

### Position Status Categories

- 1 - Stop monitoring or determine whether any further action is required
- 2 - Achieved
- 3 - Not fully implemented (Obstacle)
- 4 - Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- 5 - Not fully implemented (Progress made not acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- 6 - Not for review this session

### **Desired Outcome – To enhance and promote Leeds as a Green City**

**Recommendation 1** – That the Chief Executive initiates a review to identify those policies, activities, challenges and achievements that;

- a) contribute to, or militate against, sustainable development, and
- b) identifies the further actions, co-ordination and collaboration required to justify, promote and further enhance Leeds's status as a Green City.

Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in January 2019 (Now April 2019)

See also recommendations 2&5

#### **Initial inquiry response:**

In order to make best progress within existing resources, rather than a comprehensive review, it is considered that a more appropriate response would be to prioritise attention on the most significant Council activities in terms of Governance, Policy, Operations and Procurements as outlined above (3.11 and 3.12). A list of priority activities should be agreed in liaison with Scrutiny Board.

#### **2019 Position:**

Following close liaison with Intelligence & Policy, the following priority activities are proposed:-

- **Governance:** Drawing on the successful experience of embedding EDCI principles into reports, that the guidance document for decision-making reports is updated to strengthen how the report issue/proposed decision contributes to the Best Council Plan ambitions and priorities, including the 'Sustainable Infrastructure' Best Council Plan priority. This updated guidance should assist with ensuring that reports and decision makers are able to assess the impact of decisions on the specific environmental limits that the city needs to respect and has prioritised (Air Quality, Flooding, Carbon Emissions, Waste Management) and will be prepared by June 2019
- **Policy:** The refresh of the Best Council Plan makes more explicit reference to sustainable development in both the headline priorities and accompanying narrative (see Recommendation 3). It is proposed that this is then reflected in the Core Strategy, Inclusive Growth, Health & Well-being strategies and other policies and strategies referenced in the Council Plan as they come up for renewal.
- **Operation:** To continue the programme of improvement in Council Buildings and Fleet which has seen the Council achieve the Government's Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020 3 years early. This is set of principles committing organisations to act in pursuit of the voluntary target set in the Clean Growth Strategy to reduce greenhouse gas

emissions by 30% by 2020/21, compared to a 2009/10 baseline. In addition, as part of the fleet replacement programme 51 Council diesel vans were replaced with fully electric vehicles. With an average vehicle saving of 1.92 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for every 10,000 miles travelled. The average annual mileage for the councils' small van fleet of 14,000 miles per annum this equates to a carbon saving of 137 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. We are working towards upgrading the entire Council vehicle fleet which will result in us having 350 electric vehicles, the largest local authority electric fleet in England. Progress on these operational improvements are reported annually to Executive Board.

- Procurement – The Council's forthcoming Procurement Strategy is introducing the concept of Social Value as a consideration in all procurements regardless of value. This provides the opportunity to introduce sustainability elements into contracts as they come up for renewal, working with our supply chain who it is considered will also benefit from being able to offer more sustainable services to other clients.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

### **2020 Position**

- Governance: Since the climate emergency was declared in March 2019 there has been a lot of work undertaken to embed climate emergency into both the culture and decision making of the council. The climate emergency section has been added to all Executive Board reports to ensure that it is always taken into consideration. Accompanying guidance has been developed to help report writers to ensure that all potential impacts are considered. There have been a series of staff and member briefings about the climate emergency to improve understanding and awareness. However, there is more work to do to further embed the climate emergency into the organisation and the following actions are being progressed to support this:
  - To embed the climate emergency within the culture of the council and ensure that every service understands the causes, impacts and urgency of the climate emergency, Leeds is working in partnership with the Carbon Literacy Trust (an independent, registered charity) to develop carbon literacy training aimed at heads of council services as part of the Trust's Carbon Literacy Project.
  - The council has identified the Carbon Literacy Project as the most suitable independent training available. The Project has been recognised by the United Nations as one of 100 worldwide Transformative Action Programs and has recently been awarded funding by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to develop materials for the public sector. More than 11,000 citizens across 800+ organisations have already been certified as carbon literate by the Trust.
  - In partnership with the Trust, the council is developing an accredited, Leeds-based Carbon Literacy Project course to deliver to senior council officers. This course shall use local examples of impacts, causes, and solutions to the climate emergency. As an organisation, it is our ambition to lead by example and to have more accredited carbon literate staff than any other local authority.
  - Staff climate forum: this is being set up to allow interested members of staff to meet regularly and make their own suggestions on how the council can deliver their response to the climate emergency and to build further momentum in the organisation.
- Policy: See Recommendation 3
- Operation: To ensure that Leeds City Council plays its own part as an organisation and

