



## SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING & COMMUNITIES) CONSULTATIVE MEETING

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Consultative Meeting to be held remotely\* on  
Thursday 17 June at 10.00am

There will be a pre-meet for all Board members at 9.30am.

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### MEMBERSHIP

Cllr J Akhtar	– Little London and Woodhouse
Cllr B Anderson (Chair)	– Adel and Wharfedale
Cllr A Blackburn	– Farnley and Wortley
Cllr K Brooks	– Little London and Woodhouse
Cllr R Charlwood	– Moortown
Cllr D Collins	– Horsforth
Cllr M Dobson	– Garforth and Swillington
Cllr R Finnigan	– Morley North
Cllr A Gabriel	– Beeston and Holbeck
Cllr P Grahame	– Cross Gates and Whinmoor
Cllr C Howley	– Weetwood
Cllr M Midgley	– Kippax and Methley
Cllr D Ragan	– Burnmantofts and Richmond Hill
Cllr K Ritchie	– Bramley and Stanningley
Cllr T Smith	– Pudsey

Note to observers of the meeting: To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'To View Meeting' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

[210715 Environment, Housing & Communities Agenda Pack](#)

\*This is being held as a remote 'consultative' meeting. While the meeting will be webcast live to enable public access, it is not being held as a public meeting in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

**Principal Scrutiny Advisor:  
Rebecca Atherton  
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# A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS</b></p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary or other interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-16 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
2			<p><b>NOTES</b></p> <p>To consider for information the notes of the consultative Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board meeting held on 17 June 2021.</p>	5 - 12
3			<p><b>SAFER LEEDS UPDATE</b></p> <p>To receive an update from the Chief Officer (Safer Leeds) about performance against priorities included in the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018 -21, and to present the draft Safer, Stronger Communities: City Plan 2021-24.</p>	13 - 40
4			<p><b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE</b></p> <p>To outline the implications for Leeds of the Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 and to further update members on the impact of the recent Covid-19 pandemic on domestic violence and abuse.</p>	41 - 54
5			<p><b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b></p> <p>To consider and discuss a report from the Head of Democratic Services on the appointment of co-opted members to the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities).</p>	55 - 58
6			<p><b>WORK SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>To consider the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year.</p>	59 - 84

**DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board will take place on **23 September at 10.30am**. There will be a pre-meet for board members at **10am**.

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## SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES) - CONSULTATIVE MEETING

THURSDAY, 17TH JUNE, 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor in the Chair

Councillors J Akhtar, B Anderson,  
A Blackburn, K Brooks, D Collins,  
M Dobson, R Finnigan, A Gabriel,  
P Grahame, C Howley, M Midgley,  
D Ragan, K Ritchie and T Smith

### 1 **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

### 2 **Minutes - 25 March 2021**

**RECOMMENDED**– That the minutes of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board meeting held 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 be noted.

### 3 **Scrutiny Boards Terms of Reference**

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report that presented the Board's terms of reference for information.

It was noted that the remit of the Scrutiny Board had changed with digital access and the contact centre now part of Strategy and Resources remit.

**RECOMMENDED** – That the Board's terms of reference be noted.

### 4 **Performance Update**

The report of the Directors of Resources and Communities, Housing & Environment provided a summary of performance against the strategic priorities for the council and city and other performance areas relevant to the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board. The report also provided an update on progress in delivering the council priorities in line with the Best Council Plan and covered quarter 4 (Year-End) Performance.

In attendance for this item were:

- Cllr Harland – Executive Member Communities
- Cllr Rafique – Executive Member Environment and Housing
- Cllr Hayden – Executive Member Infrastructure and Climate Change
- James Rogers - Director of Communities, Housing & Environment
- Tim Rollett - Intelligence and Policy Manager
- Adam Crampton - Head of Property management
- Nahim Ruhi-Khan - Head of Strategy and Investment
- Sean Flesher – Chief Officer, Parks and Countryside
- Gerard Tinsdale - Chief Officer, Housing

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Thursday, 15th July, 2021

- Kate Morris - Head of Transport Planning
- John Woolmer – Chief Officer Environmental Services Communities, Housing & Environment

Members discussions focussed on the following matters:

- Temporary accommodation
- Adaptations - Members were of the view that listing adaptations by ward variation and estate variation may provide better information.
- Unauthorised Encampments.
- Service charges for tower blocks.
- Re-let times and disrepairs.
- Housing Benefit expenditure. It was noted that the service can differentiate between council house and private claims if need a breakdown. In relation to the Welfare Rights Team Cllr Ritchie asked the Board to note the “first class” service the officers provide.
- Bin collection rates including concerns in relation to the assisted collection service.
- Residential parking permits and inappropriate parking in residential areas.
- Leeds Park Standard and information in relation to weed spraying.

Responding to questions from Members the Board was provided with the following information:

- There are fewer than 40 instances of temporary accommodation being used in the city. However, numbers using temporary accommodation had seen a significant rise to between 240-250 at one point during the pandemic. Use of temporary accommodation in Leeds is substantially lower than other cities.
- The adaptations service has had reduced capacity due to Covid, but it was hoped that the service would be back on track by the end of this financial year.
- Prior to the pandemic, work had started to look for new sites for gypsy and travellers in the city. This work had now re-started and officers would be speaking with ward members.
- Information would be sought in relation to service charges and a written update provided.
- Void numbers had increased due to the pandemic and difficulties accessing the required materials. The Board discussed pressures on global supply chains for materials such as composite doors and plaster. However, as the restrictions start to be lifted work has now started up again. It was noted that tenants were able to check on repairs to void properties. The service was also looking to allow new tenants into properties whilst works are undertaken.
- Significant work is being undertaken to address repairs but as noted, there have been difficulties in accessing materials. This has caused a rise in complaints in relation to repairs. It was also noted that a new contract with Mears for the west had been agreed and is due to start in July. Members were advised that this would not be a continuation of

the contract with Mears and that a briefing note would be provided to Members setting out the specification changes of the contract.

- Members were advised of a move away from the annual visits to council homes towards an online 'check in' service. However, should concerns be raised with a tenancy, an officer would visit the property.
- It was acknowledged that there had been issues with bin collections including assisted bin collections. The refuse service has faced challenges through the pandemic with a reduced workforce, vehicles out of service for deep clean, temporary staff not familiar with routes and end of day reporting on missed streets. However, the service has set up a project team reviewing routes, prioritising improvements to end of day reporting and using back up crews to try and collect missed streets within 48 hours.
- Clarity was provided on criteria for residents parking permits. It was noted that these schemes were not reviewed, they were assessed and if no issues were raised the scheme remained in place.
- It was noted that Parks and Countryside had been unable to supply floral displays across the city due to the restrictions of the pandemic and reduced staffing. However, assurance was given that floral displays will be re-instated when the restrictions allow.
- Data could be provided in relation to the Leeds Park Standard and suggestions in relation to repairs to equipment and facilities could be provided as additional information to the report.

The Chair thanked all those who had attended for this item and said that the work which had gone into providing the report was appreciated by the Board.

**RECOMMENDED – To**

- a) Note the Quarter 4 performance information contained in the Appendices to this report and the issues which have been highlighted and consider if they wish to undertake further scrutiny work to support improvement over the coming year in any of these areas.
- b) Note that the Best Council Plan (BCP) sets out the council's key objectives and priorities. This report provides an overview of the relevant Environment, Housing and Communities performance relating to this plan, enabling the Scrutiny Board to consider and challenge the council's performance.

## **5 Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team Review: Implementation Update**

The report of the Chief Officer, Safer Leeds provided the Board with an update on the outcome of the LASBT review, which was implemented in 2019.

In attendance for this item were:

- Paul Money - Chief Officer, Safer Leeds
- Claire Smith - ASB Delivery Manager

The Board was provided with a presentation which covered the following points:

- Why the service had been reviewed
  - Ensure long term sustainability
  - Increased demand on service
  - LASBT becoming a 'catch all'
  - Increased Vulnerability
- Key areas of focus
  - Triage system for referrals
  - Creation of a Community MARAC
  - Review of Mediation provision
  - Review of Noise Processes
  - Creation of a communication plan
  - Re-location of the LASBT West Team
  - Development of an ASB Strategy
- Review completed but still evolving
  - Reducing re-offending
  - Drugs and Alcohol
  - Youth Justice Partnership
  - Serious Organised Crime
  - Gypsy and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

The Boards discussions included:

- The trial of a noise app.
- Partnership working with housing.
- Proposals for mediation.
- The revised website and the use of the Decision Tree for reporting anti-social behaviour.

In response to the Boards questions officers provided the following information:

- It was recognised that mediation could be a powerful investment for the future. Proposals for this had started for procurement of the service prior to Covid.
- The website has been developed over the last 12 months, and now includes the decision tree which offers advice as well as sign posting to other services where appropriate.
- The CAT's system is being used to log information and is acknowledged that it is more user friendly which has increased public confidence in the service.
- The closer partnership between LASBT and housing is proving to be a effective in enabling officers to address more complex cases.
- The service is looking to recommence Operation Champions.



It was noted that Members would be informed when the Noise App was launched.

**RECOMMENDED** – To note the contents of the report.

## **6 Parking Strategy and Management Update**

The report of the Director of City Development and Director of Communities, Housing and Environment was a follow up from a previous report to Scrutiny Board in September 2019 and working group discussion in February 2020. The report responds to a request from the Board to discuss the city centre parking strategy and its wider context.

The report provided a high-level overview of city centre parking strategy. It goes on to outline the general approach to the management of on-street parking in those areas surrounding the city centre and outside the main city centre controlled parking management area. The report also reviews issues related to the COVID pandemic and lockdowns, including discussion relating to the Council's Park and Ride Operations at Elland Road and Temple Green.

In attendance for this item were:

- Cllr Hayden – Executive Member for Infrastructure and Climate Change
- Cllr Rafique – Executive Member for Environment and Housing
- Mark Jefford - Service Manager
- Kate Morris - Head of Transport Planning
- Nick Hunt - Traffic Engineering Manager
- John Mulcahy - Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory

Members discussions focussed on the following areas:

- Enforcement action for those commuters who are choosing to park beyond the city centre into the adjacent inner-city residential areas causing nuisance, anti-social behaviour and loss of amenity to residents.
- Park and Rides Schemes which have proved to be successful with a request for similar schemes to be available in other areas of the city.
- Use of technology to enable disabled drivers to locate disabled parking spaces in the city.
- Traffic Restriction Order schemes. Members were of the view that such schemes should be in discussion with relevant ward members to ensure that they were in the right areas.
- Concerns were raised in relation to parking on pavements which Members recognised did not fall within the remit of Parking Enforcement Officers, but with the Police. Members were of the view that clarification was required in relation to inappropriate parking on pavements.
- Section 106 funding in relation to traffic management.

Responding to questions from Members the Board were informed of the following:

- Enforcement action for overspill parking outside the city centre was an ongoing challenge. Work was progressing to review the true city centre boundary with a view to improving enforcement action.
- A pilot scheme with a private operator is currently being trialled for the use of technology to assist disabled drivers to locate parking spaces in the city.
- Development Control do try to secure funding around all new developments in the city. It was acknowledged that the funding was dependent on the scale of the development.

The Executive Members thanked the officers for the work that they were doing in relation to enforcing against inappropriate parking in the city. They recognised the issues raised by the Board and were able to empathise with ward members on the issues that overspill parking caused to residents.

It was acknowledged that the Parking Service needed better relationships with the Police and other services to enable them to continue to address and provide solutions on parking issues across the city.

The Chair thanked the officers for the report and their attendance at the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED** – To note and consider the contents of the report.

## **7 Sources of Work**

This item was considered alongside Agenda Item 10 – Work Programme.

## **8 Work Programme**

This item was considered alongside Agenda Item 9 – Sources of Work.

The report of the Head of Democratic Services set out a draft work schedule for the Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board which was presented at Appendix 1 for consideration and discussion. Reflected in the work schedule were known items of scrutiny activity, such as performance and budget monitoring, identified Budget and Policy Framework items and recommendation tracking.

Members were invited to look at the reports discussed and contact either the Chair or the PSA with regards to any areas of potential work.

Members were asked to further consider the draft inquiry report regarding the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks (Appendix 3). It was noted that formal agreement of the report must take place at a meeting of the Scrutiny Board that is held in accordance with the 1972 Local Government Act. However, members were asked to agree any amendments and recommend publication of a final version once formal approval is provided at the next suitable meeting.

**RECOMMENDED**– To

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Thursday, 15th July, 2021

- a) Consider and discuss the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year.
- b) Consider the draft inquiry report relating to the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks (Appendix 3) with a view to a final version being formally approved at the next Scrutiny meeting held in accordance with the 1972 Local Government Act.

