that residents are aware of energy saving methods and initiatives will be especially important with the rise in cost of living and the dramatic rise in energy prices in 2022.

j. In addition to the Green Rewards Scheme, consider other targeted recognition initiatives aimed at communities, educational institutions, and businesses to increase innovation, action, and awareness in Ashfield

In recognising the importance of raising knowledge and the profile of climate change mitigation initiatives, Members of the Panel agreed that developing other District-wide targeted schemes, in addition to the Green Rewards Scheme, would be valuable. These schemes could recognise where schools, local businesses, communities, and residents have made exceptional efforts to contribute towards reducing carbon emissions.

Such schemes could include:

- Primary and secondary school category*
- College category*
- Community group/individual category*
- Business category*

This would differ from the Green Reward Scheme, which offers financial incentives, instead focussing on a possible annual awards ceremony at Ashfield District Council. Such events

not only raise the profile of the issue, but also continue to encourage participation and interaction.

- k. Work with schools and community groups to improve knowledge and understanding of climate change mitigation*

It is globally recognised that young people play a critical part in future climate change action and long-term changes. In addition to recommendation J, the Panel also acknowledges the importance of keeping schools and community groups informed and engaged on climate change issues.

Such interactions and engagement ensure that both local impact and short- and longer-term initiatives can drive both behavioural, consumer and business changes that help Ashfield continue to achieve collective objectives of reducing carbon emissions and improving the local environment for generations to come.

- l. Explore the possibility of establishing wildlife friendly verges across the District as part of the Council's commitment to supporting nature and wildlife*

Panel Members were interested in understanding what measures other Councils have taken in working towards the commitment of climate change mitigation. One such measure Members became interested in was the utilisation of road verges to establish wildlife areas.

Members studied various case study examples of road verges being used in this manner, including:

- Leicestershire County Council established a 'Develop your own wildlife area' scheme in response to public interest. This scheme offers parish, town, borough, and district councils the opportunity to turn urban roadside verges into dedicated wildlife verges.*
- Cornwall Council noticed a large rise in native wildflowers and meadow plants as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic reducing grounds maintenance. They have since implemented a policy including reducing the number of times grass on verges is cut, ensuring that cutting is done after flowers have been set, and using special mowers to allow meadow plants to establish.*
- Dorset Council launched a 'Love Your Verge' campaign as a countywide collaboration to raise awareness about the Council's work to increase and maintain biodiversity in verges, in response to the Climate and Ecological Emergency. By increasing awareness about the importance of Dorset's thriving verges, the campaign also aims to deter people from littering on roadsides.*

Since formulating this recommendation, Members are aware that the Council has set out plans to establish 'bee highways' on Titchfield Park and Kenbrook Road in Hucknall, Teversal

Trail in Skegby, and Derby Road in Kirkby. Panel Members are keen to see the Council continue to expand on this innovative scheme.

- m. Ensure that local businesses and communities are involved in implementing the key objectives set out within the Climate Change Strategy*

The aims and objectives established within the Climate Change Strategy are wide-ranging, requiring the Council to work in partnership with local businesses and communities to achieve them. In order for this plan to be an operational living document that demonstrates ongoing progress, it is critical that the Council continues to establish and maintain relationships with key partners, businesses, and the community alike.

All recommendations presented to Cabinet as part of the final report were accepted.

Dog Fouling and Littering

Scrutiny Panel B has recently started a review into Dog Fouling and Littering in Ashfield. The topic was added to the scrutiny work programme in June 2022 following Members agreeing that dog fouling and littering offences remain key issues for the Council to focus on, being the source of a high number of complaints reported to Councillors. So far, the Panel has held one formal introductory meeting on the topic where Members had the opportunity to discuss terms of reference for the review and identify key information and evidence required.

Initially, Members have looked back to previous scrutiny review into similar topics, assessing whether some of the issues that were prevalent during previous reviews are still relevant today. The Panel has looked at the outcomes of two reviews carried out previously that concluded in 2004 and 2010. The Panel has further examined recent campaigns launched by the Council to tackle the issue and are further interested in exploring any opportunities regarding the Council's established volunteering programme.

Members have also identified the information available on the Council's website regarding dog fouling and littering, explaining what constitutes an offence and the potential consequences that can be faced if a dog owner does not clean up after their dog immediately in public places and dispose of it responsibly. Members are also aware of the Council's duty to clear litter and waste, as far as possible, from public land and places which the Council is responsible for. This includes areas such as:

- Public highway (verges, pavements, and to some degree the road itself)
- Council owned car parks
- Play areas
- Pedestrian areas
- Parks and open spaces

Members have learned when fixed penalty notices may be issued, including the legal powers that allow the Council to issue fixed penalty notices.

The Scrutiny Review: Dog Fouling and Littering will continue into 2023 with the Panel requesting further information on the number of offences recorded in Ashfield, any dog fouling and littering offence hotspot areas identified in Ashfield, and how the campaigns undertaken by the Council have tackled dog fouling and littering in the District.

COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel

COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel Conspectus

Due to the completion of the time limited remit and objectives of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel, Council made the decision to approve the cessation of the Panel at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2022.

In June 2022, Cabinet was presented with a conspectus report, providing a meeting-by-meeting overview of the progress and achievements attained by the Panel over the course of its establishment from June 2020 through to April 2022.

Panel Establishment

At the 30 June 2020 meeting, Cabinet considered a report titled *COVID-19 Response Update and Initial Recovery Plans*. The report provided Cabinet with a summary of what the Council has done to respond to COVID-19, a comprehensive update of the COVID-19 decisions taken to date (30 June 2020) and began to explore arrangements for the recovery stage of the pandemic.

Within the report, the proposed establishment of a new COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel was presented to Cabinet, with a view to Cabinet recommending the establishment of the Panel to the next meeting of the Council. The Panel would be made up of 7 Members who are appointed in accordance with the requirements of political balance.

At this meeting, Cabinet resolved the following:

- a. the way the Council has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic to date, the fact that the Council has delivered all essential Council services in full, along with other priority services and additional COVID-19 responsibilities, be noted and welcomed.
- b. the COVID-19 related Executive decisions taken to date (attached as Appendix B to this report), be received and fully endorsed.
- c. the extension of free Town Centre parking until 7 September 2020 be approved.
- d. the initial approach to the recovery phase of the pandemic be approved.
- e. the Recovery Strategy (attached as Appendix C to this report) be approved.
- f. recommendation to Council for the establishment of a COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel.

The COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel was subsequently established by Council alongside a set terms of reference as follows:

1. Responsibility for the review of the Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and taking an active role in respect of the Council's recovery plans as requested by the Executive or as agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the Scrutiny Workplan, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Reviewing the Council's response to COVID-19 and identifying any short-term actions arising which improve operational and corporate resilience.
 - b. Policy development in respect of the Council's recovery from COVID-19, including preparedness for future waves of COVID-19.
 - c. Policy development in respect of respect of the Council's approach to the renewal of the local economy.
 - d. Policy development in respect of the renewal and reform of local government services, including the future structure of local government in Nottinghamshire.
2. To report any recommendations or considerations to the Executive in respect of the responsibilities outlined above.
3. The Panel will receive updates in respect of the implementation of the Council's Recovery Action Plan.

Panel Meeting – July 2020

The first meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in July 2020. Members received a detailed report including guidance from the Centre for Governance on establishing a COVID-19 related scrutiny panel, a detailed summary of what the Council had done up to that point to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, which further included a summary of COVID-19 related decisions taken to that date, and arrangements for recovery.

Members were joined at this meeting by the Director of Legal and Governance and the Council's Strategic Lead for COVID-19 Response, who explained the summary of the work undertaken by the Council in response to the outbreak of the pandemic. Members were also informed of some of the key partnerships the Council operated within, including:

- The Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum
- Multi-Agency Response Group
- Ashfield District Council Incident Management Team

At the first meeting, the Panel made a request to Cabinet that a standing item be placed on the Cabinet agenda to allow the Chairman and Vice Chairman the opportunity to provide responsive comments and recommendations as required.

Members also took the time to establish a work programme for the Panel, planning out each meeting with key themes and attendees identified.

At the conclusion of the first meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a) the Council’s initial response to the pandemic including the consequential impacts to the Council, the local economy, and its communities as outlined in the report, be received, and noted;
- b) the following initial work programme for the Panel be approved to facilitate delivery of the Panel’s objectives in a timely and responsive manner: -

Date of Meeting:	Focus Theme:	Attendees:	Cabinet Update:
3 September 2020	Local Recovery Themes Update and The Peoples’ Memorial	All Service Directors	15 September 2020
6 October 2020	Small Business and High Street Recovery	Local Business Representatives	13 October 2020
5 November 2020	Multi-Agency Working	Police, NHS, Charities, Discover Ashfield, County Council	1 December 2020
10 December 2020	TBC	TBC	20 January 2020

- c) the Council’s Corporate Leadership Team be invited to attend the next Panel meeting in September 2020 to brief Members on their designated area of COVID-19 response and recovery;
- d) an item be placed on the agenda for the Panel meeting scheduled for 3 September 2020, to enable Members to consider in more detail the suggestions for a memorial to

commemorate and honour the unstinting commitment and bravery shown by all key workers and volunteers during the pandemic;

- e) Police Inspector Mark Dickson and Kings Mill Hospital's Chief Executive, Richard Mitchell, be invited to a future Panel meeting to consider the successes achieved through multi-agency working during the pandemic.

Panel Meeting – September 2020

The second meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in September 2020. Members were presented with a report featuring updates from the Council's Corporate Leadership Team relating to each of the Council's directorates and COVID-19 specific response and recovery themes. Key themes such as government funding, housing and communities' recovery, and local economic recovery were included in this report.

The Panel welcomed attendance from the Director of Legal and Governance, the Director of Place and Communities, the Director of Housing and Assets, the Director for Resources and Business Transformation, the Corporate Finance Manager, and the Chief Executive.

During the height of the pandemic, Panel Members were also presented with the most up-to-date guidance and legislation regarding COVID-19 restrictions.

The meeting took the format of a question-and-answer session, with Panel Members taking the opportunity to ask questions of each member of the Corporate Leadership Team based on the updates provided within the report. The Panel also received questions from the public which were answered by those in attendance.

The key areas of concern identified at this meeting were:

- What further support can be offered to small businesses?
- What support could be offered to charitable organisations and churches?
- Homelessness and rent arrears escalating
- Potential impact of a second wave

At the conclusion of the second meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a) the updates provided by the Corporate Leadership Team relating to the Council's Directorates and COVID-19 specific recovery themes, as outlined in the report, be received, and noted;
- b) an item be placed on the agenda for the Panel meeting scheduled for 6 October 2020 focusing on Small Business Recovery in Ashfield;

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- c) the Service Manager, Scrutiny and Democratic Services be requested to extend invitations to business representatives from a variety of sectors and areas across the District to attend the next meeting of the Panel and participate in the discussion relating to Small Business Recovery;
 - d) an item be placed on the agenda for the Panel meeting scheduled for 6 October 2020 to enable Members to consider in more detail the proposals for local government reorganisation.

Cabinet Meeting – September 2020

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the September 2020 meeting of Cabinet to provide an update on the work undertaken at the first two meetings of the Panel.

Key Worker Memorial

The Panel were very keen to see the installation of a suitable memorial to commemorate the bravery and excellent work carried out by all key workers and volunteers during the COVID-19 outbreak. It was unlikely that S106 funding would be available to purchase and install the memorial, but officers were still considering the possibility of funding through public realm contributions.

Letter of Thanks

The Panel requested that a formal letter of thanks on behalf of the Council be sent to all foodbanks and community groups that worked to support vulnerable people and communities during the pandemic.

Panel Meeting – October 2020

The third meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in October 2020. Members were presented with a report providing further information regarding small business and high street recovery, which was selected as a focus theme for this meeting as part of the Panel's established work programme.

Members welcomed attendance from the Director of Legal and Governance, the Director of Place and Communities, the Assistant Director of Planning and Regulatory Services, the Town Centres and Markets Manager, and Senior Economic Development Officer.

The Panel also welcomed attendance from Martin Rigley, the Chairman of Discover Ashfield, who offered a business perspective to the Panel. Martin updated the Panel on the work of the Discover Ashfield Board, and also took the time to answer a series of questions and

comments from Members ranging from advice to businesses in the event of additional lockdowns to advice to new businesses starting up during the pandemic.

At this meeting, Panel Members were asked to consider the Economic Recovery Plan that detailed the latest real-time data to help the Council understand the significant impact that the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic disruption had on Ashfield's economy.

The Economic Recovery Plan set out seven emerging themes to guide local economic recovery:

Emerging Themes to Guide Local Economic Recovery

1. **Town Centre Recovery:** Boost local consumer demand and confidence by promoting Ashfield District as a great place to live and visit. Attract spending back to Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Sutton Town Centres through promotional activity, local purchasing campaigns and community projects. This could involve the Council working with local partners to implement an 'open for business' campaign to publicise businesses, offers and events as town centre businesses gradually re-open.
2. **Regeneration Capacity Building:** This would need to include a Full Time Regeneration Team for ADC tasked with producing a new Economic Development Strategy. New dedicated capacity building and leveraging of the Council's own dedicated resources to instigate a full time Regeneration Team for Ashfield District capable of delivering and taking forward its own Economic Development Strategy for the District. This could involve progressing a wider Place Marketing campaign to encourage a broader range of developers and investors to come back to Ashfield. This would involve the new Regeneration Team marketing the District's assets effectively to developers and housebuilders more generally and promote Ashfield as a place for aspiring households to move to.
3. **Skills and Training:** By working with local education and training providers, the D2N2 LEP and others to ensure that local residents – in particular, young people - can access skills and employability support including specific opportunities for re-training, business start-up, and developing digital/e-commerce competencies.
4. **Industrial Sectoral Support:** As Ashfield's business base transitions from restart, to recover, to renew, this should include a locally responsive business resilience programme with targeted support to enable firms to adapt to new technologies (such as enhancing digital and e-commerce capabilities), diversify or access new markets (including exporting opportunities) and support business start-ups amongst residents re-entering the labour market as a result of Covid-19.
5. **Green Business Growth:** This would involve harnessing innovation 'Green Recovery' opportunities generated by the pandemic (such as medical technology and clean growth), using these to accelerate existing business clusters, development proposals

and local business ecosystems, particularly where these align with Government economic recovery funding initiatives.

6. **Development and Infrastructure Projects:** This would aim to kick start investment and stimulate economic activity within the District, engaging with key partners such as the LEP to leverage funding opportunities from emerging funding packages such as the Getting Building Fund. This would include progressing opportunities such as the Maid Marian Line Rail Extension to the proposed HS2 Hub at Toton; the new Garden settlement(s); and the opportunities emerging from the Towns Fund and Future High Streets fund proposals.
7. **Supporting Ashfield's Residents and Workforce:** The Pandemic may create a significant mental health crisis for Ashfield's residents due to heightened levels of anxiety due to the risk of catching the infection, disrupted education, lost jobs/income, dying, or losing family members. From an economic perspective, this theme would include ADC working with the NHS Nottingham City CCG to ensure widespread availability of mental health and psychosocial support and to assist residents to overcome financial difficulties and to come out of debt and re-enter the workforce.

Furthermore, Members received a verbal update from the Director of Legal and Governance in relation to Local Government Reorganisation.

At the conclusion of the third meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a) the Council's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its developing recovery programme, as outlined in the report, be received, and noted;
- b) the Senior Economic Development Officer be requested to provide a briefing note to the next meeting of the Panel outlining the work of the new Business Support Hub and the signposting and support service being offered to local and enquiring businesses in relation to potential access to grant funding (including temporary Covid-19 funding);
- c) an invite be extended to Jonathan Gribbin, the County Council's Director of Public Health for Nottinghamshire, to attend the next meeting of the Panel to advise Members in relation to the development of the county-wide response to the pandemic and subsequent recovery plans;
- d) the Chairman of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Panel be required to submit the following interim recommendations to the Cabinet on 13 October 2020:
 1. the draft Economic Recovery Plan be approved with the proviso that the Plan is updated accordingly as circumstances change;
 2. work be undertaken to consider establishing a scheme to recognise local businesses that have excelled at adapting to guidelines and providing a COVID-secure environment for customers, in conjunction with key partners such as Discover Ashfield;

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3. the Council continues working toward the establishment of a Key Workers Memorial, including consultation with Ashfield residents and key partners;
 4. the Council's established Business Support Hub offers support for those looking to set up new businesses or reinvent existing businesses as a result of the pandemic;
 5. Cabinet be commended for the decision to implement 2-hour free parking in all town centre car parks to aid the longer-term recovery of Ashfield's local economy;
 6. congratulations be extended to the Planning and Economic Development Team, the Environmental Health Team, and the Discover Ashfield Board for their continued efforts to ensure that local businesses sufficiently adapt to COVID-19 measures and survive the ongoing economic difficulties brought about by the pandemic;
 7. that the Council looks at all options to use all of the ring-fenced 'Reopening High Streets' Fund innovatively.

Cabinet Meeting – October 2020

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the October 2020 meeting of Cabinet to present the recommendations and comments formulated by Members at the Panel meeting held earlier in that month.

Cabinet was informed that the Panel had focused on small business recovery at the previous meeting, which was well attended by Officers and the Chairman of the Discover Ashfield Board, Martin Rigley.

Cabinet was presented with the recommendations set out above from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel. All of the recommendations were positively received and approved by Cabinet.

Panel Meeting – November 2020

The fourth meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in November 2020. Members received a report setting out the most up-to-date guidance and restrictions, considering how they would impact Ashfield. Members also received a further report on business recovery and support as requested at the October 2020 meeting of the Panel. This report featured details of the Business Support Hub.

Invitations had been extended to numerous business representatives from Ashfield from a variety of sectors. The Panel hoped that discussions with business representatives would aid understanding of the challenges businesses continued to face throughout the pandemic, and to help identify the most appropriate support for the Council to offer moving forward.

Members welcomed attendance from the Director of Legal and Governance, Director of Place and Communities, Senior Economic Development Officer, and the Assistant Director of Planning and Regulatory Services.

Members also welcomed attendance from various business representatives across Ashfield, as the majority of the meeting took on a question-and-answer format to allow Members to ask questions of the representatives and allow the representatives to ask questions of the Officers in attendance.

Discussions centred on topics such as:

- Regenerating Ashfield's Town Centres
- Support and advice for small businesses
- Car parking initiatives
- Business grants

Overall, this was a fantastic example of scrutiny being used to effectively engage communities in Ashfield, and Panel Members were pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to the representatives in attendance.

At the conclusion of the fourth meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a) Cabinet be provided with a briefing note outlining the work of the Panel to date and the issues/suggestions raised at the meeting including:
1. concerns for the ongoing viability and survival of sole traders and small businesses should lockdowns continue;
 2. to avoid undue worry and to allow local businesses to react proactively to the current climate, a request for additional communication regarding the latest Government guidelines to be sent out to business communities in a swift and timely manner;
 3. the benefits of establishing an Ashfield business forum to enable local businesses to network, interact and support each other as required;
 4. to continue work around the establishment of a shop recognition scheme for businesses that have provided exemplary Covid-secure environments for customers;
 5. options for how the Council and local businesses can continue to support local foodbanks and health and wellbeing organisations during the pandemic;
 6. appreciation to Cabinet for the imminent provision of hand sanitiser stations at car parking ticket machine location;
 7. concerns around the extensive, ongoing, cost of providing PPE to protect employees and a hope to see a tax relief of reimbursement scheme from Government in the near future.
- b) the Economic Regeneration Unit be requested to formulate some appropriate case studies, to reflect the experiences shared by the business owners in attendance at the meeting, to highlight via the Council's media platforms as appropriate;

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- c) an invite be extended to Inspector Mark Dickson to attend the next meeting of the Panel to offer an insight into the perceived rise in incidences of crime as a result of the recent pandemic.

Cabinet Meeting – December 2020

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the December 2020 meeting of Cabinet to provide an update on the work of the Panel and present the comments and recommendations formulated at the previous meeting of the Panel held in November 2020.

Cabinet was presented the following comments and recommendations set out above.

Cabinet was pleased to see the Panel working to understand the real issues facing small businesses and how the Council could continue to assist with recovery. The comments and recommendations submitted by the Panel were accepted by Cabinet.

Panel Meeting – December 2020

The fifth meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in December 2020. The Panel received a report detailing the three-tier COVID-19 restrictions introduced in early December 2020, and considered how they would impact communities, businesses, and the Council.

Members welcomed attendance from the Chief Executive, Director of Legal and Governance, Director of Place and Communities, Town Centres and Markets Manager, Corporate Finance Manager, and the Senior COVID Business Support Officer.

Members further welcomed Inspector Mark Dickson from Nottinghamshire Police who attended the meeting to talk about the impact of COVID-19 from an operational perspective and to address concerns regarding possible increasing crime and anti-social behaviour due to the pandemic.

Inspector Dickson advised that all front-line policing operations had been stripped back and Police Officers went out into the community to educate and enforce national lockdown rules. Members were informed that there had been increased levels of anti-social behaviour during the first lockdown, and much time had been taken up dealing with breaches of COVID-19 restrictions.

Members took the opportunity to conduct a question-and-answer session with Inspector Mark Dickson and Officers in attendance. Some of the key themes from this session included:

- Concerns over social distancing rules not being followed
- Relationship between the Police and the Council's Community Protection Officers
- Staffing issues
- Mental health issues
- Area-specific anti-social behaviour issues

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- Homelessness

Following discussions with Inspector Dickson, the Chairman introduced the Council's Town Centre and Markets Manager and Senior Business Support Officer to advise the Panel as to the support and assistance being offered to local businesses and retailers navigating through the latest restrictions.

The Panel were informed of the work being conducted by the newly established COVID-19 Information Team. The new Team had already established good working relationships with local businesses, and the pandemic gave the Team more focus and opportunity to spend time with local businesses to assist with the setting up of COVID-secure environments.

Members were advised that the pandemic had created opportunities for many local businesses who not only were protecting customers but were offering continued support to fellow businesses and communities.

Finally, the Corporate Finance Manager presented the current position in relation to the facilitation of the COVID-19 Business Support Grant through the Council.

At the conclusion of the fifth meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a) the Council's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, its developing recovery programme, and the operational response from the Police, as outlined in the report and as considered at the meeting, be received, and noted;
- b) the following meeting date be agreed for the Scrutiny Panel in early 2021:
2 February 2021

Cabinet Meeting – January 2021

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the January 2021 meeting of Cabinet and delivered a verbal update on the work of the Panel.

The Vice Chairman gave an overview of the discussions held at the previous meeting of the Panel, held in December 2020, where Members held a detailed question and answer session with Inspector Mark Dickson from Nottinghamshire Police. The Vice Chairman noted that additional Police patrols in areas of Sutton, Hucknall, Kirkby, Jacksdale, and Underwood had been initiated following the Panel's discussions with the Inspector.

Both the Chairman and Vice Chairman informed Cabinet that they would continue to keep all Members in the picture regarding the latest COVID-19 information and statistics and had circulated regular email updates.

Panel Meeting – February 2021

The sixth meeting of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in February 2021. Members were presented with the usual report detailing changes to COVID-19 guidance and restrictions, including area-specific statistics. Additionally, Members were provided with a report detailing corporate performance from April to September 2020 to provide an insight into how the pandemic impacted service delivery across the Council.

Members welcomed attendance from the Chief Executive, Director of Place and Communities, Director of Legal and Governance, the Corporate Finance Manager, and the Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Transformation.

The Panel also welcomed Richard Mitchell, the Chief Executive of Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to the meeting. The Chairman, through the Panel and on behalf of the Council, firstly extended immense gratitude to the NHS and the staff at Kings Mill Hospital in particular for the unrelenting care and support of local residents throughout the pandemic.