has credibility when engaging with others, the January 2020 Executive Board report sets out the commitment for the Council to become net-zero by 2030 in its operations. The council's key sources of emissions are street lighting, its buildings and fleet. The council has already acquired the largest local government electric vehicle fleet in the UK, committed to halve the energy required for street lighting by transferring to LED and to replace gas in our city centre buildings with district heating. A series of further recommendations were agreed by Executive Board, which include the following:

- Commit to a rationalisation and energy efficiency programme which reduces emissions from council buildings by a further 40% by 2025;
- Purchase 100% of our electricity from green sources, supporting new renewable capacity;
- Purchase only low emission vehicles by 2025;
- Remove payment for the use of staff petrol and diesel cars by 2025.

The predicted results of these actions are set out in the table below:

	<b>Tonnes CO2e 2018</b>	<b>Tonnes CO2e 2025</b>
Streetlighting	13,821	6,595
Buildings (Gas)	28,618	20,600
Buildings (Electricity)	18,107	1,405
Fleet	10,274	9,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,820</b>	<b>31,005</b>

The council is committed to working on further measures to achieve net zero by 2030, including an extensive tree planting on its own land to offset any emissions which remain.

- Procurement: In 2017-2018, the council spent in excess of £800 million on the procurement of its goods, works and services. That level of spending each year can have a massive influence on the big issues that the city face, including how we deal with the climate emergency and biodiversity loss. It is therefore essential that every pound spent fully considers and minimises the implications for these issues. Guidance is being developed to ensure that the climate emergency is embedded in every stage of the procurement process, including adding text into the contract procedural rules and updating text in the specification guidance, tender documents and contract management plan. We will also ensure that the climate emergency is fully considered in the Social Value Guidance that is currently being developed. We will also be working directly with a set of priority procurements, which have high expenditure, large environmental impacts and/or are due for renewal soon to reduce their climate impact.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To clearly identify and communicate a set of Sustainable Development aspirations and expectations that can be accessed, understood and supported by all stakeholders.

**Recommendation 2** – That the Chief Executive defines a clear set of prominent and overarching principles or framework for sustainable development in Leeds . Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in January 2019. (Now April 2019)

**Original inquiry response response:**

The existing Vision for Leeds 2011 to 2030 and Best Council Plan 2018/9 to 2020/1 provide

a framework which is broadly consistent with sustainable development, however this needs to be made more explicit in future versions. Ensuring that its principles are fully aligned with the National Sustainable Development Strategy, by outlining Leeds's most relevant 'environmental limits' (e.g. air quality, flooding, carbon emissions, waste management etc.) would assist in this regard. A refreshed framework that in particular more clearly articulates local environmental limits should then be applied to the Council Plan, Core Strategy, Inclusive Growth, Health & Wellbeing strategy and then other policies and strategies referenced in the Council Plan as they come up for renewal. It is proposed that some revised principles / priorities (in particular that strengthen the Council Plan's reference to local environmental limits) should be prepared for further review by the Scrutiny Board.