**9 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RECOMMENDED** – To note the date and time of the next meeting as 15th July 2021, at 10.30 am (there will be a pre-meet for members at 10 am)

*The meeting concluded at 12:50*

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## Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-21 – Annual Update 2021

Date: 15 July 2021

Report of: Chief Officer Safer Stronger Communities

Report to: Scrutiny Board

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

### **What is this report about?**

#### **Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions**

- This report the annual update against priorities included in the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018 -21
  - Keeping people safe from harm
  - Preventing and reducing offending
  - Creating safer, stronger communities
- This report presents the draft Safer, Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24.

### **Recommendations**

- a) The Board is asked to note the content of the report, and feedback where appropriate.

### Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The Board was updated on the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-21 and has asked for annual updates against the priorities included within the Strategy.

### What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards Affected:**

Have ward members been consulted?  Yes  No

- 2 The content of the report should be noted in relation to the draft Safer Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24, which is effectively the Safer Leeds strategy is moving forwards.

### What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 The following consultation was undertaken during the development of the strategy and annual updates have taken place against activities contributing to the agreed priorities.
- 4 The SLE has a statutory requirement to produce an annual Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) to assess the scale and nature of crime and disorder in the city and to identify medium to long term issues affecting community safety. The JSA includes analysis of a range of both quantitative and qualitative data from across the partnership. It identified a number of reoccurring themes and this information and intelligence has therefore been used to inform delivery plans that underpin the overarching Strategy.
- 5 Evidence from public consultation via the Office of the Crime and Commissioner and intelligence collated from residents accessing services delivered by Community Safety, such as the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team, have been used to inform the contents of the strategy along with a range of Outcomes Based Accountability sessions held with operational professionals and service users during 2016 and 2017.
- 6 Partners and representatives from a range of stakeholders (Leeds City Council; West Yorkshire Police; West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service; National Probation Trust; Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group, the Voluntary and Community Sector, West Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company; HM Prison Service, Leeds Children's Trust Board; Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board, Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board; Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) have helped shape and contributed to the new Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy).

### What are the resource implications?

- 7 Resources are currently in place to deliver the strategy, however efficiencies of £382k over the last three years have been delivered against the net managed budget for Safer Leeds.

- 8 Further efficiency savings identified through the corporately supported ELI scheme towards the end of 2020/21 have resulted in work to bring both Safer Leeds and Communities Team together to form one new service area “Safer and Stronger Communities” which will build on existing relationships to contribute to the priorities within the new Safer, Stronger Communities Strategic Plan, to share examples of best practice, review areas of cross over between teams to ultimately provide better outcomes.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 9 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information. The report is ineligible for Call In, as the Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state: ‘The power to call in decisions does not extend to decisions made in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules’. This is one such decision. In line with the Budget & Policy Framework Procedure Rules, the matter has been considered by the relevant Scrutiny Board.

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

- 10 National changes to government legislation and prioritisation have brought both challenges and opportunities for the city. The following operational boards are in place to manage both the risks and threats that are presented:
- Anti-Social behaviour Board
  - Domestic Violence and Abuse Board
  - Hate Crime Strategic Board
  - Reducing Reoffending Board
  - Serious & Organised Crime Board
  - Strategic Sex Working Board
- 11 There are significant risks associated with budget reductions, these have been managed within the financial year ensuring value for money and review existing service delivery

### **Does this proposal support the council’s 3 Key Pillars?**

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

## **Appendices**

- 12 Appendix 1 - Annual Community Safety Activity and Performance - 2020/21  
13 Appendix 2 – Safer Leeds Performance Information  
14 Appendix 3 - Safer Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24

## **Background papers**

- 15 Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-21

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**Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-21 – Annual Update 2021**

**1. Street Support**

A person centred delivery model has improved service co-ordination and delivery for people in need. Some examples of system change and new ways of working across the system include, pre Covid include:

- Daily tasking and co-ordination, utilising collective intelligence and insight to identify and prioritise individuals in need. A revised daily programme of assertive outreach and positive engagement, to encourage take up of offers of services and where required assigning lead professionals and key workers to work with individuals to undertake assessments and develop tailored 'move-on' plans.
- Introduction of 'in-reach' staff provision at the local hospital and prison to reduce risk of people returning to the streets.
- Introduction of on street medical provision with access to patient records and increase access to health and wellbeing services.
- Improved the allocations of people to properties through a partnership meeting and includes the existing pathways through Housing Services and Registered Social Landlords.
- Pilot of a female Somewhere Safe to Stay Hub, a gender informed response
- Developed an innovative spice detox programme and provided training and equipping the team with Naloxone, a lifesaving drug.
- Embedded a partnership approach to adult safeguarding, utilising risk management tools and pathways
- Worked with grass roots charities and developed the Leeds Homeless Charter and devised a set of standards of how organisations should work people in need on the streets, shaped by the voice of people with lived experience.
- Introduction of 'navigators' to support people in their homes to maintain tenancies and reduce the risk of returning to the streets

During the last 12 months we have also worked on increasing the accommodation offer, a blended approach to meet the needs of people and at the same time ensuring where needed people are assigned a named 'navigator' as part of a planned wrap around support package, to aid move-on and reduce attrition rates. This strategy, has included both the Council's provision and new offers through external funding.

Below provides a flavour of the key components of our ongoing strategy during Covid and will provide a legacy for the city, through external funding primarily MHCLG and PHE:

- Purchased 10 one bed properties, off the open market, currently preparing allocations which will be for rough sleepers/persons at risk of rough sleeping/or a history of.

- Remodelling the Somewhere Safe to Stay Hub, a female only emergency accommodation provision. A new premise in the city centre is on track for an end of August completion, this will have 7 single units with 2 emergency spaces if required.
- For the cohort of people with NRPF, we have been able to flexible utilise Public Health funding for 6 months to aid 3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners to secure a number of HMOs, which have been sourced through the private sector for guest formally in the night shelter. For those sleeping rough, again we have been creative and worked with partners to provide accommodation in 2 HMOs
- Remodel Kirkstall Lodge, a large property of 9 x 1 bedroom flats owned by Homegroup in Kirkstall, now full with individuals being allocated a flat as part of the hotels exit planning.
- Through the Assisted Support Rough Sleeper scheme we have been active in facilitating and maintaining assisted and support to tenancies, including assisting to allocate individuals to tenancies, overseeing benefit claims and navigating issues, overseeing rental payments, and conducting viewings and sign ups where necessary. Overall Private Sector Landlord Scheme has progressed well with 58 lets in April alone.

## **2. Tackle crime and ASB**

- **Development of an ASB Service Offer**  
Our service offers forms our Terms of Reference and it states what can be expected of our service. The offer clearly explains that we conduct impartial investigations into reported cases of anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance and how we will try to resolve problems at the earliest opportunity.
- **Implementation of a Triage Team**  
A triage system has now been implemented for all incoming referrals so that cases can be appropriately prioritised. The system is based on clear Terms of Reference, which support the priorities of Safer Leeds (as was at the time) as outlined in its Community Safety Strategy. It is supported by a system of performance monitoring that reflects the fact that different responses are appropriate for different priorities of cases. The identification and assessment of vulnerabilities is embedded in the process from the first point of contact with service users. This works on standardised scripts around threat, harm, risk, investigation, vulnerability and engagement. Where cases are assessed as not being ASB cases but a support need is identified customers are signposted to appropriate, alternative services. For complex cases and if felt appropriate there is the option of referring to the ASB MARAC for consideration. We identified it is crucial that strong partnerships were in place to enable officers to access support from colleagues in other services such as mental health, youth offending, children's services adult social care and housing, as well as partners such as West Yorkshire Police.
- **ASB Strategy**  
An Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy has been developed for the city which sets out our strategic framework for activity moving forward. This is focused around

the themes of prevention, intervention, enforcement, community empowerment and integrated intelligence. This informs the allocation of capacity and resources and ensure that activity is reflective of the ambitions set out in both the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy and the Best Council Plan. At the heart of the ASB strategy there is recognition that a holistic, multi-agency approach to resolving the problems associated with ASB, has the potential to deliver longer term solutions for all involved.

- **Noise Nuisance**

The majority of incoming referrals relate to noise nuisance within LASBT. The existing resource could not meet the demand and expectation of the service. The provision has therefore been revised, joining up day time and out-of-hours services more effectively and ideally delivering increasingly flexible coverage. The implementation of an evening Triage is now in place and is able to better manage customers' expectations. There has also been the development of a new way to report noise nuisance via our website, a noise nuisance decision tree has been created. The option of reporting noise nuisance that is not for LASBT will go directly to the relevant service, also advice is provided on the website around what is and isn't acceptable. Also if there is already a case open information is provided around our service standards i.e. the time scale when an update should be expected.

- **Creation of ASB MARAC**

If a case is identified as complex or persistent it may be appropriate to refer the case for consideration to our ASB MARAC. This helps promote early resolution of cases, joint decision making and more effective problem solving. We identified as part of the review it is crucial that strong partnerships are in place to enable officers to access support from colleagues in other services such as mental health, youth offending, children services etc.

- **Communication/Social Media:**

External communications has been reviewed in order to provide more clarity and advice to those seeking to use the service and to manage customer expectations. Clear information about details such as anticipated response times is now accessible via our website. It was also highlighted a gap in terms of social media presence. All service areas including LASBT Triage now have their own Twitter account to publicise successful enforcement along with advice or information.

- **Enhanced Team**

The University of Leeds and Leeds Beckett University joined forces to help tackle asb student behaviour by funding an additional patrol as part of a trial initiative. The new Enhanced service aims were to reduce noise and nuisance behaviour in areas where students live. The trial initiative is part of an ongoing commitment to maintain an inclusive community and now sees an increase LASBT Officers and PCSO presence in the area.

- **Created a New PSPO for Headingley/Hyde Park & Little London/Woodhouse**

It was identified that the current 4 PSPOs that were in place did not tackle all the issues that the above areas were suffering, therefore as of 1<sup>st</sup> July we introduced one new PSPO (area extended) to help combat the issues around anti-social behaviour in public spaces (including use of psychoactive substances) and leaving bins and bags of waste on the streets.

### **3. Modern Day Slavery**

Leeds City Council were one of six local authorities to pilot approaches to improve and develop pathways and mechanisms to tackle issues of modern slavery and provide better support to victims. A grant of £196,000 was awarded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Governments (MHCLG) through their Controlling Migration Fund, to enable Leeds to deliver the project. The project delivered with our partners Palm Cove Society was successfully evaluated and is identified as national good practice – follow this [link to evaluation report](#).

Comment from Palm Cove resident/modern slavery survivor:

*“I was being sexually exploited but too scared to ask for help – they said they would hurt my family. When I did leave, I got help with accommodation, financial support and now I need to get a job to have a purpose in life and get over what’s happened to me.”*

We have refreshed the governance arrangements; this including a mapping exercise with partners and survivors to develop the new strategy and action plan to refocus activity and achievements. Key achievements include:

- Development and publication of our Supply Chain Statement and through improved procurement processes we are seeking out exploitation in the supply chains of our high value contracts for goods and services;
- Development and publication of the Modern Slavery Pocketbook as well as refreshed information online and on Insite to raise awareness and improve responses;
- Agreed updated pathways to ensure child and adult victims get consistent access to the appropriate support;
- Hosting an event for hoteliers to highlight their responsibilities to tackle child exploitation on their premises.

### **4. Prevent**

Over the last 3 years, significant progress and outcomes have been delivered that have contributed to building resilience in our communities and support for the Prevent agenda. For example, following the terrorist attack in Christchurch, New Zealand we held a reassurance event for Muslim communities in Leeds outlining our support and commitment to making them feel safe in our city. In 2019-20 (prior to the pandemic) we engaged 3350 beneficiaries through 275 Prevent workshops that we commissioned through our community projects. We also reached 39 educational establishments and in the process directly benefited over 5,500 students and 130 teachers.

The last three years have also a significant growth in the Prevent Partnership boards in the city. A range of partners and agencies attend these governance meetings demonstrating their commitment and support to Prevent and a joined up citywide approach to tackling terrorism and extremism.

Our multi-agency partnership, Channel, has been meeting on a monthly basis to provide bespoke support to individuals that have been identified as vulnerable to radicalisation. A review of Channel arrangements two years ago has led to an improved understanding of referral pathways, partnership working, and demonstrable outcomes for those referred to the Channel programme. The Channel partnership in Leeds is regarded as a model of best practice in the country.

## 5. **Domestic Violence**

The Leeds Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board continues to develop. Working groups have been established to develop the needs assessment and strategy/action that will allow the Local Authority to meet its duty to provide support in safe accommodation as set out in the Domestic Abuse Bill. The Board has enabled the creation of a third sector group – the Domestic Abuse Voice and Accountability Forum – that will ensure the voices of survivors are represented in the work of the board. Discussions relating to the funding allocation for 2021/22 have commenced. Further details on this are contained in a separate report as part of this meeting's agenda

An audit of the Front Door Safeguarding Hub was undertaken and as a result of the audit findings and recommendations we are reviewing our current daily MARAC arrangements. Given the high volume of referrals, the pressure on all involved in the daily meetings is becoming unsustainable and resourcing the meetings is proving a real challenge. In the short term, we have taken the decision to reduce the number of daily meetings from 5 down to 4 a week, with the exception of bank holidays and any announcements in relation to relaxing any lockdown rules, where numbers are likely to increase. This arrangement is a moveable feast and is closely monitored on a weekly basis.

