



A meeting of the Council will be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 10th July, 2024 at 1.00 pm

Members of the Council are invited to attend and transact the following business:

- 1 Minutes of the last Meeting** 5 - 12

To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd May 2024.
- 2 Declaration of Interest**

To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.
- 3 Communications**

To receive such communications as the Lord Mayor, the Leader, Members of the Executive Board or the Chief Executive consider appropriate.
- 4 Deputations**

To receive deputations in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.
- 5 Executive Arrangements** 13 - 18

To consider the report of the City Solicitor setting out that the Leader has changed part of his executive arrangements and this report advises full council of those changes in accordance with the Constitution.
- 6 Report on Appointments** 19 - 22

To consider the report of the City Solicitor on appointments.
- 7 Report on Scrutiny Annual Report** 23 - 40

To consider the report of the Head of Democratic Services presenting to Council the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2023/24 providing an overview of the work undertaken by the Council's five Scrutiny Boards during the 2023/24 municipal year.

8 Executive Questions

To deal with executive questions in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.

9 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Executive Board 41 - 76

To receive the minutes in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

10 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Pryor) - Rob Burrow CBE 77 - 78

Council recognises the outstanding contribution of Rob Burrow CBE to both his rugby league career and raising awareness of Motor Neurone Disease. His courage, commitment and inspirational strength of character was recognised last year with Leeds' highest civic honour, Freedom of the City.

Council commends the way in which Rob fought tirelessly to raise funds for the development of an MND Care Centre in Leeds and further the fight to find a cure for MND as well as the tremendous courage shown by both him and his family as they shared his personal story since his diagnosis in 2019.

Council shares with the wider Leeds community and further, the sadness at Rob's passing and commits to working with his family and the Leeds Rhinos to ensure his life and legacy are remembered in a way that supports Rob's ambitions.



Tom Riordan CBE
Chief Executive

Civic Hall
Leeds
LS1 1UR

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the City Council's website on the internet - at the start of the meeting the Lord Mayor will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes by the Council. Generally the public gallery is not filmed. However, by entering the Council Chamber and using the public seating area you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the City Solicitor.

Note to observers of the meeting – to remotely observe the meeting please use the link below and click 'link to the view the meeting recording'

[Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

*We strive to ensure our public committee meetings are inclusive and accessible for all. If you are intending to observe a public meeting in-person, please advise us in advance by email (FacilitiesManagement@leeds.gov.uk) of any specific access requirements, or if you have a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) that we need to take into account. Please state the name, date and start time of the committee meeting you will be observing and include your full name and contact details'

Third Party Recording

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the clerk.

Use of Recordings by Third Parties– code of practice

a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.

b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete



Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held
Civic Hall, Leeds on Thursday, 23rd May, 2024

PRESENT: The Lord Mayor Councillor Al Garthwaite in the Chair.

WARD

ADEL & WHARFEDALE

Caroline Anderson
Billy Flynn
Barry John Anderson

ALWOODLEY

Neil Buckley
Lyn Buckley
Dan Cohen

ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD

Karen Bruce
Stephen Holroyd-Case
Karen Renshaw

ARMLEY

Lou Cunningham
Andy Parnham
Alice Smart

BEESTON & HOLBECK

Shaf Ali
Andrew Scopes
Annie Maloney

BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY

Adele Rae
Tom Hinchcliffe
Kevin Ritchie

BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL

Nkele Manaka
Luke Farley

WARD

CALVERLEY & FARSLEY

Craig Timmins
Peter Carlill

CHAPEL ALLERTON

Mohammed Rafique
Jane Dowson
Eileen Taylor

CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR

James Gibson
Jessica Lennox
Pauleen Grahame

FARNLEY & WORTLEY

Kate Haigh
Mark Swards
Adrian McCluskey

GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON

Sarah Field
Suzanne McCormack
Mark Dobson

GIPTON & HAREHILLS

Mothin Ali
Asghar Ali
Salma Arif

GUISELEY & RAWDON

Sonia Leighton
Oliver Edwards
Eleanor Thomson

HAREWOOD

Sam Firth
Ryan Stephenson
Matthew James Robinson

HEADINGLEY & HYDE PARK

Tim Goodall
Abdul Hannan
Jonathon Pryor

HORSFORTH

John Garvani
Raymond Jones
Emmie Bromley

HUNSLET & RIVERSIDE

Mohammed Iqbal
Paul Wray
Ed Carlisle

KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT

David Jenkins
Katie Dye
John Tudor

KIPPAX & METHLEY

James Lewis
Michael Millar

KIRKSTALL

Fiona Elizabeth Venner
Andy Rontree
Hannah Bithell

LITTLE LONDON & WOODHOUSE

Javaid Akhtar
Abigail Marshall-Katung
Kayleigh Brooks

MIDDLETON PARK

Rob Chesterfield
Emma Pogson-Golden
Wayne Dixon

MOORTOWN

Mohammed Shahzad
Mahalia France-Mir
Sharon Hamilton

MORLEY NORTH

Simon Brown
Robert Finnigan
Robert Gettings MBE JP

MORLEY SOUTH

Jane Senior
Wyn Kidger
Oliver Newton

OTLEY & YEADON

Sandy Edward Charles Lay
Ryk Downes
Colin Campbell

PUDSEY

Dawn Seary
Trish Smith
Simon Seary

ROTHWELL

Conrad Hart-Brooke
Diane Chapman
Barry Stewart Golton

ROUNDHAY

Lisa Martin
Jordan Bowden
Zara Hussain

TEMPLE NEWSAM

Helen Hayden

Debra Coupar

WEETWOOD

Emma Flint
Julie Heselwood
Izaak Wilson

WETHERBY

Alan James Lamb
Penny Stables
Norma Harrington

1 Opening Remarks

The Lord Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded all those present that the Annual Meeting was to be streamed live and asked people to switch electronic devices to silent, the Lord Mayor also indicated that, following the dispatch of the Summons with accompanying reports on Wednesday 15th May 2024, further papers originally identified on the Summons as to follow were circulated to Members on the 22nd May 2024.

2 Election of Lord Mayor

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Lamb, supported by Councillors Golton, Carlisle, Newton, Dobson, Kidger and Dixon and

RESOLVED - That Councillor Abigail Marshall-Katung be elected Lord Mayor of the City of Leeds to hold office until the election of her successor.

3 Election of Vice Chair of Council

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Stephenson, and

RESOLVED - That Councillor Eileen Taylor be elected Vice Chair of Council to hold office until immediately after the election of the Lord Mayor in 2025.

4 Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Lord Mayor

Councillor Pryor moved a vote of thanks to the retiring Lord Mayor, Councillor Garthwaite. This was seconded by Councillor Cohen and supported by Councillors Golton, Stables, Newton, Kidger and Dixon and

RESOLVED– That a vote of thanks be moved for the retiring Lord Mayor, Councillor Garthwaite.

5 Minutes of the last Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Stephenson and

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2024 be approved.

6 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interests.

7 Announcements

There were no announcements.

8 Election of Leader of Council

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Pryor and

RESOLVED – That Councillor James Lewis be elected Leader of the Council.

9 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - Amendments to the Constitution - Decision Making

It was moved by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Flint and

RESOLVED –

- a) That the resolutions of the General Purposes Committee dated 17 April 2024 be noted;
- b) That the amendments to Part 2 Article 13 (Decision making) attached as Appendix 1 to the report and to Part 4(b) (Executive

and Decision Making Rules) attached as Appendix 2 to the report be approved.

10 Establishment of Committees and Appointments

It was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Farley and

RESOLVED –That Schedules 9 (a) to 9 (c) and 9 (e) to 9(f) be approved.

11 Appointment of Community Committee Chairs

It was moved by Councillor Flint seconded by Councillor Pryor that in accordance with Community Committee Procedure Rules where the nomination for the chair of a Community Committee is unopposed, the Lord Mayor invited those Members of the Community Committee present at the Council meeting to elect that nominee.

The nominees were as follows;

Inner North West Community Committee - Councillor A Hannan
Outer North West Community Committee – Councillor E Bromley
Inner North East Community Committee - Councillor M Shahzad
Outer North East Community Committee - Councillor N Harrington
Inner East Community Committee - Councillor L Farley
Outer East Community Committee - Councillor M Millar
Inner West Community Committee - Councillor A Smart
Outer West Community Committee - Councillor M Swards

Upon being put to the vote those Members listed to vote in respect of the appointment of the Chair for their respective Community Committees;

RESOLVED – That the Chair for each Community Committee be appointed as set out above.

12 Appointment to Chair Inner South Community Committee

It was moved by Councillor Flint seconded by Councillor Farley that in accordance with Community Committee Procedure Rules that the appointment of the Chair of the Inner South Community Committee be determined by those Members of the Community Committee present at the Council meeting.

The 2 nominees were Councillor Dixon and Councillor Iqbal.

Upon being put to the vote those Members listed to vote in respect of the appointment of the Chair for the Inner South Community Committee;

RESOLVED – That Councillor Iqbal be appointed Chair of the Inner South Community Committee.

13 Appointment to Chair Outer South Community Committee

It was moved by Councillor Flint seconded by Councillor Farley that in accordance with Community Committee Procedure Rules that the appointment of the Chair of the Outer South Community Committee be determined by those Members of the Community Committee present at the Council meeting.

The 2 nominees were Councillor Holroyd-Case and Councillor Newton.

Upon being put to the vote those Members listed to vote in respect of the appointment of the Chair for the Outer South Community Committee did so and this resulted in a tie and therefore in accordance with Community Committee Procedure Rules the vote was widened to include all Members of Council and it was;

RESOLVED – That Councillor Holroyd-Case be appointed Chair of the Outer South Community Committee.

On the requisition of Councillors Finnigan and Senior the voting on the appointment was recorded as follows;

Members of the Outer South Community Committee only

Those in favour of Councillor Holroyd-Case - 6

Bruce, Chapman, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Holroyd-Case and Renshaw

Those in favour of Councillor Newton - 6

Brown, Finnigan, Gettings, Kidger, Newton and Senior

Abstain – 0

Full Council Vote

Those in favour of Councillor Holroyd-Case - 62

Akhtar, A Ali, S Ali, Arif, Bithell, Bowden, Bromley, Brooks, Bruce, Carlill, Coupar, Dowson, Dye, Edwards, Farley, Flint, France-Mir, Garvani, Gibson, Grahame, Haigh, Hamilton, Hannan, Hayden, Heselwood, Hinchcliffe, Holroyd-Case, Z Hussain, Iqbal, Jenkins, Jones, Leighton, Lennox, Lewis, Maloney, Manaka, Martin, McCluskey, Millar, Parnham, Pryor, Rae, Rafique, Renshaw, Ritchie, Rontree, Scopes, Swards, Shahzad, Taylor, Thomson, Timmins, Tudor, Venner, Wilson, Wray, Campbell, Chapman, Downes, Golton, Hart-Brooke, Lay,

Those in favour of Councillor Newton - 26

B Anderson, C Anderson, L Buckley, N Buckley, Cohen, Firth, Harrington, Lamb, Robinson, D Seary, S Seary, Smith, Stephenson, Carlisle, Goodall, Stables, Dobson, Brown, Finnigan, Newton, Senior, Gettings, Kidger, Chesterfield, Dixon, Pogson-Golden.

Abstain – 5

M Ali, Cunningham, Field, McCormack and Smith

14 Scheme of Delegation (Council Functions)

It was moved by Councillor Flint seconded by Councillor Farley and

RESOLVED – That the Officer Delegation Scheme (Council (Non-Executive) Functions) as detailed in Schedule 10 be approved.

15 Executive Arrangements

It was moved by Councillor Lewis seconded by Councillor Flint and

RESOLVED – That the list presented by the Leader setting out the arrangements for the discharge of Executive Functions, as detailed in Schedule 11, be noted.

16 Council Meeting Dates 2024/2025

It was moved by Councillor Flint seconded by Councillor Farley and

RESOLVED – That the dates of the meetings of the Council for the Municipal Year 2024/25, as detailed in Schedule 12 be approved.

17 Council Minutes - 21st February 2024

The report of the City Solicitor asking Council to confirm that the minutes attached to the report from the Council Meeting held on 21st February 2024 were an accurate record of that meeting after some transposition errors had been identified within the body of the original minutes was moved by Councillor Flint, seconded by Councillor Farley and

RESOLVED – To agree that the minutes attached to the report were an accurate record of the Council meeting held on 21st February 2024 and that the final minutes be amended in line with those appended to the report.

Council rose at 6.25 pm

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Executive Arrangements

Date: 10th July 2024

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Full Council

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

On 5th June 2024 the Leader made changes to his Executive Arrangements for the 2024/25 Municipal Year.

The Leader has made amendments to those arrangements and is therefore now required to present details of the altered arrangements to Council in accordance with Rule 1.3 of the Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules.

Amendments have been made to Part Section 3F Appointment to West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee and the Chief Executive Delegations at the Leader's discretion.

Recommendations

Council is asked to note that the Leader has :

- a) made an amendment to Part 3 Section 3F Appointment to West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee and to Part 3 Section 3E(b) Chief Executive Delegations with effect from the 5th June 2024 and the arrangement are now shown at Appendix A attached

What is this report about?

- 1 1. The Leader has changed part of his executive arrangements and this report advises full council of those changes in accordance with the Constitution.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 None

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

- Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

4 The relevant affected members and officers have been consulted on the changes.

What are the resource implications?

5 There are no resource implications

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

6 There are no implications for this report.

What are the legal implications?

7 This report satisfies the constitution requirement that the Leader present amendments to his executive arrangements to the next ordinary meeting of Council.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

8 N/A

How will success be measured?