**2019 Position:**

See Recommendation 1: Drawing on the successful experience of embedding EDCI principles into reports, it is proposed that the guidance document for decision-making reports is updated to strengthen how the report issue/proposed decision contributes to the Best Council Plan ambitions and priorities, including the 'Sustainable Infrastructure' Best Council Plan priority. This updated guidance should assist with ensuring that reports and decision makers are able to assess the impact of decisions on the specific environmental limits that the city needs to respect and has prioritised (Air Quality, Flooding, Carbon Emissions, Waste Management) and will be prepared by June 2019.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The Guidance (see Recommendation 1 Governance) was due be incorporated into revised guidance to be published in April 2020. However, as a result of the urgent requirement to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic in recent months, the launch of a new report template and associated guidance was suspended. There is currently no confirmed date for the revised launch. However, the climate change guidance and its accompanying toolkit will be published on the Leeds City Council Governance insite pages in the interim. This will be linked to the new reporting template as and when a new launch date is confirmed.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome – To make clear and prominent the commitment of Leeds City Council to Sustainable Development.**

**Recommendation 3 –** That the Director of Resources and Housing makes prominent the Council's aspiration for sustainable development in the next iteration of the Best Council Plan, in advance of wider consultation.

**Formal response:**

See Recommendation 2

**2019 Position:**

The refresh of the Best Council Plan makes more explicit reference to sustainable development in both the headline priorities and accompanying narrative.

**2019 Position Status - 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The Best Council Plan, the council's strategic plan for the city and the local authority, was recently updated for the period 2020 to 2025 and formally adopted by Full Council in February 2020. With Health and Wellbeing and Inclusive Growth as the two key drivers or 'pillars' of the Best City ambition, the revised Plan now establishes the Climate Emergency as the third with the aim of further embedding sustainability considerations into all aspects of the authority's decision-making. Though last year's update to the Best Council Plan maps well to the UN's seventeen Sustainable Development goals, it was written and approved prior to the council's climate emergency declaration and subsequent 'Big Leeds Climate Conversation'. The updated Plan for 2020 to 2025 is therefore far more explicit, the narrative throughout now reflecting the authority's progress on its climate change work and future ambitions and challenges.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome – To make clear and prominent the commitment of Leeds City Council to Sustainable Development.**

**Recommendation 4 –** That the Director of City Development makes prominent the aspiration for sustainable development in the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy.

**Initial Inquiry Response:**

The aspiration for sustainable development is complementary to the aims of the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy and runs throughout the document. It is specifically mentioned three times, in the Big Idea 5 - supporting places and communities to respond to economic change, Big Idea 6 - doubling the size of the city centre, and the introduction. The introduction was rewritten and now includes the following passage:

"We have identified twelve big ideas to shape our city by boosting our long term productivity, competitiveness and social inclusion. Integral to this are the principles of sustainable development embracing the social, economic and environmental impacts of their implementation."

**2019 Position:**

See above - complete

**2019 Position Status - 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The three key strategies underpinning the council's work: Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy (IGS); Health and Wellbeing Strategy; and Addressing the Climate Emergency, are being refreshed to reflect the impacts of COVID-19. The Economic Policy team will continue to ensure that sustainable development principles are built in to this work.

We aim to measure our progress on achieving inclusive growth by using the Social Progress Index, a tool that is a comprehensive measure of real quality of life that is used throughout the globe. The Index captures outcomes related to all 17 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals in a simple but rigorous framework, making the implementation of these goals a tangible reality for social innovators all over the world.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure that Sustainable Development is considered in decision making and that there is consistency across Council policies and strategies.

**Recommendation 5** – That the Chief Executive initiates a review of all Council wide policies and strategies to ensure that there is alignment and consistency for sustainable development in Leeds, in achieving economic, environment and social objectives at the same time.

Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in January 2019. (Now April 2019)

**Initial Inquiry response:**

As in the response to Recommendations 1 and 2, a review of all Council wide policies and strategies would be an extremely resource intensive activities. A more productive response would be to develop an appropriate governance response that seeks to align Council decision making with the local framework for sustainable development as set out in a (refreshed) Best Council Plan, drawing on the successful experience of embedding Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and integration principles

**2019 Position:**

See Recommendation 1: Drawing on the successful experience of embedding EDCI principles into reports, it is proposed that the guidance document for decision-making reports is updated to strengthen how the report issue/proposed decision contributes to the Best Council Plan ambitions and priorities, including the ‘Sustainable Infrastructure’ Best Council Plan priority. This updated guidance should assist with ensuring that reports and decision makers are able to assess the impact of decisions on the specific environmental limits that the city needs to respect and has prioritised (Air Quality, Flooding, Carbon Emissions, Waste Management) and will be prepared by June 2019.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The Guidance (see Recommendation 1 Governance) was due be incorporated into revised guidance to be published in April 2020. However, as a result of the urgent requirement to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic in recent months, the launch of a new report template and associated guidance was suspended. There is currently no confirmed date for the revised launch. However, the climate change guidance and its accompanying toolkit will be published on the Leeds City Council Governance insite pages in the interim. This will be linked to the new reporting template as and when a new launch date is confirmed.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure that sustainable development is a strategic consideration and that a system for considering the detrimental impact of growth and the protection of communities and environments for the next generation is in place.

**Recommendation 6** – That the Chief Executive, Director of Resources and Housing and the Director of City Development,

- a) reviews the governance arrangements and role of the SIB in the strategic co-ordination and delivery of sustainable development and infrastructure in Leeds.
- b) considers the mechanisms for identifying the overarching needs of communities resulting from economic growth, for identifying the deficits created, and what can and should be delivered by all responsible organisations to remediate, and for identifying the tensions and risks arising and how they can be mitigated.

Views and conclusions to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in July 2018.

**Initial Inquiry Response:**

It is recommended that the Terms of Reference for SIB should be reviewed to ensure that there is clearer reference to the need to address sustainable development principles in delivery of the capital programme and that this is reflected in mechanisms such as the as the SIB infrastructure gap report.

**2019 Position:**

This is due to be considered at a future meeting of SIB arranged for May 2019.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

In setting the capital programme for 2020 onwards a review of the process and prioritisation of capital infrastructure was undertaken. Only schemes that met the following criteria have been included:

- a) Essential health and safety
- b) Protecting revenue budgets
- c) Business critical-corporate priority
- d) Climate/Carbon - specific projects

The 2021 capital programme review through SIB will provide greater focus on investment that meets the overarching needs of communities. In addition the SIB term of reference will be updated to reflect sustainable development.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure that health provision and infrastructure is sustainable to meet current and future demand as a result of housing and population growth.

**Recommendation 7** – That the Chief Executive, the Director of Adults and Health and the Director of City Development works in collaboration with the CCG Medical Director (responsible for commissioning general practice) and the NHS England North Region Lead:

- a) to identify how, within the planning system, Health Services can better collaborate in a similar way to Highways and Children’s Services with regard to planning strategies and programmes and individual planning applications.
- b) provides an update report to the Scrutiny Board in January 2019 (now April 2019) on the progress made to improve the co-ordination of health infrastructure and services in order to

meet current and future needs of communities as the population and housing numbers increase.

**Initial Inquiry response:**

a) This will be through monitoring the health infrastructure requirements set out in the Core Strategy, and for example reviewing Community Infrastructure Levy charges so that these cover both appropriate health facilities and placemaking interventions to promote long term health and wellbeing. Further, for individual sites identified in the Site Applications Plan, health infrastructure requirements will be identified through the formulation of Planning Briefs or Supplementary Planning Documents, in consultation with Health Services colleagues. This will include requirements not only for services but also placemaking - green and blue infrastructure and the connectivity and design of open spaces. Health Services are also then to be consulted on the receipt of planning applications for major sites to advise on specific site requirements as they may arise. Key Principles of Planning and Design, formulated with colleagues in Health Services, will also be published and will be used to work with partners on key sites including new housing developments, to improve their health and wellbeing impact. These will be Active Neighbourhoods - promotion of cycling and walking reducing car usage; Better Air Quality and Green Space - providing outdoor recreation infrastructure; and Cohesive Communities - encouraging co-location of services to encourage interaction and combat isolation

b) A number of actions are already in place to ensure better collaboration across partners in terms of planning for and delivering health provision and infrastructure. In summary these are:

- Health and social care commissioners and providers across the city have for a number of years worked together on infrastructure matters by way of the Health and Care Strategic Estates Group (SEG) which meets on a monthly basis. In recognition of the challenge that housing and population growth poses to the city's health infrastructure and service provision membership of SEG has recently been extended to include colleagues from both Planning (housing growth) and Communities (general population growth and need);
- SEG reports on a quarterly basis to the Partnership Executive Group, membership of which is made up of Chief Executives and Directors from across Leeds' health and care system, including NHS England and the Third Sector;
- Health Partnerships (Adults & Health) has, as part of the delivery of the Leeds Health & Care Plan, appointed an Estates Programme Manager who will work across the health and care system to ensure joined up strategies, as well as plan for and deliver estate solutions to meet current and future demand; and
- The Council's One Public Estate programme, led by Asset Management (City Development), has a key focus on working with health partners to support responses to current and future demand. It also acts to create new linkages with both the wider public sector and internal council services.

The report will also include an update on the collaborative work between planning, design and health colleagues in the Planning and Design for Health and Wellbeing group.

**2019 Position:**

An update on the progress made to improve the co-ordination of health infrastructure and services in order to meet current and future needs of communities as the population and housing numbers increase was appended to the 2019 update report.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue



monitoring)

## 2020 Position

a) In order to achieve greater collaboration between Planning and Health a number of actions have been taken over the last 12 months, building on those reported to Scrutiny Board in April 2019.

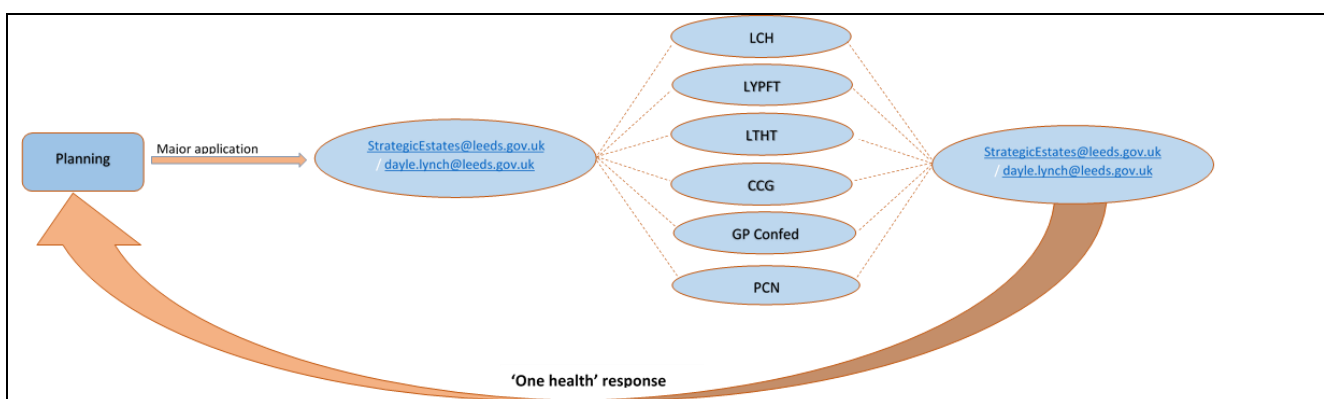
A Health & Planning workshop was held in October 2019, with over 40 attendees from across both areas, including Chairs of each Plans Panel. The workshop began with presentations from Tony Cooke (Chief Officer Health Partnerships), David Feeney (Chief Planning Officer), Dayle Lynch (Estates Programme Manager, Health Partnerships) and Helen Laird (Head of Public Health). The workshop was an opportunity for colleagues across planning and health & care to better understand the structure, focus, challenges and opportunities of each other's area, especially important in terms of understanding the complexity of organisations within 'health' and also the legislative/policy constraints within which planning operates. Following presentations table discussions were held focusing on two questions:

- 1) What are the opportunities for the systems to work more collaboratively to address challenges and to ensure we are developing sustainable services, particularly in light of the impact of demographic change?
- 2) In the context of the city's key three strategic drivers (health & wellbeing, inclusive growth and climate emergency) how do we utilise opportunities to contribute and successfully deliver change?