All our partner agencies involved continue to work incredibly hard to support the meetings despite the current pressures and supporting victims of domestic abuse, their families and perpetrators remains our priority.

Work has been carried out with the health economy around extending routine enquiries across GP surgeries in Leeds. We have also supported other local authorities in adopting this approach, through Local Government funding. We have quality marked a third of GP practices, this is work in progress with an ambition that all GP practices will achieve the quality mark.

In addition a range of briefings on supporting victims of DVA from LGBT+ community and those with No Recourse to Public Funds were delivered by the Good Practice Officers as part of the MHCLG programme in other areas of West Yorkshire a 1000 practitioners across West Yorkshire

The flagship event of the 2019 16 days of action campaign was a Coercive Control and Stalking Conference organised by Safer Leeds and LSAB at LUFC conference room, Elland Road on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The event was over-subscribed and evaluation on the day was positive. The event included presentations from key services (WYP, LDVS and CPS) and survivor testimony from three key note speakers. The event was a valuable learning and networking opportunity and featured on the ITV news that evening. (photos available)

Alongside the yearly campaign around the 16 days of action Leeds has achieved Ribbon Campaign status for the next 3 years. Our relationship with the council comms team has led to an improved social media approach to raising awareness around DVA. Leeds United Football Club produced a video with players from the first team and a survivor of domestic abuse promoting the White Ribbon campaign. The video was screened at their home games on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November and on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Players were wearing White Ribbon t-shirts during match warm-up, the message was shown on screens in the ground and in the match day programme and both teams shared the video across their social media channels.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October at the Civic Hall Councillors and the Lord Mayor showed their support of the White Ribbon Campaign at the full council meeting. A second video has been produced with male senior leaders and sporting leaders with a focus on the pandemic.

We continue to deliver the DVA awareness sessions city wide over the last 3 years. Moving this delivery online has led to efficiencies with up to 70 practitioners at any one time. Over the last 3 years we have delivered training as follows:

2019 – 2499  
2020 – 1603  
2021 – so far 706

There has been an increased focus on DVA perpetrator. We have completed a strategic review of perpetrator services leading to the Development of a matrix of support for practitioners and a Perpetrator framework.

We have developed a training package for the night time economy which has been delivered to bar staff/ managers and door staff across the city re safeguarding and DVA awareness.

## **6. Drugs and Alcohol**

Leeds is now one of the best performing cities, for drug and alcohol treatment, in England, and is supporting the highest number of people to complete treatment in the country. In 2020/21, 1,675 Leeds residents had a successful outcome. The service quickly and effectively responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure continuous effective service delivery e.g. remote working with service users.

There have been a number of successful grant applications (e.g. PHE, NIHR), over the last 3 years, to develop innovative approaches, expand capacity, and enable evaluation of service delivery.

The development of partnership working and collaboration e.g. through the Street Support Improvement Board.

## 7. Hate Crime

- **Instigation and development of the Hate Crime Strategic Board. (HCSB)**

Leeds recognised the need for a city wide response to hate in all its forms working in partnership with key stakeholders. It set clear strategic priorities developing an Operational Hate Crime Group (OHCG) designed to deliver on the priorities. The work below shows the strength of this process. There are always areas for review which are incorporated in this document.

- **Hate crime MARAC**

This process was developed to address the difficult cases where there were questions regarding how as a whole or individual partners we could not find any solutions or to hold partners to account. Nationally recognised as best practice by 2019 Her Majesty Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue. HMICFR.

- **Development of Disability Hate crime and its broader reach**

This has been the most under reported strand of Hate crime/incidents for many years. Highlighted in 2010 via the Pilkington enquiry. In the last three years we have developed wide reaching training resources that have been delivered to professional and communities. It is nationally recognised.

## 8. Tackling On Street Sex Work

The strategy to tackle the on street sex work issue in Leeds has been subject to ongoing development and evolution including in this last 12 months with the significant developments through the corporate governance arrangements most recently in the June exec board, these developments as a consequence of some improved outcomes including:

- a large reduction in the number of women involved in street sex work in recent years,
- improved service delivery with regards meeting the complex needs of sex workers,
- joined up partnership working at an operational and strategic level – focussed on our strategy
- enhanced provision in the city including gender specific accommodation offer with appropriate support in line with Housing First principles,
- improved intelligence from sex workers (crime reports and Ugly Mugs intel)
- reduction in complaints from residents

## 9. LeedsWatch

Over the last two years the LeedsWatch service has undergone a full service review, the objectives were to:

- To ensure LeedsWatch are at the centre of service delivery meeting the needs and ambitions of Safer Leeds that is both effective, efficient and dynamic to change.
- To build on and develop a positive working environment at LeedsWatch where staff engaged whilst working to deliver the Safer Leeds ambitions in a safe and inclusive environment.

With the support and direction of a Steering group; membership including Cllr Coupar, key stakeholders, Safer Leeds SMT and LeedsWatch staff it was recommended that the service undergone a full service redesign which would deliver:

- a more agile and resilient work force, who are better able to meet existing and new service demands, including peaks and troughs in service.
- Supporting staff to develop a better understanding of the varied roles and responsibilities that operate across the service
- A new structure which will provide adequate resource when service demand is at its highest.
- A structure which can be flexible to meet the budget implications now and in the future.
- Create new opportunities for staff development and career progression
- Provide a better work life balance for staff.

The service redesign and restructure was approved in January 2021 work is currently being progressed to complete implementation with an expected go live date of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

## 10. Serious Violence

The Serious Violence Duty, outlined in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill 2021 will require local authorities, the police, fire and rescue authorities, specified criminal justice agencies and health authorities to work together to formulate an evidence based analysis of the problems associated with serious violence in a local area, and then produce and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those particular issues.

Safer Leeds has created of a Serious Violence Partnership Board to support the preparation for the new serious violence partner statutory duties.

Safer Leeds has also been working closely with the Violence Reduction Unit supporting community based projects that have worked with over 600 young people that are at risk of engaging in violence crime.



## APPENDIX 2 – Safer Leeds Performance Information (latest available 2021)

Performance area	Performance Reports / Data	BCP Priority?	Summary comments drawing out performance issues for noting/discussion												
Community Safety	Safer Leeds Executive Board Indicator. Police & Crime Commissioner Reporting.	BCP 52 Percentage of Leeds residents who say they feel safe in their local area	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><b>People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go</b> (Safer Leeds strategic outcome).</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Apr-19 to Mar-20</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Respondents 'feel safe' in the local area</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">84%</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Respondents agree the CSP does a fair/good/excellent job</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">80%</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Key Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure supporting the delivery of the paper based Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) 'Your View' survey was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The OPCC Executive team has approved a proposal to run a trial online only 'Your View' survey. There is an aspiration that an online 'Your View' survey will increase participation from historically underrepresented groups.</li> <li>Leeds City Council and Safer Leeds actively promoted the online 'Your View' survey through social media networks. Results of the online 'Your View' survey are anticipated in May 2021.</li> </ul>	<b>People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go</b> (Safer Leeds strategic outcome).		Apr-19 to Mar-20	Change	↔	Respondents 'feel safe' in the local area	84%	3%	↔	Respondents agree the CSP does a fair/good/excellent job	80%	1%
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Domestic Violence and Abuse	Safer Leeds Executive Board Indicator. DVA Board Accountability Indicator. DVA Breakthrough Project	BCP 49 Increased self-reporting of domestic violence and abuse incidents	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><b>Focus upon Safeguarding</b> (Safer Leeds Key Performance Indicator)</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Apr-20 to Mar-21</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Domestic incidents</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">21,789</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↓</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Domestic incidents which are victim self-reported (count)</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">6,337</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">-5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Domestic incidents which are victim self-reported (rate)</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">29%</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">-2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">High risk domestic incidents (DASH) with repeat victims</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">1,502</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Key Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21,789 domestic incidents were reported to the Police in 12 months, 12 month volume was stable.</li> <li>The victim self-reporting rate is a Safer Leeds indication of victim confidence to report Domestic Violence and Abuse. 28% of 21,789 domestic incidents were self-reported to end of March 2021.</li> <li>1,502 domestic incidents were reported with a high risk DASH assessment, and a repeat victim flag. 12 month volume has increased by 2%.</li> </ul>	<b>Focus upon Safeguarding</b> (Safer Leeds Key Performance Indicator)		Apr-20 to Mar-21	Change	↔	Domestic incidents	21,789	1%	↓	Domestic incidents which are victim self-reported (count)	6,337	-5%	↔	Domestic incidents which are victim self-reported (rate)	29%	-2%	↔	High risk domestic incidents (DASH) with repeat victims	1,502	2%
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Anti-social Behaviour	Safer Leeds Executive Board Indicator. Police & Crime Commissioner Reporting.	BCP 53 Proportion of households reporting anti-social behaviour / nuisance concerns	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Focus upon Anti-social Behaviour (Safer Leeds Key Performance Indicator)</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Apr-20 to Mar-21</th> <th style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Police reported ASB incidents (count)</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">19,177</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Youth related</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">5,951</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Nuisance motorcycle / quad</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">3,714</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">58%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Adult nuisance – non alcohol</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">3,275</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">24%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Neighbour related</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">3,089</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">28%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Leeds Anti-social Behaviour team closed caseload</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">2,817</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Noise</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">627</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↑</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Threats / Actual Violence</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">294</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">37%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↓</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Rowdy Behaviour</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">142</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">-33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">↔</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;"><i>Verbal abuse</i></td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">118</td> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">-2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Key Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19,177 incidents of ASB were recorded by Police in Leeds; this has increased by 20%. There is a suggestion that legislation introduced in response to the pandemic has heightened an awareness of / willingness to report anti-social behaviour issues in communities.</li> <li>The Safer Leeds partnership has successfully implemented enforcement powers as part of the wider response to nuisance motorcycles.</li> <li>Leeds City Council works with partners in Leeds, including West Yorkshire Police, to resolve anti-social behaviour at the earliest opportunity. 2,817 ASB cases were closed (resolved) by the multi-agency Leeds Anti-social Behaviour team.</li> </ul>	Focus upon Anti-social Behaviour (Safer Leeds Key Performance Indicator)		Apr-20 to Mar-21	Change	↑	Police reported ASB incidents (count)	19,177	20%	↑	<i>Youth related</i>	5,951	9%	↑	<i>Nuisance motorcycle / quad</i>	3,714	58%	↑	<i>Adult nuisance – non alcohol</i>	3,275	24%	↑	<i>Neighbour related</i>	3,089	28%	↔	Leeds Anti-social Behaviour team closed caseload	2,817	1%	↔	<i>Noise</i>	627	4%	↑	<i>Threats / Actual Violence</i>	294	37%	↓	<i>Rowdy Behaviour</i>	142	-33%	↔	<i>Verbal abuse</i>	118	-2%
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# SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITIES

City Plan: 2021-2024



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Approach ..... 5  
Shared Priorities ..... 6  
Key Deliverables ..... 7  
Implementation Framework..... 10  
Focus on our Strategic Outcomes ..... 11

**#TogetherLeeds**  
**#BeSafeFeelSafe**  
**Safer, Stronger Communities**

## Foreword

Welcome to the Leeds Safer, Stronger Communities: City Plan, which sets out our statement of intent and what we will collectively focus on to achieve better community safety outcomes.

Much has been achieved over the last three years, including reductions in recorded crime and real positive changes in the way victims are supported and encouraged to report crimes but we are not complacent, and we know there is always room for improvement. The pandemic has shone a light on a host of inequalities and through this new city plan we will strengthen our commitment to work with and for communities. As a partnership we recognise there is more we can collectively do to keep people safe from harm, prevent and reduce offending, and create safer and stronger neighbourhoods.

From listening to our communities we have heard how the impact of crime on individuals, families and neighbourhoods can be devastating and we understand how the fear of crime can affect people in their homes, on the streets and the places they go. Some communities will experience crime and anti-social behaviour because of who they are, or where they live and some may not feel comfortable in coming forward and reporting it, this is not right. In turn, peoples' experiences and perceptions can have a detrimental impact on their lives. At the same time, we know the nature and type of crime is changing and evolving; cyber related crime has become more prevalent, and there are a multitude of platforms that are now used to facilitate, exploit and groom people. There are young people and adults in this city who are being abused or exploited into criminality.

As a compassionate city, preventing victimisation and supporting people harmed by crime is central to our work, as is tailoring our response to individual needs. We will listen to, be informed by, and work with people with lived experience, to shape services.

Within the plan we outline our shared priorities; all have a 'victim, offender, location' basis and all are strongly connected, as one impacts on the other both directly and indirectly. Our 'safer, stronger communities' model will place a greater emphasis on early identification, prevention and intervention so we can be responsive to local needs and work with others to create thriving, resilient communities that promote respect. We will place a collective emphasis on meeting the needs and demands of people in this dynamic and diverse city, as well as preventing future victimisation and offending; ensuring we strive to make every contact count. Everyone has the right to live in a safe, clean and tolerant society and everyone has a responsibility to behave in a way that respects this right.