9 N/A

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

10 The decision was effective from the 5th June 2024 and is being brought to Full Council at the first opportunity.

Appendices

11 Appendix A Part 3 Section 3F Appointment to West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee & Part 3 Section 3E(b) Chief Executive Delegations

Background papers

12 None

The Chief Executive is authorised¹ to discharge any function of the Executive not otherwise delegated to a Director including the following functions in relation to ²

1) Functions in relation to elections including:-

- a) The registration of electors;
- b) Elections and referenda in relation to local matters, including:-
 - i) reviews of polling districts, places and stations;
- c) Assisting with and responding to consultation in relation to boundary reviews of all types, including:-
 - i) parliamentary constituency reviews;
 - ii) electoral reviews;
 - iii) principal area boundary reviews;
 - iv) structural reviews; and
- d) Community governance reviews.

2) Civic and ceremonial functions of the Council including:-

- a) Provision of support to the Lord Mayor;
- b) Ceremonial occasions; and
- c) Authorisation of use of Council's Crest.

3) Devolution and local freedoms including:-

- a) Delivery of devolved powers and freedoms, including those received through the West Yorkshire Devolution Deal(s), city deal and growth deal;
- b) Liaison with:-
 - i) West Yorkshire Combined Authority and other regional and sub-regional bodies;
 - ii) Central government departments; and
 - iii) Core Cities
 - iv) Local Government Association.

4) City Region functions including:-

- a) the Council's interface with Leeds City Region and wider regional partners,.

¹ Save where the Leader or the relevant Portfolio Holder has directed or the Director considers that the matter should be referred to Executive Board for consideration.

² Together with similar and ancillary functions which have not been delegated to another Director.

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SECTION 3F: Appointment to West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee

Appointment of representatives to the West Yorkshire Joint Services Committee.

Name	Ward
Cllr Pauline Grahame	Cross Gates and Whinmoor
Cllr Dan Cohen	Alwoodley

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Appointments

Date: 10th July 2024

Report of: City Solicitor

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

This report updates Council on appointments to Committees, Boards and Panels in consultation with the relevant Group Whip between the date of the Annual Council Meeting (23 May 2024) and the first ordinary meeting of Council (10th July 2024), in order to ensure that meetings held during that period could proceed with adequate and appropriate membership levels. The report also seeks approval to an appointment to a West Yorkshire Combined Authority Committee (Employment & Skills).

Recommendations

- a) To note/approve the appointment to the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Employment & Skills Committee.

What is this report about?

- 1 This report updates Council on appointments to Committees, Boards and Panels in consultation with the relevant Group Whip between the date of the Annual Council Meeting (23 May 2024) and the first ordinary meeting of Council (10th July 2024) and asks Council to approve/note the changes/appointments.
- 2 The proposal is for the Council to agree the following appointment to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Employment and Skills Committee
 - Cllr Martin to replace 'whips nominee' the WYCA Employment and Skills CommitteeThe proposal is for the Council to note the following appointments to Committees, Boards or Panels
 - Councillor Rontree to replace Cllr Bowden on the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

What impact will this proposal have?

- 3 It will ensure that meetings held during that period could proceed with adequate and appropriate membership levels.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 4 Fully operational and quorate Committees, Boards and Panels and representation on external bodies are in line with the Council's Policies and the priorities.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 5 Consultation has taken place with the relevant groups on the Council.

What are the resource implications?

- 6 There are no specific resource implications associated with this report.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 7 The key risks would have been lack of representation on external organisations and incomplete representation on local Committees, Boards and Panels. The risk is being managed by the appointment(s) in this report.

What are the legal implications?

- 8 There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 9 The only other option would have been to wait for the first ordinary meeting of Council, that would have meant Leeds Members would not have been appointed promptly and the Committees would not have had a full or appropriate membership.

How will success be measured?

10 Not applicable.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

11 The implementation of the decision would be immediately after the decision is made.

Appendices

- None

Background papers

- None

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Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24

Date: 10 July 2024

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Council

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

Article 6 of the Council's Constitution requires the Head of Democratic Services, as the authority's designated Scrutiny Officer, to report to Council annually about how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions.

The appended Annual Report 2023/24 highlights the work undertaken by the Council's five Scrutiny Boards during the last municipal year.

Recommendations

- a) Council is asked to receive and consider the appended Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24.

What is this report about?

- 1 The appended Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24 provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Council's five Scrutiny Boards during the 2023/24 municipal year.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 The Annual Report 2023/24 provides a factual summary of the work undertaken by the scrutiny function during the last municipal year, in line with the requirements of the [Article 6 of the Council's Constitution](#).

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 3 The 2023/24 work programmes of the five Scrutiny Boards included items of business that reflect the priorities set out in the three pillars of the Best City Ambition. Highlights of each work programme are included in the appended Annual Report.

- 4 The approach to twice yearly performance monitoring also ensured the Scrutiny Boards considered key performance indicators (KPIs) that reflect the priorities set out in the Best City Ambition.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 5 The Scrutiny Annual Report for 2023/24 has been produced in consultation with 2023/24 Scrutiny Board Chairs and the Executive Board Member for Resources.

What are the resource implications?

- 6 There are no specific resource implications associated with the Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 7 Presenting the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2023/24 fulfils the annual requirement for the Council's Scrutiny Officer to report to Council on how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions, as set out in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.

What are the legal implications?

- 8 There are no specific legal implications associated with the Scrutiny Annual Report for 2023/24.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 9 The submission of the Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24 to Council fulfils the requirements set out in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.

How will success be measured?

- 10 Members of Council are asked to note the information set out in the Annual Report 2023/24.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 11 The Annual Report 2023/24 provides a factual summary of the work of the overview and scrutiny function during the last municipal year. There are no implementation requirements.

Appendices

- Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24

Background papers

- None

2023/24 Scrutiny Annual Report

This report updates Council on how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions during the 2023/24 municipal year.



Foreword

This Annual Report reflects the breadth of subjects explored by our Scrutiny Boards during the last year. We all want to thank the members of all our boards for their commitment and hard work. Almost 70% of non-executive councillors are a member of at least one Scrutiny Board. Together they provide 'check and challenge' for decision makers with the ultimate aim of improving public services for local people.

We also want to thank the Council officers, Executive Members and partners who have engaged with our Scrutiny Boards and shared their experience, advice and expertise.

The context for the work of the Scrutiny Boards has been challenging with rising demand pressures for our own and partner organisations, and a tough financial environment. Through our work we have explored some very difficult choices for service providers and service users. However, we have also seen examples of innovative co-production of services and effective partnership arrangements.

Looking to the year ahead—and the likelihood of further difficult decisions for our organisation—we recommend that Scrutiny Boards are engaged in a higher degree of 'pre decision scrutiny,' which is where scrutiny members can add most value and influence positive change. Continuing to recognise, and value, the input of scrutiny will lead to better decision making by the organisation as a whole.

We wish our successor boards the very best for 2024/25.



Cllr Dan Cohen



**Cllr Stewart
Golton**



**Cllr Abigail
Marshall-Katung**



Cllr Asghar Khan



**Cllr Andrew
Scopes**

Thank you to all Scrutiny Board members for your work over the last year. Through their examination of varied issues, our Scrutiny Boards have helped to ensure that Council decision-making remains transparent and accessible to the public.

Our Scrutiny Boards perform a vital role by working alongside Executive Members in a cross-party way to ensure decisions made within our organisation are the right ones for the city of Leeds and that issues needing additional focus are brought to the fore. The proactive work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards makes a positive difference and their value is recognised by the Executive Board. Scrutiny is an essential part of our democracy.

The current landscape of local government has demonstrated the importance of strong governance in order to create resilient organisations. Supporting effective scrutiny within our Council is a significant part of our governance framework and the Executive Board is keen to retain a positive culture in which that work can take place.

I have particularly welcomed Scrutiny's engagement with the budget setting process in what has been another exceptionally challenging year financially. There are undoubtedly further challenges ahead and I agree with Scrutiny Chairs that more pre-decision scrutiny over the coming year would offer a constructive approach to navigating some of the extremely difficult decisions we will have to take.

Cllr Debra Coupar, Executive Member for Resources



Scrutiny Arrangements 2023/24

This Annual Report provides a summary of work undertaken by Leeds City Council’s Scrutiny function in 2023/24. It includes highlights from the work of each of the five Scrutiny Boards.

As set out in the Council’s [‘Vision for Scrutiny.’](#) the service continues to support members in carrying out public scrutiny that is focused on driving improvement in public services in accordance with the nationally agreed four principles of effective scrutiny.

Context of Financial Challenge

The work of the Scrutiny Boards has inevitably been set within the context of increasingly challenging financial circumstances for Leeds City Council. As a result, all Scrutiny Boards have prioritised their activities on the basis of where their work can best add value in line with the aspirations set out in the Best City Ambition.

Capturing the ‘Lived Experience’ of Leeds Citizens

During 2023/24 Scrutiny members have sought to better capture the ‘lived experience’ of Leeds citizens to strengthen their understanding of complex issues affecting local communities. Members of the public and the voluntary sector have brought valuable qualitative insight to Scrutiny’s consideration of matters including access to dental care; support for families seeking an education, health and care plan; progress towards eliminating road deaths; services for social housing tenants; and the Council’s approach as an employer to equality, diversity and inclusion.

End of Year Summaries

While this report provides the highlights of work carried out in 2023/24, each Scrutiny Board has also produced an end of year summary, which provides full detail of their work programmes. These can be found on the [Scrutiny at Leeds](#) webpage.



Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24

44 Public
Scrutiny Board
Meetings



16 Working
Groups



2 Site Visits



62 non-
executive
Councillors



9 Co-Opted
Members



‘Call-in’ provides a mechanism for councillors to initiate a pause in a decision making process—to ‘call in’ for examination an executive or key decision that has been made but not yet implemented. While not used frequently, call-in provides a tool for scrutiny to influence decision making. Three call-ins have been initiated by non-executive members this year with additional meetings arranged to consider the requests. All decisions were released for implementation after review by the relevant Scrutiny Board.

1. [Active Travel Fund A660](#)
2. [Six High Rise and Resident Rehousing](#)
3. [Lawnswood Roundabout Improvement Scheme](#)



Partnership Working

Scrutiny members are mindful of the fact that partners are involved with the majority of Council services, activities and intervention programmes. The way in which citizens therefore experience local services is often influenced by partnership dynamics.

During 2023/24 representatives from more than 45 external organisations have agreed to engage with our Scrutiny Boards to share their experience and knowledge. This has included statutory, contracted and commissioned partners, other public bodies and commercial organisations.



Next Steps

Closer relationships with academics at the University of Leeds have been explored during 2023/24 with a view to enhancing the evidence considered by Scrutiny Boards in Leeds. In addition, having reflected on the work of the last 12 months, the Children and Families Scrutiny Board has set out an ambition to directly capture the voices of young people more frequently in the year ahead.

Collaborative Activity

Regional Health Scrutiny

The West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) has continued to enhance the collaboration between local authority health scrutiny functions across West Yorkshire. The JHOSC met on four occasions this year and considered a wide range of issues, including details of the West Yorkshire Urgent Care Service Review; Dentistry and Oral Health in West Yorkshire; West Yorkshire Winter Planning for 2023/24; Non-surgical Oncology; Workforce Priorities; Harmonisation of commissioning policies; and Health Inequalities and Prevention.

Support for the management and administration of the JHOSC this year has been provided by both Calderdale Council and Kirklees Council, with Councillor Elizabeth Smaje (Kirklees Council) elected as Chair for 2023/24. Further details surrounding the membership and work of the JHOSC can now be accessed via the [Kirklees Council website](#).

Budget

In September 2023 the Scrutiny Boards received a joint briefing from senior officers about the financial challenges facing the Council. This provided context for the subsequent examination by individual Scrutiny Boards of the budget proposals relating to their respective remits.

All Boards considered the Proposed Budget 2024/25 during the January 2024 cycle of public meetings. Prior to this, Executive Members and senior officers attended working group sessions with each Scrutiny Board in December 2023.

The conclusions and recommendations of the consultation with scrutiny were reported to the [Executive Board in February 2024](#).

Case Study

Closer collaboration with NHS partners on financial planning

Adults, Health & Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board

Embracing a more integrated approach with health partners to maximise resources



The Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles) has a special responsibility to fulfil the council's statutory health scrutiny function, including the remit for reviewing and scrutinising any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of local health services. This may also involve scrutinising the finances of local health services.

With the establishment of statutory Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) being tasked to lead the integration of health and care services across their areas, a more integrated approach to the Scrutiny Board's Budget consultation process was newly adopted and welcomed this year.

The Board's budget working group meeting in December included an initial briefing on the financial position of the Leeds Place of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and in context of the wider Leeds and West Yorkshire NHS systems. A subsequent briefing on the financial plan for 2024-2025 was also provided. This approach enabled Members to consider how NHS partners are working collaboratively with the Council to maximise resources and ensure implications of decisions are understood and, where possible, mitigated both for partners and citizens.

Case Study

Leeds Parent Carer Forum -
EHCP Scrutiny Inquiry

Children & Families Scrutiny Board

*Enabling the voice and the
concerns of the public to be
heard.*



'A crucial element of the Children and Families Board's inquiry work on the provision of EHCP support in Leeds was effective and meaningful engagement with stakeholders on their lived experiences accessing EHCP support in the city. Given the centrality of stakeholder feedback to the work, the Board requested a dedicated working group to hear from the Leeds Parent Carer Forum (LPCF) about the challenges they have faced when seeking to get an EHCP for their children. The Working Group took place on 23 November 2023 and featured attendance from the LPCF Steering Group who were able to share both their own personal lived experiences but also those of their wider membership to help the Board understand the problems faced at a time when children and families are often at their most vulnerable and seeking assistance with appropriate school placements for their children and young people. This stakeholder engagement was a significant milestone in the inquiry and much of the feedback on lived experience was important evidence when the Board came to formulating their recommendations.'

On [12 October 2023](#) the Scrutiny Board considered the current approach to designing parks and greenspaces, with a particular focus on 'access for all' and the safety of women and girls.

The work of the Scrutiny Board was informed by research carried out by the University of Leeds on behalf of West Yorkshire Combined Authority in relation to the safety of women and girls in parks. Representatives from both organisations attended the Scrutiny Board to provide further insight into their research and the practical application of the guidance that emerged from it.