Richard Mitchell spoke about his role as Chief Executive at Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust which covered Kings Mill Hospital, Newark and Mansfield Community Hospitals. The Panel were informed that the overall care service provided had been immense and staff had worked tirelessly to provide care to patients. However, the pandemic had taken its toll and staff were exhausted and, in many cases, emotionally spent. He continued to say that the Council had been a great support during the pandemic and the relationships that had been cemented would endure and be invaluable going forward.

Members and Officers took the opportunity to conduct a question-and-answer session with Richard, discussing some of the following key themes:

- How has the pandemic impacted the four main pathways of care?
- Vaccination uptake
- The importance of staff feeling valued and supported

Following this discussion, Members moved on to consider the Corporate Plan Performance Update delivered by the Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Transformation. The Panel were informed that the Council had worked extremely hard since the pandemic began and were the only local authority in Nottinghamshire that has continued to deliver Tier 1 and Tier 2 critical services without interruption. The Council had also delivered a variety of humanitarian services across the District and continued to facilitate many of the waste collection campaigns.

At the conclusion of the sixth meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

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- a) the work undertaken by the Council and the Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust as a partnership, to support the NHS and Ashfield residents through the pandemic, be noted, welcomed, and continued;
- b) a letter of appreciation and thanks be forwarded to Richard Mitchell and all the staff at the Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for their unwavering dedication and care to the people of Ashfield during the pandemic.
- c) that Cabinet be recommended to endorse:
- the continued lobbying of the Clinical Commissioning Group to provide a vaccination centre in Hucknall
 - the provision of a mass asymptomatic testing centre in Sutton in Ashfield

Panel Meeting – July 2021

The seventh meeting of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in July 2021. The name of the Panel was changed from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Scrutiny Panel to the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel at the 2021 Annual Council Meeting to align with the shift in focus of the Panel's work. Members were presented with a report detailing service updates in respect of the following:

- Collection Rates and Grant Payment Information
- Environmental Health and Commercial and Environmental Protection
- Neighbourhoods and Environment
- Cemeteries
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Town Centres and Markets
- Governance

Members welcomed attendance from the Director of Legal and Governance and the Leader of the Council.

The Chairman gave the Panel a brief synopsis of the work undertaken so far in relation to the Council's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, reiterating that there was still a long recovery road ahead for everyone and the Panel's role was now to listen, learn, and provide ideas, suggestions, and recovery initiatives to Cabinet. The Chairman placed on record a personal thanks to all Officers who had worked so tirelessly through the pandemic. Ashfield District Council had been exemplary in its response to the pandemic and went above and beyond to protect and support residents and businesses through the lockdown periods.

Members debated the following points of consideration:

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- acknowledgement that the Council needed to stay abreast of the vaccination take-up rates and continue to focus on areas of poor uptake to encourage vaccination across all age ranges
 - a suggestion that an update on vaccination rates within Ashfield be presented to each Panel meeting
 - huge appreciation and gratitude for the work undertaken by the Covid Information Officers over the past few months
 - whilst recovery of town centres was vital, it was important that the Council did not ignore recovery of the smaller towns like Huthwaite, Stanton Hill and Selston
 - recognition of the incredible delivery of the vaccination programme at the local centres by staff and volunteers alike
 - concerns regarding fake and misleading news in relation to vaccinations for younger age groups and how the Council might mitigate against this on a local level, whilst encouraging uptake in Ashfield.

At the conclusion of the seventh meeting, the Panel resolved the following:

- a. that a preliminary recommendation be submitted to Cabinet for the creation and installation of four commemorative benches within the key areas of Ashfield, with the design for the bench being given further consideration by officers, as appropriate, prior to any final decision being made.

Cabinet Meeting – September 2021

The Chairman of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the September 2021 meeting of Cabinet to provide an update on the work undertaken by the Panel at the previous meeting held in July 2021, and to present some recommendations regarding the tribute to key workers. Following discussions, Cabinet resolved at this meeting that:

- a) approval be given to identify funding for four commemorative benches to be located in suitable locations in Kirkby, Sutton, Hucknall, and the Rurals, as a tribute to the tireless efforts of key workers during the COVID-19 pandemic
- b) following initial design suggestions by the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel, further design work regarding the commemorative benches be commenced in line with identified funding.

Panel Meeting – November 2021

The eighth meeting of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in November 2021. The Panel received a report detailing the vaccination programme in Ashfield, as requested by the Panel at the previous meeting held in July 2021. The report presented to Members included details of latest COVID-related figures from the UK Coronavirus Dashboard, latest efforts to promote vaccination uptake in Ashfield, and details of the School Age Immunisation Service.

The Panel welcomed attendance from the Director of Legal and Governance and the Service Manager for Place and Wellbeing. Members also welcomed attendance from two representatives from the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Rosa Waddingham – Chief Nurse and David Ainsworth, Mid Notts Locality Director.

David and Rosa explained their roles within the CCG and their responsibilities for ensuring delivery of the COVID-19 vaccination within Nottinghamshire. They both took the opportunity to thank Ashfield District Council for the support received with delivery of the vaccination programme, stating that the Council had been instrumental in ensuring take up within Ashfield.

The representatives from the CCG delivered a comprehensive presentation to the Panel on the vaccination programme, with the following key information relayed:

- Phase 1 and 2 Programme Reflections
- Vaccination Take Up Rates
- Booster Programme
- Vaccination Programme Next Steps

Following the presentation, Members took the opportunity to undertake a question-and-answer session with the CCG representatives. Discussion focused on the following:

- The Vaccination Bus
- School Vaccination Programmes
- Vaccine availability
- How to tackle misinformation

At the conclusion of the eighth meeting, the Panel resolved that the following recommendations be presented to Cabinet for consideration:

- a) to continue to prioritise partnership working with the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group to develop a schedule and identify suitable locations for the vaccination bus;

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- b) to undertake a co-ordinated and targeted engagement approach using all communication methods available to the Council designed to reduce vaccine hesitancy; this should include debunking misinformation, sharing updates on the vaccination programme, and continuing to advertise the vaccination bus;
 - c) to undertake a wider communications exercise to share relevant case studies relating to COVID-19 vaccinations and booster jabs;
 - d) to explore any extra measures that could be implemented to support people with mental health and learning difficulties that may prevent them from accessing the COVID-19 vaccination;
 - e) to recognise the challenges in vaccination uptake, present in Greenwood and Summit, Abbey Hill, Leamington, and Sutton Central and New Cross wards and consider how the Council can use its position to improve take-up in these areas;
 - f) as a result of e) above, if approved, Councillors representing the above wards be consulted and engaged in any activities to target vaccination uptake.

Cabinet Meeting – December 2021

The Chairman of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel attended the December 2021 meeting of Cabinet to provide an update on the work undertaken by the Panel at the previous meeting and to present a set of recommendations formulated by Panel Members regarding the vaccination programme in Ashfield.

Cabinet thanked the Panel for working on the key issues still present as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and approved the following recommendations set out above.

Panel Meeting – March 2022

The ninth meeting of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel took place in March 2022. Members welcomed attendance from Lorenzo Clark, the Ashfield Contract Manager for Everyone Active, who was in attendance to deliver a presentation to the Panel regarding Everyone Active's COVID-19 recovery process in relation to the Council's leisure facilities.

Members were given an overview of the actions taken by Everyone Active at the start of the pandemic when Government ordered leisure sites to be closed on 20 March 2020.

Following the presentation, Members took the opportunity to engage in question-and-answer session with Lorenzo, with the following topics discussed:

- Help given to customers looking to cancel membership

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- Booking no-shows reducing capacity
 - Community engagement initiatives
 - What key lessons have been learnt
 - Positive lessons from the pandemic
 - Online streaming

Members were extremely impressed with the presentation delivered and the subsequent discussion, and noted the information shared by Lorenzo Clark.

Panel Meeting – April 2022

The final meeting of the COVID-19 Recovery Scrutiny Panel was held in April 2022. Members welcomed the attendance of numerous representatives from the voluntary sector, invited by the Chairman, to give Members an insight into the challenges they faced and the resulting impact on the delivery of much needed services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following lengthy discussions with the representatives, including a question and answer session, Panel Members formulated the following recommendations and explanations for Cabinet to consider:

- a. Commend the tireless work of the voluntary sector, both during and after the COVID-19 Pandemic.*

Throughout the work of the Panel, Members have been acutely aware of the pivotal role that the voluntary sector has played in supporting both individuals and community groups. This has included, amongst other things, specialist advice, transport, welfare checks, financial assistance, food bank access and tackling loneliness during lockdown.

Members also recognised the challenges that the voluntary sector faced both during the pandemic and the continuing after-effects. Whilst demand for services increased massively, the effects of the pandemic resulted in recruitment shortages, financial/funding pressures, and long-term uncertainty on the sustainability of some support organisations.

- b. Continue to build and nurture the relationships forged with partners during the pandemic, and to further develop the Council's role as a community leader providing pivotal central support to all parties.*

The impacts of the pandemic required joint working between organisations under unique circumstances. In addition to maintaining standard service delivery, the Council and its partners had to build on existing relationships to provide the required additional support for communities and businesses alike.

Every organisation had to adapt its day-to-day business to meet these challenges, key to this success was partnership working and a joined-up approach.

Many of the different methods used as a necessity during this time have introduced many new working relationships and partnership working, much of which can continue to be built upon as the District moves forward with recovery.

- c. Ensure the Communications Team continue to prioritise the Council's relationship with Ashfield's voluntary sector, providing an effective conduit for the dissemination of information and signposting services as required.*

Members of the Panel acknowledged the critical role that effective communication played during the pandemic. Ensuring communities, partners, and individuals were provided with information in a timely and consistent manner was key to partnership working.

Guidance and advice often changed weekly, therefore communications had to be prioritised. Many organisations have highlighted that even during these difficult times, a key success was forging even stronger partnership working, consistent communication and information dissemination between the Council, voluntary sector, and other key partners. Members agreed that these stronger links and working partnerships should be maintained.

- d. Continue to support Ashfield residents and offer encouragement and guidance to enable reintegration back into local communities with a particular focus on working with organisations supporting vulnerable groups.*

The pandemic presented fresh challenges to all communities, particularly hard to reach and vulnerable groups. Members discussed how fear and isolation had impacted some people's confidence in reintegrating back into everyday life and undertaking everyday tasks such as using the high street, public places, public transport or seeking medical attention.

Members agreed that working with partners to both inform and support vulnerable groups in a variety of ways will continue to be vital in gaining an understanding of the continued fear of integration and considering how partnership working can explore longer term strategies in resolving this.

- e. Continue to ensure available grant funding is effectively administered to local businesses and organisations to assist with the reinvigoration and support of Ashfield's local economy following the pandemic.*

In recognising the challenges that many organisations have faced both throughout the pandemic and through the recovery process, the Panel commended the work that has already been undertaken in supporting organisations in the community, local businesses, and the community as a whole. Members agreed that continuing to ensure all avenues of grant funding are explored should remain a priority for the Council and its partners.

Audit of Scrutiny Function

Over the previous year, an audit has been carried out of the Council's scrutiny function by the external auditors. This involved the external auditors taking a detailed look at how scrutiny is carried out at Ashfield. Four main control objectives were examined as part of the review, these included:

- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee provides effective, constructive, "critical friend" challenge
- The overview and Scrutiny Committee is effective in amplifying the voices and concerns of the public
- The Council's Overview and Scrutiny function is led by independent people who take responsibility for their role
- The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is effective in driving improvement in public services

The following issues were considered to be the key control weaknesses:

- Scrutiny recommendations were not tracked and did not include implementation deadlines (Moderate risk)
- The decision on whether to use co-opted members had not been formally considered within the current Administration (Low risk)
- The dedicated area on the Council's website for overview and scrutiny was not up-to-date and accurate (Low risk)
- Three out of the four Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Panels were inexperienced at their time of appointment (Low risk)

Following the audit review, the Council's scrutiny function received a 'Reasonable' assurance rating from the external auditors. Steps have since been taken to address the key control weaknesses identified as part of the review, including updating information available on the Council's website and facilitating a discussion on co-option at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Getting Involved with Scrutiny

There are a number of different ways in which members of the community can get involved with Ashfield District Council's scrutiny function. These are:

- Attend a meeting – All scrutiny meetings are open to the public to come and listen to the debate. There may also be a chance to speak at the meetings at the discretion of the Chairman. Details of scrutiny meetings can be found through the [Calendar of Meetings](#).
- Put forward a suggestion for a topic to be reviewed by scrutiny – Any topic can be suggested for consideration to the scrutiny work programme. Any topic suggested for inclusion on the scrutiny work programme will be debated by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on whether to formally approve the topic to the work programme. To suggest a topic for the scrutiny work programme, contact scrutiny@ashfield.gov.uk.
- Speak to your local councillor – If you would like to learn more about Ashfield District Council's scrutiny function, you can speak to your local councillor. You can find your local councillor through the Council's website [here](#).

Meeting of the Council
29 September 2022
Schedule of Recommendations

N.B.
 The Schedule sets out recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees upon which Council is required to reach a decision. During discussion of these items Council Procedure Rule 16 applies (Rules of Debate). Speeches must be relevant to the item being debated. Speeches do not have to be in the form of, or include a question. Members may speak for up to 5 minutes. The Chairman may allow a further 2 minutes at his/her discretion. A Member may only speak once on a motion but may also speak once on an amendment.

<u>Meeting:</u>	<u>Minute No:</u>	<u>Subject:</u>	<u>Recommendation(s):</u>
Cabinet 19 July 2022	CA.16	<u>Draft Financial Outturn 2021/22 for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme</u>	<p>d) Council be recommended to approve the carry-forward of the £14.567m underspend on the Capital Programme to 2022/23 due to slippage (delays to schemes) included in the approved Programme (Section 5).</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix A)</p>
Licensing Committee 27 July 2022	L.3	<u>Consideration of Variation to Hackney Carriage Tariffs</u>	<p>d) subject to no valid consultation responses being received, Council be recommended to adopt the new set of Hackney Carriage Tariffs, as appended to the report.</p> <p>Members are informed that following completion of the agreed 14-day public consultation process, no responses were received by the Council.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix B)</p>

<p>Cabinet 27 September 2022</p>		<p><u>Funding Update</u></p>	<p>Council will be recommended to approve the following should Cabinet agree to the recommendations at its meeting on 27 September, 2022:-</p> <p>2. To recommend to Council, subject to Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) approval, amendment of the Capital Programme values for the two Future High Streets Fund schemes as outlined in the report.</p> <p>3. Recommend to Council, subject to DLUHC's approval of the Investment Plan, to accept the UKSPF funding of £3.192m noting the indicative revenue/capital split and approval for the Corporate Finance Manager, with DLUHC approval, to vary the revenue/capital split for the purpose of updating the Capital Programme.</p> <p>5. Safer Streets 4 Funding: Recommend to Council the addition of £81k to the Capital Programme and to allow for the Corporate Finance Manager and the Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction to have the potential to increase the Safer Streets Capital Scheme funding. This is to enable funding to be switched from the revenue allocation to deliver further capital elements should the need arise. This would only be actioned following agreement with the funding provider for the use of the funding. This would reduce the amount added to the revenue budget in 2022/23.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix C)</p>
<p>Cabinet 27 September 2022</p>		<p><u>2022/23 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at July 2022</u></p>	<p>Council will be recommended to approve the following should Cabinet agree to the recommendation at its meeting on 27 September, 2022:-</p> <p>3. To recommend to Council the amendments and the addition of new schemes to the Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 and the funding of the Capital Programme as set out in Section 7 and Appendix 3 of the report.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix D)</p>

<p>Cabinet 27 September 2022</p>		<p><u>Leisure Transformation Programme Update</u></p>	<p>Council will be recommended to approve the following should Cabinet agree to the additional recommendation at its meeting on 27 September, 2022:-</p> <p>Cabinet recommends to Council that on DLUHC approval of all future Towns Fund business cases that delegated authority be given to the Executive Lead Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits and the Corporate Finance Manager to immediately add the schemes and their associated funding to the Capital Programme to avoid project delays, noting that full due diligence will be undertaken prior to progression through the various RIBA stages of each of the projects.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix E)</p>
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Report To:	CABINET
Date:	19TH JULY 2022
Heading:	DRAFT FINANCIAL OUTTURN 2021/22 FOR GENERAL FUND, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME
Executive Lead Member:	PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE, REVENUES AND BENEFITS – CLLR DAVID MARTIN
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	Yes
Subject to Call-In:	Yes

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the details of income and expenditure incurred in 2021/22 in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Capital Programme, how this compares to the revised budgets, and provides explanations for significant variances.

This is the unaudited position and is therefore potentially subject to change. The audited Statement of Accounts will be presented to the Audit Committee on 26 September 2022.

In summary the 2021/22 unaudited Outturn position was:

- General Fund – a surplus of £1.103m (and an underspend of £968k compared to the revised budget)
- HRA – a surplus of £1.347m (and an underspend of £1.392m compared to revised budget)
- Capital Programme – a £14.567m underspend

Paragraph 1.4 of the report sets out the proposed carry forwards and use of the underspend to fund inflation pressures in 22/23 and Section 6 of the report sets out transfers from reserves in 2022/23 to utilise unspent funding that has been moved to reserve in 2021/22, in accordance with accounting requirements. The use of the funding in 2022/23 will be to achieve the objectives in line with the original purpose of each of the funding/grant streams.

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is requested to note:

- (i) The 2021/22 unaudited draft Revenue Outturn for the General Fund, the HRA Outturn and the Capital Programme Outturn.

Cabinet is asked to approve:

- (ii) The proposed in-year movements to and from reserves (Appendix 2)
- (iii) That the 2022/23 revenue budgets will be adjusted to reflect the use of the 21/22 underspend to fund a carry forward and inflation pressures (Section 1.4 and 4.2), and the movements from earmarked reserves to utilise the funding/grants in 2022/23 (Section 6).

Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council:

- (iv) Approval to carry-forward the £14.567m underspend on the Capital Programme to 2022/23 due to slippage (delays to schemes) included in the approved Programme. (Section 5)

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To report to those charged with governance, the Council's unaudited draft financial Outturn for 2021/22 and to comply with the Council's Financial Regulations.

Alternative Options Considered

The financial outturn position is as reported within the 2021/22 draft Statement of Accounts therefore there are no other options. The proposed transfers from earmarked reserves, will provide funding to facilitate the delivery of specific projects for which the allocations were originally given. Not to approve the reserve movements would require these projects to cease or for the costs to be funded from the General Fund balance which is not recommended.

Detailed Information

1 General Fund Outturn 2021/22

- 1.1 The General Fund supports the day to day running of the Council's services, excluding the provision of Council Housing. Table 1 below shows the draft General Fund Revenue Outturn by Directorate compared to the revised budget.

Table 1 – Draft General Fund Outturn 2021/22

	Revised Budget	Draft Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
By Directorate			
Chief Executive Officer	547	485	(62)
Legal & Governance	1,787	1,744	(43)
Resources & Business Transformation	(67)	(429)	(362)
Place & Communities	9,276	8,509	(767)
Housing & Assets	2,190	2,002	(188)
Divisional Expenditure	13,733	12,311	(1,422)
Recharges	(2,744)	(2,860)	(116)
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure			
Net Interest	8	(12)	(20)
Minimum Revenue Payment	2,549	2,293	(256)
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue	0	117	117
Net Revenue Expenditure	13,546	11,849	(1,696)
Funding			
Government Grants	(1,864)	(1,858)	6
Business Rates	(5,135)	(7,291)	(2,156)
Council Tax	(6,370)	(6,371)	(1)
Total Funding	(13,369)	(15,520)	(2,151)
Net General Fund Deficit / (Surplus) for the year before transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	177	(3,671)	(3,847)
Net Contribution to / (from) Earmarked Reserves	(311)	2,568	2,879
Net General Fund Deficit / (Surplus) for the year after transfer to/ (from) Earmarked Reserves	(134)	(1,103)	(968)

- 1.2 Appendix 1 provides details of the variances for each Directorate, Corporate Costs (Financing and investment Income and Expenditure) and Funding.
- 1.3 Appendix 2 provides details of the final earmarked reserves movements for 2021/22 and the impact on earmarked reserve balances.
- 1.4 The final position is a surplus of £1.103m. From this balance approval is requested for the following 2022/23 budget adjustments of £307k in Table 2 below, which are largely to address additional significant inflationary pressures in 2022/23 beyond the increased level already budgeted for:

Table 2 – Proposed Budget Adjustments for 2022/23 from 2021/22 underspend

Proposed Budget Adjustments 2022/23	£'000
Big Spring Clean carry forward of underspend	7
Increase to Fuel budgets due to inflationary pressures	190
Increase to Energy budgets due to inflationary pressures	110
TOTAL	307

1.5 This reduces the amount transferred to the General Reserve to £796k, increasing the General Reserve balance to £8.697m as at the 31st March 2022.

2. Covid-19 Grant

2.1 The Council has received Covid funding of £817k in 2021/22. Table 3 below shows how the funding has been utilised in full, in year. The full use of the funding is reflected in the draft outturn position in Table 1 above.

Table 3 – Covid-19 costs and loss of income

Directorate	Description	Amount £'000
<u>Costs</u>		
Legal and Governance	Specialist Equipment for socially distanced AGM	1
Resources and Business Transformation	Publicity - vaccine hesitancy campaign	2
	Increase in motor insurance costs (increased number of vehicles for social distancing)	14
	Additional IT costs to support working from home	57
	Cost of lease re-assignment for Grangemouth investment property	96
Place and Communities	Environmental Maintenance - Additional Vehicles	5
	Waste Collection - Additional Vehicles	6
	Community Protection - Additional Vehicles	1
	Waste - Agency Costs	14
	Other costs – PPE	1
Total Additional Costs		197
<u>Income</u>		
Communities and Place	Market rent income losses	47
	Loss of income from hotel investment	308

Resources and Business Transformation	Short-term loss of investment income on re-assignment of Grangemouth investment property	55
	Loss on Housing Benefit overpayments	150
Housing and Assets	Community Centre loss of income	20
	Car parking income losses	40
Total Income Losses		620
Total Costs and Losses		817

3. General Fund Budget Adjustments 2021/22

- 3.1 In Table 4 below approval is requested for the following budget adjustments to Directorate Budgets to recognise transfers to and from reserves, the budget adjustments have been actioned in the revised budget position reported in Table 1.

Table 4 – Budget Adjustments 2021/22

Directorate	Reserve moved to/from	Budget Adjustment
Chief Executive	Corporate Change Reserve	-15
Resources and Business Transformation	Corporate Change Reserve	-237
	Commercial Property Investment Reserve	-30
	Insurance Reserve	91
	Revenue Grants Reserve	-210
Place and Communities	District Planning Enquiry Fund	-45
	Leisure Maintenance Reserve	-188
	Harold Farr Bequest Reserve	-5
	Revenue Grants Reserve	-391
Housing and Assets	Supported Housing Trading Fund	-35
	Selective Licencing	-30
	Revenue Grants Reserve	104
Net movement to/(from) reserves		991

4. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Outturn 2021/22

- 4.1 The HRA is a ring-fenced landlord's account for the management and maintenance of the Council's housing stock. This account funds both day to day revenue costs as well as funding borrowing costs for capital work to maintain and improve Council properties.

Table 5 below shows the draft Outturn compared to revised budget for the HRA. The Outturn for the HRA shows an in-year surplus of £1.268m before movement in reserves, bringing the total HRA balance at 31st March 2022 to £42.970m.