Our approach denotes both universal and targeted approaches to addressing community safety themes, regardless of the issue, with a recognition that to achieve the desired outcomes, emphasis has to be on both 'People' and 'Place'.

Finally, we would like to thank all staff and volunteers across the partnership for your continued commitment and passion to serve the people and communities of Leeds. We are truly a compassionate and courageous city and you have demonstrated this during the pandemic.

We are therefore pleased to introduce the Safer, Stronger Communities: City Plan and ask you to consider your offer in supporting and securing better community safety outcomes for the people of Leeds.

We are firmly believe we are stronger when we work together.

Kind regards

***Councillor Debra Coupar***

Deputy Leader of Leeds City Council and  
Executive Member for Resources

***James Rogers***

Chair of Safer Leeds Executive and  
Director of Communities, Housing and  
Environment: Leeds City Council

## About this Plan

This Safer, Stronger Communities: City Plan sets out the strategic direction of Safer Leeds Executive and will be used to hold the partnership to account for keeping communities safe.

Safer Leeds is the city's statutory Community Safety Partnership, responsible for tackling crime, and disorder; we have a strong record of partnership working, which was embedded as part of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) and subsequent legal enhancements. Safer Leeds aims to serve all members of its communities, giving due regard to implications for different groups to ensure people are not excluded or disadvantaged because of Age, Disability, Gender, Race, Religion and Belief, or Sexual Orientation.

### Our Ambition

To be the best city in the UK with the best community safety partnership and services:

- ❖ Working with and for communities, families and individuals, so people are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and the places they go
- ❖ Developing a shared sense of the assets of individuals and communities, with a focus on building self-reliance and resilience
- ❖ Getting to the root causes of issues, developing effective solutions and creating new ways of working to enhance locality working
- ❖ Building real opportunities so there is potential for people and places to prosper

### Our Strategic Outcomes

As the end result, we want to:

- I. Keep people safe from harm,
- II. Prevent and reduce offending and
- III. Create safer and stronger communities

### Accountability

The Safer Leeds Executive has a statutory requirement to:

- Regular engage and consult with the community
- Prepare and implement a Community Safety Plan
- Produce Joint Strategic Assessments
- Ensure information sharing arrangements
- Produce a strategy to reduce reoffending
- Be responsible for establishing Domestic Homicide Reviews and applying learning
- Be responsible for establishing Anti-Social Behaviour Reviews and applying learning

Recognising no single agency can address these complex risks, threats and harms alone, the following are committed to working collectively through the Safer Leeds Executive, in line with agreed terms of reference and information sharing protocols: - Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police, Leeds NHS, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, West Yorkshire Probation Services, HMP Service, and the Voluntary & Community Sector.



## Challenge and Change

As a partnership, we are ambitious and look to maximise all opportunities, review and refresh where needed, and apply lessons learnt, to:

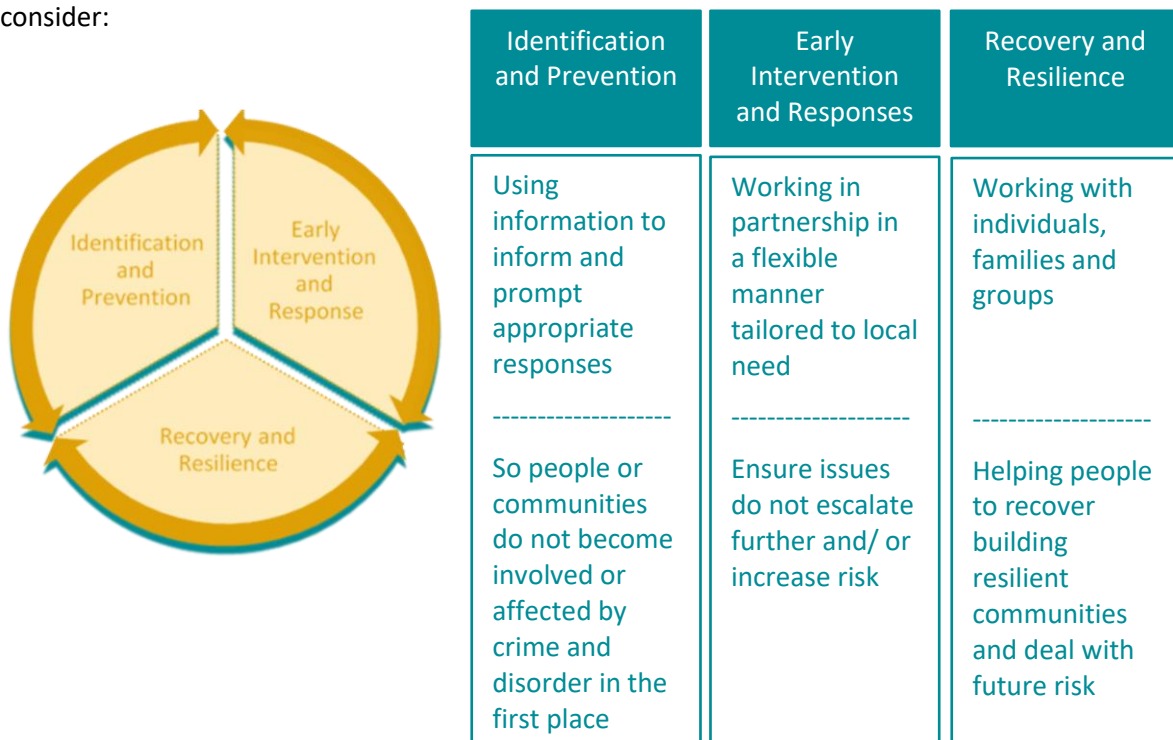
- ❖ Apply a Safer, Stronger Communities model which places a greater emphasis on early identification, prevention and intervention, so we can be responsive to local needs by working with communities before a crisis point, preventing future victimisation and offending.
- ❖ Deliver results efficiently and cost effectively, with clear accountability. We will use this plan to direct resources and activity, working with and for the people of Leeds to achieve better community safety outcomes.
- ❖ Work jointly with local connected boards (e.g. Health and Wellbeing Board, Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership, Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership), and key West Yorkshire boards, including the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, on shared priorities.
- ❖ Address the impact of inequalities experienced by some members of our communities, who may be more affected by incidents and/ or crimes.
- ❖ Undertake an annual review and refresh of our delivery plans.

## Approach

The **Safer, Stronger Communities** model will guide strategic thinking and operational activity across all the shared priorities, so we can:

- ❖ Strengthen the safer and stronger elements of partnership working
- ❖ Address crime and anti-social behaviour to keep people safe from harm, and
- ❖ Be responsive to local needs, to create thriving, resilient communities that promotes respect

When developing, implementing and reviewing delivery plans against the shared priorities, respective boards will consider:



The model is based around a **PEOPLE** and **PLACE** approach encompassing all aspects of lifestyle and identity. This includes neighbourhoods where people live and the places they go, but also communities of interest and groups with which a person will interact and can be applied at the following levels:

- ➔ Individual/ Family...Community/ Neighbourhood...City-wide/ Strategic

Fundamental to this model will be connecting the wider social and economic determinants that impact on safer and stronger communities, through effective partnership collaboration.

## Shared Priorities

We have listened to our communities, consulted stakeholders and through the 2021 Strategic Intelligence Assessment identified a number of priority themes and issues affecting safety and feelings of safety, for individuals, neighbourhoods and communities. Listed here are the core community safety shared priorities that negatively impact on people and places. We will focus on these priorities, flexing to respond to need and demands ensuring we are intelligence led and agile in our partnership response.

Shared Priorities	What are the key issues?
ASB and Public Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victims/ witnesses who suffer from the impacts of ASB</li> <li>Youth nuisance and disorder</li> <li>Communities where there is high prevalence of incidents</li> </ul>
Domestic Violence and Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victims/ witnesses of traumatic incidents, including young people living in abusive households and repeat victims</li> <li>High risk offenders</li> </ul>
Hate Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact on victims' and communities' feelings of safety</li> <li>Rises in tensions and incidents following local/ national/ international events</li> </ul>
Illicit Drugs and Substance Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts of illicit drug markets on communities and families</li> <li>Complex drug supply networks</li> </ul>
Offending Behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offender management and repeat offending</li> <li>Use of violence/ intimidation, including targeting associates and families of individuals</li> <li>Communities where there is high prevalence of offending</li> </ul>
Organised Crime and Street Gangs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community impacts of organised criminality</li> <li>Individuals at risk of becoming involved in organised criminality, or who have or may potentially be targeted</li> <li>Street gang violence</li> </ul>
Exploitation and Radicalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online radicalisation, including lone actors</li> <li>Instability in other countries and communities</li> <li>Exploitation/ trafficking of adults and families, and criminal and sexual exploitation of children</li> </ul>
People with multiple needs (Street Users and Sex Workers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals with highly complex needs, including historical trauma, mental health, and substance misuse</li> <li>Specific street user groups: Begging, Rough Sleeping, Sex working</li> </ul>
Violence and Sexual Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Victims and witnesses of traumatic incidents</li> <li>Repeat and organised offending, especially on street offending, youth violence, and knife crime</li> <li>Night Time Economy related Violent and Sexual Offences,</li> <li>Neighbourhoods/ communities with high prevalence of offences</li> </ul>

These priorities interrelate and interlink with wider social and economic determinants, such as impacts of poverty and deprivation, mental health and chronic effects of trauma, substance use, family/peer relationships, education, housing and homelessness, employment, and community/ neighbourhood design. All have a potential 'Victim-Offender-Location' basis, and all provide clarity for defining and measuring outcomes.

## Key Deliverables

Safer Leeds will continue to **improve current core services** but we will also focus on programmes and projects that help us move closer to our desired strategic outcome. At the end of the yearly cycle a review of what has been achieved and what needs improving will inform Yr2 key deliverables.

Focus on Change YR1 Key Deliverables	Ascribed to relevant Silver Board
<b>ASB and Public Order</b>	
<p>➔ Prevention and Early Intervention ~ enhance operational working between Leeds Anti-Social behaviour Team and Youth Justice Service by using an intelligence led approach to identify, support and divert young people away from the Criminal Justice System. Examine and improve referral pathways at an early stage to address factors which contribute to anti-social behaviour, working closely with existing programmes, linking in with early Help Hubs.</p>	
<p>➔ Targeted Responses ~ reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on communities by targeting 'hotspot' areas. Facilitate and support co-ordinated, multi-agency approaches at a local level and increase targeted operations with Safer Stronger Communities partners during peak months.</p>	
<p>➔ Problem Solving ~ further develop and embed community based applications to address ASB, enhancing work with targeted communities through a multi-agency approach to reduce risk, threat and harm. For example: i) address concerns around motorcycle/ quad bike related anti-social behaviour, ii) address arson and nuisance fires, through the 'Enough is Enough' campaign</p>	
<b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b>	
<p>➔ Complete a local comprehensive needs assessment and a refreshed DVA strategy as part of the new statutory requirements ~ specifically working with housing providers to ensure timely availability and suitable accommodation and place based support for DVA victims.</p>	
<p>➔ Actively engage with providers of services to children and young people who are living in abusive households ~ to fully recognise them as victims in their own right and provide the right support at the right time.</p>	
<p>➔ Enhance the offer of support to perpetrators of domestic abuse through service improvement, workforce development and identifying opportunities to develop specialist projects ~ to ensure more perpetrators are supported and the risk/ harm caused by them is reduced.</p>	
<b>Hate Crime</b>	
<p>➔ Increasing the reporting of hate crime by making it easier for those affected to report, and increasing victim confidence ~ Improve third party reporting in schools and explore opportunities to increase and strengthen hate crime reporting centres in a range of community based settings, educational establishments and businesses; by focussing on the settings that have proven to be high-risk environments for hate crime</p>	
<p>➔ Preventing hate crime by tackling the beliefs and attitudes that can lead to hate ~ Undertake city wide targeted campaigns in line with #LeedsNoPlaceForHate, including messages around 'Upstanders not Bystanders', urging people to stand with those who have experienced hate crime, as well as providing practical tips on reporting; creating a sense of reassurance, solidarity and unity</p>	
<p>➔ Improving support for the victims of hate crime by ensuring effective provision is available at the time of reporting ~ Promoting the Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Community MARAC) so that agencies supporting hate crime victims are encouraged to make appropriate referrals to access the right support and working with the CJS and Victim Support to ensure victims of hate crime are adequately supported through their involvement with the criminal justice process.</p>	

## Drugs and Substance Use

- ➔ Maintain the high performing drug and alcohol treatment service in the city, taking a blended approach to service delivery i.e. a combination of remote and face-to-face working, tailored to individual need.
- ➔ Continue to explore innovative, evidence-based approaches and incorporate them into the service, as appropriate ~ including developing partnership working to expand promotion of current, and future, drug and alcohol campaigns and conduct the preparatory work for the new drug and alcohol treatment contract.