The Scrutiny Board subsequently made 7 recommendations to the Council's Executive. This included members recommending officers revisit equality impact assessments where there are changes to the way in which natural features are maintained, in order to seek assurances that new practices do not inadvertently create barriers to access. It was recommended that this process should include capturing the lived experience of park users, including women and girls, and those with disabilities.

Case Study

Capturing lived experience to
ensure access for all to parks
and greenspaces.

Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board

*Providing 'critical friend'
challenge to executive policy
makers and decision makers*



In [November 2023](#) the Scrutiny Board brought together representatives from the Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, First Bus, Arriva, Transdev, the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK and Unite the Union.

Given public concern about the future of bus services in Leeds, members aimed to explore the challenges and opportunities facing the sector post pandemic.

This included examining new trends in patronage and bus revenue, as well as the way in which changes to the bus network impact upon connections to sites of employment and education for disadvantaged communities.

Issues relating to network design, technological integration, punctuality, emission reduction targets and staff retention were all examined.

Members also considered the potential implications of proposals for bus reform—including the differences between franchising and an enhanced partnership model.

Case Study
Advancing bus provision in Leeds
Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board
Bringing stakeholders together on issues of public concern to provide recommendations for improvement.



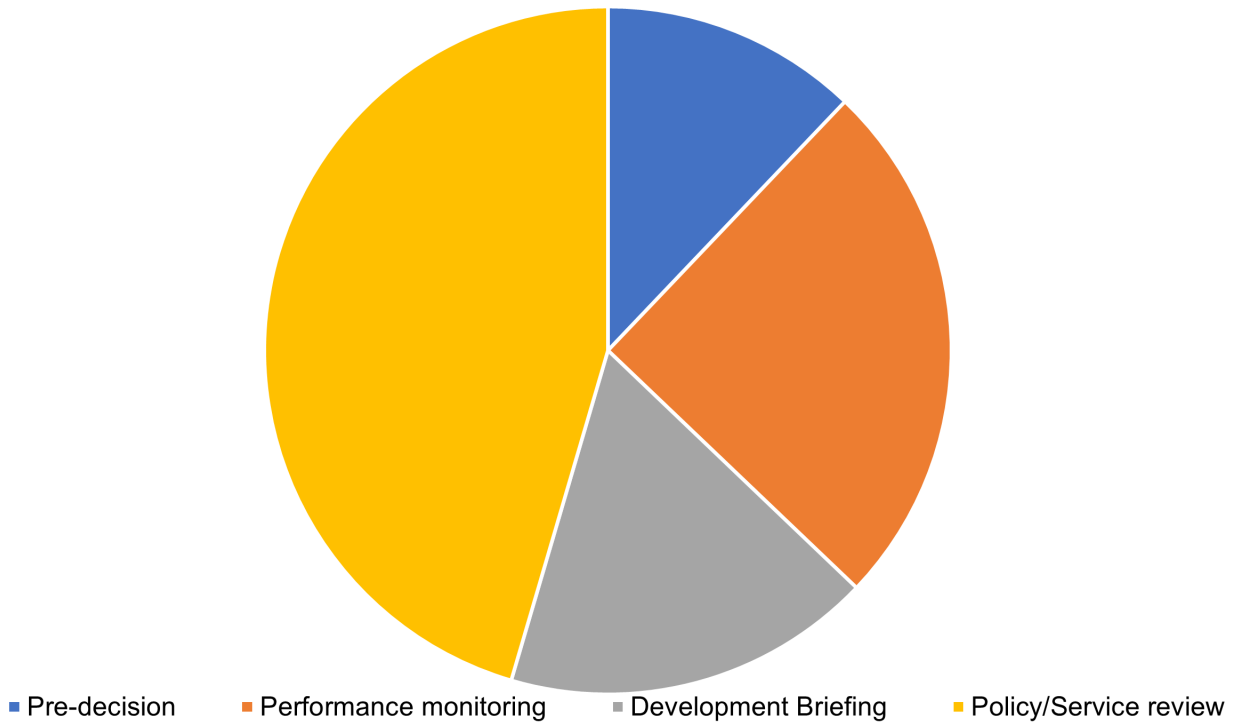
Case Study
Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Board
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion — staff networks
Supporting organisational improvements to strengthen decision making.



Over recent years, the Council has initiated work to strengthen organisational values and behaviours and as part of that has developed and implemented a refreshed approach to workforce Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) with a key aim to support everyone to be their best in the workplace and a commitment to treat people fairly. In support of this work the Strategy and Resources Board has considered a number of items on EDI which has also included attendance from the Council’s staff networks to provide direct feedback on the Council’s work in this area and to enable to the Board to use those lived experiences to inform a scrutiny statement setting out recommendations to contribute to decision making and policy. This statement will be considered by the Executive Board in the 2024/25 municipal year and showcases the role scrutiny can play in widening the number of voices heard through engagement with stakeholders which will contribute to strengthening the decision making process.

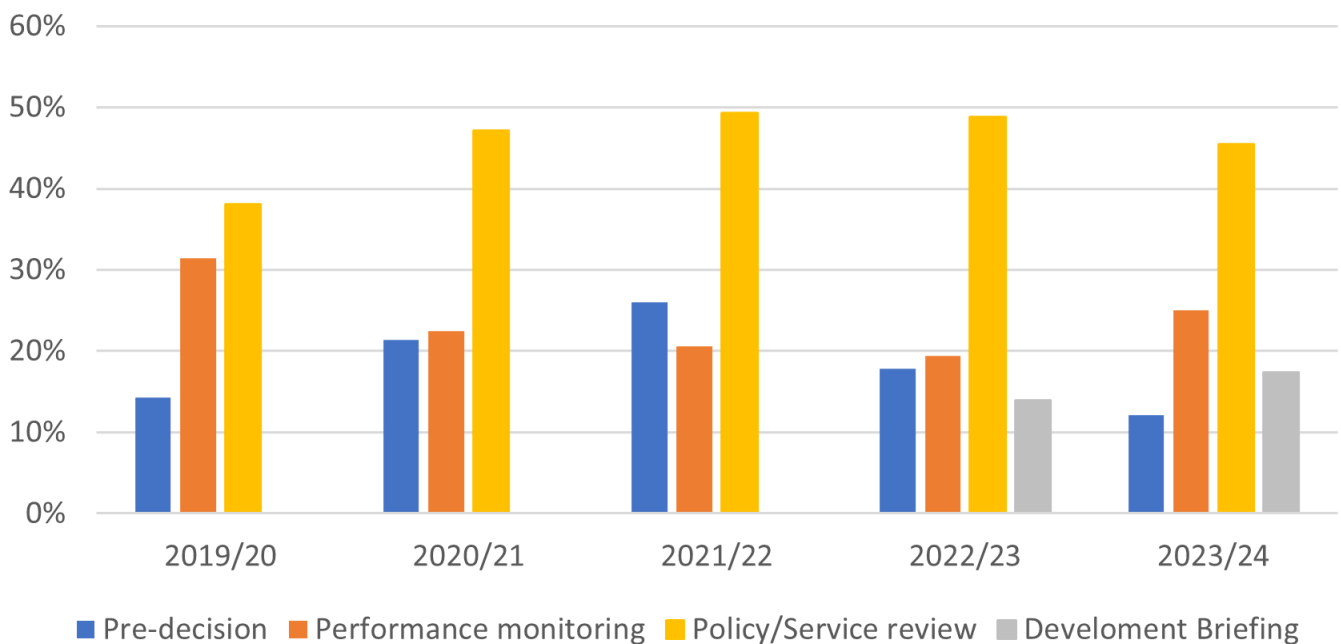
Scrutiny Activity 2023/24

Categories of Substantive Agenda Items 2023/24



132 items at public meetings 2023/24

Categories of Work As a Percentage of Total Items

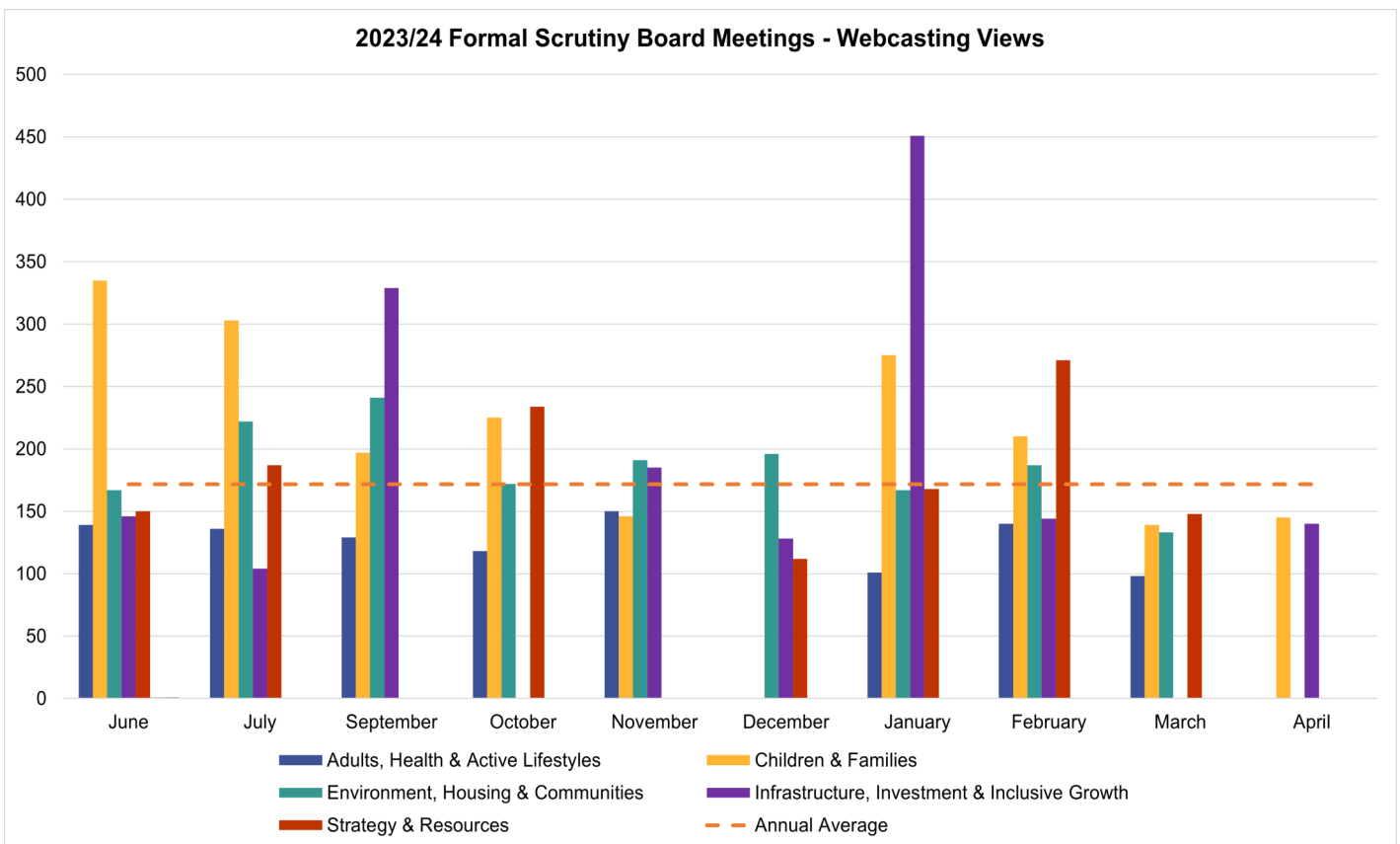
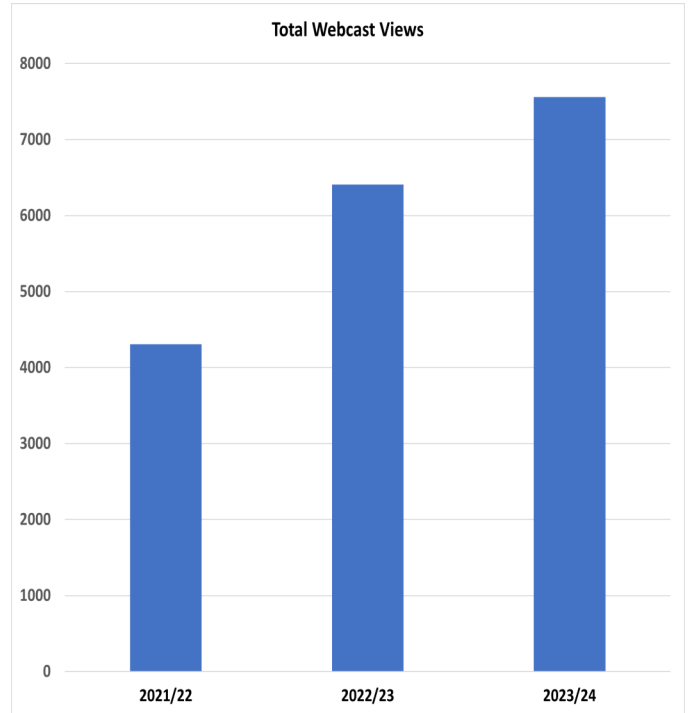
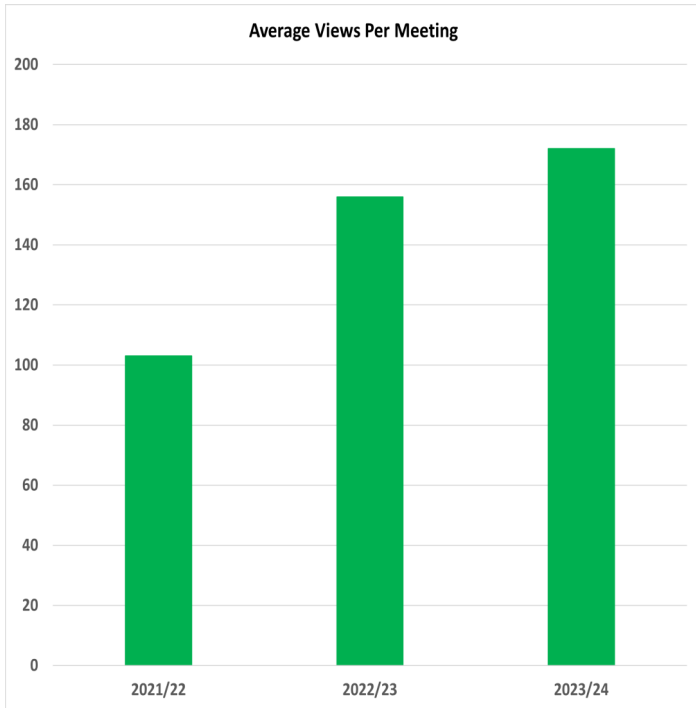


Notes: The categorisation of work items changed in 2022/23 with the category of ‘development briefing’ being introduced.