Table 5 - HRA Outturn 2021/22

	Revised Budget £'000	Actual Outturn £'000	Variance £'000	Note
<u>Income</u>				
Rents, Charges & Contributions	(24,772)	(24,830)	(58)	1
Interest & Investment Income	(16)	(45)	(29)	2
Total Income	(24,788)	(24,875)	(87)	
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Repairs and Maintenance	7,858	7,403	(455)	3
Supervision and Management	4,462	4,082	(380)	4
Interest payable and similar charges	3,548	3,547	(1)	
Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges	196	197	1	
Depreciation and impairments of fixed assets	3,884	3,901	17	
Debt Management Costs	44	47	3	
Contribution to the Bad Debt Provision	200	183	(17)	5
Transfer to Major Repairs Reserve	0	0	0	
Capital expenditure funded by the HRA	4,690	4,247	(443)	6
Total Expenditure	24,882	23,607	(1,275)	
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year	94	(1,268)	(1,362)	
Net contribution to / (from) Earmarked Reserves	(49)	(79)	(30)	7
Net HRA Deficit/(Surplus) for the year AFTER transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	45	(1,347)	(1,392)	

Income

- (1) Rents, Charges & Contributions are higher than budgeted due to additional rent income through lower void periods.
- (2) Increased interest rates in the banking sector resulted in higher average annual interest on the HRA balances than budgeted.

Expenditure

- (3) Repairs and maintenance budgets are underspent by (£455k) mainly due to:
 - Due to the nature of works undertaken, charging of subcontractors to capital works rather than day to day repairs (£184k).

- Vacancy savings on the Housing Repairs operative team and Estate Officer departments (£182k).
- Reduced materials expenditure in the day-to-day repairs (£54k).
- Reduced waste transfer, equipment maintenance and purchase costs (£20k).
- Reduced transport costs (£15k).

(4) Supervision and Management costs are (£380k) less than budget mainly due to:

- Reduced costs of operating and managing Community Centres (£28k).
- Reduced repairs and maintenance costs of the Housing Court Schemes (£63k).
- Vacating the Brook Street Office produced savings (£192k). (NB Decision to vacate the building was taken after the 2021/22 budget was set).
- Reduced printing, postage and telecommunication costs (£50k).
- Vacancy savings across Housing Management (£61k)
- Staff reduction in Housing Lettings Team (£33k)
- Reduced car mileage and allowances incurred (£20k).
- Reduction in training costs (£13k).
- Increase in utility prices led to costs over budget of £50k.
- Extra costs incurred in managing tenancy services income recovery after Covid. To be met from Welfare reform reserve (see note 7) £30k

(5) Reduction in the contribution to the bad debt provision compared to the budgeted contribution based on year end bad debt calculation.

(6) Capital expenditure funded by the HRA was less than budget due to slippage on various capital schemes, subject to Council approval these capital funds will carry forward into the next financial year.

(7) The transfer from earmarked reserves represents the use of £47k of the HRA Insurance reserve, £30k from the Welfare Reform reserve and £2k from the IT reserve.

4.2 In Table 6 below, approval is requested for the following 2022/23 budget adjustments to provide for additional inflationary pressures beyond those already budgeted for in 2022/23:

Table 6 – Proposed HRA Budget Adjustments for 2022/23

Proposed Budget Adjustments 2022/23	£'000
Increase to Fuel budgets due to inflationary pressures	25
Increase to Energy budgets due to inflationary pressures	100
TOTAL	125

5. Capital Programme 2021/22

5.1 Details of the main 2021/22 Capital Schemes and how they were funded are shown in Table 7 below. The notes below the table provide explanations for key variances compared with the revised budgets.

Table 7 – Capital Programme 2021/22

Scheme	Revised Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's	Note
Housing Revenue Account				
Management Fee	579	543	(36)	
Catch Up and Future Major Works	2,712	1,604	(1,108)	1
Service Improvements	185	44	(141)	2
Contingent Major Repairs	75	23	(52)	
Exceptional Extensive Works	224	376	152	3
Disabled adaptations - Major adaptations	3	4	1	
Disabled adaptations - Minor adaptations	420	418	(2)	
Affordable Housing Developments Sutton In Ashfield	1,199	1,063	(136)	4
Investment in New or Existing Dwellings	1,367	1,111	(256)	5
Green Homes Grant (HRA)	454	220	(234)	6
Green Homes Grant (HRA) (2)	334	96	(238)	7
Hucknall Infill Sites	2,288	2,138	(150)	8
Housing Vehicles	662	662	0	
Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield	100	105	5	
Officers` IT for Agile Working (HRA)	66	17	(49)	
Other Housing Revenue Account Schemes (less than £100k)	74	24	(50)	
Total	10,742	8,448	(2,294)	
General Fund				
Depot Roof Repairs	950	177	(773)	9
Fox Street pop-up food court and car park	102	67	(35)	
Green Homes Grant (GF)	492	157	(335)	10
Green Homes Grant (GF) (2)	456	1	(455)	11
Health and Safety works for Kirkby Offices	216	155	(61)	
Hucknall Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	1,775	1,668	(107)	12
Hucknall Leisure Centre - New Pool	625	360	(265)	13
Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant	1,122	931	(191)	14
Kings Mill Reservoir (The King and Miller to Kingfisher)	435	217	(218)	15
Kirkby Leisure Centre	8,900	7,506	(1,394)	16
Lammas Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	2,971	2,255	(716)	17
Low Street vacant units	2,176	87	(2,089)	18

Play Areas	106	96	(10)	
Purchase of Vehicles	353	353	0	
Rurals and Open Space	120	0	(120)	19
Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema	612	49	(563)	20
Sutton Maker Space and Business Hub	2,105	988	(1,117)	21
Titchfield Park Brook	231	141	(90)	
Towns Fund Projects	4,635	1,361	(3,274)	22
Other General Fund Schemes (less than £100k)	979	519	(460)	23
Total	29,361	17,088	(12,273)	
Grand Total	40,103	25,536	(14,567)	
Funding				
Major Repairs Reserve	4,194	3,011	(1,183)	
Borrowing	17,191	7,035	(10,156)	
Government Grants and Other Contributions	12,311	10,901	(1,410)	
Revenue Contributions	4,689	4,111	(578)	
Reserve Contributions	120	116	(4)	
Capital Receipts	1,598	362	(1,236)	
Total Funding	40,103	25,536	(14,567)	

- (1) Shortage of materials and long lead time have caused project delays.
- (2) Shortage of materials and long lead time have caused project delays.
- (3) Some of the works previously planned for 2022/23 were able to be completed earlier than anticipated.
- (4) Delays caused by contractor labour shortages and materials shortages.
- (5) Changes to funding and higher prices are making it more difficult to find suitable and viable properties to purchase.
- (6) Delays due to awaiting an update on installation guidelines.
- (7) Delays due to awaiting an update on installation guidelines.
- (8) Contractor labour shortages and materials shortages have caused delays to the project.
- (9) The project has been put on hold until the outcome of the Depot review is completed.
- (10) Delays due to awaiting an update on installation guidelines.
- (11) Delays due to awaiting an update on installation guidelines.
- (12) Delays with Everyone's Active supply chain. It should be noted however that this work is now complete.
- (13) Procurement issues have caused delays to the project.
- (14) Delays due to material shortage and available resources.
- (15) Project has been delayed due to the impact of covid and availability of contractors.
- (16) Project delayed due to pandemic and material availability. However, the New Leisure Centre is on-track for opening later this month and demolition and car park works remain due to be completed by the end of 2022/23 financial year.
- (17) Delays with Everyone's Active supply chain. It should be noted however that this work is now complete.
- (18) Design development phase behind schedule so consequently more expensive construction phase is also behind schedule.
- (19) Slippage due to interruption in contract delivery and securing best value for money for the planned works.

- (20) Project has been delayed during the design and development stage.
- (21) Project has been delayed due to available contract resource and inflationary pressure on project budgets.
- (22) Projects have been delayed due to the impact of covid and shortfall of available consultants.
- (23) Projects have been delayed due to the impact of covid and available contract resourcing.

6. Earmarked Reserves – Budget Adjustments 2022/23

6.1 Table 8 below provides details of reserve movements required in 2022/23 to provide project and grant funding where the funding had been received in previous years but was not utilised and moved to reserves as at the 31 March 2022:

Table 8 - Earmarked Reserves – Budget Adjustments 2022/23

Funding /Project	Reserve	£
Covid Contain Funding	Revenue Grants Reserve	65,680
Towns Fund Capacity Funding	Revenue Grants Reserve	153,436
Enterprise Ashfield -Towns Fund	Revenue Grants Reserve	279,000
Net Biodiversity Grant	Revenue Grants Reserve	10,047
Economic Stimulus Funding	Revenue Grants Reserve	34,389
Decision Making Accountability Review	Corporate Change Reserve	15,000
Total		557,552

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Revenue and Capital Budgets and Outturn position reflect delivery of the priorities in the Corporate Plan.

Legal:

This report ensures compliance with the Council's approved Financial Regulations.

Finance: [PH 08/07/2022].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
General Fund – Capital Programme	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.

Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
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Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Failure to spend within approved budgets could impact the financial sustainability of the Council.	Regular financial monitoring reports to CLT and Cabinet. Financial Regulations. Finance training for Budget Managers and Budget Holders.

Human Resources:

No implications

Environmental/Sustainability

No implications

Equalities:

No implications

Background Papers

Annual Budget and Council Tax 2021/22 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy Update to Council 4th March 2021

Draft Outturn Report 2020/21 to Cabinet 19 July 2021

2021/22 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at July 2021 to Cabinet 20th September 2021

2021/22 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at September 2021 to Cabinet 7th December 2021

2021/22 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at January 2022 to Cabinet 29th March 2022

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Directorate: Chief Executive's Department

Outturn as at: 31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over- recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Chief Executive		18	Recruitment Advertising for the CEO post
		15	Vacancy Factor not met
	-3		Reduction in Memberships & Subscriptions
Superannuation Back funding	-19		Reduction in Superannuation Back funding requirement on corporate budget
Civic Expenses	-1		Reduction in cost of Civic Events
	-5		Reduction in Hire of Vehicles for Civic Events
Public Accountability	-31		Funding contribution towards Public Accountability
		6	Adjustment for 20/21 Audit Costs - unknown at the time of budget setting
Corporate Costs	-42		Net reduction to Doubtful Debt provision
Total	-101	39	
Net Underspend	-62		

Directorate:

Legal & Governance

Outturn as at:

31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Director	-3 -10	6	Standards Committee savings identified as per Base Budget Review reduction. Anti-fraud strategy not yet developed so no spend against budget Vacancy factor not met & above budget pay award reflected.
Risk & Emergency Planning	-30	0	Vacancy (1 post) partially offset by pay award and small items from Base Budget Review.
Legal Services	-40	20	No IKEN upgrade in Shared Legal service. Overachievement of fees & charges and court costs income. Legal expenses lower after provision utilised. Above budget Pay award reflected. Apprenticeship levy higher than budget. Unbudgeted Commercial Debt training costs and reference books costs higher than budget (new contract). 2 x redundancy provision net of MDC contribution.
Electoral Services	-7	0	Savings from vacancy exceeding costs of external cover.
Democratic & Scrutiny Services	-5	33	Member training & corporate conferences spend under budget. Small savings items in Base Budget Review Vacancy factor not achieved. Above budget pay award reflected. Honorarium for head (to also cover Elections) Members pay award. DBS not budgeted. Modern.gov costs higher than budget
Internal Audit (CMAP)	-7	0	Notification of increase from CMAP (not happened)
Total	-102	59	
Net Underspend	-43		

Directorate:

Resources & Business Transformation

Outturn as at:

31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Director	-31		Increased Income from Crematorium 2020/21
HR & Payroll		5	Vacancy factor not met
		2	Unbudgeted costs for Kick Start Programme - New Programme
		5	Occupational Health Costs
		15	Additional Shared Service Costs - share of agency costs engaged
ICT		1	Training Costs
		28	Vacancy factor not met
		27	Agency Work - £16k covered by Covid Grant
	-9		Equipment Purchase savings
	-2		Chemicals & Materials budget savings
	-10		Maintenance costs underspend
	-18		System Software budget underspend
		41	Additional telephony costs - covered by Covid Grant
	-2		Application Software savings
	-3		LRF Funding for equipment
Internet & Ethernet	-9		Savings on the contract plus an accrual from the previous year
Printing	-13		Savings on Printing Costs
Performance Planning & Improvements	-29		Vacancies
		39	Payments to Contractors - funded by vacancies elsewhere
		2	Additional Memberships & Subscriptions costs
GIS	-30		Increased income for street naming and numbering
		5	Vacancy factor not met

	-5	Application Software savings
DST	-70	Salaries - Digital Analyst Vacancy
		55 Professional & Consultancy - To cover Digital Analyst Vacancy above
		9 Additional Application Software costs
		2 Additional Equipment Purchases costs
Innovations & Solutions		14 Additional Application Software costs
Publicity		2 For Covid related publicity -Vaccine Hesitancy Campaign - funded by Covid grant
	-46	Savings on Publications (timing difference on Ashfield Matters publications)
Communications		37 Overspend on salaries and not achieving vacancy factor
		2 Increase in Equipment Purchase
	-4	Savings on Publicity
		3 Licences
Revenues and Benefits		398 Loss of income due to reduced number of claimants, impact of transferring to universal credit- Part Covid related
		193 HB Subsidy variances & DHP payment to Central Government
		28 Annual costs for Giro fees have increased
		14 HB Admin Grant was less than budgeted
	-2	Council Tax Admin grant was higher than budgeted
	-72	Council Tax recovery recouped through court has been higher than budget
	-10	NNDR recovery recouped through court has been higher than budgeted
	-4	Various small underspends
Customer Services		5 Reduction in income from NCC - Customer Services contract hasn't been renewed
	-2	Vacancy - net of overtime
Finance		33 Vacancy factor not met
	-12	Accrual for postage costs plus postage costs charged directly to HRA
		3 Saving on Application Software
Restructuring Costs	-13	VR for Legal staff - corresponding cost is in Legal and Governance
	-51	Budgeted pay award whereas actual has been spread through all service areas
Insurance		14 Increase in costs - covered by Covid Grant
Commercial Properties		20 Net of increase in rents against increase in costs, new rental agreements and new properties which have incurred costs
		3 Vacancy factor not met
	-22	Shared Service ceased part year

Investment Properties			96	Costs incurred at Grangemouth Property - covered by Covid Grant
			55	Loss of rental income on Grangemouth Property - covered by Covid Grant
	-132			Increase in Investment income for Falkirk
	-62			Increase in Hotel turnover
	-11			NNDR Refund for the Hotel
	-14			Call Flex Rent increase
			20	Additional Professional & Consultancy for valuations
	-7			Wishaw Investment Property Rent increase
			9	Babcock Investment Property Rent
	-3			Reduction in Car Travel
	-3			Reduction in Rail Fares
	-29			Vacancies
Covid Grant Expenditure Budget	-817			Fully utilised over all service areas
Total	-1547	1185		
Net Underspend	-362			

Directorate:

Place & Communities

Outturn as at:

March 2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Service Director	-2	15	Employee costs, as a result of recruitment costs £11k, net Agency costs to cover SD post £4k Savings on other costs (Rail fares, Car mileage, Conferences, etc)
Community Safety	-89		Reduced employee costs, as a result of staff vacancies across the Service.
	-29		Higher income, largely as a result of share of Fixed Penalty Notice income from arrangement with third party operator.
	-26		Household support funding mitigated by employee costs elsewhere
	-7		Lower Transport costs, including Car mileage and allowances
	-1		Other net savings
Neighbourhoods and Environment	-49		Reduced employee costs, due to vacancies.
		41	Utility costs, including new pavilions at Papplewick and Wigwam (includes costs from 2019 & 2020)
		17	One off cost to secure Whitespace discount (EDR to support)
	-16		NNDR refund at Selston café, following its closure
	-32		Increased income - Cemeteries
	-12		Lower repair costs
	-9		Increased income from sports pitches
		7	Hire of vehicles in Environmental Maintenance funded by covid grant
		7	Additional Litter Bins
	-10		Public Health funerals budget unutilised - demand led
	-7		Lower Telephone charges

	-63	Lower contractor costs, mainly due to charges in Hucknall, where our own operatives carried out the work required
	10	Additional refuse disposal costs in environmental Maintenance
	5	Higher software costs (Whitespace)
	-7	Spring Clean costs (underspend - proposed carry-forward)
	5	Increased Transport costs
	-4	Underspend on Travelling expenses
	-12	Underspend on other Supplies & Services budgets
	-2	Other net savings
Waste Services	-142	Higher income as a result of Trade Waste (£89k), Glass recycling (£31k), Bulky waste collections (£21k)
	61	Higher Waste disposal costs
	86	Higher employee costs due to vacancy factor, and higher Agency costs
	15	Increased Fuel costs
	23	Higher purchase of bins as a result of increased business.
	11	Additional Software costs (Whitespace, Brigade in cab video)
	5	Tablets for use with Whitespace
	7	Other additional costs
Transport & Depot		7 Lower income from 'Public' MOTs.
	-113	Income from vehicle sales
	11	Additional Software costs - Whitespace
	8	Increased repair costs
	-10	Reduced employee costs due to vacancies
	-13	Lower utility costs
	9	Equipment maintenance, largely due to repairs to Extraction system
	6	Equipment purchase, including purchase of HAV and WBV monitor (£4k)
	6	Transport costs, including vehicle hire due to social distancing (£3k). Covid grant funded
	3	Other additional net costs
Place & Wellbeing	-136	Reduced employee costs, due to vacancies.
	31	Legal costs associated with renegotiation of Leisure Centre Operating contract

		14	NNDR in respect of Edgewood Leisure Centre
		31	Lower contribution from Leisure Centre operator linked to reduced opening during the pandemic
	-14	34	Costs in respect of Edgewood LC
			Contractors cost below budget in respect of Towns Fund and Future High Streets
		5	Net costs of Healthy Eating and Wellbeing projects
	-8		Lower repair costs
	-6		Underspend on grants (Community Fund)
	-20		Other additional net savings
Markets		116	Lower income, mainly due to rents from Idlewells Indoor Market and Moor Market. Partially covid grant funded.
	-21		Reduced staff costs, mainly due to Moor Indoor Market
	-12		Balance of Welcome Back Claims (net of Grants, Agency & Contractor costs)
		5	Additional Repair costs
		11	Additional Utility costs
	-19		Reduced Service charge (5 quarters taken in previous year)
	-2		Other additional net savings
Licensing	-19		Reduced employee costs, due to vacancies
	-14		New burdens grant in respect of Temporary Pavement Licensing
	-19		Increased Licensing income
	-10		Reduced fees for DBS driver checks
		3	Other additional net costs
Regeneration		5	Additional Employee costs (Vacancy factor not met)
	-4		Saving on software costs (Evolutive)
	-7		Other net savings
Planning & Regulatory Services	-66		Reduced employee costs, due to vacancies
		91	Planning appeal costs
		40	Professional & Consultancy Fees in respect of Restoring your Railways. Funded from grant.
		6	Advertising - increased Planning applications

	-28		Government grant in respect of Restoring your Railways
	-319		Increased Planning application fees
	-8		Contribution towards match funding re Maid Marian line work
	-14		Increased income from Land Charges
	-2		Other net savings
Environmental Health	-95		Reduced employee costs, largely due staff vacancies
	-10		Lower spending on Dog control
	-5		Car mileage & Car Allowances savings
	-5		Reduced expenditure on Equipment purchases and maintenance
	-6		Other net savings
Total	-1,524	757	
Net Underspend	-767		

Directorate:

Housing & Assets

Outturn as at:

31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Private Sector Housing		5	Costs incurred in moving on illegal traveller occupation. Additional Income from advice work.
	-7		
Housing Administration	-19		Employee cost savings, due to vacancies. Reduction in establishment (1 FTE).
Homelessness	-37		
	-24		Employee cost savings, due to vacancies. Expenditure met by Grants received for Homelessness Support.
Car Parks	-32	39	Underachieved income compared to budget from Covid restrictions. Funded by grant. Reduced running costs.
	-8		
Community Centres		21	Underachieved income compared to budget from Covid restrictions. Funded by grant. Reduced running costs.
	-7		
Asset Management General	-43		Employee cost savings, due to vacancies.
		13	Additional Cleaning Services costs after reopening the main office to the public. Responsive and General repairs slightly under budget.
	-16		
	-12		Urban Road Office - Reduced Running costs (mainly disputed prior years electricity).
	-7		Urban Road Office - Building Rental income.
	-9		Watnall Road Office - Reduced running costs.
Building Cleaning	-36		Employee cost savings, due to vacancies.
Supported Housing - Call Monitoring	-9		Various budget heading savings across the section
Total	-266	78	
Net Underspend	-188		

Corporate Costs

Corporate Costs

Outturn as at:

31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over- recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
Recharges	-116		Additional recharges to HRA
Loan Interest payable	-171		Interest saving due to managing borrowing need through internal borrowing not taking on external debt. This has been achieved due to the increase in reserve levels and working capital.
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	-110		Slippage on 2020/21 Capital Programme funded by borrowing reducing the MRP charges in 2021/22
Interest received from HRA		3	Reduction in HRA Capital Financing Requirement from budget as land appropriated from general fund to HRA in 2020/21 was funded in full in year by the HRA.
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue		117	Contribution to Kingsmill Reservoir Capital Scheme £90k, to the Retail Improvement Scheme £8k and Titchfield Park CCTV £19k - funded from earmarked reserves.
Net investment income		2	Increase in net interest payable on balances due to changes in interest rates
	-397	122	
Net Underspend	-275		

Funding

Outturn as at:

31/03/2022

Service Area	Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for variance
Government Grants	-10	16	Sales, Fees and Income compensation for period April to June 2021
Business Rates	-1656	671	Lower Tier Service Grant difference to amount budgeted
			Changes to Section 31 grant received from Central Government to compensate for reliefs granted. £1.594m relates to additional reliefs due to covid and has been moved to the Taxation Earmarked Reserve to be utilised in 22/23, when the deficit will be recognised. £62k is additional Section 31 Grant due for reliefs granted above budgeted amount.
			Increase in levy paid to the Nottinghamshire pool, due to net rents payable increasing due to large new hereditament.
			5 Adjustment to 2021/22 return from Nottinghamshire pool
			2 Reduction in NDR on Renewable Energy to amount budgeted
	-1086		Estimated 2021/22 return from Nottinghamshire pool moved to the NNDR Equalisation Reserve
	-65		Increase in amount of Section 31 grant for 20/21 released from reserve due to final section 31 grants put to reserve in 20/21 being higher than budgeted.
	-27		Difference in Taxation Income Guarantee scheme received against amount estimated and accrued.
Council Tax	-1		Family Annex Grant not budgeted for
	-2845	694	
Net Underspend	-2151		

**Movement in Reserves Summary
as at 31 March 2022**

Appendix 2

General Fund

Service Earmarked Reserve	Opening Balance 1 April 2021	Approved		Balance as at 31 Jan 2022	Requiring Approval 31 March 2022		Forecast Closing Balance as 31 March 2022	Comments
		Contributions	Withdrawals		Contributions	Withdrawals		
Elections	-64,858	-54,000		-118,858			-118,858	
Insurance Related Funds (Inc Risk Mngt)	-388,419	-75,000		-463,419	-463	101,886	-361,996	Actual movements on Insurance reserves
Revenue Grant Reserve	-3,726,729		845,676	-2,881,053	-336,241		-3,217,294	Net movement on various revenue grants
District Planning Enquiry Fund	-312,773		125,000	-187,773	-45,000		-232,773	Unused drawdown in 21/22.
Asset Renewal	-742,572		5,796	-736,776		90,000	-646,776	To fund Kingsmill Reservoir Capital Scheme
Leisure Maintenance Reserve (joint Use Pre 2021)	-200,908			-200,908	-187,770		-388,676	Contribution from Leisure Operator to fund future borrowing costs on Leisure Capital
Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) Reserve	-75,899			-75,899		60,000	-15,899	Released from reserve – scheme is finished, and maximum potential exposure is £15k
NNDR Equalisation Reserve	-2,125,132			-2,125,132	-1,085,659		-3,210,791	Return from Nottinghamshire NDR pool for 21/22
Supported Housing Trading Fund	-18,377	-20,000		-38,377	-15,000		-53,377	Unused budget at year end
Corporate Change Reserve	-1,345,384		269,980	-1,075,404	-252,400		-1,327,804	Unused drawdown in 21/22

Commercial Property Investment Reserve	-3,150,000	-100,000	308,000	-2,942,000	-558,000		-3,500,000	Contribution - use of reserve at budget setting replaced by in-year covid grant. Plus, year-end contribution.
Economic Development and Place Reserve	-383,759			-383,759			-383,759	
Joint Crematorium Reserve	-575,410			-575,410		34,673	-540,738	From the audited JCC statement
Selective Licencing	-26,794		12,000	-14,794	-42,000		-56,794	£30k contribution from service area and £12k drawdown no longer needed in 21/22.
Licensing Reserve	-155,190			-155,190	-59,431		-214,621	Surplus which requires ring fencing
Brexit Reserve	-51,452			-51,452		51,452	0	To fund post in year
Covid-19 Grant Reserve	-886,000			-886,000			-886,000	
Commercial Property Dilapidations Reserve	-10,000	-10,000		-20,000			-20,000	
Other Reserves	-12,179	-10,000	5,000	-17,179	-5,002		-22,181	£5k drawdown not used in 21/22.
Total Service Earmarked Reserves	-14,251,835	-269,000	1,571,452	-12,949,383	-2,586,966	338,011	- 15,198,338	

Taxation Earmarked Reserve

NNDR/Ctax S31 & Compensation Reserve	-4,835,185	0	4,193,334	-641,851	-1,594,067	0	-2,235,918	
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Housing Revenue Account

	Opening Balance 1 April 2021	Approved		Balance as at 31 March 2022	Requiring Approval 31-Mar-22		Closing Balance as 31 March 2022	Comments
		Contributions	Withdrawals		Contributions	Withdrawals		
HRA Revenue Grants Reserve	-25,130			-25,130			-25,130	
HRA Eco Funding Reserve	-263,430			-263,430			-263,430	
HRA Insurance Reserve	-191,653		20,000	-171,653		27,416	-144,237	Estimated amount of insurance claims to be funded for 21/22.
HRA Corporate Change Reserve	-192,450			-192,450			-192,450	
HRA Technology Investment	-27,806		25,000	-2,806	-22,760		-25,566	From the original DRS scheme investment. Still to finalise two modules.