The full write-up from the workshop is attached as appendix 3, however key actions/next steps included:

- Develop process for sharing planning applications with appropriate officers throughout the health & care system, receiving comments and synthesising into one consultee response;
- Mapping of existing primary care provision, live planning applications, approved applications which are not yet complete and Site Allocations Plan forecasts;
- Review of Plans Panel report structure to explore how health & care can be reflected explicitly, alongside climate and inclusive growth; and
- Develop Planning expertise within the health & care system.

In terms of enabling health to be consulted on planning applications the below diagram shows the agreed process which has been put into place. The effectiveness of the process will be monitored over time and appropriately refined to ensure meaningful input from across health & care commissioners and providers, as well as enable informed decision making on service delivery at local levels.



Further than these actions, connections between planning and health & care continue to be strengthened by way of:

- Planning representation on the Health & Care Strategic Estates Board;
- Health & care presentation to planning officers at a caseworkers meeting; and
- Monthly meetings to progress collaboration and monitor actions between Planning lead officer and the Health Partnerships Estates Programme Manager.

b) Primary care (including general practice) in Leeds is now based around 18 geographical footprints, of 30,000-50,000 population, known as Local Care Partnerships (LCPs). LCPs bring together aspects of health & care, including the third sector, aligning priorities and thinking at a footprint scale how services can be more effectively managed. Within/alongside the LCP model Primary Care Networks (PCNs) were formed in June 2019, mandated by NHS England. PCNs operate across similar geographical footprints in the city but concentrate on general practice only. NHS England has made an offer of up to 21 new roles over the next 4 years to each PCN, which whilst creating service capacity, will raise infrastructure pressures to varying degree across each network. Support on estates is being offered to PCNs to identify and consider solutions not just focused on general practice, but including wider health & care and local authority estate. These solutions seek to account not only for the increased workforce requirement but also housing growth within PCN footprints. A mapping tool is being developed by the Health Partnerships Team, providing relevant information on both primary care estate and housing growth.

In addition, the opportunity to leverage developer contributions towards health & care infrastructure continues to be explored. There are examples where this may be easier to achieve, i.e. where mass housing development is planned, such as the East Leeds Extension or city centre. However, more challenging is where smaller, single developments sites have a cumulative impact over time. This is where forecasting through use of the mapping tool can be used to forward plan anticipated housing growth over the lifetime of the Site Allocations Plan.

It is expected that the NHS will announce new routes to capital funding in spring 2020, which will be necessary to ensure effective co-ordination of health infrastructure to meet the needs of communities as populations increase.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome – To empower Elected Members with knowledge regarding sustainability challenges in their areas, and to support decision making regarding the potential investment**

of the local fund.

**Recommendation 8** – That the Director of Communities and Environment, the Director of Resources and Housing (as chair of the SIB) and the Director of City Development:-

- a) considers the mechanisms for informing and consulting with Elected Members on sustainable development and infrastructure priorities in their areas so that they can be more effective in supporting their communities, providing advice and information to residents, and in making investment/funding related decisions.
- b) ensures mechanisms are in place to consistently brief Elected Members regarding S106 obligations and schemes in their individual Wards.

Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in July 2018.

**Initial inquiry response:**

Whilst this is not an area of particular focus for SIB, it is recommended that S106 procedures are reviewed to ensure that they address the need to consistently brief elected Members regarding s106 obligations and schemes in their individual wards and to ensure greater consistency with the SIB infrastructure gap report (see Recommendation 6)

The Community Committees offer an effective framework to support members as they make decisions which impact on the wards they represent, and for services to consult on the impact of wider changes to services. The Community Committee Chairs forum provides a gateway to the committees, and this can be utilised to secure the support of the chairs for areas of work which need to be developed.