Webcasting 2023/24

A legacy of changes in technology and working practices during the covid-19 pandemic is the continuation of webcasting to enhance public access to Scrutiny Board meetings. Webcasting allows stakeholders to observe meetings at a time and location that is convenient to them.

The tables below show the webcasting figures for each board this year and the trend in viewing figures over the last three years.



To Note:

- There were two meetings of the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board in both September 2023 and January 2024 due to additional 'call in' meetings.

- Webcasting figures are as correct at 26 April 2024.



Adults, Health & Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board

2023/24 Highlights



Cllr Paul Alderson



Cllr Caroline Anderson



Cllr Luke Farley



Cllr Mahalia France-Mir



Cllr James Gibson



Cllr Conrad Hart-Brooke



Cllr Mohammed Iqbal



Cllr Wyn Kidger



Cllr Kevin Ritchie



Cllr Andrew Scopes



Cllr Eileen Taylor



Dr John Beal (co-opted member)

1

Improving oral health and access to NHS dentistry remained a key priority for Scrutiny. In November 2023, the Board once again engaged with local providers, practitioners and patient representatives to review the local position. Following the transfer of commissioning responsibility for local dental services to the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) from April 2023, the Board welcomed this as a positive move enabling more targeted improvements to be made. However, to achieve more significant improvements, the Board stressed the need for other constraining factors to be addressed at a national level. These relate to workforce challenges; insufficient resources; and a much needed reform of the dental contract.

2

In July 2023, the Board published a statement setting out its views regarding a decision to cease referrals into the Leeds Tier 3 Specialist Weight Management Service. Linked to this, Members had raised concerns regarding the rising prevalence and wide-ranging implications of living with obesity on health and beyond, with reported UK-wide NHS costs projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050 and wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. The Board therefore agreed to also theme its March 2024 meeting around supporting healthy weight and active lifestyles for the population of Leeds. The Board welcomed contributions from Public Health, Active Leeds, primary care and other NHS partners as it considered the impact of social and environmental determinants of health; Tier 3 service recovery and redesign plans; the perspective of GPs; and progress in delivering the city's Physical Activity Ambition.

3

The Board engaged with representatives from the Leeds GP Confederation and Leeds Local Medical Committee to discuss expectations surrounding the new model of general practice set out in the national Primary Care Access Recovery Plan. As well as considering ongoing efforts aimed at reducing barriers that some patients face when accessing services, attention was also given to addressing staff burnout and morale issues linked to local and national challenges around recruitment and retention. Access to GP services was also an issue raised during the Board's consideration of out of hours bereavement services, with the Chair seeking support from the GP Confederation to help encourage a proactive and consistent approach across local GP practices to help meet the needs of bereaved families.

4

The Board continued to monitor progress in delivering the Leeds Mental Health Strategy (2020-2025), with particular attention given to the new Community Mental Health Transformation Programme. Further pieces of scrutiny work also stemmed from the Board's consideration of this Strategy, which included a working group on the challenges surrounding children's neurodiversity and a detailed overview of the Leeds Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2024-27).



Children & Families Scrutiny Board 2023/24 Highlights



1

The Board identified the Provision of EHCP support as a key issue in 2023/24 following performance data that indicated statutory timescales around EHCPs had become a significant issue affecting children and families in Leeds. Working closely with the Children and Families Directorate the Board initiated an inquiry to support improvement work already commissioned by the directorate which resulted in 11 recommendations. An important element of this was hearing evidence from parents and carers and seeking to ensure their views were central to the Board’s findings. Amongst a range of recommendations, the Board noted the need to work quickly towards better performance on timescales, utilise new digital approaches to improving communication, a commitment to practice driving process and improved casework processes as key areas for

2

The growing problem of youth vaping was an important theme in 2023/24. Data on youth vaping showed a worrying upward trend on usage by children and young people in Leeds. As a result Board members requested several updates on this to understand the depth of the problem and to seek to deliver solutions. The board noted the Government legislation on the Smokefree Generation and submitted a board response as part of the consultation process for that legislation, to ensure the Leeds position was clearly heard.

3

The Independent Review of Children’s Social Care was published in 2022, followed by the Government response ‘Stable Homes, Built on Love’ in 2023. The review and response to it was a key area of interest for the Board as they sought to understand how this would impact services in Leeds and to seek reassurance that the key principles were being implemented in the city. Leeds has a strong, recent track record in children’s social care which the Board is keen to support through further updates on this in the future.

4

Throughout 2023/24 the Board were clear that they wanted to hear as much as possible from the voices of children and young people. To support that the Voice, Influence and Change Team provided a report on how the Council listens to children and young people and how that impacts service delivery. The Board is now keen to hear more on this in 2024/25 and is setting up processes through which that can be delivered.



Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board

2023/24 Highlights



Cllr Barry Anderson



Cllr Javaid Akhtar



Cllr Stewart Golton (Chair)



Cllr Pauleen Grahame



Cllr Abdul Hannan



Cllr Norma Harrington



Cllr Asghar Khan



Cllr Annie Maloney



Cllr Adrian McCluskey



Cllr Andy Rontree



Cllr Simon Seary



Cllr Penny Stables



Cllr John Tudor

1

Housing related matters have been a priority for Scrutiny members during this year. The Board has monitored performance figures relating to the number of void properties within the Council's housing stock, rent collection and the responsiveness of the repairs and maintenance service. The Chair of the Tenant Scrutiny Board was invited to share the views of tenants on recommendations regarding damp and mould. At the start of the year the Board examined a testing programme to seek assurances about the potential risks to social housing tenants where radon gas is detected.

2

The Scrutiny Board considered the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan, with representatives from West Yorkshire Police and West Yorkshire Combined Authority attending to update members on strategic policing and crime priorities for Leeds. Assurances were sought about resource allocation and proactive interventions to deter anti-social behaviour during periods such as Halloween and Bonfire Night. Separately, the Board considered the Safer Stronger Communities Leeds Plan, receiving updates in relation to activity in priority areas such as domestic violence and public order.

3

Representatives from the third sector shared their views about opportunities for future collaboration between voluntary organisations and public partners, while also highlighting the increased cost pressures facing the third sector. Separately, third sector partners working to tackle financial exclusion and poverty shared their experiences of escalating demand for support services from people facing "grim" circumstances. The Scrutiny Board recommended greater involvement of the community anchors network with Community Committees.

4

An Annual Update on progress towards the ambitions of the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy was examined, with members exploring how to strengthen the role of volunteers within the service and opportunities for income generation as part of the response to financial pressures on the service. Access for all and the safety of women and girls was a recurring priority in discussion regarding greenspaces. Members recommended Scrutiny engagement in the development of a Green Spaces Play Strategy next year.



Infrastructure, Investment & Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board 2023/24 Highlights



Cllr Neil
Buckley



Cllr Billy
Flynn



Cllr Mike
Foster



Cllr John
Garvani



Cllr Sharon
Hamilton



Cllr Arif
Hussain



Cllr Sandy
Lay



Cllr Abigail
Marshall-
Katung



Cllr Michael
Millar



Cllr
Mohammed
Shahzad



Cllr Nicole
Sharpe



Cllr Izaak
Wilson

1

Members examined progress with the Leeds Station Sustainable Travel Gateway Project and welcomed the opportunity for a site visit to better understand the scheme. An update on progress towards Vision Zero was received. Subsequently, the Chair worked on behalf of the Board with the Executive member and a parent campaigner to advocate for the introduction of a graduated driving licence for novice drivers. She also met with council officers from Legal, Democratic and Information Governance Services to raise awareness of the 'Vision Zero Pledge' and to advocate alongside the Vision Zero team for the organisation to 'lead by example' on this issue.

2

Partners attended the Board to share their experience of the collaborative approach to affordable housing delivery in Leeds. Members sought assurances about how best to secure both positive social outcomes from projects while at the same time meeting targets for value for money. The Scrutiny Board reviewed the outcomes of a pilot project regarding changes to the display of third party comments online in respect of planning applications,

3

As part of their consideration of the delivery of the Future Talent Plan, members explored the anticipated employment and skills demands that may arise from the transition to net zero and concerns about disadvantages for those within the labour market without digital skills. Representatives of the Scrutiny Board attended the Leeds Apprenticeship Fair to understand the offer for young people and the responses of those in attendance. Members also explored how effective business support can encourage productivity in the context of the ambitions of the Inclusive Growth Strategy.

4

The Scrutiny Board fulfilled its responsibility to receive an annual update on the Council's local flood risk management strategy. Particular attention was given to examining the management of surface water as new housing is delivered. The community based approach to digital inclusion from the 100% Digital Leeds team was fully endorsed by Board members. Separately, and in line with the recommendations of the 2023 LGA Peer Review, Board members examined proposals for future rationalisation of the Council's estate.



Strategy & Resources

Scrutiny Board

2023/24 Highlights



Cllr Gohar Almass



Cllr Hannah Bithell



Cllr Sharon Burke



Cllr Andrew Carter



Cllr Dianne Chapman



Cllr Sam Firth



Cllr Tom Hinchcliffe



Cllr Asghar Khan



Cllr Wyn Kidger



Cllr Andy Parnham



Cllr Eleanor Thomson

1

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) has been a theme at the Strategy and Resources Board for a number of years and this continued in 2023/24 with a dedicated session set up to hear about ongoing policy development on EDI and to receive feedback from the Council's staff networks. Ultimately this was used to develop a scrutiny statement that will be presented to Executive Board in the next municipal year aimed at supporting the Council as it continues to implement EDI strategies across the workforce.

2

Employee and workforce strategy has been an important focus for the Board. Members have considered the Organisation Plan, People Management Strategies, the staff survey and a standalone item on employee mental health and well being. Hearing in detail about the Council's ensures that employee feedback is listened to and acted on and to seek reassurance that the Council's policy approach in these key areas is on track and that staff are content in the workplace with support available should it be needed.

3

The Council continues to face a budget challenge and ensuring budgetary robustness and sustainability has again been a feature of the Board's work during 2023/24. As the financial challenge has continued the Board has sought to look in detail at the Financial Reporting series that also goes to Executive Board whilst also considering longer term financial plans through the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and detailed consideration of plans for the 2024/25 budget round. The remit of the Board places finance at its core and the Board has fulfilled this by devoting a significant amount of time to those issues.

4

Leeds 2023 has regularly been to the Board throughout its development phase, through implementation and now through evaluation. The Board considered this project on two occasions during the year receiving an update on delivery during the 2023 Year of Culture and also some initial details on evaluation to understand how successful it has been and to provide check and challenge on outcomes and legacy.

More information about Leeds City Council's Scrutiny Service, along with the activity and membership of individual Scrutiny Boards, can be found on the Council's committee webpages.

You can also follow @ScrutinyLeeds on X (formerly Twitter).



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

THURSDAY, 21ST MARCH, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor S Arif and J Dowson in the Chair

Leeds Committee of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Tim Ryley - Place Based Lead, Leeds Health & Care Partnership

Directors of Leeds City Council

Victoria Eaton – Director of Public Health

Caroline Baria – Director of Adults and Health

Third Sector Joint Representative

Corrina Lawrence – Chief Executive, Feel Good Factor

Helen Hart – Chief Executive, BARCA

Representative of Local Health Watch Organisation

Jane Mischenko – Co-Chair, Healthwatch Leeds

Representatives of NHS providers

Sara Munro - Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Representative of Leeds GP Confederation

Jim Barwick – Chief Executive of Leeds GP Confederation

Clinicians Joint Representative

Jason Broch, Chief Clinical Information Officer

Sarah Forbes Chief Clinical Information Officer

Representative of Communities of Interest

Pip Goff - Director, Volition

32 Election of Chair

As Councillor F Venner, the Chair of the Board, had sent her apologies, Councillor S Arif was nominated and seconded to Chair the meeting.

RESOLVED – That Councillor S Arif be formally elected as Chair.

33 Welcome and introductions

The Chair provided updates on the following key events:

- Leeds charity Hamara Healthy Living Centre had won a national 2024 'GSK Impact' award.
- New independent research commissioned by Leeds Academic Health Partnership ranked Leeds as a top UK health innovation hub.
- Hundreds of council flats in Leeds are set for a carbon cutting, money saving future with a £25 million energy efficiency improvements scheme.

- Leeds Trinity had formally launched the largest ‘Ask for Angela’ venue in the city where people can ask venue staff for ‘Angela’ if they are in fear of assault and they will be supported to safety / a safe return home
- The Council’s Public Health Resource Centre is calling on all businesses in the city to sign up to access free resources and signposting to encourage good health and wellbeing in the workplace.
- There had been a funding boost to the region’s flagship new healthtech innovation hub.
- Leeds and York Partnership Foundation Trust (LYPFT) appointed a new Deputy Director of Nursing.

34 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

35 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There was no exempt information.

36 Late Items

There were no formal late items.

37 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

38 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor F Venner, Councillor C Anderson, Councillor S Golton, James Rogers, Anthony Kealy, Paul Money, Hannah Davies, Dr Phil Wood, Rebecca Charwood, Superintendent Dan Wood, Julie Longworth and, Sam Prince with Ruth Burnett substituting and Jonathan Phillips with Jane Mischenko substituting.

39 Open Forum

At the discretion of the Chair, a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair.