HRA Welfare Reform Reserve	-200,000	100,000	-100,000	-70,399		-170,399	Still awaiting full migration across to Universal Credit. Planned use of the reserve did take place for the work that had been suspended under the Covid restrictions.
Total Housing Revenue Account Reserves	-900,469	145,000	755,469	-93,159	27,416	-821,212	

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Report To:	LICENSING COMMITTEE
Date:	27th July 2022
Heading:	CONSIDERATION OF VARIATION TO HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS
Executive Lead Member:	DEPUTY LEADER – OUTWARD FOCUS
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	YES
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

To agree to a proposal submitted by the local Hackney Carriage Trade to vary the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs.

Recommendation(s)

The Licensing Committee is recommended to:

- a) Consider the proposal to vary the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs as put forward by the local Hackney Carriage Trade;
- b) Consider any responses received during the consultation carried out by the Licensing Team with the licensed Trade, and (if necessary) amend the proposal accordingly;
- c) Subject to the Committee agreeing to the proposal (with any amendments felt necessary in light of any Trade responses), request that the Licensing Manager carry out the statutory requirement of advertising the proposed variation to the Hackney Carriage Tariffs for 14 days by way of a Public Notice; and
- d) Subject to any valid consultation responses received (to be considered by the Chair of the Licensing Committee), recommend that Council adopts the new set of Hackney Carriage Tariffs.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Local Authority is responsible for the setting of fares for Hackney Carriages within its district. From time to time, the Hackney Carriage Trade may seek variations to existing Tariffs, in order to ensure such Tariffs provide the Trade with a sustainable livelihood.

Alternative Options Considered

Do nothing: not recommended for the reasons below.

The last Tariff variation was in November 2014. Since then the costs to the Trade to provide Hackney Carriage services to the public have increased significantly.

Furthermore, the cost of living, cost of fuel, diesel, heating, groceries, goods, etc have all increased, and current expectations are that these rises will continue.

It is therefore prudent to reconsider the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs, in order to ensure a) the livelihoods of the local Hackney Carriage Trade, and b) that there are sufficient Hackney Carriages available for hire to those customers seeking such fare-paying journeys.

The proposal put forward by the Hackney Carriage Trade has taken into consideration the impact of fares on passengers, and the proposal is one that has taken into account that the rises in the cost of living show no immediate sign of abating, and as such this proposal has attempted to future-proof against any need to revisit the Hackney Carriage Tariffs in the near future.

Detailed Information

Introduction

The Council has the authority to set Hackney Carriage Tariffs, to be used by drivers of Hackney Carriages that pick up passengers waiting at local Taxi Ranks, or passengers who are hailing Hackney Carriages in the street.

The Committee is advised that it only has authority to set the Tariffs for Hackney Carriages. Private Hire vehicles (and the drivers of such vehicles) are only permitted bookings made through a Private Hire Operator. Private Hire Operators set their own Tariffs that do not require consideration by the Council. Private Hire vehicles are not permitted to be hailed in the street, nor are they permitted to wait on or near Taxi Ranks.

The charging of Hackney Carriage fares and payment are governed by a number of different legislations:

- **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 65 to set the fare and 65(5) within the district to charge more than the fare shown on the meter.**
- **Town Police Clauses Act 1847 Section 54 allows agreement to be made in advance of the hiring that a sum less than that shown on the meter at the end of the hiring will be paid.**
- **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 66 prohibits any demand of a fare greater than that shown on the meter for hiring's which end outside the district, unless an agreement to pay more than the metered fare has been made in advance of the journey commencing.**

Background

It has been nearly 8 years since the last variation of the Hackney Carriage Tariff, and considerable work has been undertaken by the Licensing Team with the local Hackney Carriage Trade, in order to present to the Committee a transparent, fair, and considered proposed variation to the current Tariffs.

The local Hackney Carriage Trade has provided reasons as to why a variation to the current Tariffs is required. A copy of this Business Case is attached at **Appendix One**, and has been endorsed by a number of Taxi Company owners, Hackney Carriage vehicle proprietors, and drivers.

In order to enable Members to understand how the proposed variation would impact on the fares paid by passengers, a Table is provided at **Appendix Two**, detailing the current and future costs of journeys of 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 miles across the Tariffs.

Journeys undertaken by Multi-Passenger Vehicles when 5 or more passengers need to be transported, would, under the proposal, be subject to a 25% surcharge, owing to the extra diesel costs associated with these vehicles. However, this 25% surcharge, does in reality offer a saving to potential customers who may currently have been provided with 2 x 4-seater vehicles. Furthermore, by enabling such a surcharge, it may help promote more Multi-Passenger Vehicles within the local Hackney Carriage Trade, which in turn helps to boost the number of potential Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.

The current Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart is attached at **Appendix Three**, and the revised Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart (should the Trades proposal be approved) is attached at **Appendix Four**. The Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart must be displayed prominently in all licensed Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

In order for Members to further consider this proposal, attached at **Appendix Five** is the current “chart” listing the cost of a 2 mile journey made on Tariff 1, in all Districts nationally. Ashfield is currently one of the lowest tariff costs (341 out of 355 Councils). Should the Trade’s proposal be approved, Ashfield would only be placed the 278th most expensive Tariff for such a journey. Also highlighted on this “chart” are neighbouring and nearby Councils, for Members to further evaluate this proposal.

Consultation on the Proposed Variation of Hackney Carriage Tariffs

The Licensing Team wrote to all drivers and Hackney Carriage owners, providing an overview of the proposed variation put forward by the local Hackney Carriage Trade, seeking whether there were any objections to the proposed variations, or whether any alternative proposals may be forthcoming.

The consultation letter informed the Trade that should no response be received from each recipient of the letter, that this would be interpreted as that person having no objection to the proposed Tariff increases. A total of 761 consultation letters were sent out. The consultation ran for a period of 4 weeks ending on 30th June 2022. A copy of the letter sent to the Trade is attached at **Appendix Six**.

Responses to the Consultation

No valid responses were received during the consultation period. The consultation letter states upon it that should the Council not receive any response from those to whom the letter was sent, that this would be interpreted as the Trade member being in support of the proposal of the Hackney Carriage Trade. As such, the Licensing Committee is directed to consider that the proposal has the full support of the Taxi Trade.

Publication of Tariffs

Should the Committee approve the proposal, then the Licensing Manager will be required to place a Public Notice in a local newspaper and on the front of the Council Offices for a period of 14 days, detailing the proposed Tariffs in order to seek any valid public comments.

It is proposed to forward any valid consultation responses to the Chair of the Licensing Committee for consideration, and then to recommend to Council that the new Tariffs be adopted.

The cost of recalibrating taximeters to the new Tariff rates is to be met by the Hackney Carriage Trade.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Council has a duty to carry out its licensing functions in accordance with the relevant legislation and regulations in force for each of the functions detailed within this report.

By carrying out its licensing functions, the Licensing Authority will contribute towards the reduction of crime and disorder within the district, and seek to improve community safety and environmental quality, whilst in turn seeking to promote a vibrant and sustainable local economy.

Legal:

Under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Local Authority is responsible for the setting of fares for Hackney Carriages within its district.

Finance:

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None
General Fund – Capital Programme	None
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
The Council has a statutory duty to carry out its licensing functions.	Approved processes, procedures and policies are in force to ensure that the Licensing Authority minimises any risks it may be exposed to when carry out its licensing functions and decision making processes.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications contained within this report

Environmental/Sustainability

By approving this proposal, the Council is able to set and regulate the fares for Hackney Carriage journeys within the district, ensuring the promotion, protection and sustainability of the local environment.

Equalities:

There are no diversity or equality implications contained within this report.

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Appendix One: Hackney Carriage Trade Business Case

Appendix Two: Table of Fares Comparisons

Appendix Three: Current Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart

Appendix Four: Proposed Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart

Appendix Five: Chart of National Costs for 2 Mile Journey

Appendix Six: Consultation Letter

Report Author and Contact Officer

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Sponsoring Director

Robert Docherty
Director of Place & Communities
robert.docherty@ashfield.gov.uk

APPENDIX ONE

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF INCREASE

Dear Licensing Authority,

As representatives of the local Hackney Carriage Trade licensed by Ashfield District Council, we have come together as a collective to put forward our request for your consideration, in order for the local Hackney Carriage Tariffs to be increased.

The Licensing Manager of Ashfield District Council has provided guidance to us in the formulation and presentation of our Business Case and Tariff Proposals.

The last Tariff increase came into effect in November 2014 (nearly 8 years ago), and since then through a combination of increases in living costs, fuel, diesel, Covid-19, etc., the current Tariffs are causing a reduced standard of living for licensed drivers and licensed vehicle owners.

We believe that the proposals you will find attached, will assist the local Hackney Trade be more financially sustainable, whilst not overly impacting on the fares paid by passengers.

Please note, that these proposed Tariffs, as with any Hackney Carriage Tariff are only applicable for Ashfield District Council licensed Hackney Carriage Vehicles when picking up passengers at local Taxi Ranks or when being hailed in the streets of the Ashfield District Council area.

We have addressed a matter which has caused significant hardship within the local Hackney Carriage Trade, that of servicing journeys for 5 or more passengers through the use of Multi-Passenger Vehicles as these journeys consume more diesel than for 4 seater passenger vehicles. Yet our proposals through the addition of a 25% surcharge for carrying 5 or more passengers, is cheaper (average of 30% cheaper) than dispatching 2 regular 4-seater vehicles to do 2 journeys thereby saving such passengers money, whilst also promoting the safeguarding needs of all passengers by being able to only dispatch 1 Multi-Passenger Vehicle ensuring prompt and complete pick-up of all passengers.

We trust that you find our proposals satisfactory and in turn give your approval for them to be implemented. We thank you for your time in considering our proposals.

Kieron Chilton: Lucky 13 Taxis

Enclosed:

- 1. Signatures from Taxi Company Owners, Vehicle Owners, Drivers supporting this proposal**
- 2. Draft New Tariff Card**
- 3. Tables of Comparison for Proposed Tariffs against Current Tariffs**
- 4. Current Council Tariff Chart**
- 5. Proposed Council Tariff Chart**

NAME

SIGNATURE

COMPANY or PLATE NUMBER

D. BROADLEY

ABACUS

K. CHILTON

Lucky 13

ZAMO AGAS

Lucky 13 Plate 36

LEE JOHNSON

ALPHA CARS

IAN STEPHEN DAVE

ABEL cars

164

CAZANER-AL

96

BARZAN

222

A. MANNON

ALPHA 66

Newsor Chis

Pirate 65

IVOR RASTALL

ABACUS 27

[Signature]

on behalf of Mr Cholley PIRATE

Konide Neelapillai

36

NATIZ ALI

113

C. MEHORS

139

S. DARRAN

2

ABID MASOOD

4

K. KAUR

88

NEW TARIFF CARD

TARIFF ONE	06.00 - 23.00 Monday - Sunday For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£3.60
	Each subsequent 176.00 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
TARIFF TWO	23.00 - 06.00 Monday - Sunday 18.00 - 24.00 Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve 00.00 - 24.00 All Bank Holidays, except when TARIFF THREE	
	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£4.80
	Each subsequent 146.66 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
TARIFF THREE	00.00 - 24.00 Christmas Day and New Year's Day	
	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£6.00
	Each subsequent 146.66 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.30
EXTRAS BUTTON	Adds 25% on at the end of the journey, BUT ONLY when a vehicle able to carry MORE THAN 4 PASSENGERS is booked	

WAITING TIME FOR ALL TARIFFS IS 25p for each period of 60 seconds or part thereof

SOILING CHARGE £80.00

APPENDIX TWO

TABLES OF COMPARISON FOR PROPOSED TARIFFS AGAINST CURRENT TARIFFS

TARIFF ONE:

MILES TRAVELLED	CURRENT FARE	PROPOSED FARE	% INCREASE	CURRENT FARE TO DISPATCH 2 X 4-SEATER VEHICLES FOR 5+ PASSENGERS	PROPOSED FARE APPLYING 25% SURCHARGE FOR 5+ PASSENGERS USING 1 X MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE	% SAVING TO PASSENGERS
1	£3.00	£3.60	20.00	£6.00	£4.50	28.57
2	£4.80	£5.60	16.67	£9.60	£7.00	31.33
3	£6.60	£7.60	15.15	£13.20	£9.50	32.60
5	£10.20	£11.60	13.73	£20.40	£14.50	33.82
10	£19.20	£21.60	12.50	£38.40	£27.00	34.86

TARIFF TWO:

MILES TRAVELLED	CURRENT FARE	PROPOSED FARE	% INCREASE	CURRENT FARE TO DISPATCH 2 X 4-SEATER VEHICLES FOR 5+ PASSENGERS	PROPOSED FARE APPLYING 25% SURCHARGE FOR 5+ PASSENGERS USING 1 X MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE	% SAVING TO PASSENGERS
1	£4.00	£4.80	20.00	£8.00	£6.00	28.57
2	£6.00	£7.20	16.67	£12.00	£9.00	28.57
3	£8.20	£9.60	15.15	£16.40	£12.00	30.99
5	£12.60	£14.40	13.73	£25.20	£18.00	33.33
10	£23.20	£26.40	12.50	£46.40	£33.00	33.75

TARIFF THREE:

MILES TRAVELLED	CURRENT FARE	PROPOSED FARE	% INCREASE	CURRENT FARE TO DISPATCH 2 X 4-SEATER VEHICLES FOR 5+ PASSENGERS	PROPOSED FARE APPLYING 25% SURCHARGE FOR 5+ PASSENGERS USING 1 X MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE	% SAVING TO PASSENGERS
1	£5.00	£6.00	20.00	£10.00	£7.50	28.57
2	£8.00	£9.60	16.67	£16.00	£12.00	28.57
3	£11.00	£13.20	15.15	£22.00	£16.50	28.57
5	£17.00	£20.40	13.73	£34.00	£25.50	28.57
10	£32.00	£38.40	12.50	£64.00	£48.00	28.57

APPENDIX THREE

MAXIMUM FARES SET BY ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGES: OPERATIVE FROM 12.11.2014

The driver must, unless he has reasonable excuse, accept any hiring within the Ashfield District boundary if the destination is also within the Ashfield District boundary. The fare for such a journey, shown below, will be calculated by the taxi meter.

The driver does not have to accept journeys that end outside the Ashfield District boundary; the fare or rate of fare must be by agreement between the hirer and driver before the journey commences. The fare is likely to be higher than within the Ashfield District as drivers cannot accept a return hiring until back within the Ashfield District.

Where no such agreement exists then the scale of charges applicable to journeys within the Ashfield District shown below will apply.

FARES: FOR DISTANCE TRAVELLED & TIME

TARIFF 1	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£3.00
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06.00 - 23.00 Monday - Sunday	each subsequent 195.55 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
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WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.21
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TARIFF 2	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£4.00
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23.00 - 06.00: Monday – Sunday

18:00 – 24:00: Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve	each subsequent 163.72 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
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00:00 – 24:00: Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Bank Holiday, Boxing Day, August Bank Holiday

WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.21
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TARIFF 3	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£5.00
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00:00 – 24:00: Christmas Day and New Year's Day	each subsequent 167.61 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.30
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WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.21
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SOILING CHARGE:	To cover cleaning and loss of income, where the interior of the vehicle is soiled due to the excessive consumption of alcohol, etc. or, by the carriage of an animal, excluding guide dogs.	£60.00
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**MAXIMUM FARES SET BY ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR
LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGES: OPERATIVE FROM TBA**

The driver must, unless he has reasonable excuse, accept any hiring within the Ashfield District boundary if the destination is also within the Ashfield District boundary. The fare for such a journey, shown below, will be calculated by the taxi meter.

The driver does not have to accept journeys that end outside the Ashfield District boundary; the fare or rate of fare must be by agreement between the hirer and driver before the journey commences. The fare is likely to be higher than within the Ashfield District as drivers cannot accept a return hiring until back within the Ashfield District.

Where no such agreement exists then the scale of charges applicable to journeys within the Ashfield District shown below will apply.

FARES: FOR DISTANCE TRAVELLED & TIME

TARIFF 1	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£3.60
06.00 - 23.00 Monday - Sunday	each subsequent 176 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE SURCHARGE	5 or more passengers	25%
WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.25
TARIFF 2	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£4.80
23.00 - 06.00: Monday – Sunday		
18:00 – 24:00: Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve	each subsequent 146.66 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.20
00:00 – 24:00: All Bank Holidays (save for Christmas Day and New Year’s Day)		
MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE SURCHARGE	5 or more passengers	25%
WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.25
TARIFF 3	For the first mile (1760 yards) or part thereof	£6.00
00:00 – 24:00: Christmas Day and New Year’s Day	each subsequent 146.66 yards or uncompleted part thereof	£0.30
MULTI-PASSENGER VEHICLE SURCHARGE	5 or more passengers	25%
WAITING TIME:	For each period of 60 seconds or part thereof	£0.25
SOILING CHARGE:	To cover cleaning and loss of income, where the interior of the vehicle is soiled due to the excessive consumption of alcohol, etc. or, by the carriage of an animal, excluding guide dogs.	£80.00

APPENDIX FIVE

MOST EXPENSIVE	COUNCIL	TARIFF ONE: 2 MILE JOUREY
1	LONDON (HEATHROW)	£13.40
2	EPSOM & EWELL	£9.80
3	LONDON	£9.80
4	LUTON AIRPORT	£9.70
5	SOUTHAMPTON	£9.40
6	WATFORD (X)	£8.40
7	UTTLESFORD	£8.30
8	CARRICK	£8.20
9	WOKINGHAM	£8.20
10	BRECKLAND	£8.00
11	READING	£8.00
12	ISLE OF MAN	£7.90
13	RESTORMEL	£7.90
14	BRIGHTON & HOVE	£7.80
15	SURREY HEATH	£7.80
16	GUERNSEY	£7.70
17	WEALDON	£7.70
18	EAST AYRSHIRE	£7.60
19	GUILDFORD	£7.60
20	KERRIER	£7.60
21	OXFORD CITY	£7.60
22	RUSHMOOR	£7.60
23	JERSEY	£7.43
24	CHELTENHAM	£7.40
25	HARROGATE	£7.40
26	MAIDSTONE	£7.40
27	MID SUSSEX	£7.40
28	WEST BERKSHIRE	£7.40
29	DARTFORD	£7.30
30	WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND	£7.30
31	ARUN	£7.20
32	BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET	£7.20
33	BCP	£7.20
34	DORSET	£7.20
35	NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE	£7.20
36	ROTHER	£7.20
37	SOUTH GLOUCESTER	£7.20
38	TORRIDGE	£7.20
39	TUNBRIDGE WELLS	£7.20
40	YORK	£7.20
41	ARGYLL & BUTE	£7.13
42	CHELMSFORD	£7.10
43	DOVER	£7.10
44	MOLE VALLEY	£7.10
45	PENWITH	£7.10
46	RUGBY	£7.10
47	HARBOROUGH	£7.09
48	SEVENOAKS	£7.06
49	EAST LOTHIAN	£7.00
50	EDINBURGH	£7.00
51	HERTSMERE	£7.00
52	STEVENAGE	£7.00
53	STROUD	£7.00
54	TONBRIDGE & MALLING	£7.00
55	WELWYN HATFIELD	£7.00
56	WILTSHIRE	£7.00
57	COLCHESTER	£6.90
58	EASTBOURNE	£6.90
59	VALE OF WHITE HORSE	£6.90
60	ADUR	£6.80
61	CARADON	£6.80
62	CARMARTHENSHIRE	£6.80
63	EAST DEVON	£6.80
64	FIFE	£6.80
65	GLASGOW	£6.80
66	GRAVESHAM	£6.80
67	HART (X)	£6.80
68	MENDIP	£6.80
69	NORTH CORNWALL	£6.80
70	NOTTINGHAM	£6.80
71	SEDGEMOOR	£6.80
72	SOMERSET WEST & TAUNTON	£6.80
73	SWALE	£6.80
74	TENDRING	£6.80
75	VALE OF GLAMORGAN	£6.80
76	WOLVERHAMPTON	£6.80
77	NUNEATON & BEDWORTH	£6.75
78	TORBAY	£6.75
79	CHESTER	£6.70
80	CRAWLEY	£6.70
81	EASTLEIGH	£6.70
82	NORTH SOMERSET	£6.70
83	NORTH TYNESIDE	£6.70
84	SHEFFIELD	£6.70
85	SWINDON	£6.70
86	SOUTH HAMS	£6.66
87	BASINGSTOKE & DEANE	£6.60
88	BRACKNELL FOREST	£6.60
89	BRENTWOOD	£6.60
90	CAMBRIDGE CITY	£6.60
91	CARLISLE	£6.60
92	EAST SUFFOLK (NORTH)	£6.60
93	EDEN	£6.60