**2019 Position:**

The current management information systems used to hold and distribute information about S106 Agreements in Leeds are being reviewed. An online mapping tool is being developed so that Members will be able to self-serve and access online both the S106 Agreements and ward information about monies pledged through S106 Agreements, monies received, balances available and where contributions have been spent.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

Officers provided s106 training for Community Committee officers and Elected Members in May 2019. The members' training included presentations from legal officers, Parks and Countryside, Highways, Education and Affordable Housing. The training received positive feedback. Officers are providing regular s106 drop in sessions for members to request details and discuss s106 contributions in their ward. As part of the Access Replacement Project the S106 management system has been reviewed and officers are exploring further improvements to the system. Officers intend to provide a public facing module which will allow elected members and members of the public online access to details of section 106 agreements and obligations.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To enable the Scrutiny Board to support the response of the Local Authority following this inquiry.

**Recommendation 9** – Should the Government proceed with a review of CIL, that the Director of City Development obtains the views of the Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and Investment) to support the consultation response of the Local Authority.

**Initial inquiry response:**

The Review of CIL is still pending and the City Council will be given the opportunity to comment as and when it comes forward.

**2019 Position:**

A second Government consultation on the CIL Review (technical consultation on draft Regulations) was held in January 2019. The outcome of this is anticipated in Spring 2019 and will inform any review of CIL.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The Government released changes to CIL by making amendments to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations with immediate effect, these came into force on 1 September 2019 with transitional arrangements for some elements. The aim of these changes is to reduce complexity and increase certainty for local authorities, developers and communities. The main areas of change relate to;

- Removing restrictions which prevent section 106 planning obligations from multiple developments being used to fund a single infrastructure project by removing the 'pooling restriction'.
- Introduce a consistent approach to how indexation is applied to CIL rates from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.
- Local Authorities will be required to publish annual Infrastructure Funding Statements. The Regulation 123 list will no longer have any status under transitional arrangements once the first IFS is prepared.
- There are a number of changes which relate to procedural issues relating to planning applications to make the process simpler in relation to CIL.

Further guidance relating to the details are still awaited, however the CIL review has now been completed.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To enable the Scrutiny Board to support and inform the decision making process of the Executive Board, with regard to the Regulation 123 list, following this inquiry.

**Recommendation 10** – That the Director of City Development obtains the views of the Scrutiny Board regarding any proposed revisions to the Regulation 123 list in advance of approval by Leeds City Council's Executive Board.

**Initial inquiry response:**

See recommendation 9

**2019 Position:**

The Government undertook a second consultation on the review of CIL in January 2019, this indicated that the Regulation 123 list would no longer be required. The outcome of the consultation is awaited and is anticipated in Spring 2019.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The CIL review has now been completed, and came into immediate effect from the 1st September 2019. As anticipated this has removed the requirement for the Regulation 123 list, under transitional arrangements the Regulation 123 list will no longer have any status. Planning Policy Guidance states that an infrastructure funding statement should set out the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure that the authority intends to fund, either wholly or partly, by the levy for the annual year. We are still awaiting further national guidance in relation to detail and this expected imminently.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure that Community Committees and Town and Parish Councils receive and understand relevant and informative guidance that will provide clarity regarding the investment and spending of their allocated local CIL fund.

**Recommendation 11** – That the Director of City Development and the Director for Communities and Environment reviews and refreshes The Leeds City Council CIL Neighbourhood Fund – ‘Spending Guidance for Community Committees’ to encompass guidance for Town and Parish Councils, and ensure that the guidance is circulated and understood by all Elected Members and Parish Councillors.

Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in July 2018.

**Initial inquiry response:**

See recommendation 9

Executive Board in October 2015 agreed the spending guidance for Community Committees.