A member of the public John Prentis, representing Keep Our NHS Public attended and addressed Board Members, noting the following:

- Feedback had been agreed to be provided regarding a specific comment raised at the November 2023 meeting for an update regarding the process and impact for migrants of charges from accessing urgent health checks and care provision. It was highlighted that this had not yet been received.
- On a second matter, there was an inconsistency between information on the website for LTHT concerning the pace and progress of new hospital(s) at the Leeds General Infirmary site, as opposed to recent comments made by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to parliament relating to the timeline of the New Hospitals programme. The LTHT website was positive on hospital building progress whereas

Mr Prentis outlined the SoS had noted further review and development of the overall programme. He asked if LTHT would review their website to more accurately reflect the current national position.

- In the development of the new hospital, it was noted there was private health care provision for cancer patients. Mr Prentis asked whether, given that the NHS substantially trained clinicians who serve private patients, if this would create staff retention issues for the NHS and/or increase health inequalities in the city – as private care would be only available to those with the ability to pay.

In response it was outlined that on the first matter, letters had been sent to relevant partners in regard to the migrant health update, initial responses had been received and a full response will be provided back to Mr Prentis once the final response had been received. The other two matters will be referred to colleagues at LTHT for a fuller response.

40 Minutes

RESOLVED– That the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th of November 2023 be agreed as a correct record.

41 Fairer Leeds (Leeds Marmot City Programme): Year One Update Report including Findings and Recommendations from the Institute of Health Equity Whole-system Review

The report of the Director of Public Health provided an update on the Marmot - Fairer Leeds programme at the end of Year one.

In attendance for this item were:

- Tim Fielding – Deputy Director, Public Health
- Sarah Erskine – Head of Public Health
- Dr. Tammy Boyce - Senior Research Associate, Institute of Health Equity

The Director of Public Health provided an overview, noting, the Council had entered the second year of a partnership with the Institute of Health Equity who were assisting with the adoption of the Marmot City programme and data analysis. Leeds was committed to adopting the Marmot City programme and the Board had oversight of the progress, with a drive to address health inequalities and social determinants for health. The update was provided to Members to outline the progress and reflections of the first year's development which informed the second year.

The following information was highlighted to Board Members:

- The programme had accountability with the Board and was to align with wider Council strategies. There was also a balance in analysing data and having focused action to address health inequalities supported by a systematic approach.
- The first year had raised aspirations, identified inequalities and social determinants of health and was the foundation for a long term project.
- Notable social determinants included gaps in life expectancy driven by deprivation, increased child poverty and a more diverse population

living in IMD decile one and increases in the numbers of children receiving free school meals. There was a rise for poverty 'in work', driven by low wages and income inequality.

- Compared to other core cities, Leeds measured unfavourably across some areas, related to poverty and health inequalities. Local recommendations were to focus on inclusive growth, with a refreshed strategy noted to be a good basis for influence and should go further to encourage employers to pay better wages and lift people and communities out of deprivation.
- Leeds data displayed low temporary accommodation occupancy with homeownership increasing and a fairly healthy private rented sector market.
- The Leeds data for children considered to be a healthy weight showed that the obesity rate for children was above the UK average.
- Physical activity rates for adults aged over 50 was fairly low and ways to improve this were outlined.
- The Institute of Health Equity had made fifteen recommendations, contained from page 59 of the report, to address health inequalities in Leeds under three aim headings; increase accountability, existing and future partnerships prioritise health equity and drive more effective interventions and evaluations and implement Leeds Marmot indicators.
- The eighth recommendation addressed differences in health outcomes for ethnic minorities. *'Ensure that the needs of ethnic minority populations in Leeds are addressed in all citywide strategies to reduce inequalities.'*
- Greater accountability and sharing good practice were required to identify what works to reduce health inequalities across the health and social care system.
- Using indicators, monitoring data, successes and failures and strong leadership were essential to improving public health outcomes.
- The first year of the Marmot programme had engaged with the Housing department, liaising with Senior Housing Managers, to identify where improvements were needed.
- The recommendations focused partnership work to scale up what works and share best practices.

The Board discussed the following matters:

- Emerging health inequality data after the Covid-19 pandemic had displayed an increase, particularly within inner city areas and also for ethnic minorities.
- As the findings had focused on partnership working, it was outlined that a wider range of partners should be involved including business, third sector and academia as well as schools and wider employers.
- The Leeds Learning Alliance were noted as a relevant partnership to potentially help ambitions in addressing inequality in social care and also schools were a good space for families to raise issues and access care.
- The approach was proposed to be aligned to existing structures and services to embed the Marmot programme throughout the system. The

process for doing so was discussed at working groups as an ongoing challenge as there still needed to be clear direction for accountability.

- There were radical changes needed to address health inequalities relating to housing, with selective licensing being utilised to ensure effective management of private rented properties in areas of deprivation.
- Work and employment related issues were alarming, with poverty for people in employment increasing. This was apparent in schools with the eligibility for free school meals rising significantly, which was a knock-on effect of low wages.
- The roll out of the work started in Lincoln Green was cited as an example of best practice. This was being developed city-wide to target people in deprived areas into good jobs in health and care and had the potential to be scaled up across different types of work.
- Partnership work, especially engaging with housing providers was essential to understand what services were missing. Better links with housing providers would identify gaps in operations and allow evaluation of the approach to inform the programme. Communication with tenants to understand the experience of selective licensing and attempt to take pressure off the poorest people was integral.
- The statistics were useful but lived experience was a powerful tool, particularly from less heard voices
- An infographic detailing lived experience consultation, created as part of the Institute of Health Equity review, was agreed to be shared with Members.
- Existing insight into people's experience living in Leeds had informed all iterations of the Marmot reports.
- Better connections between LTHT and Children's Services were suggested including better support for parents and understanding of life-course based approaches. A conversation across the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children's Board was suggested.
- The role of the third sector and community services was outlined as being essential, rooted in an approach based on prevention and early intervention. The challenges of funding and the rush to develop new projects when existing third sector ones were struggling to be mainstreamed was noted.
- In summary it was noted that to further develop partnership working a change in culture, with everyone focused on health inequalities was needed. This should involve the identification of gaps, understanding the evidence and the importance of scaling up projects that have the greatest impact.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the progress of the Marmot - Fairer Leeds programme in Year 1, be noted.
- b) That the findings of the IHE 'Whole system review' and commitment to supporting delivery of the IHE recommendations, be considered and noted.

42 Progress of the Leeds area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Alternative Provision Partnership Board

The report of the Leeds area SEND and AP Partnership Board provided an update on the newly re-established Leeds area SEND and AP Partnership Board which brings together local partners with a shared aim.

The following attended the meeting to present the item:

- Dan Barton – Deputy Director for Learning, Children’s and Families, Leeds City Council.

The Board was provided with the following information:

- This was the first update report to the Health and Wellbeing Board regarding the new developed SEND strategy. The aim was to progress a greater strategic alignment between health, social care and education across childhood and the transition to adulthood.
- The pillars upheld by the Leeds area SEND and AP Partnership Board were noted as, strategy development, inclusion, self evaluation and joint, shared partnerships, including joint chairship between representatives of the NHS and LCC.
- Members were asked to note the updates on recent progress in key areas relating to the current Everyone’s Included: 2022-27 Leeds SEND and Inclusion Strategy.
- Working groups were proposed to develop improvement plans for each area identified in consultation with stakeholders across the city.
- Key working groups to the Board are currently focused on joint commissioning, provision sufficiency, listening to people’s needs, influence and change, transparency, neuro-divergency, workforce training and practices and data analysis.
- It had been recognised that communications need to be clearer with parents and stakeholders and therefore messaging will, in future, outline the progress of the framework and the offer to people with special education needs, focused on provision for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, planned trauma informed practice, the national change programme, life support action plans and arrangements for self evaluation.

During discussions, the following matters were considered:

- The commitment to listening to people’s lived experience, parents and young people was welcomed. This was noted given recent local and national protests from parents and care providers around the lack of access to SEND provision and that this was exacerbated by the broader financial and cost of living context for them. It was hoped that people will engage positively with the Board, and it was noted that the position in Leeds was better than some other areas. It was however also noted that Leeds had fewer children with a formal Education Health and Care Plan than may be predicted from its demographic profile and the reasons and actions in relation to this needed further development.
- The Board noted there was a preference for visiting people and families in more comfortable settings, such as at home, schools or

forum events, for open dialogue. This was part of the approach being adopted and this was welcomed.

- The testing of a new approach, referenced on page 69 of the report, and its impact on waiting lists was queried. In response it was noted that an independent review of processes had been conducted which identified new opportunities to increase productivity through technological solutions, such as e-forms, with the aim of improving parents and family experiences. The back log of requests was to be separated and addressed and new entrants will come through the more streamlined approach.
- The question of the right balance between extended processes for assessments or diagnosis as opposed to access to services and direct help for teachers and parents to support children was made. In response it was agreed there was a requirement for a perception shift so that assessments weren't required for all cases and the right skills were available to provide support, for instance in every classroom. As assessment lists experience backlogs and some care requirements, particularly in areas of deprivation, may be less visible or hidden, training for identification and provision for special needs were required for front line practitioners and teachers. This training should include meeting needs prior to a diagnosis.
- It was noted that assessments and diagnoses were a route for schools to access financial support to employ staff or otherwise enable additional support for a child. However, workforce skills and sufficiency gaps meant that it was not a certainty that the identified help was always able to be provided to a child even where funding and need had been established.
- An update was agreed to be provided back to Members regarding plans for system leadership, partnership working, unexplored capacities and recruitment challenges. Recruitment was identified as complicated challenge with the same pool of staff across the services within health and care systems.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the proposed revisions to the Leeds area SEND and AP Partnership Board's terms of reference, including new operational structures and thematic priority areas, be agreed.
- b) That the updates on recent progress in key areas relating to our current Everyone's Included 2022-27 Leeds SEND and Inclusion strategy, be noted.
- c) That the updates on planned work to ensure rigorous local self-evaluation which will inform revision and refresh of our local SEND and inclusion strategy, be noted.
- d) That the Board encourage ongoing engagement of key partners across education, health, and social care services in the Leeds area SEND and AP Partnership Board and planned activity as detailed in the report.

43 Pharmacy provision in Leeds

The report of the Chief Officer, Consultant for Public Health provided an update about the position of the Health and Wellbeing Board in relation to its role in pharmacy provision.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Caron Walker – Chief Officer, Consultant for Public Health

The following information was provided to Members:

- The report had been brought to the Board as an update of the broad approach to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment which will be required to be signed off every three years. This agreed assessment process will expire in September 2025 and a pre-plan had been prepared.
- The report set out the proposed plans and was overseen by the Board. An update was to be brought every six months, with the specific responsibilities of the Board contained within the report.

The following matters were identified during discussions:

- The new role of pharmacies and the qualitative aspect were queried, in response it was outlined that pharmacy provision was available online which helped address capacity and location issues.
- The nature of provision had changed with direct clinical and dispensary services available at pharmacies. It was noted that information for this was included as part of the assessment plan.
- The Chief Officer, Consultant for Public Health, was thanked for leading this additional work, alongside her usual work commitments.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the responsibilities of the HWB in relation to pharmaceutical service provision in Leeds, be noted.
- b) That the information within the notification log, which will be shared with the HWB six monthly as described above, ahead of each public meeting, be considered.
- c) That the proposed process outlined in this paper in regularly updating the HWB of changes to pharmaceutical service provision in Leeds, be agreed.

(Councillor S Arif left the meeting at the end of this item)

44 Election of Chair

As the Chair, Councillor S Arif, had to leave the meeting, Councillor J Dowson was nominated and seconded as the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

RESOLVED – That Councillor J Dowson be formally elected as Chair.

45 Leeds Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2024-27) and Leeds Suicide Audit (2019-21)

The report of the Director of Public Health/Leeds Strategic Suicide Prevention Board outlined the development of the Leeds Suicide Prevention Action plan - overseen by the Leeds Strategic Suicide Prevention Group with support from

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on the 23rd of July 2024

the Suicide Prevention Network which demonstrated the strategic and collaborative approach.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Caron Walker – Chief Officer, Consultant for Public Health
- Rachel Buckley - Health Improvement Principal (Public Mental Health)
- Jules Stimpson – Operations Manager – Leeds Mind

The following information was provided to Members:

- The audit was based on Coroner's records from the previous three years and was surveying all data from suspected suicides.
- The action plan was to be retained for three years and, although based on data, it was outlined that every statistic was a real person and support was offered to provide care for the associated trauma.
- The plan took a collaborative approach with data provided by the Office of National Statistics and from a previous Leeds Suicide Audit (2019-2021). There was a prevention group which met quarterly with attending partners noted as the NHS, ICB, primary care providers, Local Authorities, Highways, West Yorkshire Police, British Transport Police and the third sector.
- A network was led by Leeds Minds and facilitated guest speakers and launched campaigns.
- Data was gathered in real time for suspected suicide, with an email provided by the Police each week, including demographic data.
- Leeds averaged 11.89 suicides per 100,000 people which was the highest rate for any core city in the UK.
- The action plan was based on evidence and insight, with toxicology reports and Police statements providing a deep understanding of each case.
- There had been 194 suicides reported within the Leeds Suicide Audit (2019-2021) understood through 156 pieces of information outlining the high level data set and analysis.
- The audit allowed for a demographic breakdown through ethnicity, work and housing data. There were 26 recorded risk factors, with addiction and relationship issues being the most common cause for suicide. The audit would seek to understand the circumstances of deaths and inform signposting to access services.
- A Ward breakdown of statistics outlined that residents of inner city areas were more at risk, with poverty being a risk factor. Common risk factors were recorded, with both minor and major mental health issues taken seriously. Risks commonly occurred together, with most suicides averaging six risk factors. The best approach was to target efforts and understand the interconnectedness of risk.
- Real time data surveillance aimed to identify trends, allow timely postvention, join up partnership work, address potential clusters, assist with related trauma and provide an appropriate community response.
- Community and secure, safe places were important for care provision. Prevention methods and lives of individuals were complex and required calculated care.