MOST EXPENSIVE	COUNCIL	TARIFF ONE: 2 MILE JOUREY
178	FYLDE	£6.10
179	NEW FOREST	£6.10
180	NORTH WARWICK	£6.10
181	SOUTH AYRSHIRE	£6.10
182	TAMWORTH	£6.10
183	SELBY	£6.06
184	CHARNWOOD	£6.05
185	SCOTTISH BORDERS	£6.05
186	ABERDEEN CITY	£6.00
187	BLACKPOOL	£6.00
188	BOSTON	£6.00
189	BROXTOWE	£6.00
190	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	£6.00
191	CASTLE POINT	£6.00
192	CONWY	£6.00
193	EAST STAFFORDSHIRE	£6.00
194	GLOUCESTER	£6.00
195	GREAT YARMOUTH	£6.00
196	GWYNEDD	£6.00
197	ISLE OF WIGHT	£6.00
198	KETTERING	£6.00
199	KINGS LYNN & WEST NORFOLK	£6.00
200	KNOWSLEY	£6.00
201	MILTON KEYNES	£6.00
202	NORTH WEST LEICESTER	£6.00
203	PETERBOROUGH	£6.00
204	RYEDALE	£6.00
205	SLOUGH	£6.00
206	SOUTH TYNESIDE	£6.00
207	STOCKPORT	£6.00
208	TAMESIDE	£6.00
209	TEST VALLEY (X)	£6.00
210	THREE RIVERS	£6.00
211	THURROCK	£6.00
212	WARWICK	£6.00
213	WEST LINDSEY	£6.00
214	WIRRAL	£6.00
215	BASSETLAW	£5.90
216	BROXBORNE	£5.90
217	DUDLEY	£5.90
218	KINGSTON-UPON-HULL	£5.90
219	MANCHESTER	£5.90
220	NORTHUMBERLAND	£5.90
221	STAFFORD	£5.90
222	STOKE-ON-TRENT UA	£5.90
223	TANDBRIDGE	£5.90
224	WALSALL	£5.90
225	CALDERDALE	£5.85
226	TEWKESBURY	£5.85
227	BARNSELY	£5.80
228	BARROW IN FURNESS	£5.80
229	BEDFORD	£5.80
230	BRIDGEND	£5.80
231	BROMSGROVE	£5.80
232	EAST KILBRIDE (X)	£5.80
233	FAREHAM	£5.80
234	FLINTSHIRE	£5.80
235	HALTON	£5.80
236	HAVANT	£5.80
237	HIGHLAND (X)	£5.80
238	LANCASTER	£5.80
239	LEICESTER	£5.80
240	LICHFIELD	£5.80
241	NEATH PORT TALBOT	£5.80
242	NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE	£5.80
243	NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	£5.80
244	NORTH NORFOLK	£5.80
245	NORTHERN IRELAND	£5.80
246	ORKNEY (X)	£5.80
247	REIGATE & BANSTEAD	£5.80
248	RUTHERGLEN (X)	£5.80
249	SEFTON	£5.80
250	TRAFFORD	£5.80
251	WEST SUFFOLK	£5.80
252	WIGAN	£5.80
253	WORCESTER	£5.80
254	WYRE	£5.80
255	YNS MON	£5.80
256	CHESTERFIELD	£5.75
257	DONCASTER	£5.75
258	NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE	£5.75
259	ANGUS	£5.70
260	GEDLING	£5.70
261	MID DEVON	£5.70
262	MONMOUTHSHIRE	£5.70
263	RENFREWSHIRE	£5.70
264	STIRLING (X)	£5.70
265	SWANSEA	£5.70
266	WARRINGTON	£5.70
267	BRADFORD	£5.60
268	DENBIGHSHIRE	£5.60
269	GOSPORT	£5.60
270	HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH	£5.60

94	EXETER	£6.60
95	HARLOW	£6.60
96	HIGH PEAK	£6.60
97	MEDWAY	£6.60
98	MORAY (X)	£6.60
99	NORTH HERTS	£6.60
100	NORWICH	£6.60
101	PLYMOUTH	£6.60
102	RUNNYMEDE	£6.60
103	SCARBOROUGH	£6.60
104	SHETLAND ISLES	£6.60
105	SOUTH CAMBRIDGE	£6.60
106	TEIGNBRIDGE	£6.60
107	NORTH DEVON	£6.55
108	ASHFORD	£6.50
109	DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL	£6.50
110	HUNTINGDONSHIRE	£6.50
111	LIVERPOOL	£6.50
112	LUTON	£6.50
113	SOUTH SOMERSET	£6.50
114	WORTHING	£6.50
115	BASILDON	£6.40
116	BRISTOL	£6.40
117	CANTERBURY	£6.40
118	COUNTY OF HEREFORD	£6.40
119	CREWE & NANTWICH	£6.40
120	EAST HAMPSHIRE	£6.40
121	EAST LINDSEY	£6.40
122	EAST RENFREW	£6.40
123	HASTINGS	£6.40
124	IPSWICH	£6.40
125	LEEDS	£6.40
126	LINCOLN	£6.40
127	MALVERN HILLS	£6.40
128	MELTON	£6.40
129	MID SUFFOLK	£6.40
130	NORTH KESTEVEN	£6.40
131	SHROPSHIRE	£6.40
132	SOUTH LAKELAND	£6.40
133	SOUTHEND ON SEA	£6.40
134	WAVERLEY	£6.40
135	WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD	£6.40
136	WOKING	£6.40
137	NEWARK & SHERWOOD	£6.32
138	BLACKBURN	£6.30
139	BURY	£6.30
140	COTSWOLD (Y)	£6.30
141	COVENTRY	£6.30
142	DACORUM	£6.30
143	DARLINGTON	£6.30
144	LEWES	£6.30
145	PEMBROKESHIRE	£6.30
146	SOUTH HOLLAND	£6.30
147	SOUTH RIBBLE	£6.30
148	DUNDEE CITY	£6.28
149	FOREST OF DEAN	£6.27
150	BABERGH	£6.26
151	MIDLOTHIAN	£6.22
152	THANET	£6.21
153	BIRMINGHAM	£6.20
154	BRAINTREE	£6.20
155	CHICHESTER	£6.20
156	DAVENTRY	£6.20
157	DERBY	£6.20
158	EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE	£6.20
159	EAST SUFFOLK (SOUTH)	£6.20
160	FOLKESTONE & HYTHE	£6.20
161	HORSHAM	£6.20
162	NORTHAMPTON	£6.20
163	PORTSMOUTH UA	£6.20
164	ROCHFORD	£6.20
165	SOLIHULL	£6.20
166	SPELTHORNE	£6.20
167	ST ALBANS	£6.20
168	STRATFORD ON AVON	£6.20
169	WEST OXFORD	£6.20
170	WINCHESTER	£6.20
171	CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE	£6.13
172	ABERDEENSHIRE	£6.10
173	CANNOCK CHASE	£6.10
174	CARDIFF	£6.10
175	CLACKMANNAN	£6.10
176	EAST HERTS	£6.10
177	ELMBRIDGE	£6.10
178	FYLDE	£6.10

271	NEWPORT	£5.60
272	NORTH LANARKSHIRE	£5.60
273	RICHMONDSHIRE	£5.60
274	RUSHCLIFFE	£5.60
275	SANDWELL	£5.60
276	SUNDERLAND	£5.60
277	WEST LOTHIAN (X)	£5.60
278	WREXHAM	£5.60
279	CHERWELL	£5.56
280	NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME	£5.55
281	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	£5.50
282	EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE	£5.50
283	EPPING FOREST	£5.50
284	EREWASH	£5.50
285	FALKIRK	£5.50
286	HAMBLETON	£5.50
287	MERTHYR TYDFIL	£5.50
288	OLDHAM	£5.50
289	TORFAEN	£5.50
290	CEREDIGION	£5.46
291	SALFORD	£5.46
292	ALLERDALE	£5.45
293	CAERPHILLY	£5.40
294	CLYDEBANK	£5.40
295	DUNBARTON & VALE OF LEVEN (X)	£5.40
296	ELLESMERE PORT	£5.40
297	HARTLEPOOL	£5.40
298	MACCLESFIELD	£5.40
299	PERTH & KINROSS	£5.40
300	POWYS	£5.40
301	PRESTON	£5.40
302	ROTHERHAM	£5.40
303	WYCHAVON	£5.40
304	MANSFIELD	£5.35
305	INVERCLYDE	£5.34
306	CRAVEN (X)	£5.30
307	FENLAND (X)	£5.30
308	NORTH AYRSHIRE	£5.30
309	REDDITCH	£5.30
310	RIBBLE VALLEY	£5.30
311	SOUTH KESTEVEN	£5.30
312	SOUTH LANARKSHIRE	£5.30
313	ST HELENS	£5.30
314	VALE ROYAL	£5.30
315	WYRE FOREST	£5.30
316	BLABY	£5.24
317	AMBER VALLEY	£5.20
318	BLAENAU GWENT	£5.20
319	BOLTON	£5.20
320	EAST RIDING	£5.20
321	HAMILTON (X)	£5.20
322	RHONDDA CYNON TAFF	£5.20
323	STAFFS MOORLANDS	£5.20
324	WAKEFIELD	£5.20
325	WEST LANCASHIRE	£5.20
326	CHORLEY	£5.10
327	CONGLETON	£5.10
328	GATESHEAD	£5.10
329	SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE	£5.10
330	COPELAND	£5.00
331	EAST NORTHANTS	£5.00
332	KIRKLEES	£5.00
333	ROCHDALE	£5.00
334	ROSSENDALE	£5.00
335	SOUTH NORTHANTS	£5.00
336	CORBY	£4.90
337	MIDDLESBROUGH	£4.90
338	TELFORD & WREKIN	£4.90
339	WELLINGBOROUGH	£4.90
340	WESTERN ISLES (X)	£4.85
341	ASHFIELD	£4.80
342	DERBYSHIRE DALES	£4.80
343	HYNDBURN	£4.70
344	BOLSOVER	£4.60
345	BURNLEY	£4.50
346	REDCAR & CLEVELAND	£4.50
347	STOCKTON ON TEES	£4.50
348	OADBY & WIGSTON	£4.40
349	PENDLE	£4.40
350	MALDON	£0.00
351	RUTLAND	£0.00
352	SOUTH DERBYSHIRE	£0.00
353	SOUTH NORFOLK	£0.00
354	SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE	£0.00
355	WEST DEVON	£0.00

Contact: Licensing Team
Direct Line: 01623 457589
Email: licensing@ashfield.gov.uk

Our Ref: HC Tariff Variation
Your Ref: Taxi Trade Consultation
Date: 31st May 2022

Dear

CONSULTATION: PROPOSAL TO VARY HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFFS

PLEASE NOTE – THIS LETTER DOES NOT RELATE TO TARIFFS CHARGED BY PRIVATE HIRE OPERATORS WHICH ARE USED IN PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

In order to boost the income of drivers of Hackney Carriage Vehicles, the local Hackney Carriage Trade has got together and put forward **a proposal to vary the current Hackney Carriage Tariffs charged by drivers of Hackney Carriage Vehicles.**

These Tariffs have not changed since 2014, so in light of the increasing costs of living, petrol, diesel, goods and foods, the Council wants to be able to help you earn more.

So that you can understand the proposal of the local Hackney Carriage Trade, I have enclosed with this letter 3 documents:

- **A Table of Comparison Fares (which show what the costs for journeys of 1, 2, 3, 5, and 10 miles currently are, and what they would cost if the local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal is approved by the Council);**
- **A copy of the current Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart that is in force; and**
- **A copy of what the Hackney Carriage Tariff Chart will look like if the proposal is approved by the Council.**

The local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal also seeks the innovative idea of the addition of a **25% Surcharge Button** when **Multi-Passenger Vehicles are used to pick up 5 or more passengers taking the same journey.** This is to cover the extra diesel cost for these vehicles when undertaking such journeys.

The local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal also seeks to **increase the charge you can make for Waiting Time, and to increase the Soilage Charge.**

Address: Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 8DA

Tel: 01623 457364 **Email:** licensing@ashfield.gov.uk **Web:** www.ashfield.gov.uk

So that the Council can consider the local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal further, we are giving you until 30th June 2022 to let us know your thoughts as to these proposed new Tariffs.

If you do not provide us with any comments, we will interpret this as you being in favour of the local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal.

If you wish to object to the proposal, or put forward a valid alternative proposal then you can let us know by email to: **licensing@ashfield.gov.uk**

After the consultation has closed, the Licensing Committee will be able to make a decision as to whether to agree to the local Hackney Carriage Trade proposal.

If the Licensing Committee agrees to the proposal, then a Public Notice will be required for a period of 14 days seeking any comments from the general public, before the proposal can then be adopted by the Council in due course.

If the proposal is adopted, all owners of Hackney Carriage Vehicles will need to arrange for their taximeters to be recalibrated to the new Hackney Carriage Tariffs.

Yours sincerely



Julian Alison
Licensing Manager

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APPENDIX C	
Report To:	CABINET
Date:	27TH SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	FUNDING UPDATE
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR MATTHEW RELF, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE TRANSFORMATION
Ward/s:	ALL WARDS
Key Decision:	YES
Subject to Call-In:	YES

Purpose of Report

To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on funding applications and progress of funded programmes.

To consider and approve an adjustment to the capital programme for the Future High Streets Fund projects and to add the Safer Streets and UK Shared Prosperity funding (UKSPF) to the capital programme and revenue budgets.

Recommendation(s)

1. To note the progress for Future High Streets Fund and Towns Fund projects.
2. To recommend to Council, subject to Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) approval, amendment of the Capital Programme values for the two Future High Streets Fund schemes as outlined in the report.
3. Recommend to Council, subject to DLUHC's approval of the Investment Plan, to accept the UKSPF funding of £3.192m noting the indicative revenue/capital split and approval for the Corporate Finance Manager, with DLUHC approval, to vary the revenue/capital split for the purpose of updating the Capital Programme.

continued...

Recommendation(s)

4. To note the funding update / progress for the Levelling Up and UK Shared Prosperity funding (UKSPF) funding and to accept any funding secured from the Levelling Up Fund bids.
5. Safer Streets 4 Funding: Recommend to Council the addition of £81k to the Capital Programme and to allow for the Corporate Finance Manager and the Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction to have the potential to increase the Safer Streets Capital Scheme funding. This is to enable funding to be switched from the revenue allocation to deliver further capital elements should the need arise. This would only be actioned following agreement with the funding provider for the use of the funding. This would reduce the amount added to the revenue budget in 2022/23.
6. Hucknall safer streets initiative funding: Accept the funding of £63,333 from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to undertake the works as set out in the report.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

1. To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on progress with the funding programmes.
2. To ensure that projects and spend within the funding programmes are delivered within the set timeframes.
3. To ensure compliance with Constitutional requirements regarding revenue and capital funding approvals.

Alternative Options Considered

1. Not to approve the transfer of funds between Future High Streets projects - not recommended. Not transferring the funds will mean that projects cannot be delivered due to budget shortfalls.
2. Not to recommend that Full Council approves transfer of budget and the addition of funding from UKSPF, Safer Streets, OPCC and Levelling Up (if bids are successful) to the capital programme and revenue budgets – not recommended as these actions will ensure that delivery of the projects and programmes can be achieved.

Detailed Information

1. Future High Streets Fund

The four Future High Streets projects are in the design, development, planning or contract commission stage as detailed below.

The High Pavement building: open procurement for the renovation work has been completed. Options are being reviewed to reduce project costs due to increases relating to high inflation levels. The Maker Space branding is being finalised and a community interest company model is being explored.

Low Street Repurposing: the construction contract has been awarded for 14 Low Street and will start mid-September. The procurement for the contract to repurpose 9-11 Low Street will commence in early December.

Fox Street pop-up food and events space: the public consultation phase has been completed and pre application planning advice has been received to enable the detailed design, procurement, and full planning approval stages to be completed.

Sutton Academy Theatre: The design team has been appointed and will commence design development and cost planning in early September. A draft business plan has been developed to support the college to develop the resourcing plan.

1.2 Reprofilling of Funding within the FHSF programme

Following the procurement and detailed cost planning for the Low Street property repurposing project, it has been concluded that due to inflationary costs and impact only two properties can be repurposed within the envelope of funds available, but that this will still deliver the outputs approved by DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities). The cost breakdown is shown below.

	FHSF	Match Funding	Total
1 FHSF Low Street Allocation	£2,052,488.00		
2 Minus 14 Low Street	-£800,000.00	£248,962.20	£1,048,962.20
3 Minus 9-11 Low Street	-£950,000.00	£398,971.52	£1,348,971.52
FHSF Project Balance	£302,488.00		

Following the design development, detailed cost planning and procurement of the High Pavement project the budget is insufficient to deliver the outputs and objectives. The impact of inflation and project risks identified during the development phase has identified that additional funding is required together with value engineering to enable the project to proceed. Therefore, we are seeking to reprofile the FHSF capital funds balance (£302,488) from the Low Street Budget to the High Pavement Budget. A revised revenue model had been completed for both 14 and 9-11 Low Street and the match funding contribution has been reduced accordingly.

DLUHC have been consulted regarding the reprofilling of funds between the two projects and in principle accept this approach to address financial and market challenges. In accordance with the FHSF procedures, a formal change request notice will be submitted to DLUHC for approval.

Existing Budget Profile – FHSF element only

Scheme	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
1. High Pavement Maker Space and Offices	£ -	£1,349,177	£ -	£ -	£1,349,177
2. Sutton Academy Theatre Refurbishment / Extension	£ -	£586,780	£1,760,338		£2,347,118
3. Fox Street pop-up food and events space	£ -	£531,088	£ -	£ -	£531,088
4. Low Street - acquisition and redevelopment of vacant / underutilised retail space	£ -	£1,231,493	£615,747	£205,248	£2,052,488
				TOTAL	£6,279,871

Proposed Budget Profile - FHSF element only

Scheme	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
1. High Pavement Make Space and Offices	£ -	£1,651,665	£ -	£ -	£1,651,665
2. Sutton Academy Theatre Refurbishment / Extension	£ -	£586,780	£1,760,338		£2,347,118
3. Fox Street pop-up food and events space	£ -	£531,088	£ -	£ -	£531,088
4. Low Street - acquisition and redevelopment of vacant / underutilised retail space	£ -	£929,005	£615,747	£205,248	£1,750,000
				TOTAL	£6,279,871

2. Towns Fund

The Towns Fund projects continue to progress with the development of the business cases and completion of the local assurance process. The governance structure is set out in the programme's Local Assurance Framework which has been approved by DLUHC.

Ten projects have completed the local assurance process with summary documents submitted to DLUHC. The outputs for each of the projects are detailed in Annex 1.

2.1 Business case submission

The list below sets out the programme for outstanding business case completion and submissions to DLUHC:

Project	Business Case submission to DLUHC
Be Healthy Be Happy	
North Kirkby Gateway	15.09.22
Kirkby Sports Hub	11.10.22
Sutton Lawn Sports Hub	11.10.22
More to Discover	
Sutton Town Centre	
Portland Square, Sutton	Completed - Approved for delivery stage subject to a review of the detailed cost plan
Visitor Economy	
Cycling and walking routes	Completed - Approved subject to the completion of the pilot projects and design principles
Visitor digital offer	Completed – Approved, in delivery
Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium	Completed – Approved subject to Subsidy control advice and securing match funding
Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development	Completed - Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification
Succeed in Ashfield	
ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton)	Completed - Project being reviewed directly by DLUHC due to high value. (Subject to land acquisition subsidy control review and financial model and governance clarification).
Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite	11.10.2022
Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre	Completed - Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification
Enterprising Ashfield	Completed - Approved subject to clarification on subsidy control
Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton	Completed – Approved, subject to Subsidy control advice and detailed cost planning
Greener Ashfield	
West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub	15.09.2022
Green Ashfield	11.10.2022
High Street Property Fund	11.10.2022 - Referred / on hold whilst the feasibility of housing company delivery model has been completed / approved.
Portland Street Sustainable Housing (Kirkby)	11.10.2022

2.2 Project highlight report

The summary below provides an overview of progress for each project and next steps:

Project	Achievements/ progress/next steps
Be Healthy Be Happy	
North Kirkby Gateway	The project business case has been completed and the project is now progressing through the local assurance process. Subject to approval the project will commence the design development stage autumn 2022. The land assembly is progressing, and negotiations continue.
Kirkby Sports Hub	The business case development is progressing and detailed cost plans are being developed. Football Foundation match funding development is progressing in preparation for the submission in Q1 2023.
Sutton Lawn Sports Hub	
More to Discover	
Sutton Town Centre	
Portland Square	The project has completed the consultation phase and obtained pre application advice to enable the detailed design, procurement and planning approval stages to be completed.
Visitor Economy	
Cycling and walking routes	The business case has now been completed and approved through the assurance process. The summary documents have been submitted to DLUHC. Work will now progress on two pilot projects to establish the design standards for the whole project.
Visitor digital offer	The tender for the design team has been published and will close early September. The appointment of the design team will be complete autumn 2022.
Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium	The business case has now been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The summary documents have been submitted to DLUHC. Next steps will include securing the match funding for the project, developing the detailed design and securing planning approval by Q4 2022.
Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development	The business case has now been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The summary documents have been submitted to DLUHC. Next steps will include securing operator interest in the new facilities, developing the detailed design and securing planning approval for the new facilities by Q3/4 2022.
Succeed in Ashfield	
ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton)	The business case has now been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The summary documents and full business case has been submitted to DLUHC for review and approval. Options for the land assembly and negotiations to secure a site are ongoing.
Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite	The draft business case was presented to the Discover Ashfield Sub-Group who noted further clarity for the project delivery and partnerships was required before the project is ready to proceed to the delivery stage. The business case is now being updated for review in September. Site location options are also under further review
Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre	The business case has now been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The summary documents have been submitted to DLUHC. Subsidy control advice and arrangements for a delivery grant agreement are being explored to enable the project delivery phase to start.

Enterprising Ashfield	The project team is developing business networks and participant list for the delivery of the project.
Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton	The business case has now been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The summary documents have been submitted to DLUHC. Next steps will include developing the detailed cost plans for the project and securing match funding from Nottinghamshire County Council.
Greener Ashfield	
West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub	The project business case has been completed and the project is now progressing through the local assurance process. Subject to approval the project will commence the design development stage early autumn 2022. The land assembly is progressing with negotiations ongoing. Feasibility has been commissioned for the reconfiguring of Lane End which will inform the design decisions for incorporating the bus and cycling network improvements.
Green Ashfield	The feasibility work which assessed a long list of Council assets for their carbon footprint has been completed. The work included high level costing for implementing improvements to improve the efficiency of the buildings. The findings are now being prepared in the draft business case for review and approval in September.
High Street Property Fund	Business case has been developed, however the recommendation for approval is subject to the development and approval by ADC of a business case for a private sector property company.
Portland Street Sustainable Housing (Kirkby)	The draft business case has been developed which is now being reviewed before the project is finalised and presented to the subgroup in September.

2.3 Grant Agreements

The Council is working with four project partners who are delivering the following projects:

- Civil Engineering Centre – Vison West Nottinghamshire
- Enterprising Ashfield – Nottingham Trent University
- Libraries Innovation Centre – Inspire – Culture, Learning and Libraries
- Science Discovery Centre – MSAS (Mansfield and Sutton Astrological Society)

For each of these projects a grant agreement will be signed between Ashfield District Council (as the Accountable Body) and the project partner. The project partner will deliver the project deliverables and provide reporting on progress against the project outputs every six months in accordance with DLUHC requirements.

The Council is obtaining external legal advice on the grant agreements to ensure that the risk and implications are fully considered.

3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Council has been working with partners over the last few months on an Investment Plan to unlock funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Ashfield received a provisional allocation of just under £3.2 million to invest across three themes focused on communities, local business and skills. The Discover Ashfield Board agreed to act as the partnership for the funding with a role of overseeing the selection and delivery of projects.

Elected Member and stakeholder workshops were held in June to gather as many ideas and views as possible before the plans were developed with the Executive Lead Member and then presented to the Discover Ashfield Board, with the Investment Plan submitted to Government at the end of July. There are over 20 organisations represented on the Board and an exciting programme of projects has been developed for each of the three themes which will bring benefits to many businesses and communities.