## Offending Behaviours

- ➔ Working collaboratively with the criminal justice services and healthcare/ wellbeing services to support the rehabilitation and resettlement of adult offenders ~ Continue to support and enhance liaison and diversion and those serving under 12 month custodial sentences, and delivering community based rehabilitation programmes.
- ➔ Work with the Leeds Youth Justice Partnership to implement a local Youth Justice Plan to deliver services to improve outcomes for young people, families and communities.
- ➔ Develop a Female Offender Plan for Leeds, in line with the Home Office strategy to ensure female offenders and at-risk women are being supported in the community, providing gender-informed approach to individual needs, through partnership arrangements.

## Organised Crime and Street Gangs

- ➔ Reinvigorate and refocus partnership capacity to tackle organised crime groups in the city, in line with Operation Precision and the 4Ps Plan (Prepare: Improve victim protection and support Pursue: Disrupt and prosecute perpetrators Prevent: Harm to people Protect: Vulnerable people and increase resilience)
- ➔ Work in partnership to develop the early identification and intervention agenda to reduce youth violence through a collaborative approach; delivering universal and targeted services, based on intelligence led work in localities of concern.
- ➔ In line with addressing Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking plans, continue to align activity around the 4Ps plan (Prepare-Pursue-Prevent-Protect) by i) Raising public awareness and workforces development; ii) Increase intelligence sharing to identify more victims and prosecute more perpetrators; iii) Provide a quality, partnership response to victims.

## Violence and Sexual Crime

- ➔ Produce and implement a local Reducing Serious Violence Plan, including a focus on Youth Violence, and deliver a programme of activity aligned to Violence Reduction Unit desired outcome.
- ➔ Develop a local strategy to address Violence against Women and Girls, in line with the forthcoming national strategy and local needs ~ establish a partnership development group to take forward and develop a co-ordinated city wide approach.

## Exploitation and Radicalisation

- ➔ Work in partnership to identify children at risk of child sexual exploitation and/ or child criminal exploitation and mitigate risks through early identification and intervention plans.
- ➔ Using safeguarding principles, provide tailored multi-agency to: i) support those identified most at risk of radicalisation; ii) look to rehabilitate individuals known to have ideologies that potentially put themselves and the wider community at risk of serious harm.
- ➔ Strengthen existing local partnerships, specifically working online and offline to empower young people, families and communities, to build capacity through community engagement and civil society organisations.

## People with multiple needs (Street Users and Sex Workers)

- ➔ Relaunch, refresh and refocus the city wide Homeless Prevention Forum to ensure local plans continue to develop a blended accommodation offer ~ Work with housing providers to create movement in the supported housing pathways and examine requirements of emergency accommodation.
- ➔ Further develop/ enhance provision for service users with mental health issues ~ Work with health commissioners to further develop collaboration, joint commissioning and delivery models.
- ➔ Look to develop a city centre commissioned Health and Wellbeing Centre for the homeless and people in need on the streets ~ Strengthen the work with grass roots organisations, moving from on street kitchens to indoor provision, including befriending and mentoring in neighbourhoods.
- ➔ Take forward the on-street sex working governance arrangements, through the strategic Sex Working Board.

## Placed Based ~ Delivery: Localities

- ➔ Deliver a high quality and responsive offer to the 10 Community Committee's, Community Committee Chairs and Community Committee Champions, including the management of the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget and Community Infrastructure Levy Budget across the Community Committees, integrating with other place-based budgets to maximise impact.
- ➔ Using a place based approach, lead on the management of strategic multi-disciplined programmes of work across the each of the priority neighbourhoods and target wards:
  - Use intelligence and data to explore innovative solutions to tackling longstanding concerns.
  - Early intervention and prevention work
  - Responsive to critical community incidents or concerns
  - Development of strong place-based stakeholder connectivity and relationships
  - Lead and support the development and delivery of innovative partnership projects and approaches which attract new investment and funding opportunities, which bring about real change and opportunity for local people...Building self-reliance and resilient communities
- ➔ Covid-19 legacy programme:
  - Continue to work in partnership with Public Health to build and further develop targeted interventions in wards of concern. Work with the Health Inequalities Board and other partners to develop programmes of work which help to address health inequalities and promote better life style choices and improved quality of health for those living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city post Covid.

## Placed Based ~ Delivery: Leeds City Centre

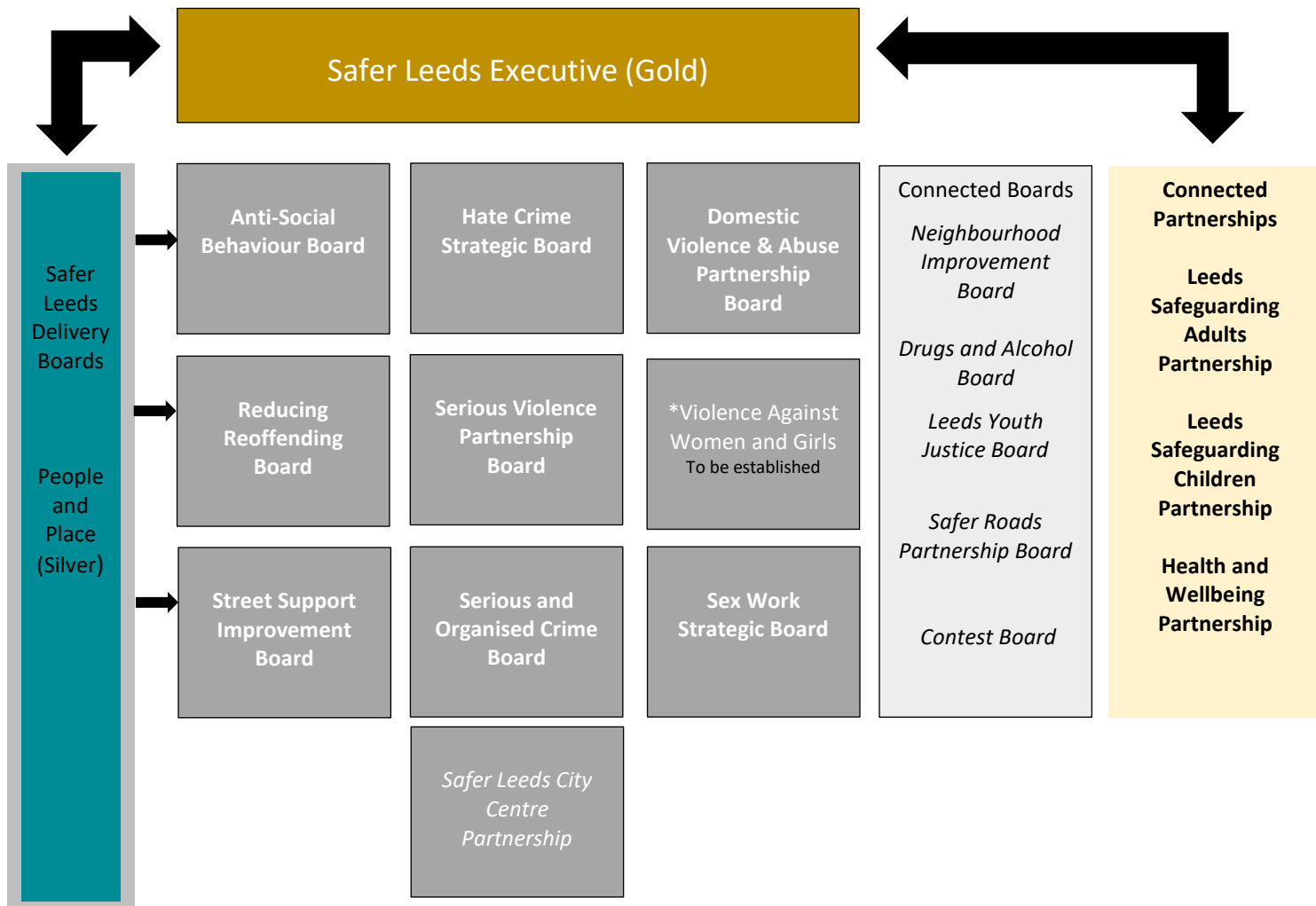
- ➔ With an emphasis on people, places and premises, take forward our local early intervention approach to the evening and night time economy, utilising Purple Flag principles and through an active #BeSafeFeelSafe thematic communications and engagement framework.
- ➔ Undertake an 'on-street' resources review to create a welcoming and reassuring environment for the public, and an effective response to ASB in partnership with law enforcement agencies.
- ➔ Take forward tactical and operational activity to address violence and abuse against women and girls, ensuring this is in collaboration with the voice of women with lived experience.

As the safer, stronger communities agenda is cross cutting we will continue to work closely with connected partnerships on shared issues, ensuring increased synergy and focus. For example, listed here are just two policy/ practice changes, led by other boards, which Safer Leeds will endorse and implement:

- Leeds approach to 'Self-neglect' policy and procedures ~ can be found here [Home \(leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk\)](http://leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk)
- Leeds approach to 'Think Family, Work Family'; principles and practice guidance ~ can be found here [LSCP - Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership \(leedsscp.org.uk\)](http://leedsscp.org.uk)
- The link to the Safer Leeds partnership council pages

## Implementation Framework

To support and manage the delivery of this Safer, Stronger Communities: City Plan, Safer Leeds Executive has undertaken a review and refreshed its governance and accountability arrangements including:



- **Safer Leeds Executive (Gold)**, consists of officers from the 'Responsible Authorities' and 'Co-operating Bodies', and includes political representation from the Lead member for Community Safety and co-opted local representation from the West Yorkshire Police Crime Panel.
- **Delivery Boards (Silver)**, are chaired by a member of Executive reporting on progress, risks or threats as part of their duties. Below are sub groups and/ or where appropriate Task and Finish Groups (Bronze)
- **Task & Finish Steering Groups**, will be assigned by the Executive, as when required...these could be to consider cross cutting opportunities, for example around communication / campaigns, funding/ bids, and/ or specific commissioned intelligence products
- **Connected Boards/ Significant Partnerships**, play a significant role in contributing to Safer Leeds shared priorities and at least one person from the Executive is a member of these Boards, to ensure synergy at a strategic and operational level. In addition, this strategy links to other strategic plans, priorities and other Boards, including alignment to and contributing directly to West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Plan.
- **Community Safety Champions**, are elected members, who 'champion' the work of Safer Leeds through their activity with local people and with local service providers.
- **Funding**, is primarily funded by mainstream resources of each organisation and work 'in-kind' and/ or other grants where additional funding is secured; including the West Yorkshire Community Safety Fund.
- **Governance, Information Sharing and Accountability Arrangements**, governance arrangements are through Leeds City Council.

## Focus on our Strategic Outcomes

To achieve our strategic outcomes we will work with and for communities, and collaborate with trusted third sector organisations and connected partnerships who share our ambitions.

Our Strategic Outcomes...we want to:

- I. Keep people safe from harm,
- II. Prevent and reduce offending and
- III. Create safer and stronger communities

### Keep people safe from harm...what does this mean?

We want all people who live, work and socialise in Leeds to be safe and feel safe. This outcome is at the heart of the work that all partner agencies do. Anti-social behaviour and crime can cause considerable distress to people, it is damaging to individuals, families and communities, affecting their health and wellbeing and can escalate into other serious behaviours. People who come into contact with services may have multiple and compounding complex needs, so having person-centred approaches and improving our collective response in a trauma informed manner is fundamental.

It is about:

- ❖ Protecting people who are victims of crime or at risk of being victimised and safeguarding people from harm
- ❖ Preventing people from being victims and/ or being exploited
- ❖ Promoting feelings of safety and confidence in policing and community safety, building resilience and recovery

### Prevent and reduce offending...what does this mean?

We want people who commit crime and anti-social behaviour to change their behaviour. This outcome is fundamental to keeping people safe and is central to services working for and within the criminal justice systems. Offending takes many forms, and for those causing harm there are and should be appropriate consequences, including diversionary and rehabilitation programmes, custodial sentences, supervision in the community etc. With support people should be given opportunities to turn their lives around and desist from commit offences. People who offend, reoffend or who are at risk of first time offending do so for a host of different reasons but it is their behaviour that has a direct impact on their victims, their families and communities and ultimately themselves.

It is about:

- ❖ Preventing acts of ASB and criminal behaviour
- ❖ Problem solving justice, across services with and for people
- ❖ Intervening early to reduce the risk of escalation of offending and rehabilitating people to change their lives

### Create safer and stronger communities...what does this mean?

We want Leeds to continue to be a compassionate and caring city that tackles poverty, reduces inequalities and promotes tolerance and respect. This outcome is fundamental to the city's visions of being welcoming, fair, with a sustainable strong economy that brings opportunities to all. With existing and new crime and disorder demands there is a requirement to focus the right resources in the right place at the right time.