- There were six key areas for prevention in the action plan noted as, addressing common risk factors through strategic leadership, an annual grant for the third sector, bereavement services, a compassionate approach to location, sensitive media reporting and making suicide everyone's business.
- There were courses available for staff and volunteers, including the 'check in with your mate' programme and collaborative work had been done with Leeds Rhino's to address stigmas and promote talking about mental health.
- A QR code was provided which led to information regarding advice and signing up to relevant programmes. A press release was due to promote the programmes and to promote the importance of open conversation, workplace plans and practises and a language guide.
- Seven asks of Members were contained in the recommendations.

During discussions with the Board, the following matters were considered:

- It was confirmed that the real time data was collated by Leeds Mind and the Police provided a spreadsheet each week with data for analysis and to identify connections; there was also the ability to go back and raise questions with the Police. Public Health data from previous years was also reflected on to identify trends.
- Families and friends were contacted and offered support as bereavement was a significant risk factor.
- The ICB conducted suicide prevention training which was built into the training programme.
- Work on predictive analysis was suggested to be linked internationally with new AI technology being able to predict risk at up to 75% accuracy with further technological improvements expected.
- GP records were suggested to input into risk factor analysis alongside training and awareness across primary care to make staff aware and alert to risk. A strategic approach was being tested for data systems flagging suicide risk factors and could be linked to GP surgeries.
- Cyberbullying was not contained within the audit, but national data gathering was in progress and a children's and young people action plan was to be checked for further information on this issue.
- There was the ability to challenge the Coroner on their reports as they complied evidence for a decision but did not pro-actively gather extra information, however, the extent of their workload was understood.
- A multiagency approach had been positive for professional judgement of causes and risk and helped push ethics and morality, with an increased ability for the activation of the Mental Health Act in circumstances that posed high risk.
- Analytics were appreciated and necessary but understanding and talking to people was the best reduction method as each case was complex. Risk assessments were practical but less personal, more informal health care with friends and groups were often more successful.
- Strategic prevention was to be prioritised to track trends, such as areas which were at a greater risk. It was noted that there was a trend for

smaller towns to be experiencing increased rates and risk. Data and evidence were to be used to target areas of increased risk.

- The IMD 1 for suicide noted men were at the most risk of suicide. Data for students displayed a decrease in suicides but was more apparent in news and media reporting. The whole picture needed to be understood and reported sensitively in the media.
- People suffering with suicidal thoughts may present themselves to a primary care provider with a physical condition and improved training methods were to help with risk factor identification.
- Ambassadors had been working in communities with a closer connection to people who may be in isolation and who would not contact formal support. Local shops and other amenities such as barbers were a good place for people, who may be off the radar of services, to talk and posters had been used for people to identify community ambassadors.
- Third sector and community groups were a good arena for open conversation and connecting people who may live in isolation. Listening to people's problems and what will help them was preferred rather than imposing needs upon them by formal services.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the headlines of the report which include the most recent data on suicide, references to the published evidence of what works to prevent suicide and findings from the latest Leeds Suicide Audit (2019-21), be noted.
- b) To have assurance on the Leeds Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2024-27), the collaborative approach taken in developing it and plans for delivery.
- c) To support Priority 6 of the Leeds Suicide Prevention Action Plan that Suicide Prevention is everybody's business - whereby actions can be taken across all organisations in Leeds. These include a commitment to;
 - Recognising that suicide is preventable
 - Providing quality suicide prevention training for staff and volunteers
 - Supporting citywide campaigns promoting protective factors for good mental health and wellbeing
 - Becoming a suicide prevention champion and supporting others to do so
 - Referring and/or offering bespoke and timely postvention support to anyone bereaved or affected by suicide
 - Supporting our aim to reduce the stigma associated with suicide by creating safe spaces for challenging stigma and practices that may cause harm to others.
 - Developing and delivering programmes of work to prevent suicide
- d) To support the work of the Leeds Strategic Suicide Prevention group in advocating for improved recording of protected characteristics, especially ethnicity data, via the Coronial process, by co-signing a letter to HM Chief Coroner alongside the Leeds Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles Scrutiny Board.

46 Health Protection Board Report

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on the 23rd of July 2024

The report of the Health Protection (HP) Board provided an overview of the progress made of the Health Protection System for 2023. This report further provided the Board with an outline of the fifth report of the Leeds Health Protection Board since it was established in June 2014.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Dawn Bailey – Chief Officer, Public Health (Adults and Health)
- Sharon Foster – Head of Public Health (Adults and Health)

The following information was provided to Members:

- The Health Protection Board was a statutory duty under Public Health and dealt with response plans for infectious diseases, waste and environmental hazards and was centred around pandemic responses.
- Emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic, the service had been busy activating outbreak plans and was now engaged with developing further pandemic plans, protecting the city, region, and country from new and emerging diseases.
- Within the health system, the HP Board held a leadership role for preparations and worked with partners to create robust plans for all eventualities.
- With social care reform in 2014, health protection had become fragmented but through the work of the HP Board the service's duties in Leeds were clear.
- The HP Board was partnered with the UK Health Security Agency and was in a good position to roll out key preventative methods, such as community outbreak management and control.
- Current outbreak risks were outlined as monkeypox, scabies and measles with recent activation plans developed.
- Vaccinations for MMR, Covid-19 and flu were noted to have a fairly low uptake and were encouraged, particularly for more vulnerable people. There were 20 programmes being run in schools for MMR vaccines.
- The role of the third sector was strong for connecting to the community and will to be involved in discussions at future HP Board meetings.
- Recent achievements of the service were methods to improve and protect against air quality issues and adaptability methods for adverse weather to protect the vulnerable. Holistic Needs Assessments were being run for respiratory illness.
- Infographics for protection from monkeypox, particularly focused towards children and their care providers had been produced.
- The progress of the HP Board was outlined as, monitoring over 100 indicators, acceleration of partnership work, better practises for addressing tuberculosis, good outbreak management plans, anti-biotic resilience plans, and addressing air quality and climate change impacts.
- Work for care provision and public health protection for asylum seekers was ongoing in regard to check ups and screening, with work focused in areas of deprivation and where people were most vulnerable.

The following matters were identified during discussions:

- Members were struck by the scope of the HP Board’s work and appreciated the work on the increased threat of climate change and the impact on demand for services.
- Members suggested it would be prudent for the Board to consider an item on preparedness for outbreaks and the impact of climate change at a future meeting.
- Methods for better leadership as a city were focused on connectivity and travel to understand how and where we are living and how it affects health and the implications it can have on wider communities.
- Prevention and proactiveness allowed a better approach to predict where an outbreak may occur and was understood to be heavily impacted by inequality, with housing quality and the potential for overcrowding worsened.
- Scabies outbreaks were challenging and often appeared due to living conditions.
- The uptake for the new alarm system, sent to people’s phones, for air quality issues was continuing to be progressed with clinicians engaged and with greater promotion.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the progress made on the Health Protection Board priorities as outlined in the Leeds Health Protection Board 2022, be noted.
- b) That the case studies highlighting the approach to managing significant infectious disease outbreaks in the city, be noted.
- c) That the key achievements, and targets for 2024, setting out recommended actions for the next 12 months, be noted.
- d) That comments on how the HWB can support the new emerging health protection priorities in relation to underserved populations, particularly those living in the most deprived 10% parts of the city, be noted.

47 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED - To note the date and time of the next meeting as Tuesday the 23rd of July 2024 at 9:00am.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 17TH APRIL, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors S Arif, D Coupar, M Harland,
H Hayden, A Lamb, J Lennox, J Pryor and
M Rafique

APOLOGIES: Councillor F Venner

116 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public
There was no information contained within the agenda which was designated as being exempt from publication.

117 Late Items
There were no late items of business submitted to the Board for consideration.

118 Declaration of Interests
Councillor S Arif declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as per her published Register of Interests with respect to agenda item 8 entitled, 'Investing in Area-Based Energy Efficiency Improvements to Back-to-Back Homes in Armley and Holbeck (Phase 3)'. As such, Councillor Arif advised the Board that she would leave the meeting room for the duration of the Board's consideration of that item (Minute No. 122 refers).

119 Minutes
RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th March 2024 be approved as a correct record.

RESOURCES

120 Financial Reporting 2023/24 - Provisional Outturn Month 11 (February)
The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report presenting an update on the financial position of the Authority at the Provisional Outturn, reflecting the first eleven months of the 2023/24 financial year. Specifically, the report reviewed the current position against the 2023/24 budget and provided an update on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Funds.

In presenting the report the Executive Member provided an overview of the key points which included the current forecasting of a balanced position for the General Fund in 2023/24 which would be achieved through the use of reserves. This included the use of the £17.7m from a refund from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and also £14.7m from the Merrion House reserve.

Members received further information on the directorate budget action plans which were in place to mitigate against the pressures detailed within the submitted report. This included the ongoing measures to monitor and manage the pressures arising from key areas of demand for services delivered through the Children and Families directorate.

Responding to a specific enquiry, the Board received further detail on the use of £14.7m from the Merrion House reserve which complements the Strategic Contingency Reserve to manage unforeseen budget pressures and is therefore being used as a contribution towards achieving a balanced position for the General Fund in 2023/24. The Board noted that external auditors were aware of such matters, and that there was no additional impact on the revenue budget as a result of using the Merrion House reserve in this way.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That it be noted that at Provisional Outturn (Month 11 of the financial year) the Authority's General Fund revenue budget is forecasting a balanced position for 2023/24 after the application of reserves;
- (b) That it be noted that at Provisional Outturn (Month 11 of the financial year) the Authority's Housing Revenue Account is forecasting a balanced position;
- (c) That it be noted that known inflationary increases, including demand and demographic pressures in Social Care, known impacts of the rising cost of living, including the NJC pay settlement of £1,925 and the JNC pay settlement of 3.5%, have been incorporated into this reported financial position, as submitted. That it also be noted that these pressures will continue to be reviewed during the year and reported to future Executive Board meetings as more information becomes available, and that proposals would need to be identified to absorb any additional pressures;
- (d) That it be noted that where an overspend is projected, directorates, including the Housing Revenue Account, are required to present action plans to mitigate their reported pressures and those of the Council's wider financial challenge where possible, in line with the Revenue Principles agreed by Executive Board in February 2023 through the annual Revenue Budget report.

COMMUNITIES

121 Cost of Living - Update Report

Further to Minute No. 71, 22 November 2023, the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report which provided an update on the cost-of-living situation in Leeds, and which reflected upon national policy interventions and the actions being taken by the Council and partners in response to such matters.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member provided an overview of the key issues being faced in Leeds in relation to the ongoing cost-of-living situation, together with details of the actions being taken by the Council and its partners. The significant levels of demand for support services was highlighted, whilst the Board also received an update on national policy developments.

Thanks was extended to those officers and partner organisations involved in the continued provision of key services in this area.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, be noted, and that the approach being adopted, be endorsed;
- (b) That it be noted that the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment will be responsible for overseeing and implementing any actions arising from the submitted report.

CLIMATE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACE

122 Investing in area-based energy efficiency improvements to back-to-back homes in Armley and Holbeck (Phase 3)

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report on proposals regarding the development of energy efficiency improvements to a number of back-to-back homes in some of the most deprived areas in Leeds, and which sought several approvals from Executive Board in order to progress such proposals.

In presenting the report the Executive Member provided an overview of the proposals within it, which would see a significant investment in energy efficiency improvements to 350 back-to-back homes in Armley and Holbeck. Details of the range of benefits arising from the proposals were highlighted, with it being noted that such improvements were in line with Leeds' Marmot City principles. It was also noted that a feasibility study was proposed to be undertaken on the 100 properties in Armley to ascertain the suitability of the area for ground source heat pumps.

Regarding the reference within the submitted report to 'Equans S.A.S' at recommendation (d), the Board noted that this should read 'Equans Regeneration Ltd.'

A Member raised an enquiry about the possibility of delivering further schemes to cover other areas in the city. In response, it was acknowledged that whilst the submitted proposals would build upon previous schemes, the potential delivery of further improvements would be welcomed, but with it being noted that any such proposals would be dependent upon securing further funding.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That, subject to the correction referenced above, the contents of the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the necessary authority be provided to enter into a grant agreement for £1.785m with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA); and that the necessary authority be provided to enter into a grant agreement for £4.5m with the Department for Levelling Up, Communities and Housing (DLUCH) via the Levelling Up Fund (LUF), with the latter being subject to the LUF grant award;
- (c) That the request to inject £1.785m of WYCA grant funding and £4.5m of DLUCH grant funding into the Capital Programme, be approved, supplemented by £6.3m of other income, as set out within the 'Resource Implications' section of the submitted report;
- (d) That the necessary authority to spend for £12.992m in order to deliver both entire programmes in Armley and Holbeck, be approved;
- (e) That the necessary authority to direct award to Equans Regeneration Ltd. via the Greener Futures Partnership Decarbonisation Delivery Framework, be approved;
- (f) That the necessary authority be delegated to the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment in order to enable the Director to determine whether to seek further WYCA funding of c£2.1m to part-fund phase 2 in Armley, subject to the outcome of the feasibility study; and that should this funding be secured, the necessary authority be delegated to the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment in order to provide the Director with the authority to procure, to inject into the Capital Programme and also provide the Director with the authority to spend.

(Further to Minute No. 118 above, Councillor Arif left the meeting room for the duration of the Board's consideration of this item, returning to the meeting at the conclusion of this item)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

123 Leeds Lane Rental Scheme - Highways

The Director of City Development submitted a report regarding the development of a potential Leeds Lane Rental Scheme. The report provided details of the benefits from such a scheme and sought approval to progress with key next steps in its proposed delivery. The proposed next steps were specifically in relation to the commencement of formal consultation with key stakeholders, and to delegate the necessary authority to officers, in consultation with the Executive Member, regarding the application to the Secretary of State and in relation to the timing, specific content and the implementation of the scheme.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member provided an overview of what the scheme would entail, the background to the proposals and the benefits arising from its delivery. It was also noted that the principal aim of the scheme would be to further reduce disruption caused by road and street works.