With over £380,000 of investment planned by the end of March next year there are a range of projects, including much needed help and support for businesses for increasing productivity, adapting to automation, accessing markets overseas and reducing energy bills.

The fund will provide the flexibility needed to develop and deliver projects and programmes across the District, whereas funds such as Towns Fund and the Future High Streets Fund were restricted and areas such as Hucknall and the Rurals missed out. We will be able to support those most in need and help people to access training and better paid jobs. It will also support some of the Towns Fund projects with early investment such as the ADMC (Automated Distribution and Manufacturing Centre) and support for businesses moving into the new business hub at High Pavement House in Sutton.

The projects will now be developed further with local partners, ready for delivery to start when the Government gives the green light which is expected later in the Autumn.

A list of 170 project ideas gathered from stakeholders and local elected Members was reviewed and scored to produce a final shortlist. A summary of the projects being funded within the three themes is provided below:

3.1 Communities and Place

District-wide projects

Digital support for local communities - community based digital support for access to technology, advice and skills development to reduce digital exclusion and enable residents to complete daily tasks such as benefit claims, doctor appointments, self-referral support etc., and to keep safe online. This project will complement the Towns Fund Library Innovation Centres being delivered at Kirkby and Sutton.

Events and activities programme – to provide additional Council resource, as well as funding and support for volunteers to arrange cultural and creative events and activities. The funding will support expansion of the Council's free activities and events programme and support local groups to be able to run sustainable annual/ regular events.

Consultancy support and new dedicated Council resource for visitor economy/tourism, arts and culture - adding value to the investment in the Visitor Economy taking place through the Towns Fund programme of over £13m.

Community allotments, community growing and green social prescribing – a programme of investment in the improvement of growing and wellbeing activities and opportunities, including bringing allotment sites back into use and dividing plots into more manageable sizes.

Cycling and Walking for All - a range of community and commuter focused support activities to enable short walking and cycling journeys to become the natural first choice – this includes walking and cycling training, support for vulnerable and isolated adults through doorstep walking programmes, cycling refurbishment projects and distributing low cost/free bicycles to Ashfield residents and providing organised bike rides.

Financial resilience support for local communities – helping people with money management and supporting them to improve their financial wellbeing.

Community Vertical Farming initiative – establishment of a facility, delivered by Nottingham Trent University (NTU), promoting healthier food choices and sustainable buying as well as a means for local residents to engage with cutting-edge food production technology, driving interest in science, sustainability and health, and a connection to nature. NTU is recognised as being at the forefront of vertical farming technology at its Brackenhurst campus.

There are a number of more locally focused projects included within the programme, several of these are providing match funding for existing or new projects.

Hucknall Town Centre Property Improvement Fund - to bring disused town centre buildings back to life, and/or to repurpose for alternative uses as part of a masterplan for Hucknall town centre. This project is part of the £11m Levelling Up Fund bid for Hucknall which has been submitted.

Selston Country Park Phase 2 improvements - further enhancements to Selston Country Park to include a new play area, footpaths and enhanced biodiversity. The aim is to make the park a destination site that residents and visitors want to visit and enjoy all year round. The site is the main park in Ashfield's 'Rurals' area.

Coxmoor Estate, Kirkby Safer Streets Initiative – a range of investments in the Coxmoor Estate to address estate design issues contributing to crime and antisocial behaviour. This will complement work being undertaken through the Safer Streets 4 programme.

Hucknall safer streets initiative – match funding for the PCC funding recently secured.

Kings Mill Reservoir Ranger, Sutton – funding a ranger to support and encourage local people to take part in, and further develop a range of activities as well as developing and leading practical activities and supporting participants with their volunteering experience. This will extend an existing Heritage Lottery Fund project by an additional two years.

3.2 Supporting Local Businesses

Business advice and support service for businesses:

- To become more productive, more competitive and/or to enter new markets by adopting new (to company) technologies
- Workforce Development courses – short skills courses targeting the top five growth industries and emerging sectors
- Specialist events/talks – delivered through Mansfield & Ashfield 2020, building on the Tech Nottingham model to build a community of people working in or interested in technology
- Trading Overseas Programme – funded programme to support SMEs to identify new markets, attend overseas trade shows, finding trade missions, meeting buyers and suppliers
- Decarbonisation - technical and grant support for low carbon, energy reducing initiatives for SMEs

- High Pavement House Business Hub, Sutton - creation of a new business hub as a focus for entrepreneurial activity in Ashfield which will support entrepreneurs and start-ups by offering a range of business support services. The building has been bought and is being re-purposed as part of the Future High Streets Fund investment in Sutton. Reduced rental incentives for offices within the hub will also be made available.
- Retail Enterprise Grant: grants to improve town centre retail properties across all of Ashfield's town centres and to encourage those working in the retail and tourist sectors to establish and grow their operations in Ashfield.
- Shop Front Improvements: student engagement programme to design and then part fund the manufacture of new shop fronts for town centre retail businesses across all of Ashfield's town centres.
- Online Trading Opportunities: digital support for businesses to trade online through the development of an online directory / district shopping web site, engaging media students to offer support services.
- Pre-opening support / engagement activity for the ADMC (Automated Distribution and Manufacturing Centre). The ADMC is Ashfield's £30m flagship Towns Fund project which will support the adoption, integration and expansion of new automated technologies amongst local and regional businesses in order to improve productivity and competitiveness. Early engagement with businesses has shown the need and demand for support now, working with West Nottinghamshire College which provides robotics courses at its engineering campus in Ashfield.

3.3 People and Skills

This funding becomes available in the final year of the programme – from April 2024 onwards and is designed to replace the programmes previously supported by European funding.

Support package for economically inactive people - providing cohesive, locally tailored support, including access to basic skills, confidence building, social prescribing, and coaching/ mentoring.

Basic Skills Courses – a universal course offer including basic skills (digital, English, maths (via Multiply) and ESOL - English to Speakers of Other Languages).

Education and business collaboration package - offering a structured work placement scheme and enhanced Careers Service in schools. The project also includes the development and expansion of the Discover Ashfield Ambassador programme, with Ambassadors from local businesses providing a link between industry and schools.

Talent attraction and retention package - to include graduate talent match programme with Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire universities and a Local Careers Service – targeting residents in employment and preparing them to move into priority sectors

Establishment of a Training/Careers Hub - a collaborative space for skills partners and DWP to deliver their recruitment, careers and skills provision making provision more streamlined and easier to access.

A UKSPF programme manager post will be taken through the Job Evaluation process in the next few weeks, followed by recruitment. This will be funded by the UKSPF allocation which has an allowance for these types of cost.

Ashfield has been allocated funding as follows:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
TOTAL	£387,395	£774,790	£2,029,950	£3,192,135
Capital	£90,000	£165,000	£425,000	£680,000
Revenue	£297,395	£609,790	£1,604,950	£2,512,135

4. Levelling Up Fund

The Council has submitted an ambitious £11million bid to the governments' Levelling Up Fund for the revitalisation of Hucknall town centre.

The bid is made up of three main projects:

Skills and Economic Regeneration

- Supporting the Council's Education and Skills Strategy which sets out our intentions to ensure Ashfield has a skilled, future-proof workforce
- Opportunities for shopfront improvement grants to help businesses to improve the exterior of their premises, and start up grants to enable new businesses to flourish
- Exploring ways to expand Hucknall's successful outdoor markets

Cultural and Heritage Gateway

- Celebrating Hucknall's heritage by creating a new visitor experience at St Mary Magdalene Church focusing on Hucknall's most famous residents from the past
- Improvement of the streets, roads, and public space around the Byron Cinema to create a welcoming entrance into Hucknall town centre
- A new 3G sports pitch for residents

Access to Hucknall Town Centre

- Enhancements to signs, along with the creation of a digital app, to improve access to the town centre for pedestrians and cyclists. This will assist and encourage residents and visitors to travel around Hucknall using more sustainable, healthier methods
- Improved comfort and welcome facilities at the train/tram station

A Levelling Up Fund bid of over £3m was submitted for the Planetarium and Science Discovery Centre in Sutton, one of the flagship projects within the Towns Fund programme which will support the development of Ashfield's visitor economy and promote STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) subjects.

The outcome of the bids is expected in the autumn.

5. Safer Streets 4

It was announced in July that the Ashfield and Mansfield Community Safety Partnership and the Nottinghamshire Crime Commissioner had been successful in securing £750,000 of Safer Streets funding for Kirkby-In-Ashfield (Coxmoor Estate) and Warsop in Mansfield.

Safer Streets Round 4 is part of a national programme that focuses on addressing longstanding community concerns relating to women's and girls' safety, violence, and the perception of crime in public spaces.

The main aims of the Round 4 initiative are to:

1. Reduce neighbourhood crime: domestic burglary, robbery, theft and vehicle crime
2. Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) in public spaces
4. Increase feelings of safety in Public Spaces (VAWG and ASB)
5. Make local areas safer and reduce demand on the police to focus on higher harm crimes.

£375,000 will be used by the partner agencies to deliver initiatives in Kirkby with the project now in the delivery planning stage and completion due by the end of September next year.

As part of the project delivery, the following themes will be addressed:

Theme 1 - assurance & engagement

We will use a variety of communication media tools to provide assurance to local communities and keep them updated with progress through targeted messaging. We will expand the use of Neighbourhood Alert and explore the use of technology which will help promote feelings of safety. We will also be gauging feedback on the project through surveys, resident testimonial, demand reduction analysis and social value frameworks.

Theme 2 – CCTV & surveillance

We will purchase CCTV, Safe point (refuge) and ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) devices and install them in locations where there are monitoring gaps near to the top 10 hot spots of the target area. The Council will prioritise the monitoring of all CCTV cameras close to the hot spots identified and work closely with the police to ensure targeted activity. This will enhance coverage and additional intelligence will lead to a swifter policing response to prevent and detect crimes and anti-social behaviour, whilst promoting feelings of safety.

Theme 3 – target hardening & enforcement

High visibility targeted patrols and operations at peak times will be conducted and enforcement action taken against repeat offenders and known offenders. A Burglary Reduction Officer will be appointed to victims/neighbours and undertake a risk assessment and produce an improvement plan based on risk and vulnerability. Gating measures will be developed through a new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and a Safe Spaces Accreditation Scheme will be initiated.

Theme 4 – community participation, training & resilience

Training to change attitude and behaviour and increase awareness for professionals on factors which drive fear of crime will be delivered. Diversionary and training activities (safety awareness training/healthy relationships) for young people will be completed. A Vulnerable Adult Support Scheme will be implemented to support residents who have multiple complex needs and who are creating repeat demand to services. They will be diverted away from criminality and demand to services will reduce. A resident participation scheme will be developed to increase self-help enablers and community resilience.

Theme 5 – making public spaces look and feel safer

A budget will be made available for street lighting assessments and improvements in hotspot areas. Environmental clean-up days focusing on the removal of waste and litter, tree cutting, erecting of barriers/fencing and graffiti removal will take place where mainstream resources are not available. It is anticipated this will improve feelings of safety, deter offending, and build pride in the local area in line with local community feedback.

Theme 6 - project governance & management

A Project Manager and Safer Streets Officer (SSO) will be appointed to ensure effective implementation of the project. The SSO will oversee Gating Orders, develop a safe space accreditation scheme, facilitate diversionary activities and a Strategic Board and delivery group to ensure the project is successfully delivered.

It is anticipated the Council will receive a sum of **£238,500** from OPCC to support the delivery of the Safer Streets programme, of which £81,000 is capital funding. The budget provisions for the delivery of the project are shown in the draft budget below:

Intervention	Budget	Org	Funding to	Split	Ashfield	Mansfield	Shared
ANPR Cameras -	£70,000	Both	Police	50/50	£35,000	£35,000	0
Stakeholder Awareness Training	£10,000	Shared	Equation	100			£10,000
CCTV Maintenance (Revenue)	£20,000	Both	Both	45/55	£9,000	£11,000	0
CCTV New or Upgrades (Capital)	£100,000	Both	Both	45/55	£45,000	£55,000	0
CCTV Refuge/Help Point Cameras Safe Spaces (Capital)	£32,000	Both	Both	50/50	£16,000	£16,000	0
Comms, Assurance, Signage and Testimonials	£20,000	PCC	PCC	50/50			£20,000
Community Bystander Training Events	£5,000	Shared	Equation	100			£5,000
Vulnerable Adult Support Scheme - Improved lives & Demand Reduction	£60,000	Both	ADC	50/50	£30,000	£30,000	
Gating Order (Capital)	£20,000	ADC	ADC	100	£20,000		
Gating Order (Revenue)	£5,000	ADC	ADC	100	£5,000		
Neighbourhood Capacity & Cohesion Building (Resident Participation)	£10,000	Both	Both	49/51	£4,900	£5,100	
Project Manager & Finance Officer	£52,000	Shared	PCC	50/50			£52,000
Safer Streets Project Officer (Combined Role)	£60,000	Shared	PCC	50/50			£60,000
Safe Spaces Accreditation Scheme (Businesses)	£50,000	Both	Both	30/70	£15,000	£35,000	
Healthy Relationships Programme (Schools and Businesses)	£10,000	Shared	Equation	100			£10,000
Making Spaces Safer- Street Lighting and Columns / Environmental Improvements	£120,000	Both	both	40/60	£48,000	£72,000	
Target Hardening ASB - Youth Work and Diversionary Activities	£40,000	Both	ADC	44/56	£17,600	£22,400	
Target Hardening Burglary (Neighbourhood Crime)	£41,000	ADC	PCC	100	£41,000		
Target Hardening Vehicle Crime (Neighbourhood Crime)	£10,000	ADC	PCC	100	£10,000		
Technological safety devices/App scheme	£15,000	MDC	MDC	100		£15,000	
	£750,000			Totals	£296,500	£296,500	£157,000

Please note: The budget may be subject to revision and the funds allocated to Ashfield are greater than the amount to be received by the Council, as part of the funding will be paid directly to partners, including the Police.

Hucknall safer streets initiative

The Council has also been successful with a funding proposal submitted to the OPCC for Prevention/Target Hardening Funding and PCC Locality Funding for Hucknall.

Funding for the following Community Safety interventions have been approved:

- Gating of Alleyway – Public Spaces Protection Order - £5,000
- 3 x Upgraded CCTV cameras - £7,833
- Safe Point Camera £20,000
- Safe Space Accreditation Scheme £30,500

The funding of £63,333 will be made up of £33,333 PCC Prevention/Target Hardening Funding for 2022/23 and £30,000 PCC Locality Funding for 2022/23. All works will need to be completed by the end of March 2023.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Economic Growth and Place

Town Centres

1. Deliver key masterplans, including town centres and railway stations
2. Revitalise and re-purpose town centres by:-
 - a. Bringing empty buildings back into use
 - b. Diversifying the town centre economy
 - c. Capitalising on external funding

District Wide Physical Regeneration

Support economic growth by:

1. Delivering the Future High Streets and Towns Fund programmes

Safer and Stronger

Anti-social Behaviour and Hot Spots:

Working in collaboration with partner agencies to improve positive activity and tasking

Working in Partnership to Deliver Outcomes:

Maximise external funding opportunities to deliver initiatives including Safer Streets 4 for Coxmoor

Legal:

The Legal Team and Director of Legal and Governance are actively supporting and advising in relation to all Towns Fund projects and will do the same in relation to future funded programmes. Where required specialist external legal advice is being obtained to advise on the funding programmes to ensure all risks to the Council are fully considered. [RLD 01/09/2022]

Finance: Cabinet is asked to approve the following:

Future High Streets Fund: Recommend to Council, subject to DLUHC approval, amendment of the Capital Programme values for the two schemes as outlined in this report.

UK Prosperity Funding: Recommend to Council, subject to DLUHC's approval of the Investment Plan accept the UKSPF funding of £3.192m noting the indicative revenue/capital split. Approval for the Corporate Finance Manager, with DLUHC approval, to vary the revenue/capital split for the purpose of updating the Capital Programme.

Safer Streets 4 Funding: Recommend to Council the addition of £81k to the Capital Programme and to allow for the Corporate Finance Manager and the Executive Lead Member for Community Safety to have the potential to increase the Safer Streets Capital Scheme funding. This is to enable funding to be switched from the revenue allocation to deliver further capital elements should the need arise. This would only be actioned following agreement with the funding provider for the use of the funding. This would reduce the amount added to the revenue budget in 2022/23.

OPCC Hucknall Safer Streets Initiative funding: Accept the funding of £63,333 from the OPCC to undertake the works as set out in the report. [PH 31/08/2022].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	As set out above
General Fund – Capital Programme	As set out above
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Grant agreements and partner delivery arrangements	Risk is mitigated by the due diligence work undertaken as part of the sign off process, internal and external legal advice.
Resourcing and delivery risks associated with multiple project/programme delivery	Corporate Risk identified. Appointment and engagement of staff and consultants to support the programmes where necessary. Project Management for each programme.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications contained in the report in relation to the funding. However, the projects relating to the funding may have a HR implication which would be identified in subsequent reports.

Environmental/Sustainability

Not applicable for this report. Sustainability is a priority of the Towns Fund programme.

Equalities:

No issues identified for this report. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken to support delivery of the Towns Fund and FHSF programmes.

Other Implications:

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Not applicable

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Annex 1

1. TF 05 Enterprising Ashfield. *(Approved subject to clarification on subsidy control).
Outputs to be delivered:*

No. of learners enrolled in new education and training courses	900
No. of collaborations with employers	200
No. of potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready	225
No. of enterprises receiving grants	50
No. of enterprises receiving non-financial support	293

2. TF16 Visitor Digital *(Approved. In delivery phase)*

No. of temporary FT jobs supported during project implementation*	6.8
No. of digital platforms created	2

3. TF014 Portland Square *(Approved for delivery stage subject to a review of the detailed cost plan).*

No. of temporary FT jobs supported during project implementation*	4
No. of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs created through the projects*	4
Amount of public realm improved	2,250
No. of trees planted	25
No. Number of new non-domestic buildings with green retrofits completed	60
No. amount of new retail, leisure or food & beverage space	60

4. TF01 Civil Engineering Centre *(Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification).*

No. of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs created through the projects*	4
Amount of Rehabilitated Land (m2)	3500
No. of closer collaborations with employers	100
Amount of capacity of new or improved training or education facilities	1

5. TF08 Kings Mill Reservoir Leisure *(Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification).*

Number of community-sports centre created	1
Amount of Commercial space created (m2)	325
Amount of Parks/Green space/Outdoor Space (m2)	12,500

No. of new or improved car parking spaces	182
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6. TF03 ADMC. Project to be reviewed by DLUHC. (*Subject to subsidy control review and financial model and governance clarification*).

Amount of new commercial space (m2)	8890
Number of closer collaborations with employers	200
Amount of Rehabilitated Land (hectares)	29.13
No. of learners/students/trainees gaining certificates, graduating or completing courses at new or improved training or education facilities, or attending new courses	715

7. TF07 High Street Property Fund (*Referred / on hold whilst the feasibility of housing company delivery model has been completed / approved*).

8. TF10 Libraries Innovation Centre (Subject to Subsidy control advice and detailed cost planning).

<i>No. of learners/trainees/students enrolled at improved education and training facilities</i>	90
<i>No. of learners/students/trainees gaining certificates, graduating or completing courses at new or improved training or education facilities, or attending new courses</i>	50
<i>Amount of capacity of new or improved training or education facilities</i>	140
<i>No. Information , Advice & Guidance sessions</i>	60
<i># of enterprises receiving non-financial support</i>	25
<i>No. of new learners assisted</i>	60
<i>No. of improved cultural facilities</i>	2

9. TF14 Science Discovery Centre (Subject to Subsidy control advice and securing match funding).

<i>No. of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs created through the projects*</i>	2
<i>No. of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs safeguarded through the projects*</i>	0
<i>Amount of capacity of new or improved training or education facilities</i>	160
<i>No. of derelict buildings refurbished</i>	1
<i>No. of new cultural facilities</i>	1
<i>No. of learners enrolled in new education and training courses</i>	835
<i>No. of visits to the new facilities</i>	50,000

<i>No. of learners/trainees/students attending the education and training facilities</i>	<i>25,000</i>
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10. TF04 Walking and Cycling (Approved subject to the completion of the pilot projects and design principles).

<i>Total Length of new and upgraded cycle ways (Km)</i>	<i>11.9</i>
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APPENDIX D	
Report To:	CABINET
Date:	27 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	2022/23 FORECAST OUTTURN FOR GENERAL FUND, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME AS AT JULY 2022
Executive Lead Member:	EXECUTIVE LEAD FOR FINANCE, REVENUES AND BENEFITS – CLLR DAVID MARTIN
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	YES
Subject to Call-In:	YES

Purpose of Report

To summarise the Council's forecast financial outturn position to 31 March 2023 compared to the latest approved budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Capital Programme. The forecast financial outturn is based on the actual financial activity to the 31 July 2022 and forecast costs and income from 1 August 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is requested:

- (1) To note the current forecast outturn for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme for 2022/23.
- (2) To approve the budget adjustments outlined in section 3.1, Table 3 and the reserve movements outlined in section 3.2 Table 4.
- (3) To approve the proposed revised communal heating charges payable from 1 November 2022/23 outlined in section 6, Table 5.
- (4) To recommend to Council the amendments and the addition of new schemes to the Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 and the funding of the Capital Programme as set out in Section 7 and Appendix 3 of the report.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations to report to those charged with Governance the financial position.

Alternative Options Considered

The financial position has to be reported to those charged with governance therefore there are no other options.

The increase in the communal heating service charge is calculated to cover the costs of providing the heating to the housing court schemes. To delay the increase in costs would mean a greater increase will be needed in April 2023 to ensure full cost recovery, making it harder for tenants to manage. To not increase the charge would mean the costs are inappropriately subsidised by the HRA i.e. the other rent payers.

Detailed Information

Budget Monitoring April 2022 to July 2022 (General Fund and HRA)

1. Summary Budget for General Fund

- 1.1 Table 1 below sets out the 2022/23 net revenue forecast outturn position based on actual income and expenditure to July 2022 and forecast income and expenditure from September 2022 to March 2023, compared to the current revised budget (based on original budget approved by Council on the 3rd March 2022 and Council approved budget adjustments to 31st July 2022).

1.2 The current General Fund forecast is a £10k underspend compared to the revised budget.

Table 1 - Net Revenue Forecast to 31 March 2023 by Directorate

General Fund	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Forecast	Current Forecast Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Directorate				
Chief Executive Officer	642	657	657	0
Legal and Governance	1,832	1,832	1,832	0
Resources and Business Transformation	(555)	(555)	(442)	113
Place and Communities	8,307	9,053	9,450	397
Housing and Assets	2,211	2,315	2,315	0
Total Net Directorate Expenditure	12,437	13,302	13,812	510
Net Recharges	(2,927)	(2,927)	(2,927)	0
Capital Financing	2,844	2,844	2,462	(382)
Net Interest Payable /(Receivable)	20	20	91	71
Net Revenue Expenditure	12,374	13,239	13,438	199
Funding	(15,273)	(15,273)	(15,273)	0
Net Revenue Expenditure before transfer to(from) earmarked reserve	(2,899)	(2,034)	(1,835)	199
Transfer to(from) earmarked reserve	2,899	2,341	2,132	209
Net Revenue Expenditure after transfer to(from) earmarked reserve	(0)	307	297	(10)

1.3 Appendix 1 provides details of the variances for each Directorate, Corporate Costs and Funding.

1.4 Appendix 2 provides details of the approved and forecast earmarked reserves movements as at 31 July 2022.

1.5 The Place and Communities forecast overspend includes liquidated damages of £374k payable to Everyone Active under the Leisure Operating Contract due to delays in opening the new Kirkby Leisure Centre and Hucknall Pool compared to the contract assumptions, this was due to the impact of Covid. It has been assumed this is funded from the Covid reserve. This has been reflected in Table 1. A request for approval for this use of reserve is included in section 3 of this report.