It is about:

- ❖ Building resilient communities, supporting those in need as well as ensuring people are empowered to help themselves
- ❖ Strong local leadership, system change through listen to and acting on community conversations to resolve problems and conflict locally, raising aspiration and creating better links to social and economic opportunities
- ❖ Protecting the places where people live, socialise, travel to and creating places that are safe and promote/ engender feelings of safety





**#TogetherLeeds**  
**#BeSafeFeelSafe**  
**Safer, Stronger Communities**



## Domestic Violence and Abuse Update

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Report of: Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

### What is this report about?

#### Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- This report provides an update on the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the progress made by the council in delivering against the statutory duties.
- It provides an update on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on domestic violence and abuse and the council's response over the last year.
- This report does not require any decisions; it is presented for information and comment.

### Domestic Abuse Act 2021

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

The Act aims to:

- Raise awareness and understanding about the devastating impact of domestic abuse on victims and their families.
- Further improve the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice.
- Strengthen the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies.

The Act will:

- Create a statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, controlling or coercive, and economic abuse.
- The definition also provides that a child who sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, domestic abuse and is related to the person being abused or the perpetrator is also to be regarded as a victim of domestic abuse.
- Establish in law the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner and set out the Commissioner's functions and powers.
- Provide for a new Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order.

- **Place a duty on local authorities in England to provide accommodation based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.\***
- Prohibit perpetrators of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the civil and family courts in England and Wales.
- Create a statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal, civil and family courts.
- Clarify the circumstances in which a court may make a barring order under section 91(14) of the Children Act 1989 to prevent family proceedings that can further traumatise victims.
- Extend the controlling or coercive behaviour offence to cover post-separation abuse.
- Extend the offence of disclosing private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress (known as the “revenge porn” offence) to cover threats to disclose such material.
- Create a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation of another person.
- Clarify by restating in statute law the general proposition that a person may not consent to the infliction of serious harm and, by extension, is unable to consent to their own death.
- Extend the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the criminal courts in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to further violent and sexual offences.
- Provide for a statutory domestic abuse perpetrator strategy.
- Enable domestic abuse offenders to be subject to polygraph testing as a condition of their licence following their release from custody.
- Place the guidance supporting the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (“Clare’s law”) on a statutory footing.
- **Provide that all eligible homeless victims of domestic abuse automatically have ‘priority need’ for homelessness assistance.\***
- **Ensure that where a local authority, for reasons connected with domestic abuse, grants a new secure tenancy to a social tenant who had or has a secure lifetime or assured tenancy (other than an assured shorthold tenancy) this must be a secure lifetime tenancy.\***
- Prohibit GPs and other health professionals in general practice from charging a victim of domestic abuse for a letter to support an application for legal aid.
- Provide for a statutory code of practice relating to the processing of domestic abuse data for immigration purposes.

\*The items in bold are those that relate to local authority duties.

In addition to the Act, the Government has committed to bringing forward a new statutory domestic abuse perpetrator strategy as part of the domestic abuse strategy and announced £15 million of additional funding for perpetrator interventions in the 2021 Budget.

The Act also creates the Domestic Abuse Commissioner role to help drive consistency and better performance in the response to domestic abuse across all local areas and agencies. The Government also amended the legislation to require a person or body carrying out a domestic homicide review in England and Wales to send a copy of the report of the review to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner. Further to lobbying from the domestic abuse sector for greater investment in community-based support services, the legislation has now been amended so that the Domestic Abuse Commissioner is able to publish a report, under her new powers in the Act, on the provision of and need for community-based services.

### **Responsibilities of the Local Authority**

The Act places a statutory duty on tier one local authorities relating to the provision of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children residing within refuges and other safe accommodation. It also places a duty on each tier one local authority in England to:

- Appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board which it will consult as it performs certain specified functions.
- Assess the need for accommodation-based domestic abuse support in their area for all victims or their children, including those who come from outside the area.
- Develop and publish a strategy for the provision of such support to cover their locality, having regard to the needs assessment.
- Give effect to the strategy (through commissioning / de-commissioning decisions).
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy.
- Report back to central government.
- Require tier two councils (district or borough councils, and London Boroughs) to co-operate with the lead local authority as far as is reasonably practicable.
- Require the Secretary of State to produce statutory guidance, having consulted the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, local authorities and such as other persons as considered appropriate.
- Require local authorities to have regard to the statutory guidance in exercising their functions.

### **Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board**

In preparation for the Domestic Abuse Act and the ambition of senior leaders to further integrate the city's partnership response to DVA, Safer Leeds established a shadow Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALPB) in October 2020. This Board is now fully established and has been engaged in the development of the funding proposals for the current financial year, development of the needs assessment and strategy/action plan and maintaining oversight of existing work streams.

The board works collaboratively and has formed strategic alignments with Safeguarding Boards, the Children's Trust Partnership Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Strategic Migration Board. The new strategic working arrangements will also have cognisance of the work of Women's Lives Leeds and the plans to develop a Strategy for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls and the West Yorkshire work of the PCC/WY Combined Authority relating to both Domestic Abuse and Honour Based Abuse.

The Board is supported by the Domestic Abuse Voice and Accountability Forum (DAVA) – a group of 40+ third sector agencies who deliver support to DVA victim-survivors either as specialist providers or providers for whom DVA is part of the needs of their service users. The DAVA acts as a critical friend to the DALPB offering support and challenge. It will have a quality assurance role in relation to equality issues. It will ensure that the board is fully apprised of the views of victim-survivors and their families and that it uses this knowledge in delivering the strategy.

### **Assessing need, developing the strategy and giving effect to the strategy.**

The MHCLG have stated that the needs assessment must inform the development of the strategy/action plan and that the strategy/action plan will be published by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. In order to align with this timeframe, a phased approach has been adopted. Phase one will focus on collating and analysing the information for the needs assessment that will be required in order to meet the statutory duty in relation to support in safe accommodation; this will be complete by autumn 2021. Phase two will build on this assessment and include broader needs including, but not limited to, support to children and young people, the needs of those causing harm in relationships/perpetrators of abuse, community based support for all groups and understanding the opportunities and gaps in relation to preventative work.

Phase one of the needs assessments is well underway. It has focussed on gathering three sets of information:

- Contributions from a range of victim-survivors and their families;

- Qualitative data from the third sector, statutory agencies and relevant boards;
- Numerical data and narrative from relevant services.

A range of partners have been involved in the process to date and have contributed to shaping the scope of the assessment and to gathering and collating the information from a range of sources.

A working group to develop the strategy and action plan has been established. The strategy will also be developed in two phases to ensure that Leeds City Council is meeting its statutory duties in the first phase and considering wider needs in the second phase. The strategy for safe accommodation-based domestic abuse support will be published by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and is due to be presented to the Executive Board in November 2021.

### **Allocating funding for 2021/22**

In this current financial year, Leeds has been allocated £1.8 million by the MHCLG to fund the duty to provide accommodation based support to victim-survivors and their families. As outlined, this funding is not able to support community based provision as it is targeted at providing support to victim-survivors when they are in safe accommodation. In future years, the Local Authority will have access to the needs assessment and strategy/action plan to inform decisions relating to the allocation of funding to give effect to the strategy. However, as this is not yet available, the Board approved an approach to allocating the funding in an open and transparent manner for this year's funding, using existing commissioning needs information. Safer Leeds and the Adults and Health Commissioning Team have completed a process of engagement with partners and victim-survivors and an analysis of current presenting need in safe accommodation, and have developed a set of projects to be funded in this current year. These include:

- Enhancing the support at current specialist refuge and dispersed accommodation commissioned and non-commissioned.
- Enhancing sanctuary scheme support for adults and children
- Enhance support for domestic abuse victims living in other supported housing services
- Enabling the LA to carry out its burdens duties under the Act.
- An allocation to allow more time for providers who are new to this area to develop proposals and partnerships linked to safe accommodation models.

The proposed provision is additional to the arrangements that are currently in place to provide accommodation and support to victim-survivors in Leeds.

### **Homelessness provision and secure lifetime tenancies**

In Leeds, homeless victims of domestic abuse would be considered vulnerable and therefore given priority need for homelessness assistance and for rehousing. Therefore this measure in the Act does not require any change in process for how people are assessed in Leeds.

Housing Leeds aim to rehouse victims/survivors of domestic abuse a safe distance away from the perpetrator, once a tenancy has been awarded an appropriate support package is put in place (with the tenants consent) to support them in their new home.

For those victims/survivors who wish to stay in their current home the sanctuary service is offered alongside a package of housing support.

### **Maintaining progress against DVA Breakthrough priorities.**

The Board continues to have oversight of the former four priorities of the DVA Programme Board namely:

1. Support to victims
2. Challenging perpetrators

3. Service improvement and workforce development
4. Awareness raising.

It continues to oversee a number of operational groups to continue to ensure accountability for ongoing service delivery arrangements. These arrangements will be reviewed in accordance with emerging Government guidance for local governance arrangements and the development of a longer term strategy for the partnership response to DVA. Key achievements this year include:

- Improvements to the arrangements for managing high risk DVA through changes to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Daily DV meeting and successfully accessing Government funding for additional IDVA provision at the Front Door Safeguarding Hub.
- Development of a framework of perpetrator services and implementation of the actions from the Leeds Strategic Review of Perpetrator services and successfully being awarded Government funding for a perpetrator project as part of the Front Door Safeguarding Hub.
- Development and delivery of online training resources across the partnership and ongoing co-ordination and roll-out of learning from domestic homicide reviews.
- White Ribbon accreditation and a series of social media campaigns to promote commissioned DVA services and sources of support in Leeds.

By building on existing strong partnerships, the city is well placed to deliver its statutory duty and broader ambitions to reduce the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse in Leeds.

### **Domestic Abuse and responding to the Pandemic.**

The following information has been put together to provide the board with an understanding of the prevalence of Domestic Abuse in the city and how we have responded during the pandemic.

Since the start of the Covid-19 epidemic there has been a significant increase of domestic violence and abuse in Countries across the world and the same is happening in England too. The National Domestic Abuse helpline reported a 49% increase of calls to the helpline and Refuge (UK's largest domestic abuse charity has reported a 120% increase in calls. The Men's advice line, for male victims of domestic abuse has seen a 35% increase in calls and a 42% increase in website traffic. The Respect phone line, which provides confidential advice to perpetrators of abuse has seen calls increase by a quarter and website visits by over 125%.

Very sadly, there has been a national increase in domestic homicides during three weeks of March and April. During this period there were 16 victims some of who were children.

### **Why is this the case?**

The increase in household tensions and domestic violence and abuse is most likely a result of forced coexistence, economic stresses and fear about the virus.

**Isolation** - there has perhaps never been a more dangerous or frightening time for victims of domestic abuse trapped in lockdown with an abusive partner or family member. Victims and families are now spending much more time at home with their abuser and are much more isolated from help and support which significantly increases their risk of harm. Home is not a safe place to be for people living with an abusive partner or family member. Their ability to seek help is extremely compromised as they cannot leave the house as they wish or make a phone call without been overheard.

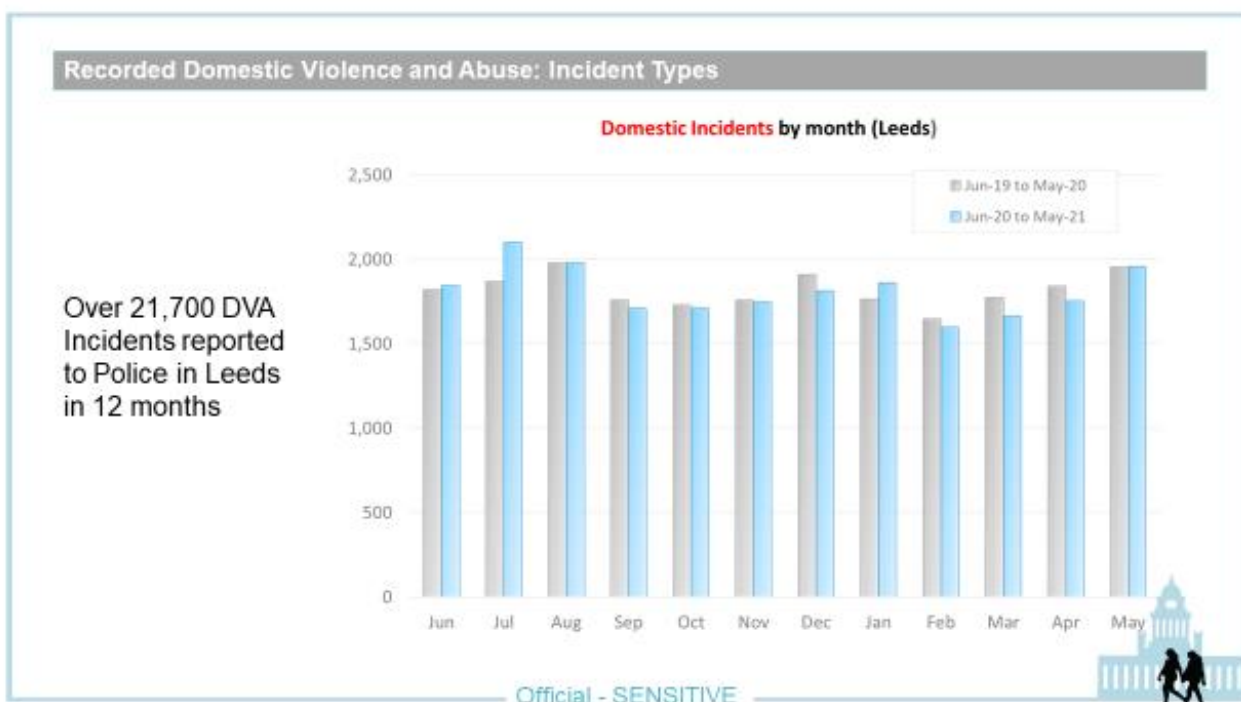
During lockdown there is also less opportunity for professionals, agencies or family and friends to pick up on signs of abuse as there is such a reduction in both face to face and telephone contact. In the current climate of self-isolation including from friends or family outside the same household, whilst necessary to reduce the spread of coronavirus, will also impact on the opportunity for victims of domestic abuse to escape control and seek and obtain such help.