It is early in the implementation of the CIL Neighbourhood fund by Community Committees, but robust arrangements are in place to support members as they take decisions.

Revised guidance will be implemented in a similar manner.

CIL Neighbourhood fund will be a topic for discussion with the Parish Council’s individually and collectively as a renewed Parish Council Charter is developed.

**2019 Position:**

A refreshed guide on the Community Infrastructure Levy for Parish and Town Councils and Community Committees was prepared by Planning team with support from the Communities team. That guidance has been formally circulated to both Community Committees and Parish Councils and has been well received. In addition a Planning conference is being held in March 2019 to give Town and Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums an opportunity to address any questions and issues. One of the items on the agenda is developing a better understanding of the CIL process and the relationship between CIL and S106. Officers will also meet with Community Committees and Elected Members in summer 2019 to provide training on the CIL and s106 process.

The work to renew the parish charter continues and the CIL guidance will be part of those arrangements.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

The Leeds City Council CIL Neighbourhood Fund – ‘Spending Guidance for Community Committees’ has been refreshed last year. In addition a Planning Conference was held in March 2019 and was well attended by Parish and Town Councils. This included a presentation by the CIL Officer on CIL and the Neighbourhood Fund which received positive feedback. The CIL officer provides continuous support for Parish Councils on spending CIL and completing their CIL Annual Report. Officers also provided CIL and S106 training for Community Committee Officers and Elected Members in May 2019 which received positive feedback. Officers are providing regular s106 and CIL drop in sessions for members to request details and discuss CIL and s106 contributions in their ward. Officers are currently working on the procurement of software to manage and monitor (CIL and s106 agreements). It will include a public facing module which will allow Members, Community Committees, members of the public and Parish and Town Councils online access to details of developer contributions in their ward.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**

**Desired Outcome –** To ensure that Town and Parish Councils and Community Committees fully understand the sustainable infrastructure needs in their areas and how they can work strategically with the Local Authority and other stakeholders to respond to those needs.

**Recommendation 12 –**That the Director of Director of Resources and Housing explores, a) the mechanisms to inform Town and Parish Councils and Community Committees of the sustainable infrastructure needs in their localities, and b) how the investment of neighbourhood funds and specific S106 contributions can be co-ordinated through local governance arrangements to respond, in partnership with the Local Authority and other stakeholders accessing other funding sources, to the sustainable infrastructure needs in their areas.

Progress to be reported to the Scrutiny Board in July 2018.

**Initial inquiry response:**

The Community Committees and its chair’s forum are suitable mechanisms for the briefing of those committees on sustainable development issues.

The revised Parish Council Charter will provide the opportunity to share sustainability issues with members of these Councils.

**2019 Position:**

The chair’s forum remains the initial first point of contact for key messages which services wish to share with committees.

The Parish Council Charter arrangements provide a mechanism to brief Parish Councils on key issues

In the last quarter of 2018 accurate information on the source and amounts of neighbourhood CIL has been provided to committees.

As recommendation 11 above, a Planning conference is being held in March 2019 to support Town and Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums. One of the items on the agenda is developing a better understanding of the CIL process and the relationship between CIL and S106. Officers will also meet with Community Committees and Elected Members in summer 2019 to provide training on the CIL and s106 process.

**2019 Position Status – 4** Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**2020 Position**

Community committees continue to consider issues relating to sustainability. In 2019/20 all committees engaged in consideration of the local impact of the Climate Emergency declared by the Council.

The wide range of funds now considered at the Community Committee give the opportunity to support local infrastructure development.

As referred to above close contact has been maintained between Leeds City Council and the Parish and Town Council's in the district. Following consideration at a working group involving city and Parish Councils a refreshed Parish Council Charter has been prepared. It was due to be formally launched at the time of lockdown due to the Covid 19 pandemic. This launch will be rearranged as normal business resumes.

The charter provides the framework for discussion of areas of joint interest including sustainability.

**2020 Status - To be confirmed by the Board at its meeting**