Responding to enquiries, the Board was advised that any potential impact on residents from highways works, including overnight works, would continue to be taken into consideration as they currently are as part of the existing permit scheme. It was noted that the aim would be to continue to deliver the best outcome for all, and to strike the correct balance when considering the competing demands upon the highway.

Regarding the revenue generated from the scheme, it was noted that the first call would be to reimburse any costs incurred from its delivery. In terms of the allocation of any surplus revenue, particularly with regard to highways maintenance improvements, it was noted that the Government's consultation on such matters was ongoing.

When considering how such a scheme may impact upon works required to deliver a mass transit project, it was highlighted that the Council would work alongside the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on such matters, as the Council would not want to inhibit the development of a mass transit scheme.

A Member enquired about the approach taken to address the backlog relating to highways maintenance and whether it could be reflected upon to ensure that local maintenance works including pothole repairs undertaken were as effective and efficient as possible. In response, it was noted that this was an area of service delivery that was intended to be reviewed over the coming year.

Regarding the references within the submitted report to 'Leeds Land Rental Scheme' at recommendations (a) and (b), the Board noted that these should read 'Leeds Lane Rental Scheme'.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That, subject to the corrections referenced above, the contents of the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the process and benefits of introducing a Leeds Lane Rental Scheme, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (c) That the progress made to date on the development of a Leeds Lane Rental Scheme, be noted;
- (d) That the commencement of formal consultation with key stakeholders, as identified in Department for Transport guidance and required as part of the development of a Leeds Lane Rental Scheme, be approved;

- (e) That the necessary authority be delegated to the Chief Officer Highways and Transportation, in conjunction with the Executive Member for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, to enable decision making on the timing, specific content, application to the Secretary of State and implementation of the Leeds Lane Rental Scheme.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

124 Adult Social Care Plan 2024 - 2027

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report presenting the Adult Social Care Plan for the period 2024 – 2027 for the Board’s consideration.

In presenting the report the Executive Member highlighted that the plan outlined the vision and priorities that would be focussed upon over the next three years as part of the Council’s delivery of its statutory duties under the Care Act 2014. It was highlighted that the plan had been informed by the Council’s Better Lives Strategy and supported the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. It was also noted that once agreed, the plan would be published and accompanied by an accessible summary document and other resources.

A Member enquired about the ways in which progress made against the plan’s priorities would be measured. In response, the Board received further detail on the range of metrics which would be used. These included the responses from the nationally reported surveys which gauge the opinion of both service users and carers, the demographic data gathered and also via engagement with service providers and partners. It was noted that conversations on such matters would continue, in order to monitor that services were accessible and being provided to those who needed them.

Responding to a specific request, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with the performance metrics used to monitor the progress being made.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the Leeds Adult Social Care Plan 2024 – 2027, as presented at appendix 2 to the submitted report, be noted, and that the Board’s approval be given to the plan’s publication, together with the Director of Adults and Health’s intention to publish an accessible summary of this plan;
- (b) That it be noted that the Director of Adults and Health is responsible for keeping the Leeds Adult Social Care Plan up to date, and also for providing regular updates on the delivery of the plan through the Leeds Local Account.

125 **Leeds Health Protection Board Report 2023**

The Director of Public Health submitted the fifth report of the Leeds Health Protection Board since it was established in June 2014. The report, which had been considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 21st March 2024, included an update on the Board's activity, detailed the progress made on the Health Protection Board priorities and highlighted the achievements of the health protection system.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member highlighted the key role that the Board played and noted that it was made up of partners from across the health protection system and chaired by the Director of Public Health.

Members received an overview of the work of the Board, including the local system response to new and emerging infectious diseases. It was also noted that the Board's aim was to deliver a one system approach to health protection risks and priorities in Leeds. Reference was also made to the range of performance indicators monitored in this area.

Thanks was extended to those officers involved in the key health protection work that continued to be undertaken.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the submitted report be noted, together with the following, as presented in the appended Leeds Health Protection Board Report 2023:-

- (a) The progress which has been made on the Health Protection Board priorities;
- (b) The case studies highlighting the approach to managing significant infectious disease outbreaks in the city; and
- (c) The key achievements, and the targets for 2024, setting out recommended actions for the next 12 months.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: FRIDAY, 19TH APRIL 2024

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00PM, FRIDAY, 26TH APRIL 2024

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 19TH JUNE, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors S Arif, D Coupar, H Hayden,
A Lamb, J Lennox, J Pryor, M Rafique and
F Venner

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Harland

1 Pre-Election Period of Heightened Sensitivity

The Chair reminded the Board that as a result of the General Election being called for the 4 July, the meeting was being held during the pre-election period of heightened sensitivity.

It was noted that whilst the purpose of the pre-election period was not to prevent the Council from carrying out its normal business, it was to prevent the business conducted by the Council being used, or being perceived as being used, to secure any electoral advantage.

Therefore, Members were asked to treat the meeting as a normal Board meeting, but being mindful not to enter into debate that amounts to, or could reasonably be perceived to amount to electioneering.

2 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There was no information contained within the agenda which was designated as being exempt from publication.

3 Late Items

There were no late items of business submitted to the Board for consideration.

4 Declaration of Interests

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared at the meeting.

5 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th April 2024 be approved as a correct record.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

6 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) – Review Process – Update Report

Further to Minute No. 83, 13th December 2023, the Director of Children and Families submitted a report setting out proposals regarding the ‘delivery stage’ of the new arrangements regarding Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) assessment and provision in Leeds. The report also presented the

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 24th July, 2024

Inquiry Report of the Children and Families Scrutiny Board into the provision of EHCP support for the Board's consideration.

The Executive Member introduced the report and in doing so, acknowledged that the Council currently was not delivering the level of service in this area that it wanted to. However, in response to this, it was highlighted that the steps outlined in the report, informed by the outcomes from the review, were being proposed to improve the timeliness by which EHCPs were delivered and improve the experience for children and their families. The significant increase in demand in this area was highlighted, which it was noted was a common experience for many other Authorities. The impact of such demand was emphasised, with staff being thanked for their continued efforts. It was noted that the proposed changes would help the Council achieve and maintain the improvements that were needed and that they would continue to be informed via the views of all relevant parties. As part of the proposals, external resource would be used to tackle the EHCP backlog. Thanks was also extended to the valued work of the Scrutiny Board in this area.

The Board welcomed Councillor Dan Cohen to the meeting, as Chair of the Scrutiny Board Children and Families, who was in attendance to introduce the related Scrutiny Board inquiry report and its recommendations, as included at Appendix 2 to the submitted report. In doing so, Councillor Cohen thanked all parties who had contributed to the Scrutiny Board inquiry and resultant report. Detail was provided on the aims of the inquiry, the areas which the inquiry had focussed upon and the range of stakeholders who had engaged in the process. The Board's attention was also drawn to several of the Scrutiny Board's recommendations. Councillor Cohen acknowledged that whilst some performance had improved, there was still huge room for improvement. It was noted that the Scrutiny Board intended to robustly monitor performance and looked forward to significant improvements being made.

Responding to a specific enquiry regarding the commissioning of the review work undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the Board was advised of the cost of the work undertaken. In addition, it was noted that PwC had been commissioned on the basis that a full review was required, which needed an objective view by an organisation with specialist experience. Given the detail and scope of the review, it was noted that the Council could not have conducted the same level of review internally. It was emphasised that the review had put the Council in a very good position to have a clear plan of implementation to realise its absolute commitment to achieve full compliance with statutory duties in this area and to ensure that the needs of children and families were met.

A Member sought assurance around the approach that would be taken to ensure that the current backlog was cleared whilst also delivering improvements at pace in order to enable statutory requirements to be met. In response, further detail was provided, which included the provision of additional resource, together with the cross-Council and multi-agency approach being taken to deliver improvements in key areas such as digitalisation and the reduction of bureaucracy.

A concern was raised on the specific proposal to change the operating model regarding the provision of 'Funding for Inclusion' (FFI). In response, further detail and context was provided on the reasons for the proposed change, its aims and how it was part of the Council's approach to ensuring that statutory requirements were met. In this case it was noted that this proposal was to ensure that children and young people had access to a statutory assessment in relation to SEND. It was highlighted that significant changes had been experienced in the sector since the introduction of FFI, which was another factor for the proposals. Detail was also provided on the continued consultation and engagement with relevant partners; on the number of children and young people currently in mainstream schools on FFI packages; and the innovative approaches being considered to ensure early intervention in relation to children's needs.

Whilst supportive of the other recommendations, a Member raised further concerns on the proposals regarding FFI and suggested that further detail was needed prior to a decision being made on this specific element. It was also requested that such matters be considered further with the involvement of Scrutiny. In response, it was undertaken that officers would provide a further briefing to the Member in question in relation to FFI, and it was also undertaken that the Executive Member together with officers were happy to work with Scrutiny going forward on this matter, and on the wider issue of EHCP provision.

In conclusion, it was highlighted that through these proposals, there was no suggestion that the Council would be putting less resource into supporting those with SEND, but that it would enable the Council to adapt its approach so that the significant increase in demand was met. It was also noted that where appropriate, representations would continue to be made seeking further resource.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposed changes to be made to the way in which EHCP processes are delivered in Leeds, as detailed within the submitted report, be agreed;
- (b) That the need to ensure that the views and experiences of children, young people, parents and carers are captured during the delivery of changes and improvements, be endorsed;
- (c) That the need to work in partnership with a range of stakeholders, especially schools and other specialist settings, to deliver improvements to EHCP arrangements across Leeds, be endorsed;
- (d) That in accordance with the established arrangements for reporting and commenting upon Scrutiny Board Inquiry reports, the concurrent Children and Families Scrutiny Board Inquiry report, as presented at Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be noted, together with the comments made during the Board's consideration of this Inquiry report.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor A Lamb required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

7 Little Owls Nurseries Review

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report which presented the findings from the review work undertaken into Little Owls nurseries provision to date, together with the associated consultation and engagement responses received. The report, in taking such findings into consideration, made a number of recommendations to the Board in relation to next steps.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member provided an overview of the proposals which were to close 3 of the Little Owls settings, undertake an exploration of other options for the future delivery of childcare in a further 12 settings, and for at least 9 Little Owls settings to remain in operation by the Council where most needed. The impact faced by those affected was acknowledged, however, the reasons for the proposals were highlighted, with reference being made to the significant financial challenges which continued to be faced. Details were also provided on the range of factors taken into consideration as part of the review.

As part of the proposals, it was highlighted that guaranteed places were available for those children currently attending the 3 settings proposed for closure at other local Little Owls nurseries. It was also noted that there were sufficient vacancies in settings within the service to accommodate affected staff.

Responding to a number of enquiries and concerns raised by a Member regarding the proposals, further information was provided on the following:

- The range of consultation and engagement which had been undertaken with parents and carers as part of the review;
- The information which was used to determine the cost per day for a place in a Little Owls setting;
- The actions which had been taken to reduce the overspend position during 2023/24;
- Further information was provided on the context within which the proposals were being made and the actions taken to date to reduce costs and to maximise efficiency;
- Responding to an enquiry regarding the alternative options which had been considered, the Board received further detail on the methodology used during the review that had led to the proposals as presented in the report;
- In responding to a question about the increase in fees that was needed to close the current overspend, it was highlighted that the Council looked to strike the correct balance to ensure that a sustainable service providing value was delivered, and which fulfilled the Council's statutory duties around sufficiency of places, whilst also operating within the agreed budgeted position;

- It was reiterated that guaranteed places were available for those children currently attending the 3 settings proposed for closure at other local Little Owls nurseries, with Members receiving an overview of the responses received to that offer.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That in general terms, the contents of the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that the Council will continue to directly deliver day care at the following Little Owls settings:
- Chapeltown
 - Harehills
 - Middleton Laurel Bank
 - New Bewerley
 - Swarcliffe
 - Two Willows
 - Little London
 - Seacroft
 - Armley Moor
- (c) That the consultation and engagement responses in relation to the proposal, as detailed within the submitted report and appendices, be noted; and having had regard to those, the withdrawal from and/or closure of Little Owls Gipton North, Little Owls Chapel Allerton and Little Owls Kentmere, be approved;
- (d) That following resolution (c) above, where possible and noting ancillary use, those buildings be declared surplus to operational requirements following the closedown of Little Owls functions;
- (e) That the initial consultation and engagement responses in relation to the proposal to explore the potential amalgamation of some Little Owls settings and to explore potential and viable interest from other providers, as detailed within the submitted report and appendices, be noted; and that agreement be given to the undertaking of a ‘market sounding exercise’ to deliver additional nursery places to replace specific Council run settings at the following locations:
- Shepherds Lane
 - City & Holbeck
 - Hunslet Rylestone
 - Meanwood
 - Parklands
 - Osmondthorpe
 - St Mary’s Hunslet
 - Quarry Mount
 - Rothwell
 - Hawksworth Wood
 - Bramley
 - Burley Park
- (f) That the subsequent ‘market sounding exercise’ in relation to the settings set out in resolution (e) above, be agreed, and that it be noted that those ‘market sounding exercises’ will commence immediately;
- (g) That it be noted that the Director of Children and Families may take further decisions in respect of the settings listed at resolution (e) above following the market sounding exercise for the twelve settings indicated, which would be as a direct consequence of this decision.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor A Lamb required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

8 Children Looked After, Sufficiency Strategy

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report presenting a draft Children Looked After Sufficiency Strategy which aimed to set out the Council's approach towards meeting its Sufficiency Duty and the needs of children in its care. Further to this, the report noted that detailed three-year profiles and implementation plans would sit underneath the strategy and would be monitored monthly and updated annually.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member highlighted the importance of this service area and the key benefits arising from the delivery of an effective sufficiency strategy. It was noted that the voices of children and young people with lived experience were highlighted within the strategy. The Council's corporate parent role was also emphasised as a key consideration.

The need for the strategy to deliver the best outcomes for children and young people was highlighted, whilst emphasis was also placed upon the key role that this service area played in terms of the Council's management of its ongoing financial challenge.