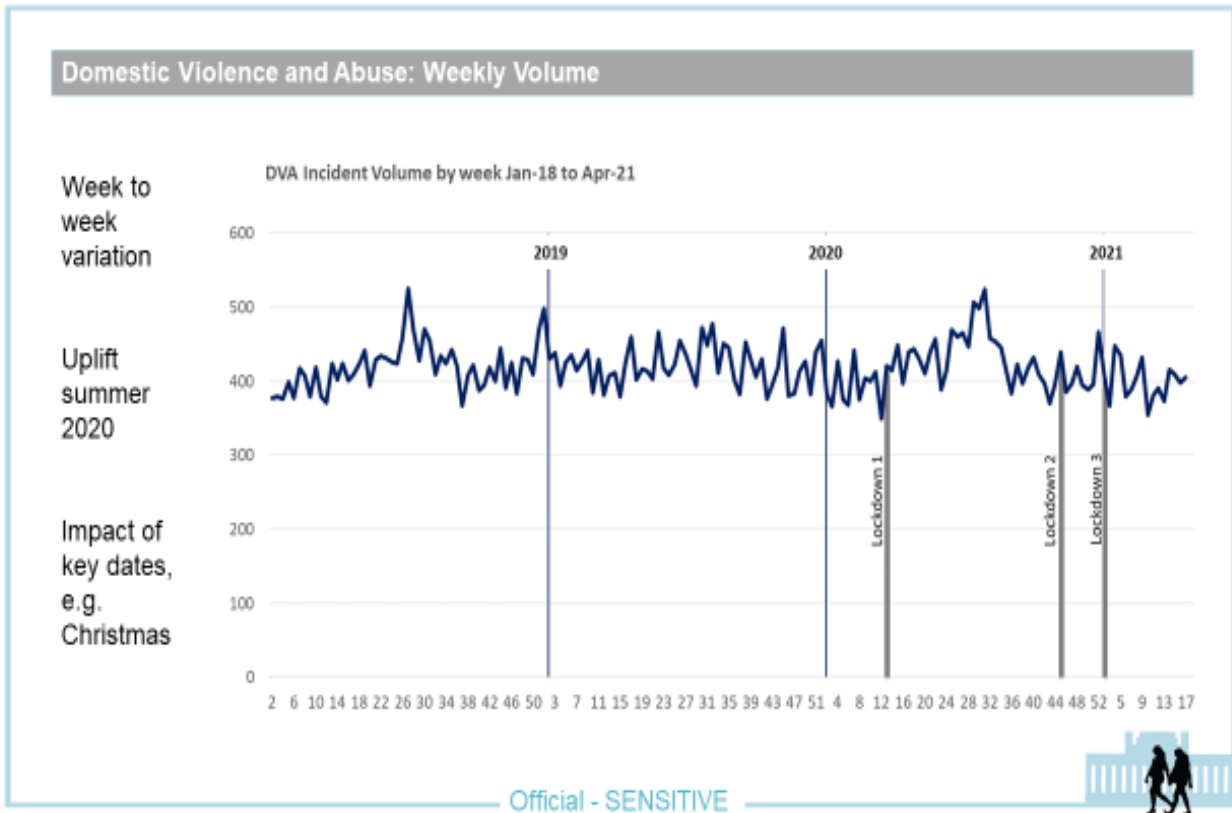
## What does this look like in Leeds?

The graphs below shows the monthly volume of reported police incidents over a 12 month period and peaks times. The volume during lockdown, in April and May, was a little above the same month in the previous year. The uplift in July is particularly notable, but has more recently reduced.

Within Leeds, the volume of Domestic Incidents varies significantly between wards. Whilst any person in Leeds could be impacted by Domestic Violence and Abuse, we could generalise that more economically deprived areas experience a higher volume.

1,437 Domestic Incidents were recorded in Middleton Park in the last 12 months. This was the highest volume ward in Leeds. Armley, Middleton Park, Killingbeck & Seacroft, and Burmantofts & Richmond Hill all have a domestic incident population rate of over 50 incidents per thousand population.





Other figures of note are as follows;

- 40% of all DVA incidents are repeat calls.
- Around 25% have a child present in the home.
- Around 10% are high risk incidents.

Children who witness domestic violence or are victims of abuse themselves are at serious risk for long-term physical and mental health problems. Children exposed to violence in the home may also be victims of physical abuse. There is a suggestion that children who witness violence between parents may be at greater risk of being violent in their own future relationships.

In the last 12 months, 6,054 Domestic Incidents identified a Child Present. This means that one or more children were at home during 27% of Domestic Incidents in Leeds.

This increased during lockdown, in April and May 2020 almost 30% of Domestic Incidents were recorded as Child Present.

**Domestic Violence and Abuse: COVID ~ Service Level Volume Trends**

Children's Social Care	Total	Week avg.	Week max.	Week min.	Peak week
<b>DVA primary contact</b>	6,468	103	245	17	20-Jul-20
<b>DVA additional factor contact</b>	8,922	142	261	36	20-Jul-20
<b>DVA primary assessment</b>	2,072	33	65	5	03-Aug-20
<b>DVA additional factor</b>	3,629	58	99	5	30-Mar-20

\*23/03/20 to 31/05/21 ~ 13 month volume

Official - SENSITIVE



These figures only show the cases that are reported to the police and then flagged as a DVA incident. We know that because of fear, shame and many other issues, people may be reluctant to seek help from the police. 40% of reports are from white victims, however 37% is not stated and a further 16% is unknown with Asian, Black and Mixed at single figures (3%, 2% and 1%) so this suggests that recording, disclosure and under reporting may all be affecting the numbers of ethnic minority people affected by abuse.

From the first week of lockdown, Safer Leeds has co-ordinated the collation of weekly Domestic Incident volume information from a number of service providers in Leeds. The volume information and summarised trend information is shown in the table.

Between April and September, in Leeds, there was a weekly average of 452 Police reported Domestic Incidents, 97 calls to the Leeds Domestic Violence Service, 74 multi-agency MARAC reviews, 30 individuals contacting Leeds Housing Options, and 9 Adult Social Care Referrals.

**Domestic Violence and Abuse: COVID ~ Service Level Volume**

Source	Total	Week avg.	Week max.	Week min.	Peak week
<b>Police DVA Incidents [provisional]</b>	23,188	438	533	373	27-Jul-20
<b>LDVS calls*</b>	7,587	120	188	60	25-Jan-21
<b>MARAC referrals*</b>	3,688	70	88	48	27-Jul-20
<b>Housing Options new contacts*</b>	1,456	27	46	6	06-Jul-20
<b>Contacts for Refuge spaces*</b>	1,759	28	52	8	18-Jan-21

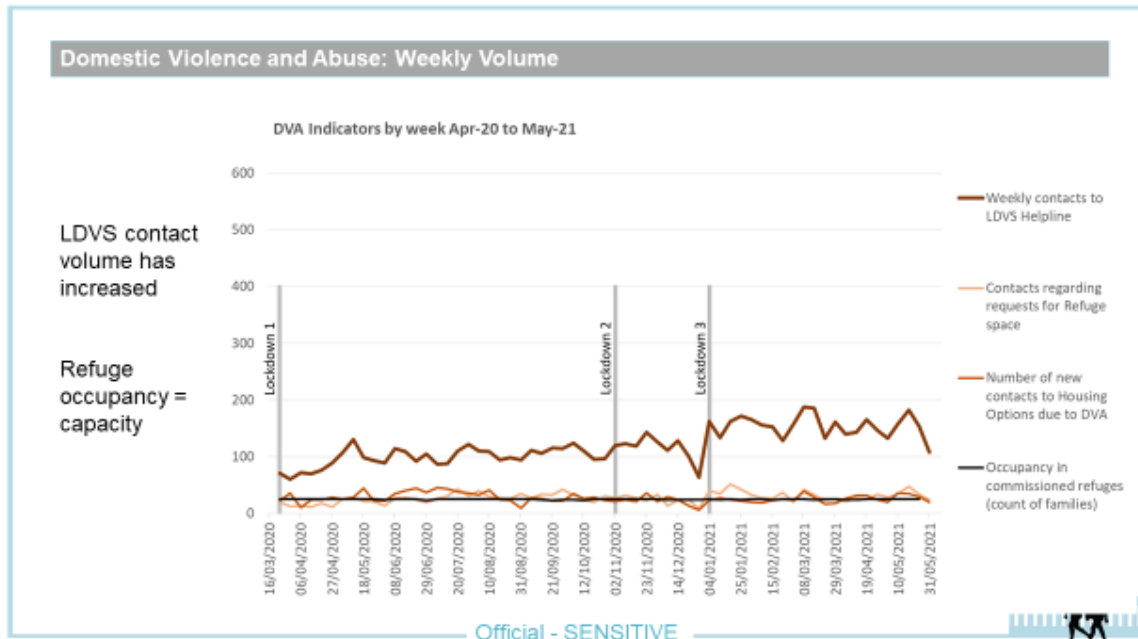
\*23/03/20 to 31/05/21 ~ 13 month volume

Official - SENSITIVE





There is an ongoing concern, that the demand on the Leeds Domestic Violence Service (LDVS) helpline has increased and we're working with them to identify ways to increase their capacity.



There has been a wide range of activity across Leeds in order to manage risk during the pandemic.

- An initial tactical group was set up to provide a strategic level way of monitoring and responding to trends, monitoring weekly data from key partners. This was to support ongoing delivery concerns and ensure the MARAC arrangements could work digitally with all key partners engaged.
- The Safeguarding and Domestic Violence team delivered a series of briefings to members in order to update about the local authority response for DVA and to ensure they had information to provide to the public about local services.
- Messages to community included social media campaign, help cards being made available digitally, posters in 12 languages, leaflet to volunteers in food hubs to encourage them to look for and flag concerns around DVA, information shared with the faith sector. Leeds actively supported the national Safe Spaces scheme via pharmacies and later through supermarkets by providing details of local services for support around DVA.
- Ongoing work with agencies to share resources, good practice, details of service changes or online training and guidance on how to make safe phone calls. Social media activity and messages increased over White Ribbon Day and the 16 days of action.
- MARAC and other multi agency meetings moved online to continue to manage risk. The MARAC arrangements in Leeds are key to ensuring a robust response where risk is highest. It's a broad partnership that's strategically supported by Safer Leeds. Demand on the MARAC process has increased since it has been established, this is a credit to the work done by police and partners to recognise high risk.
- Leeds City Council also worked in partnership with LDVS to support them to secure funding from the MHCLG for an extra 7 properties to expand the capacity of the refuge. LDVS have developed good links with Housing Associations. LDVS and partners also worked with the Emergency Accommodation Panel to free up refuge space and to provide hotel accommodation for those in crisis. Housing Leeds and other corporate partners were key to making sure we were able to meet demand across the city. Although challenging, our

partnership arrangements were able to respond and put measures in place to mitigate where possible.

- Safer Leeds have worked closely with offender services such as The National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company throughout the pandemic to maintain contact with their clients that are deemed to be the highest risk.

## Recommendations

- a) The Scrutiny Board is asked to note the content of this report.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 This is not a decision making report.

## What impact will this proposal have?

### Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 2 This is not a decision making report.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 This is not a decision making report.

## What are the resource implications?

- 4 This is not a decision making report.

## What are the legal implications?

- 5 This is not a decision making report.

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

- 6 This is not a decision making report.

## Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 7 DVA contributes to improving outcomes in many of the Best City Priorities, for example, Building Safer Strong Communities, Inclusive Growth, Health and Wellbeing, Child Friendly City, Age Friendly Leeds and Housing priorities. The specific KPI relating to DVA is 'increasing the number of self-reported incidents of DVA'. DVA work therefore contributes to the city's highest level outcomes.

## Options, timescales and measuring success

- a) What other options were considered?