1.6 As part of the outturn position for 2021/22 approval was given for the use of general fund balances of £307k (reflected in the revised budget in Table 1) largely to address additional significant inflationary pressures in 2022/23 in relation to fuel (£190k) and energy (£110k).

The fuel and energy markets are continuing to fluctuate, the latest information indicates there will be a further pressure on energy costs in the General Fund of £152k. A request for approval to meet this pressure from the General Fund balances is included in Section 3 of this report.

- 1.7 The budgets and forecast included in the table above are based on a budgeted 2% pay award. The current Employers flat rate offer of £1,925 per person regardless of grade which is currently under consideration significantly exceeds the 2% budget. This will create a further pressure on the forecast general fund position once known. If the pay offer is accepted this additional General Fund pressure will be circa £850k for 2022/23.

2. General Fund Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2022/23

- 2.1 The 2022/23 budget included the proposed savings and efficiencies as detailed in Table 2 below. The forecast achievement of these savings is identified, on the following basis:
- saving has been achieved (green),
 - saving forecast to be achieved but actions are still required to secure the saving (amber),
 - saving will not be achieved (red).

Table 2 - General Fund Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2022/23

Saving / Efficiency	Detail	Budgeted Saving	Forecast Achieved Saving	Forecast Saving Shortfall
		£'000	£'000	£'000
Base Budget Review	Detailed line by line review of all General Fund budgets to identify areas of recurrent underspends and over-achievement of income budgets	43	43	0
		597	597	0
Neighbourhood Services	Deletion of vacant Performance Officer post	30	30	0
Place & Wellbeing	Staffing review – net saving	5	5	0
ICT	Renegotiation of Printing contract	5	5	0
Assets	Brook Street and Watnall Road offices rental income	108	108	0
Transformation Team	Staffing efficiencies	12	12	0
Grants	Community and Infrastructure Grants (net)	5	2.2	2.8
		805	802.2	2.8

- 2.2 The position outlined above shows £802.2k of the £805k savings are currently forecast to be achieved. £614k (categorised amber) of the £802.2k forecast savings are anticipated to be achieved, with actions currently being reviewed to ensure they are fully achieved.

3. General Fund Budget Adjustments

- 3.1 Cabinet approval is requested for the following budget adjustments to recognise additional grants and income received in year and create the corresponding expenditure budgets.

Table 3 – Budget Adjustments 2022/23

Description	£'000
Community Safety (Domestic Violence Prevention) - Safe accommodation support funding	(32)
Community Safety (Domestic Violence Prevention) - Safe accommodation support expenditure	32
New Burdens funding associated with Revenues service delivery	(156)
New Burdens expenditure budget associated with Revenues service delivery	156
Selective Licensing Income	(65)
Selective Licensing Expenditure	65
Rough Sleeper Initiative Grant 2022/23	(1351)
Rough Sleeper Initiative Expenditure	1351
Vulnerable Persons Grant	(75)
Vulnerable Persons expenditure	75

- 3.2 Cabinet approval is also requested for the following movement of reserves and corresponding budget adjustments.

Table 4 – Reserves Movements 2022/23

Budgets	Reserve moved to/from	£'000
Place and Communities – Leisure	From Covid Reserve	374
All Directorates with Energy Budgets	From General Fund Balance	152
Capital Financing	To Leisure Reserve	(253)

4. Summary for Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- 4.1 Table 5 sets out the 2022/23 HRA forecast outturn position based on actual income and expenditure to July 2022 and forecast income and expenditure from August 2022 to March 2023, compared to the original budget approved by Council 3rd March 2022.
- 4.2 Details of any significant variances incorporated within the forecast outturn are detailed in the commentaries below the table.

Table 5 – Housing Revenue Account Forecast to 31 March 2023

Description	2022/23 Original Budget £'000	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £'000	Variance £'000

Income			
Rents, Charges and Contributions	(25,838)	(25,838)	0
Interest and investment income	(10)	(500)	(490)
Total Income	(25,848)	(26,338)	(490)
Expenditure			
Repairs and Maintenance	8,062	8,108	46
Supervision and Management	4,386	4,719	333
Interest payable and similar charges	3,548	3,548	0
Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges	149	149	0
Depreciation and impairments of fixed assets	3,947	3,947	0
Debt Management Costs	44	44	0
Contribution to the Bad Debt Provision	200	200	0
Transfer to Major Repairs Reserve	5,997	4,199	(1,798)
Capital expenditure funded by the HRA	9,201	8,918	(283)
Total Expenditure	35,534	33,832	(1,702)
Net Cost of HRA Services			
	9,686	7,494	(2,192)

4.3 Interest and Investment Income

Increased Interest rates in the banking sector will increase the average annual interest rate on the HRA balances. Currently forecasting an increase of £490k but this is open to fluctuation dependant on the economy.

4.4 Repairs and Maintenance

Fuel price increases expected to remain high for the financial year forecasting an increase of £25k. Contractors negotiating changes to terms due to inflationary pressures within the construction industry £21k.

4.5 Supervision and Management

Forecasting an overspend due to utility price increases, with further price increases expected in October £317k. Ombudsman fees increased to support the transformation in local complaint handling across the sector envisaged by the Social Housing White Paper £16k.

4.6 Transfer to the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)

The current forecast outturn shows the reduced level of financing required from the HRA for the major repair element of the capital programme for 2022/23. The main reason for the forecast position is the unutilised funding from the 2021/22 MRR due to delays in the capital programme carried forward to 2022/23. Also grant funded works for 2022/23 has pushed some financing of decent homes works into 2023/24.

The original budget is expected to be revised in September once the slippage from 2021/22 and 5-year capital programme reworking has been agreed at Council.

4.7 Capital Expenditure Funded by the HRA

Capital expenditure funded by the HRA is forecast lower than budget due to the movement between financial years of various new build schemes. Overall, the individual new schemes are estimating higher costs from the rise in construction labour and materials.

5 HRA Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2022/23

- 5.1 The 2022/23 HRA budget included the proposed savings and efficiencies as detailed in Table below. The forecast achievement of these savings is identified, on the following basis:
- saving has been achieved (green),
 - saving forecast to be achieved but actions are still required to secure the saving (amber),
 - saving will not be achieved (red).

Table 4 - HRA Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2022/23

<u>Saving/Efficiency</u>	<u>Detail</u>	Budgeted Saving	Forecast Achieved Saving	Forecast Saving Shortfall
		£'000	£'000	£'000
Relocation of Housing Staff	Brook Street Office rented out to DWP – staff relocated to Urban Road	215	215	0
Staff Establishment	Lettings Service Review - reduced by 1 Admin post	24	24	0
Staff Establishment	Housing Administration – reduced by 1 Senior Admin post	32	32	0
TOTAL		271	271	0

- 5.2 The forecast achievement of these savings is included within the forecast outturn reported in section 4 of the report.

6 Communal Heating Charges (District Heating)

- 6.1 Users of communal heating pay a weekly charge designed to cover the cost to the Council for providing this heating. Historically the weekly charge has been reviewed annually and takes into account any under/over recovery in the previous year.
- 6.2 As noted in Section 4.5 of the report, energy costs are forecast to increase significantly when the next contractual increase is implemented in October 2022, in line with inflation in energy prices across the world. These increases, are beyond the levels budgeted for and beyond the levels included in calculating the Communal Heating Charge applied from 1 April 2022, which was approved by Cabinet on the 25th January 2022 as part of the Rent Setting Report.
- 6.3 It is proposed to implement an in-year increase to the Communal Heating Charge from 1 November to recover the increase in cost to the Council of providing the heat. If the rates are not increased in year, the level of increase needed in April 2023 will be greater as it will need to recover the increase in cost from October 2022 and the inflation increase for 23/24.
- 6.4 Implementing an in-year increase enables the tenants to manage the increases on an incremental basis and to use the cost-of-living payment (paid via DWP) and/or the Energy Bill Support payment (paid through electricity suppliers from October 2022) to offset the increased charges. Monitoring of other funds will also continue. The government have said

they will ensure heat network customers “will be no worse off (than domestic supply customers) and will receive comparable support through a discretionary fund.” Currently there are no further details on this. Details of the financial support is set out below:

Cost Of Living Assistive Payments	
Council Tax Rebate	£150 to all households in Band A to E properties
Winter Fuel Allowance	Between £250 - £600 depending on qualifying benefits
Cost Of Living Payment	One payment of £326 already provided and a further £324 in the Autumn
Energy Discount	£400 applied over 6 months from October

6.5 Table 5 below shows the current approved and the proposed revised 2022/23 weekly heating charges and the additional cost for the final 18 weeks of 2022/23 (November to March).

Table 5 – Current and Revised Heating Charge 2022/23

	Current Approved Heating Charge 2022/23 £	Proposed Revised Heating Charge 2022/23 £	Increase £	18 Week increase (Nov-Mar) £
Band A	11.04	22.08	11.04	198.72
Band B	11.88	23.76	11.88	213.84
Band C	12.47	24.94	12.47	224.46
Band D	13.24	26.48	13.24	238.32
Band E	13.74	27.48	13.74	247.32
Band F	14.31	28.62	14.31	257.58

7. Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27

7.1 The proposed Capital Programme and funding is summarised in Table 6 below. Appendix 3 shows a detailed breakdown of all the schemes below.

The three areas of the Capital Programme (Area Schemes, General Fund and HRA) are discussed in more detail below.

Table 6 – Capital Programme (2022/23 to 2026/27)

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Capital Expenditure						
Area Schemes	501	40	0	0	0	541
General Fund	29,038	4,369	3,215	1,354	1,108	39,084
Housing Revenue Account	25,202	23,263	15,515	15,149	11,115	90,244
Grand Total	54,741	27,672	18,730	16,503	12,223	129,869
Capital Financing						
Developers Contributions - Area Schemes	294	20	0	0	0	314
Borrowing	12	0	0	0	0	12
Capital Receipts	61	0	0	0	0	61
Other Capital Grants and Contributions - Area Schemes	134	20	0	0	0	154
Sub Total - Area Schemes	501	40	0	0	0	541
Prudential Borrowing - General Fund	22,348	1,566	2,107	246	0	26,267
Direct Revenue Financing - General Fund	606	0	0	0	0	606
Developers Contributions - General Fund	30	111	0	0	0	141
Capital Receipts	1,273	0	0	0	0	1,273
Other Capital Grants and Contributions - General Fund	4,781	2,692	1,108	1,108	1,108	10,797
Sub Total - General Fund	29,038	4,369	3,215	1,354	1,108	39,084
Funded from HRA Reserves	18,264	20,253	14,213	13,869	9,835	76,434
Homes England	2,089	1,650	0	0	0	3,739
Green Homes Grants	326	0	0	0	0	326
BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund	1,203	0	0	0	0	1,203
Developers Contributions - Housing Revenue Account	391	0	0	0	0	391
Future 1-4-1 Capital Receipts						
Funding Recently Built and New Schemes	289	480	422	400	400	1,991
Non 1-4-1 Capital Receipts	2,640	880	880	880	880	6,160
Sub Total - HRA	25,202	23,263	15,515	15,149	11,115	90,244
Grand Total	54,741	27,672	18,730	16,503	12,223	129,869

Area Capital Programme

7.2 These consist of mainly self-financed schemes that enhance the local environment. Developers' contributions (known as Section 106 funding) make up the largest funding source. Additional grant funding is sought wherever possible to maximise the benefit to local communities. Area schemes are included in Table 7.

Table 7 – Area Schemes (2022/23 to 2026/27)

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Area						
Hucknall Area	89	20	0	0	0	109
Kirkby Area	114	15	0	0	0	129
Sutton Area	177	5	0	0	0	182
Rural Area	121	0	0	0	0	121
Total	501	40	0	0	0	541
Funded by						
Borrowing	12	0	0	0	0	12
Capital Receipts	61	0	0	0	0	61
Friends of Cromford Canal	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC)	87	20	0	0	0	107
Rural Payments Agency	0	0	0	0	0	0
Section 106	286	20	0	0	0	306
Skanska	8	0	0	0	0	8
Taylor Wimpey	39	0	0	0	0	39
Sustainable Transport S106	8	0	0	0	0	8
Total	501	40	0	0	0	541

Table 8 below shows where changes to capital schemes by Area are proposed due to project delays (slippage) or changes in project spend.

Table 8 – Area Schemes (changes in proposed expenditure)

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Approved Area Scheme	541	0	0	0	0	541
Changes to Sutton Area Schemes	-5	5	0	0	0	0
Changes to Kirkby Area Schemes	-15	15	0	0	0	0
Proposed Area Schemes to be Approved	521	20	0	0	0	541

Table 9 – Area Schemes (changes to budget – by scheme)

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Hucknall Area						
Titchfield Park Brook	-20	20	0	0	0	0
Sub Total	-20	20	0	0	0	0
Sutton Area						
Ashfield Estate Footpaths	-5	5	0	0	0	0
Sub Total	-5	5	0	0	0	0
Kirkby Area						
Footpath Improvements Across the Larwood and Greenwood & Summit Wards	-15	15	0	0	0	0
Sub Total	-15	15	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	-40	40	0	0	0	0

7.3 Changes to Existing Area Projects

Table 9 above shows the proposed changes to budget on a scheme by scheme basis. Several of the schemes planned for 2022/23 are not now expected to be completed until 2023/24. The actual allocation for each project is shown at Appendix 3.

Table 10 - Area Schemes Summary Reconciliation of Current Capital Programme to Proposed September 2022 Capital Programme

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
February 2022 Capital Programme	541	0	0	0	0	541
Changes to Current Projects	-40	40	0	0	0	0
Proposed September 2022	501	40	0	0	0	541

Table 11 – General Fund Projects (changes in budget – by scheme)

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Changes to Current Projects						
External health and safety works required for the Urban Road office	20	0	0	0	0	20
Green Homes Grant (GF) (1)	-542	0	0	0	0	-542
Green Homes Grant (GF) (2)	-197	0	0	0	0	-197
Hucknall Car Park - Titchfield Street	-115	115	0	0	0	0
Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant	-205	-14	-14	-14	1,108	861
Kings Mill Reservoir (The King and Miller to Kingfisher)	-50	50	0	0	0	0
Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate DWP at Central Offices	-2	0	0	0	0	-2
Purchase of Vehicles	-100	100	0	0	0	0
Tree Planting and Habitat Improvements, Ashfield-Wide	-18	18	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Tracking Scheme	-5	5	0	0	0	0
Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema	-2,000	2,000	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	-3,214	2,274	-14	-14	1,108	140

7.4 Table 11 above shows the proposed changes to budget on a scheme by scheme basis. Several of the schemes planned for 2022/23 are not now expected to be completed until 2023/24.

Key changes to Existing General Fund Projects.

- **External Health and Safety Works** – whilst the scaffolding was in place we were able to carry out repair works which were identified during the project, making use of the existing scaffolding. This included the fact that existing roof tiles were more fragile than previously anticipated thus requiring further attention.
- **Green Homes Grants (1b)** - the main reason is as consequence of changes to the industry standards associated with such works new standards are significantly more stringent whereby the industry recommended putting properties on hold nationally until such time as the industry could trial alternative solutions to meeting the new standards consequently the Council placed both private sector and social properties on hold awaiting the outcome of such trials. The indication is that the trial measure associated with wall and roof abutments would potentially save circa £5k per property, after 10 months the industry still has not announced the outcome of the trials, so the properties remain on hold. The funding placed a £10k cap on private sector properties which became untenable as the new standards significantly increased costs above £10k for all insulation works, again reducing the numbers of private sector properties able to be included. The fewer private sector properties able to be completed meant a reduction in the number of social properties able to be completed as funded required a minimum private / social sector mix. This has been a national issue associated with this Government funding round.

- **Green Homes Grant (2)** - difficulty in sourcing private sector properties. The Nottingham Energy Partnership was responsible for sourcing private sector properties under the Midlands Energy Hub (MEH) collaborative bid which has reduced the number of private sector properties able to be delivered with a consequent knock on in terms of the number of social properties able to be delivered, again limited by the private / social mix required under the funding stream.
- **Hucknall Car Park Titchfield Street** – this scheme is not expected to be completed until 2023/24.
- **Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant** – the Authority has received the grant allocation for 2022-23 it has been assumed that the Council will receive the same allocation for the next four financial years. The unused grant balance at the end of 2021-22 has been divided equally over the following five financial years. The future version of the capital programme will be amended to reflect any futures changes in grant contributions received.
- **Kings Mill Reservoir Car Park Extension** – Scheme delayed by one year.
- **Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate DWP at Central Offices** – the remaining unspent budget for this scheme was kept aside in previous years to cover any retention payments. No further retention payments are expected.
- **Purchase of vehicles** – Vehicles expected to be delivered in 2022/23 are now likely to be received in 2023/24.
- **Towns Fund Project** – Extra money has been allocated to the Visitor Digital Offer and Portland Square Refurbishment Project.
- **Tree Planting and Habitat Improvements, Ashfield-Wide** – This project is not now expected to be completed until the next financial year.
- **Vehicle Tracking Scheme** – works not expected to be completed until 2023/24.
- **Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema** - The theatre project design team appointment was delayed due to poor tender submission, so the professional services has been retendered. The delay means the capital works will now not start until 2023/24.

The actual allocation for each project is shown at Appendix 3.

- 7.5 The Council has received a provisional allocation £6.2m from the Government's Future High Street Fund (FHSF), which is 69% of the amount bid. The FHSF schemes and their funding is included on Appendix 3 of this report.
- 7.6 It has been announced that Ashfield District Council will receive £62.6m from the Government Towns Fund. To date seventeen schemes have been selected that will receive funding from the Towns Fund grant. The capital programme will be updated once final schemes have been agreed.

Table 12 - General Fund Schemes Summary Reconciliation of Current Capital Programme to Proposed September 2022 Capital Programme

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Current Capital Programme	32,252	2,095	3,229	1,368	0	38,944
Changes to Current Projects	-3,214	2,274	-14	-14	1,108	140
New Schemes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Proposed September 2022 Capital Programme	29,038	4,369	3,215	1,354	1,108	39,084

Table 13 – General Fund – Financing of the Capital Programme

The table below show the changes in financing required to move from the existing Capital Programme to the proposed 2022/23 – 2026/27 Capital Programme.

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Current Capital Programme	32,252	2,095	3,229	1,368	0	38,944
Capital Grants	-801	799	0	0	0	-2
Capital Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct Revenue Financing - General Fund	20	0	0	0	0	20
Prudential Borrowing	-111	111	0	0	0	0
Developers Contributions - General Fund	-2,322	1,364	-14	-14	1,108	122
Proposed September 2022 Capital Programme	29,038	4,369	3,215	1,354	1,108	39,084

7.7 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme

There have been numerous changes to the profiling of the HRA capital schemes.

Key changes to existing schemes are as follows:

- **Decent Homes Schemes** – Overall schemes have increased by £5.2m for year 2022/23 to 2025/26 this is largely due to the BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (£1.2m) below now being included within service improvements, additional cost pressures and bringing forward workstreams and ongoing review of the timings of various investment streams.
- **Affordable Housing developments - Sutton-in-Ashfield** – Final retention payment not expected to be made until 2023/24.
- **BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund** – see above this scheme has been moved and is included in the Service Improvements section of the Decent Homes Schemes.
- **Davies Avenue Housing Project Frog Hopper Lane**– Project costs are likely to be less than previously anticipated.
- **Development of Unviable Garage Sites in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Hucknall** – Costs in first year are expected to be higher than originally forecast. Overall costs are reduced as infill sites at Central Avenue Kirkby In Ashfield and Oak Grove Hucknall are now not

included. The scheme will in future be known as Spruce Grove and Darley Avenue. A future Central Avenue scheme may go ahead in the future providing a clean title deed is obtained.

- **Green Homes Grants** – additional cost of this scheme is funded from monies that would have been previously spent on Decent Home Service Improvements.
- **Hucknall Infill Sites** – increase required to cover final retention costs.
- **Investment in Additional Council Dwellings in Hucknall** - the remaining unspent budget for this scheme was kept aside in previous years to cover any retention payments. No further retention payments are expected.
- **Investment in New or Existing Council Dwellings** – Slippage from 2021/22 has been carried to future financial years.
- **Major Repairs Temporary Accommodation** – now includes expected expenditure for 2026/27 financial year.
- **Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield** – Additional costs for Acoustic Fencing.
- **Vehicle Tracking Scheme** – works not expected to be completed until 2023/24.
- **Warwick Close** – increase in scheme cost due to build cost inflation and planning requirement changes.

Full details of the HRA Capital Programme are shown in Appendix 3.

Table 14 – Housing Revenue Account (changes to budget)

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Expenditure Approved	27,892	18,868	14,337	13,713	0	74,811
Changes to Current Projects						
Decent Home Schemes						
Management Fee	-36	0	0	0	591	555
Catch up and Major Repairs	-1,517	775	1,058	1,301	7,012	8,628
Service Improvements	1,176	2,405	45	131	1,860	5,617
Contingent Major Repairs	-87	19	19	4	145	100
Exceptional Extensive Works	-114	70	0	0	10	-34
Disabled Adaptations	0	0	0	0	450	450
Sub Total	-578	3,269	1,122	1,436	10,068	15,316
Other Housing Revenue Account Schemes						
Affordable Housing	-21	21	0	0	0	0
BEIS Social Housing						
Decarbonisation Fund	-1,203	0	0	0	0	-1,203
Davies Avenue Housing Project - Frog Hopper Lane	-308	0	0	0	0	-308
Development of Unviable Garage Sites in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Hucknall	806	-1,143	0	0	0	-337
Green Homes Grant (HRA) (2)	212	0	0	0	0	212
Hucknall Infill Sites	0	11	0	0	0	11
Investment in Additional Council Dwellings in Hucknall	-4	0	0	0	0	-4
Investment in New or Existing Dwellings	-256	200	56	0	1,000	1,000
Major Repairs Temporary Accommodation	0	0	0	0	47	47
Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield	29	170	0	0	0	199
Northern View, Sutton-in-Ashfield	-1,613	1,613	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Tracking Scheme	-4	4	0	0	0	0
Warwick Close, Kirkby-in-Ashfield	250	250	0	0	0	500
Sub Total	-2,112	1,126	56	0	1,047	117
Grand Total	25,202	23,263	15,515	15,149	11,115	90,244
Capital Funding						
Funded from HRA Reserves	18,264	20,253	14,213	13,869	9,835	76,434
Homes England	2,089	1,650	0	0	0	3,739
Developers Contribution	391	0	0	0	0	391
Green Homes Grants	326	0	0	0	0	326
BEIS Social Housing						
Decarbonisation Fund	1,203	0	0	0	0	1,203
Future 1-4-1 Capital Receipts						
Funding Recently Built and New Schemes	289	480	422	400	400	1,991
Non 1-4-1 Capital Receipts	2,640	880	880	880	880	6,160
Total Capital Funding	25,202	23,263	15,515	15,149	11,115	90,244

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Revenue and Capital Budgets and Outturn position reflect delivery of the priorities in the Corporate Plan.

Legal:

This report ensures compliance with the Council's approved Financial Regulations.

Finance:

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
General Fund – Capital Programme	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	As set out in the detailed information section of the report.