A Member raised an enquiry which sought reassurance that through the strategy the Council would deliver the changes which were needed at the pace required. In response, the Board received an overview of the aims and ambitions of the strategy, and the actions being taken to deliver it. Key aspects included the cross-Council approach being undertaken and the additional resource from within the directorate being utilised.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposed Children Looked After Sufficiency Strategy, as presented at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be agreed, and that the comments raised by the Board during the consideration of this item, be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that this strategy document will be subject to regular review, and that any significant changes may mean that the Sufficiency Strategy is re-presented to Executive Board for endorsement.

9 Update report – Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) on serious youth violence in Leeds

The Director of Children and Families and the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a joint report providing an overview of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) undertaken into the response of Leeds' multi-agency partnership of the Local Authority, Police, violence reduction partnership and health services to children affected by serious youth violence. The report noted that the inspection was undertaken in March 2024, with the resulting inspection report published on 16th May 2024. The report presented the findings in the published inspection report and the proposals in terms of next steps and actions.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member provided an overview of the key elements of the inspection. The strengths of the service identified within

the inspection report were noted, with the improvements which had been made regarding multi-agency relationships being highlighted. However, it was emphasised that the Council was not complacent in this area and that an action plan was underway to look to further develop and improve the service.

Responding to enquiries, the Board received further detail on the actions being taken to address the 3 areas for improvement which had been identified.

Regarding the requirement for a plan to be compiled and submitted in response to the report's findings, the Board noted that this was being produced in collaboration with key partners. In response to a Member's enquiry regarding the democratic oversight of the plan, it was undertaken that the plan could be shared with the Scrutiny Chair when completed, and that the Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive would oversee the implementation of the plan, in line with expectations.

Thanks was extended to all those involved in the delivery of support for young people in this complex area, including services across the Council and also in terms of the key role played by partner organisations.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the submitted update report, be noted;
- (b) That the findings in the published inspection report, as appended to the submitted cover report, be noted;
- (c) That it be noted that the Children and Families directorate accept the findings of the inspection and will address any areas for improvement for the Local Authority in partnership with Safer Leeds, as identified by the inspection team;
- (d) That it be noted that Leeds City Council is the principal authority and should prepare a written statement of proposed action responding to the findings outlined in the report, which should be a multi-agency response involving the individuals and agencies that the inspection report is addressed to. That it also be noted that the response should set out the actions for the partnership and, when appropriate, individual agencies, and that the local safeguarding partners should oversee the implementation of the action plan through their local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

10 Children's Transport Policy: Permission to Consult on Proposed Changes to Transport Assistance for Post-16 Learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report which sought approval for the Council to undertake a period of consultation on a range of proposals regarding the future provision of transport assistance for post-16 learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

In presenting the report, the Executive Member highlighted that should the proposal for consultation be agreed, the intention was to submit a further report to the Board in October 2024 presenting the consultation findings and any associated proposals. The context and factors which had led to the proposal to undertake consultation in relation to this service area were noted, and it was highlighted that any changes which were delivered would be phased in from September 2025 for new applications.

Concern was raised by a Member regarding the recommendation within the report that the decisions from it be exempted from Call In. In response, it was highlighted that the proposed consultation was required to be undertaken during school term time and that the subsequent report due to be submitted in October outlining any proposals to change the service would be eligible for Call In. It was also highlighted that due to the level of transformation across the directorate, the work which had been undertaken to date on this matter and due to the capacity available, it had meant that this was the earliest opportunity to submit this report to the Board.

A further concern was raised about the principles of the proposals, and the need to ensure that the requirements of young people needed to be prioritised ahead of the need to save money.

Members discussed the benefits of independent travel training and the scale at which it was being delivered.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That in general terms, the contents of the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the plan for consultation to take place over a four-week period starting 24th June 2024 and closing on 21st July 2024 on a range of proposals for post-16 SEND transport assistance, be approved;
- (c) That it be agreed that the findings from the consultation be used in the preparation of a new post-16 SEND transport offer, with it being noted that it is currently planned for this to be presented to Executive Board for approval in October 2024;
- (d) That the resolutions from this report ((a) – (e)) be exempted from the Call In process for the reasons as set out in paragraphs 32 – 34 of the submitted report;
- (e) That it be noted that the officer responsible for the implementation of such matters is the Director of Children and Families.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor A Lamb required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

(The Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state that a decision may be declared as being exempt from the Call In process by the

decision taker if it is considered that the matter is urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's, or the public's interests. In line with this, the resolutions contained within this minute were exempted from the Call In process, as per resolution (d) above, and for the reasons as set out within sections 32 - 34 of the submitted report and as discussed during the meeting)

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

11 Celebrating and Commemorating the life of Rob Burrow CBE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which celebrated and commemorated the life of Rob Burrow CBE, who sadly died on 2nd June 2024 after suffering from Motor Neurone Disease (MND) since his diagnosis in late 2019. The report highlighted how much adoration and recognition had been shown for Rob and provided Executive Board with an opportunity to reflect upon his life and his achievements.

In presenting the report, the Leader highlighted how the report set out the Council's proposed approach to commemorating the life of Rob Burrow. It was noted that in January 2023 both Rob and Kevin Sinfield CBE had been made Honorary Freemen of the City of Leeds. This was in recognition of their contribution to Leeds in terms of their sporting achievements and also their charitable work with the MND Association and their support to the wider MND community.

It was undertaken that the Council will work with Rob's family, Leeds Rhinos and MND charities to ensure that a fitting memorial is established for Rob.

Members echoed the comments made, highlighting how Rob transcended the world of sport and had a huge impact upon the city of Leeds and beyond. Members supported the wish to continue his legacy and commemorate and honour Rob, taking into account the wishes of his family.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That continued support be given to the celebration and commemoration of the life of Rob Burrow CBE and to his contribution to rugby league, the ongoing fight against MND and to showing the world how to live courageously and illustrating the meaning of true friendship;
- (b) That the work being undertaken to mark Rob's life and legacy, be supported, via engagement with Leeds Rhinos and Rob Burrow CBE's family in the most appropriate way in order to support Rob's ambitions, which included work to build the Leeds MND Centre and finding a cure for MND.

RESOURCES

12 Financial Health Monitoring 2023/24 - Outturn Financial Year Ended 31st March 2024

The Chief Officer, Financial Services submitted a report which presented an update on the financial performance of the Authority against the 2023/24 Revenue and Capital budgets at the Outturn of the financial year. The report also recommended actions in relation to several areas including the flexible use of Capital Receipts, the creation of earmarked reserves and injections into the Capital Programme.

In presenting the report the Executive Member provided an overview of the key points in which a balanced position for 2023/24 was being reported through the use of the £17.7m refund from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and also through use of part of the Merrion House reserve. It was also highlighted that directorates had delivered 77% of savings required, with all directorates being thanked for their contribution towards this.

A Member raised enquiries regarding the reasons for the use of £10.25m Adults and Health reserves in order for the directorate to achieve a balanced budget in 2023/24 and the impact of that upon reserve levels. In response, the Board received further information with it being noted that this was due to significant increase in demand for specific services, which had now stabilised in some areas. Whilst it was acknowledged that this was a challenging position, further detail was provided on the actions that continued to be taken by the directorate in this area.

In terms of the lessons which had been learned from the experience in Adults and Health directorate and whether this could be shared with Children and Families directorate, the Board received information regarding the cross-directorate work which was being undertaken. Further detail was provided on the approach being taken in this area across the Council generally and within Children and Families directorate specifically.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board received an update on the impact regarding the removal of the Maximum Assessed Charge (MAC) cap in relation to non-residential Adult Social Care, with Members noting the actions which were taken in the preparation and delivery of the policy in order to achieve a smooth transition.

In response to an enquiry about the delivery of the strategy in place to manage and deliver the Children and Families directorate budget moving forward, assurance was provided that robust and appropriate plans were in place, together with the cross-Council approach to address the ongoing challenges. It was noted that this was however within the context of the significant issues being experienced nationally including major challenges regarding demand and demography.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That it be noted that at Outturn, the Authority's General Fund revenue budget is reporting a balanced position after the application of reserves and one off measures;
- (b) That it be noted that during the year where an overspend was projected, directorates, including the Housing Revenue Account, were required to present action plans to mitigate their reported pressures, in line with the amended Revenue Principles agreed by Executive Board in February 2024, with it also being noted that savings actions identified are included within the submitted report;
- (c) That it be noted that known inflationary increases, including demand and demographic pressures in Social Care, known impacts of the rising cost of living, and the agreed 2023/24 pay award, have been incorporated into this reported financial position;
- (d) That it be noted that that at Outturn the Authority's Housing Revenue Account is reporting a balanced position after a contribution of £0.9m to reserves;
- (e) That the updated planned use of flexible use of Capital Receipts, be approved as follows, following Full Council's approval of the Strategy for the flexible use of Capital Receipts at the February 2023 Budget, as set out at paragraph 3.1 in Appendix 1 of the submitted report:
- £1.52m Voluntary Leaver Scheme costs and flexible retirements;
 - £0.35m Strategy & Resources' staff supporting transformational projects/ work;
 - £0.35m Communities' staff supporting transformational projects/ work in climate change and Community Hubs;
- (f) That in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, the creation of earmarked reserves, as detailed at Appendix 5 to the submitted report, be approved, and that their release be delegated to the Chief Officer, Financial Services;
- (g) That in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, approval be given for the following injections into the Capital Programme, as detailed at Appendix 6A(iii) to the submitted report:
- £8,029.4k of 24/25 High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA) Grant;
 - £7,758.6k of additional funding injections to HRA Schemes;
 - £1,313.5k of external contributions for works on Highways schemes;
 - £1,000.0k of additional Highways Grant for the TCF City Centre Cycle Network scheme;
 - £110.5k of additional departmental borrowing for the Waste Depot scheme; and
 - £2,416.1k of other external contributions;

- (h) That the additional Capital Receipts Incentive Scheme (CRIS) allocations to Wards and Community Committees for the period October 2023 to March 2024 of £0.2m, be noted;
- (i) That it be noted that the Chief Officer, Financial Services is responsible for the implementation of such matters following the conclusion of the Call In period.

13 Treasury Management Outturn 2023/24

The Chief Officer, Financial Services submitted a report which presented the Council's Treasury Management position as at the Outturn for the 2023/24 financial year.

The Executive Member introduced the report, and paid tribute to the officers involved in the area of Treasury Management for the outcomes which had been achieved. The lower than forecasted borrowing levels were highlighted.

An enquiry was raised which sought further information and context regarding the less than forecasted borrowing levels, which were a result of the Council being underspent on the Capital Programme. In response, the Board was provided with further information in relation to the underspend and noted that it was not an intentional strategy but that schemes had slipped into the next year, which would be for a range of reasons.

RESOLVED – That the Treasury Management outturn position for 2023/24, as presented within the submitted report, be noted; with it also being noted that treasury activity has remained within the Treasury Management Strategy and Policy framework.

ECONOMY, TRANSPORT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

14 Leeds Business Improvement District Ballot (2025 - 2030)

The Director of City Development submitted a report which presented proposals regarding the Council's role in operating the Leeds Business Improvement District (LeedsBID) ballot for a third term for the period 2025-2030.

The Executive Member introduced the report providing an overview of the key points and highlighting LeedsBID's intention to increase the geographical area of the BID by extending it south of the river into the South Bank. It was noted that this would increase the number of businesses in the BID by 100. Also, an update on footfall figures for the city centre was provided.

Clarification was provided that a further report would be submitted to the Board in September 2024 regarding LeedsBID's Business Plan for 2025-2030 and also in relation to the Council's vote in the upcoming ballot.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board was provided with further detail on LeedsBID's consultation with stakeholders regarding the proposed geographical expansion of the BID area.

Also, further detail was provided on the work which had been undertaken in the city centre by the BID to date, and the positive impact that had been noted both in terms of footfall in the city centre and also from an economic perspective.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the arrangements for the Council to operate a ballot, as presented in the submitted report, and in accordance with the statutory role of the Local Authority as set out in the BID regulations 2004, be approved;
- (b) That the draft Statement of Services, as presented in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be approved, and in doing so, the Board provides a commitment to continue to maintain provision of services within the LeedsBID area;
- (c) That the proposed Operating Agreement, as presented at Appendix 3 to the submitted report, be approved;
- (d) That the stages and timescales, as outlined within the submitted report, which are required to implement the Board's resolutions, be noted, with it also being noted that the Head of City Centre Management is responsible for the implementation of such matters;
- (e) That it be noted that a further report will be submitted to Executive Board in September 2024 containing LeedsBID's Business Plan for 2025-2030 and that will provide a recommendation for the Council's vote in the upcoming ballot. That it also be noted that additional financial information will be provided at this time;
- (f) That LeedsBID's intention to extend their geographical area into the South Bank of the city centre, be noted, with it also being noted that in line with BID regulations, this change requires a new ballot to be held rather than a renewal ballot.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: FRIDAY, 21ST JUNE 2024

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00PM, FRIDAY, 28TH JUNE 2024

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COUNCIL MEETING – 10th JULY 2024

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	1/7/24	2/7/24

Submitted by:	Councillor Jonathan Pryor
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Deputy Leader of Council
Relevant Director	Director of Strategy and Resources

Council recognises the outstanding contribution of Rob Burrow CBE to both his rugby league career and raising awareness of Motor Neurone Disease. His courage, commitment and inspirational strength of character was recognised last year with Leeds’ highest civic honour, Freedom of the City.

Council commends the way in which Rob fought tirelessly to raise funds for the development of an MND Care Centre in Leeds and further the fight to find a cure for MND as well as the tremendous courage shown by both him and his family as they shared his personal story since his diagnosis in 2019.

Council shares with the wider Leeds community and further, the sadness at Rob’s passing and commits to working with his family and the Leeds Rhinos to ensure his life and legacy are remembered in a way that supports Rob’s ambitions.

Jonathan Pryor

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
 - Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
 - Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
- (including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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