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Failure to spend within approved budgets could impact the financial sustainability of the Council.	Regular financial monitoring reports to CLT and Cabinet. Financial Regulations. Finance training for Budget Managers and Budget Holders

Human Resources:

No implications

Environmental/Sustainability

No implications

Equalities:

No implications

Background Papers

Annual Budget and Council Tax 2022/23 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy Update to Council
3rd March 2022

Draft Outturn Report 2021/22 to Cabinet 19 July 2022

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Directorate: Chief Executive's Department

Forecast as at: 31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
No forecast variances			
Total Net Forecast Under/Overspend	0		

Directorate:

Legal & Governance

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
No forecast variances			
Total	0	0	
Net Forecast Under/Overspend	0		

Directorate:

Resources & Business Transformation

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
HR & Payroll		5	Occupational Health Costs
GIS	-15		Street Naming & Numbering - had a one off fee Barratt Homes
Council Tax		6	Reduction in Admin Grant - Budget based on previous year as the notification comes after the budgeting process
Investment Properties Commercial Properties	-8	125	Reduction in Hotel income, agreed to continue with 10% of turnover until 31-03-2023 Unbudgeted rental income
Total	-23	136	
Net Forecast Under/Overspend	113		

Directorate:

Place & Communities

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
Service Director		5	Increased employee costs (Interim covering substantive post)
Community Safety	-6	16	Increased contributions from partners Agency costs in Community Safety Admin Hub due to increased demand Lower staff costs due to vacancies in Complex Case workers section
Waste Services	-21		Higher income from Trade Waste.
Markets	-71		Lower income from Indoor Markets
Leisure Centre		374	Liquidated Damages due to Everyone Active under the contract due to delays in opening new Kirkby Leisure Centre and Hucknall Pool compared to contract assumptions due to impact of covid - to be funded from Covid reserve.
Total	-98	495	
Net Forecast Under/Overspend	397		

Directorate:

Housing & Assets

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
No forecast variances			
Total	0	0	
Net Under/Overspend	0		

Corporate Costs

Corporate Costs

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
Loan Interest payable	-119		Forecast interest saving due to managing borrowing need through internal borrowing not taking on external debt. This has been achieved due to the increase in reserve levels and working capital.
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	-349		Slippage and switch funding on 2021/22 Capital Programme funded by borrowing reducing the MRP charges in 2022/23
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue		86	£34k External Health and Safety, £49k Windmill and £3k Shop fronts - All funded from reserves
Net investment income		71	Higher interest rates increasing the interest earned on investments and the interest payable on balances. As balances held on behalf of others is greater than the cash balances due to internal borrowing there is a net interest costs.
Net Forecast Under/Overspend	-468	157	
	-311		

Funding

Forecast as at:

31/07/2022

Service Area	Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000	Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000	Key reasons for forecast variance
No forecast variances			
Net Forecast Under/Overspend	0	0	

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Appendix 2

Statement of Movement on Reserves

	Opening Balance 1 April 2022	Approved		Balance 31 July 2022	Forecast		Forecast Balance 31 March 2023	Forecast Comments
		Contributions	Withdrawals		Contributions	Withdrawals		
	£	£	£	£			£	
General Fund Reserves								
Service Earmarked Reserves								
Elections	-118,858	-74,000	0	-192,858	0	0	-192,858	
Insurance Related Funds (Inc Risk Mngt)	-361,996	-75,000	0	-436,996	0	0	-436,996	
Revenue Grant Reserve	-3,217,294	0	543,000	-2,674,294	0	3,000	-2,671,294	Direct Revenue Financing
District Planning Enquiry Fund	-232,773	-39,000	183,000	-88,773	0	0	-88,773	
Asset Renewal	-646,776	0	0	-646,776	0	83,000	-563,776	
Leisure Maintenance Reserve (joint Use Pre 2021)	-388,678	-500,000	0	-888,678	-253,000	0	-1,141,678	Saving on capital charges
Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) Reserve	-15,899	0	0	-15,899	0	0	-15,899	
NNDR Equalisation Reserve	-3,210,791	-1,649,000	0	-4,859,791	0	0	-4,859,791	
Supported Housing Trading Fund	-53,377	0	0	-53,377	0	0	-53,377	
Corporate Change Reserve	-1,327,804	0	15,000	-1,312,804	0	0	-1,312,804	
Commercial Property Investment Reserve	-3,500,000	-700,000	0	-4,200,000	0	0	-4,200,000	
Economic Development and Place Reserve	-383,759	0	0	-383,759	0	0	-383,759	
Joint Crematorium Reserve	-540,738	0	0	-540,738	0	0	-540,738	
Selective Licencing	-56,794	0	0	-56,794	0	0	-56,794	
Licensing Reserve	-214,621	0	0	-214,621	0	0	-214,621	
Brexit Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Covid-19 Grant Reserve	-886,000	0	0	-886,000	0	374,000	-512,000	Liquidated damages
Legal Reserve	-10,000	-15,000	0	-25,000	0	0	-25,000	

Winter Maintenance Reserve	-10,000	-5,000	0	-15,000	0	0	-15,000	
Commercial Property Dilapidations Reserve	-20,000	-10,000	0	-30,000	0	0	-30,000	
Call Monitoring Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Harold Farr Bequest	-2,181	0	0	-2,181	0	2,181	0	Grants
IT Reserve	0	-15,000	0	-15,000	0	0	0	
Total Service Earmarked Reserves	15,198,338	-3,082,000	741,000	17,539,338	-253,000	462,181	-17,315,157	
Taxation Earmarked Reserve								
NNDR/Ctax S31 & Compensation Reserve	-2,235,918	0	1,683,111	-552,807	0	0	-552,807	
General Balance Reserve	-9,004,256		307,000	-8,697,256		152,000	-8,545,256	

HRA Reserves

Service Earmarked Reserve	Opening Balance 1 April 2022	Approved		Balance as at 31 Jul 2022	Forecast as at 31 Jul 2022		Forecast Closing Balance as at 31 March 2023	Forecast Comments
		Contributions	Withdrawals		Contributions	Withdrawals		
HRA Revenue Grants Reserve	-25,130	0	0	-25,130	0	0	-25,130	
HRA Eco Funding Reserve	-263,430	0	0	-263,430	0	19,882	-243,548	Energy Analytics Solution Procurement towards Social Housing Decarbonisation
HRA Insurance Reserve	-144,237	0	20,000	-124,237	0	0	-124,237	
HRA Corporate Change Reserve	-192,450	0	0	-192,450	0	24,750	-167,700	Housing Solution Interim Project Management Resource
HRA Technology Investment	-25,566	0	24,000	-1,566	0	0	-1,566	
HRA Welfare Reform Reserve	-170,399	0	100,000	-70,399	0	0	-70,399	
Total HRA Earmarked Reserves	-821,212	0	144,000	-677,212	0	44,632	-632,580	

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Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

General Fund Capital Schemes

	Lead Officer						Funding								
		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total	Loan	Section 106	Grant	Grant Funder	Capital Receipts	Reserves	Total	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	e.g. Lottery	£'000	£'000	£'000	
General Fund															
Cemeteries	Robert Docherty	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0		0	0	2	
Comm Facilities Investment - Selston Country Park	Robert Docherty	9	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	0		0	0	9	
Demolition of Hucknall Toilets	Paul Parkinson	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0		0	0	1	
Depot Roof	Paul Parkinson	773	0	0	0	0	773	0	0	0		773	0	773	
External health and safety works required for the Urban Road office	Paul Parkinson	115	0	0	0	0	115	61	0	0		0	54	115	
Firewalls	Craig Bonar	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0		0	0	2	
Flood Support Schemes	Craig Bonar	49	0	0	0	0	49	0	0	49	CLG	0	0	49	
Green Space Improvements	Robert Docherty	9	0	0	0	0	9	0	9	0		0	0	9	
Green Homes Grant (GF) (1)	Paul Parkinson	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	Green Homes Grant	0	0	1	
Green Homes Grant (GF) (2)	Paul Parkinson	275	0	0	0	0	275	0	0	275	Green Homes Grant	0	0	275	
Hucknall Car Park - Titchfield Street	Robert Docherty	0	115	0	0	0	115	22	93	0		0	0	115	
Hucknall Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	Robert Docherty	357	0	0	0	0	357	357	0	0		0	0	357	
Hucknall Leisure Centre - New Pool	Robert Docherty	2,890	0	0	0	0	2,890	2,890	0	0		0	0	2,890	
In District Regeneration	Craig Bonar	3,000	0	0	0	0	3,000	2,000	0	0		500	500	3,000	
New Kirkby Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	Robert Docherty	440	0	0	0	0	440	440	0	0		0	0	440	
Lammas Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	Robert Docherty	716	0	0	0	0	716	716	0	0		0	0	716	
Idlewells Market Hall	Robert Docherty	9	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	0		0	0	9	
Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant	Paul Parkinson	1,108	1,108	1,108	1,108	1,108	5,540	0	0	5,540	BCF £5,540k	0	0	5,540	
IT Wiring Infrastructure	Craig Bonar	9	0	0	0	0	9	9	0	0		0	0	9	
Kings Mill Reservoir Car Park Expansion	Robert Docherty	192	0	0	0	0	192	176	0	16	NCC	0	0	192	
											HLF £39k, NCC £105k, MDC £27k, Development (HLF) £21k, NCC ROW £3k & Donations £5k				
Kings Mill Reservoir (The King and Miller to Kingfisher)	Robert Docherty	168	50	0	0	0	218	18	0	200		0	0	218	
											Sport England £1.5m LEP £420k				
Kirkby Leisure Centre	Robert Docherty	6,414	0	0	0	0	6,414	4,494		1,920		0	0	6,414	
Lindley's Windmill Roof	Robert Docherty	55	0	0	0	0	55	0	6	0		0	49	55	
Market Stalls	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0		0	0	1	
Members' IT	Craig Bonar	56	0	0	0	0	56	56	0	0		0	0	56	
New Cross Support Scheme	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	RHB	0	0	1	
New Servers	Craig Bonar	47	20	20	20	0	107	107	0	0		0	0	107	
Northern Depot Office Rationalisation and Wireless CCTV Infrastructure	Robert Docherty	11	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	0		0	0	11	
Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate DWP at Central Offices	Paul Parkinson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate Police at Central Offices	Paul Parkinson	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	Police	0	0	5	
Officers' IT for Agile Working (General Fund)	Craig Bonar	52	40	40	40	0	172	172	0	0		0	0	172	
Piggins Croft Car Park	Paul Parkinson	5	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0		0	0	5	
Purchase of Vehicles	Robert Docherty	3,681	650	2,047	186	0	6,564	6,564	0	0		0	0	6,564	
Retail Improvement Scheme	Robert Docherty	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	S106 Revenue	0	3	3	
SAN Hardwear	Craig Bonar	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0		0	0	2	
Safer Streets	Robert Docherty	31	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	31	Notts PCC	0	0	31	
Solar Panels - Northern Depot	Paul Parkinson	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0		0	0	2	
Switch Network Hardware	Craig Bonar	13	0	0	0	0	13	13	0	0		0	0	13	
Towns Fund Projects	Robert Docherty	3,274	0	0	0	0	3,274	3,274	0	0		0	0	3,274	
Tree Planting and Habitat Improvements, Ashfield-Wide	Robert Docherty	15	18	0	0	0	33	0	33	0		0	0	33	
Vehicle Tracking Scheme	Robert Docherty	18	5	0	0	0	23	23	0	0		0	0	23	
Future High Street Funding Schemes															
Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema	Robert Docherty	398	2,000	0	0	0	2,398	672	0	1,726	MHCLG £1626k and Private Sector £100k	0	0	2,398	
Sutton Maker Space and Business Hub	Robert Docherty	1,117	0	0	0	0	1,117	1,117	0	0		0	0	1,117	
Low Street vacant units	Robert Docherty	3,177	363	0	0	0	3,540	2,827	0	713	MHCLG	0	0	3,540	
Fox Street pop-up food court and car park	Robert Docherty	535	0	0	0	0	535	215	0	320	MHCLG	0	0	535	
Total General Fund		29,038	4,369	3,215	1,354	1,108	39,084	26,267	141	10,797		1,273	606	39,084	

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Housing Revenue Account Capital Schemes

Housing Revenue Account

	Lead Officer	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT							
Decent Homes Schemes							
Management Fee	Paul Parkinson	591	591	591	591	591	2,955
Catch up and Major Repairs	Paul Parkinson	7,511	9,642	10,076	10,213	7,012	44,454
Service Improvements	Paul Parkinson	3,119	4,175	1,915	1,798	1,860	12,867
Contingent Major Repairs	Paul Parkinson	82	125	125	130	145	607
Exceptional Extensive Works	Paul Parkinson	1,010	80	1,204	960	10	3,264
Disabled Adaptations	Paul Parkinson	876	372	360	410	450	2,468
Grand Total		13,189	14,985	14,271	14,102	10,068	66,615
Other Housing Revenue Account Schemes							
Affordable Housing Developments Sutton In Ashfield	Paul Parkinson	257	21	0	0	0	278
BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund	Paul Parkinson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Investment in Additional Council Dwellings in Hucknall	Paul Parkinson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Investment in New or Existing Dwellings	Paul Parkinson	1,200	1,200	1,056	1,000	1,000	5,456
Davies Avenue Housing Project - Frog Hopper Lane	Paul Parkinson	1,980	0	0	0	0	1,980
Development of Unviable Garage Sites in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Hucknall (Darley Avenue and Spruce Grove New Builds)	Paul Parkinson	856	857	50	0	0	1,763
Firewalls	Paul Parkinson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Green Homes Grant (HRA) (1)	Paul Parkinson	299	0	0	0	0	299
Green Homes Grant (HRA) (2)	Paul Parkinson	450	0	0	0	0	450
Housing Vehicles	Robert Docherty	389	0	92	0	0	481
Hucknall Infill Sites	Paul Parkinson	250	11	0	0	0	261
Major Repairs Temporary Accommodation	Paul Parkinson	66	47	46	47	47	253
Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield	Paul Parkinson	3,200	220	0	0	0	3,420
Northern View, Sutton-in-Ashfield	Paul Parkinson	330	3,253	0	0	0	3,583
SAN Hardware	Paul Parkinson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Switch Network Hardware	Paul Parkinson	4	0	0	0	0	4
Officers' IT for Agile Working (HRA)	Paul Parkinson	89	40	0	0	0	129
Vehicle Tracking Scheme	Robert Docherty	16	4	0	0	0	20
Warwick Close, Kirkby-in-Ashfield	Paul Parkinson	2,625	2,625	0	0	0	5,250
Grand Total		12,013	8,278	1,244	1,047	1,047	23,629
Total Housing Revenue Account		25,202	23,263	15,515	15,149	11,115	90,244

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Area Capital Schemes

	Lead Officer							Funding						
		2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000	Loan £'000	Section 106 £'000	Grant £'000	Grant Funder e.g. Lottery	Capital Receipts £'000	Reserves £'000	Total Funding £'000
Hucknall Area														
Play Areas	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0		0	0	1
Titchfield Park Brook	Robert Docherty	70	20	0	0	0	90	0	0	90	NCC	0	0	90
Washdyke Recreation Ground	Robert Docherty	18	0	0	0	0	18	0	18	0		0	0	18
Total Hucknall Area		89	20	0	0	0	109	1	18	90		0	0	109
Sutton Area														
Ashfield Estate Footpaths	Robert Docherty	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	5	0		0	0	5
Football Changing Rooms	Robert Docherty	15	0	0	0	0	15	0	15	0		0	0	15
Kingsmill Reservoir footpath links	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	1
Kingsmill Reservoir management plan: Implementation Works	Robert Docherty	8	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	Skanska	0	0	8
Play Areas	Robert Docherty	10	0	0	0	0	10	10	0	0		0	0	10
Riley Recreation Ground	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	1
Roundhill Recreation Ground	Robert Docherty	9	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	8	LIS	0	0	9
Sudbury Drive Play Area	Robert Docherty	39	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	39	Taylor Wimpey	0	0	39
Sutton Lawn management Plan	Robert Docherty	14	0	0	0	0	14	0	6	8	NCC SLC	0	0	14
Sutton Town Centre Improvements	Robert Docherty	70	0	0	0	0	70	0	70	0		0	0	70
Taylor Crescent Recreation Ground	Robert Docherty	10	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	0		0	0	10
Total Sutton Area		177	5	0	0	0	182	11	108	63		0	0	182

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Area Capital Schemes

	Lead Officer	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total	Loan	Section 106	Grant	Grant Funder	Capital Receipts	Reserves	Total Funding
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	e.g. Lottery	£'000	£'000	£'000
Kirkby Area														
Annesley Art Project	Robert Docherty	29	0	0	0	0	29	0	29	0		0	0	29
Footpath Improvements Across the Larwood and Greenwood & Summit Wards	Robert Docherty	0	15	0	0	0	15	0	15	0		0	0	15
Forest Road Nature Area	Robert Docherty	23	0	0	0	0	23	0	23	0		0	0	23
Kingsway Park: implementation of management plan	Robert Docherty	15	0	0	0	0	15	0	15	0		0	0	15
Kirkby footpaths/cycle ways	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	1
Lindleys Lane Play/Youth Area	Robert Docherty	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	0		0	0	6
Sports pavilion, Titchfield Park	Robert Docherty	39	0	0	0	0	39	0	39	0		0	0	39
West Park	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		1	0	1
Appendix 3 - Capital Programme		114	15	0	0	0	129	0	128	0		1	0	129
Rural Area														
Jacksdale Car Park	Robert Docherty	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	NCC	0	0	1
Rurals and Open Space	Robert Docherty	120	0	0	0	0	120	0	60	0		60	0	120
Total Rural Area		121	0	0	0	0	121	0	60	1	0	60	0	121
Total Area		501	40	0	0	0	541	12	314	154		61	0	541

APPENDIX E	
Report To:	CABINET
Date:	27TH SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	LEISURE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME – UPDATE
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR RACHEL MADDEN, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR LEISURE, HEALTH, AND WELLBEING
Ward/s:	ALL ASHFIELD WARDS
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	YES

Purpose of Report

To update Cabinet on the implementation of the Leisure Transformation Programme which is bringing forward significant capital investment of **£22.5m** to Council owned leisure facilities including the Kirkby Leisure Centre new build and capital improvements at Lammas Leisure Centre and Hucknall Leisure Centre, including the second swimming pool.

To request that within the overall Council approved budget for Leisure Transformation, Cabinet approves the realignment of £0.5m from the Kirkby Leisure Centre budget to support the Hucknall second swimming pool project. The overall Council approved capital budget for the Leisure Transformation programme will not be exceeded.

Recommendation(s)

1. Cabinet is recommended to note the contents of the report.
2. Cabinet is recommended to approve the realignment of £0.5m from the Kirkby Leisure Centre capital project code to the Hucknall second swimming pool capital project code to support the project through to completion.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To ensure that Cabinet is updated on progress with delivery of the programme including the need to alter the design solution to Hucknall second swimming pool which has resulted in increased costs and delayed completion.

Alternative Options Considered

Not to support the internal transfer of £0.5m from the Kirkby Leisure Centre budget to the Hucknall second swimming pool budget. This is not recommended as the Hucknall Leisure Centre project will overspend its budget allowance whilst Kirkby Leisure Centre will remain with a forecast underspend against budget provisions.

Detailed Information

Transformation Investments

The Kirkby Leisure Centre project has now completed Phase 1, with the opening of the new Centre. The project continues to deliver against the indicators with the demolition of Festival Hall and the new car park due to open during February 2023.

The project continues to remain within the £15.5m approved budget and it is forecast that the project will achieve an outturn cost of £14.5m with a likely underspend of £1m.

This underspend already takes into account the improved specification of PV solar panels which have been installed on the roof as well as various improvements in the internal finishes compared with the original design.

The second swimming pool at Hucknall Leisure Centre achieved start on site in early 2022. Following the excavation and detailed analysis of the sub-ground conditions along with further inspections on the existing structure, a revision to the pool construction was proposed by contractor Kier North & Scotland. The Council's consultants have confirmed the need for this variation which will see the completion delayed by 10 weeks with the Centre complete in Quarter 1 of the 2023/24 financial year.

The delays and varied construction detail will increase costs onsite and the overall project budget of £3.5m. Realigning £0.5m of the identified underspend at Kirkby Leisure Centre will enable the Hucknall Leisure Centre second swimming pool to be completed whilst remaining within the overall approved capital programme budget for the Leisure Transformation programme.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Leisure Transformation Programme continues to deliver on the Council's Corporate Plan, to replace the ageing Festival Hall facility, the addition of new and improved facilities at both Lammas and Hucknall Leisure Centres to deliver activities which support the Be Healthy Be Happy priorities.

Legal: [RLD 31/08/2022]

The Council's legal team has, and continue to, support the operational teams with the various legal agreements required as part of the overall scheme.

Approval for the realignment of £0.5m within capital budget lines falls within the remit of the Cabinet (Financial Regulations B.9). It should be noted that this realignment is not yet reflected in the Capital Programme section of the Financial Monitoring report elsewhere on this agenda. If approved, this will be actioned on the next Financial Monitoring report to Cabinet.

Finance: [PH 01/09/2022].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	N/A
General Fund – Capital Programme	<p>The realignment of £0.5m from the Kirkby Leisure Centre to Hucknall budget line will not increase the Council's borrowing against these projects and is a prudent use of identified underspends to support the overall programme.</p> <p>The Council's finance team have validated existing expenditure and forecast expenditure providing confirmation regarding the availability of the underspend at Kirkby Leisure Centre.</p>
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	N/A
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	N/A

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Further unidentified defects within the existing structure	Demolition and soft strip have already commenced in an isolated area of Hucknall Leisure Centre which has given further insight into the existing structure. No further variances are anticipated.
Kirkby Leisure Centre cost increases	With completion of Phase 1 the majority of expenditure has now been incurred and the cost reporting from the Council's consultants has been consistent throughout the project, providing confidence against any significant variance.

Human Resources:

No HR implications.

Environmental/Sustainability:

The new facility at Kirkby Leisure Centre is being built to the new Building Regulations resulting in reduced energy usage. Photovoltaic solar panels are installed onto the roof of the centre, these offset electrical energy usage. Electric car charging points are to be installed enabling users of the facility to charge vehicles.

The second swimming pool facility at Hucknall will also benefit from photovoltaic solar panels and electric car charging points. Increased numbers of secure cycle hoops are also being installed.

Equalities:

All of the capital investment across the leisure portfolio meets with the necessary Building Regulations regarding accessibility. The Council has engaged with Accessibility Champions during the design stages to ensure best practice.

Other Implications:

N/A

Reason(s) for Urgency

N/A

Reason(s) for Exemption

N/A

Background Papers

Cabinet Members will recall previous reports regarding Leisure Transformation, most recently the July 2022 report.

Report Author and Contact Officer

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Report To:	COUNCIL
Date:	29 SEPTEMBER 2022
Heading:	MINUTES OF CABINET AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Portfolio Holder:	LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
Ward/s:	N/A
Key Decision:	N/A
Subject to Call-In:	N/A

Purpose of Report

To present a list of minutes of Cabinet and Committee meetings which have been published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council and for Members to consider whether they wish to give notice of their intention to ask a question of the relevant Chairman under Council Procedure Rule 13.2. Questions are limited to a maximum of two per Member.

MINUTES PUBLISHED SINCE 7 JULY 2022.

The minutes are accessible via the Council's website:

<https://democracy.ashfield.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

Committee Meeting:	Date of Meeting:
Planning Committee	1 June 2022 20 July 2022 25 August 2022
Cabinet	21 June 2022 19 July 2022
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	23 June 2022
Charities Committee	28 June 2022
Standards and Personnel Appeals Committee	29 June 2022
Local Plan Development Panel	5 July 2022
Scrutiny Panel A	14 July 2022

Scrutiny Panel B	21 July
Audit Committee	25 July 2022
Licensing Committee	27 July 2022
Chief Officers' Employment Committee	1 September 2022

Report Author and Contact Officer

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