- 8 N/A

**b) How will success be measured?**

9 N/A

**c) What is the timetable for implementation?**

10 N/A

## **Appendices**

11 None.

## **Background papers**

12 None.

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## Appendix 1: Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board Membership

Name	Title	Directorate or organisation
Cllr Debra Coupar	Deputy Leader and Executive Board Member for Communities	Leeds City Council
Cllr Amanda Carter	Member of Safer Leeds Executive	Leeds City Council
Cllr Al Garthwaite	Deputy Executive Member	Leeds City Council
James Rogers	Director of LCC Communities & Environment	LCC Communities & Environment
Jasvinder Sanghera	Chair of Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership	LSCP
Paul Money	Chief Officer	Safer Leeds
Jane Maxwell	Head of Safeguarding, and Strategic Partnerships	Safer Leeds
Anna Frierson	Consultant in Public Health	LCC Public Health
Gill Marchant	Head of Safeguarding Leeds CCGs	NHS
Nik Peasgood	Chief Executive Officer	Leeds Women's Aid – representing Leeds Domestic Violence Service
Sally Egan	Strategic Capacity Development Lead	Women's Lives Leeds
Supt Richard Close	Superintendent Partnerships	West Yorkshire Police
Clare Wallis	Interchange Manager	Community Rehabilitation Company
Sarah Guttman	District Crown Prosecutor	Crown Prosecution Service

Peter Harris	Headteacher	Primary schools representative
Ruth Terry	Chief Officer Social Work	LCC Children and Families
Shona McFarlane	Chief Officer Access and Care Delivery	LCC Adults and Health
Shaid Mahmood	Chief Officer Communities	LCC Communities & Environment
Gerard Tinsdale	Acting Chief Officer Housing Management	LCC Resources & Housing
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Directorate</b>
Jude Roberts	Safeguarding and Domestic Violence Team Manager	LCC Environment and Communities.
Gerry Shevlin	Safeguarding and Domestic Violence Programme Manager	LCC Environment and Communities.
Katie Rowan	Safer Leeds Business Support Team	LCC Environment and Communities.

## Co-opted Members

Date: 15 July 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities)

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### **What is this report about?**

#### **Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions**

- The Council's Scrutiny arrangements are one of the key parts of the Council's governance arrangements. For a number of years, the Council's Constitution has made provision for the appointment of co-opted members to individual Scrutiny Boards.
- For those Scrutiny Boards where co-opted members have previously been appointed, such arrangements have usually been reviewed on an annual basis at the beginning of a new municipal year.
- This report provides guidance to the Scrutiny Board about the appointment of co-opted members. In addition to general provisions applicable to all Boards, there are also a number of specific legislative arrangements for certain co-opted members. Such cases are set out in the Council's Constitution and are also summarised within this report.

### **Recommendations**

In line with the options available and information outlined in this report, members are asked to consider and discuss the appointment of co-opted members to the Scrutiny Board. The views of this consultative meeting on co-opted members will be used to inform a decision that will be taken at the next formal Board meeting.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

1. In the majority of cases the appointment of co-opted members is optional and is determined by the relevant Scrutiny Board. The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution outline the options available to Scrutiny Boards in relation to appointing co-opted members.
2. In general terms, Scrutiny Boards can appoint:
  - Up to five non-voting co-opted members for a term of office that does not go beyond the next Annual Meeting of Council ; and/or,
  - Up to two non-voting co-opted members for a term of office that relates to the duration of a particular and specific scrutiny inquiry.
3. To assist the Scrutiny Board, this report sets out a number of key issues to consider when seeking to appoint a co-opted member.
4. As well as general provisions for co-opted members, applicable to all Boards, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution reflects the specific legislative arrangements that relate to Education representatives co-opted onto the Children and Families Scrutiny Board.

## What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards affected: All**

Have ward members been consulted?       Yes       No

1. It is widely recognised that in some circumstances, co-opted members can significantly aid the work of Scrutiny Boards and facilitate co-operation and, where appropriate, joint working between Scrutiny Boards.
2. The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules make it clear that co-option would normally only be appropriate where the co-opted member has some specialist skill or knowledge, which would be of assistance to the Scrutiny Board.
3. In considering the appointment of co-opted members, Scrutiny Boards should be satisfied that a co-opted member can use their specialist skill or knowledge to add value to the work of the Scrutiny Board. However, co-opted members should not be viewed as a replacement for professional advice from officers.
4. Co-opted members should be considered as representatives of wider groups of people. However, when seeking external input into the Scrutiny Board's work, consideration should always be given to other alternative approaches, such as the role of expert witnesses or use of external research studies, to help achieve a balanced evidence base.
5. When considering the appointment of a co-opted member for a term of office, Scrutiny Boards should be mindful of any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during the course of the year in view of the Scrutiny Boards' wide-ranging terms of reference. To help overcome this, Scrutiny Boards may wish to focus on the provision available to appoint up to two non-voting co-opted members for a term of office that relates to the duration of a particular and specific scrutiny inquiry.



6. The process for appointing co-opted members should be open, effective and carried out in a manner which seeks to strengthen the work of the Scrutiny Board. In doing so, due regard should also be given to any potential equality issues in line with the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme.

#### **What consultation and engagement has taken place?**

7. The guidance surrounding co-opted members has previously been discussed by Scrutiny Chairs and it was agreed that individual Scrutiny Boards would consider the appointment of co-optees onto their respective boards.

#### **What are the resource implications?**

8. Where applicable, any incidental expenses paid to co-optees will be met within existing resources.

#### **What are the legal implications?**

9. Where additional members are co-opted onto a Scrutiny Board, such members must comply with the provisions set out in the Member's Code of Conduct as detailed within the Council's Constitution.

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

10. When Scrutiny Boards are considering the appointment of a standing co-opted member for a term of office, they should be mindful of any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during the course of the year in view of the Scrutiny Boards' wide ranging terms of reference.

#### **Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?**

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

11. The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the best council objectives and it is widely recognised that co-opted members can significantly aid the work of Scrutiny Boards.

#### **Appendices**

12. None.

#### **Background papers**

13. None.

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## Work Schedule

Date: 17 June 2021

Report of: Head of Democratic Services

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities)

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### **What is this report about?**

**Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions**

- All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. In doing so, the work schedule should not be considered a fixed and rigid schedule, it should be recognised as a document that can be adapted and changed to reflect any new and emerging issues throughout the year; and also reflect any timetable issues that might occur from time to time.
- The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules also state that, where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards will include 'to review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme'.
- Reflecting on the information in this report and also information presented as part of other agenda items at today's meeting, Members are requested to consider and discuss the Board's work schedule for this municipal year.
- Members are further asked to consider the draft inquiry report regarding the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks (Appendix 3). Formal agreement of the report must take place at a meeting of the Scrutiny Board that is held in accordance with the 1972 Local Government Act – remote 'consultative' meetings do not meet this requirement after 7 May 2021. However, members are asked to agree any amendments and recommend publication of a final version once formal approval is provided at the next suitable meeting.

### **Recommendations**

Members are requested to consider and discuss the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the 2021/22 municipal year.

Members are asked to consider the draft inquiry report relating to the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks (Appendix 3) with a view to a final version being formally approved at the next Scrutiny meeting held in accordance with the 1972 Local Government Act.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

1. A draft work schedule for the Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board is presented at Appendix 1 for consideration and discussion. Reflected in the work schedule are known items of scrutiny activity, such as performance and budget monitoring, identified Budget and Policy Framework items and recommendation tracking.
2. The latest Executive Board minutes from the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 are also attached as Appendix 2. The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider and note the Executive Board minutes, insofar as they relate to the remit of the Scrutiny Board; and consider any matter where specific scrutiny activity may also be warranted.

### Areas of work carried forward from the former Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board

3. At its final meeting of 2020/21 the former Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board consider a number of ongoing priorities that members recommended the successor board continue to scrutinise. These are reflected in the work programme at Appendix 1.
4. A draft inquiry report relating to the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks is attached at Appendix 3 for member consideration. A draft report was circulated by correspondence to both members and the Chief Officer for Safer Leeds for initial comment in March 2021. A number of amendments were requested which are reflected in the attached document.
5. The report requires formal approval for publication which cannot be provided at a remote consultative meeting as this is not being held in accordance with the 1972 Local Government Act. Members are therefore asked to consider a recommendation that a final version of the inquiry report – subject to any agreed amendments – receives approval at the next meeting of the Board which is held in accordance with the 1972 Act.

## What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards affected: All**

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

6. All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year.
7. The draft work schedule is reflective of the views of the former Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

8. In order to enable Scrutiny to focus on strategic areas of priority, it is recognised that each Scrutiny Board needs to establish an early dialogue with the Directors and Executive Board Members holding the relevant portfolios. The Vision for Scrutiny also states that Scrutiny Boards should seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources prior to agreeing items of work.
9. The Director of Environment, Housing & Communities and relevant Executive Board Members have therefore been invited to today's meeting to share their views and contribute to the Board's discussion.

## **What are the resource implications?**

10. Experience has shown that the Scrutiny process is more effective and adds greater value if the Board seeks to minimise the number of substantial inquiries running at one time and focus its resources on one key issue at a time.
11. The Vision for Scrutiny, agreed by full Council also recognises that like all other Council functions, resources to support the Scrutiny function are under considerable pressure and that requests from Scrutiny Boards cannot always be met.
12. Consequently, when establishing their work programmes Scrutiny Boards should:
  - Seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources;
  - Avoid duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue;
  - Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.

## **What are the legal implications?**

13. This report has no specific legal implications.

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

14. There are no risk management implications relevant to this report.

## **Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?**

- Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

15. The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the best council objectives.

## **Appendices**

16. Appendix 1 – Draft work schedule of the Environment, Housing & Communities Scrutiny Board for the 2021/22 municipal year.
17. Appendix 2 – Draft minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
18. Appendix 3 – Draft inquiry Report: Tackling the Anti-Social Use of Fireworks

## **Background papers**

19. None.

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## Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2021/22 Municipal Year

**\*\*Where multiple meetings are taking place in rooms 6&7 of the Civic Hall on a given date the start times for public scrutiny meetings have been moved back to 10:00am. This is to allow additional time for deep cleaning between meetings. As Covid-19 health and safety guidance continues to be updated it is hoped these meetings can return to 10.30am\*\***

June	July	August
<b>Agenda for Thursday 17 June 10.30am</b>	<b>Agenda for Thursday 15 July 10.30am</b>	<b>No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.</b>
<p><b>*CONSULTATIVE MEETING*</b></p> <p>Performance Update</p> <p>Parking Strategy and Management update [PM]</p> <p>LASBT Review: update following the introduction of changes to the service in early 2020. [PSR]</p> <p>Terms of Reference Sources of Work Report</p>	<p>Safer Leeds: including Community Safety &amp; Antisocial Behaviour Strategy Updates</p> <p>Domestic Violence – update including impact of CV19 and Domestic Abuse Bill.</p> <p>Co-optees report</p>	
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
<b>Additional Notes</b>		

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### Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	RT	Recommendation Tracking	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response



## Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2021/22 Municipal Year

**\*\*Where multiple meetings are taking place in rooms 6&7 of the Civic Hall on a given date the start times for public scrutiny meetings have been moved back to 10:00am. This is to allow additional time for deep cleaning between meetings. As Covid-19 health and safety guidance continues to be updated it is hoped these meetings can return to 10.30am\*\***

September	October	November
<b>Agenda for Thursday 23 September 10.30am</b>	<b>Agenda for Thursday 21 October 10.30am</b>	<b>Agenda for Thursday 25 November 10.00am</b>
Waste Strategy – including Recycling: local approach to promoting recycling, wider service development.  Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy  Strategic Housing Board Update	Reducing carbon emissions across the Council's estate including an update on Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funded projects  Housing Activity Update [PM]	Locality Working Priority Neighbourhoods [PM]  Ensuring the future resilience of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector Update (following 2020/1 volunteer hub)  Wholesale review of welfare support
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
	Draft Parks and Green Space Strategy: consultation – date TBC	
<b>Additional Notes</b>		

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PSR	Policy/Service Review	RT	Recommendation Tracking	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response





## Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2021/22 Municipal Year

**\*\*Where multiple meetings are taking place in rooms 6&7 of the Civic Hall on a given date the start times for public scrutiny meetings have been moved back to 10:00am. This is to allow additional time for deep cleaning between meetings. As Covid-19 health and safety guidance continues to be updated it is hoped these meetings can return to 10.30am\*\***

December	January	February
<b>No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.</b>	<b>Agenda for Thursday 20 January 10.30am</b>	<b>Agenda for Thursday 24 February 10.00am</b>
	Reducing Poverty and improving Financial Inclusion – update report, including impact of Universal Credit. (PSR)  Universal Credit Update: Service user experience as per discussions in January 2020 [deferred due to CV19]  Financial Health Monitoring and Initial Budget Proposals [PDS]  Performance monitoring	Standards in the Private Rented Sector – update report [PSR]  Climate emergency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CEAC update on progress and activity</li> <li>▪ Annual Climate Emergency EB report</li> </ul>
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
<b>Site Visits</b>		

PSR	Policy/Service Review	RT	Recommendation Tracking	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response



## Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2021/22 Municipal Year

**\*\*Where multiple meetings are taking place in rooms 6&7 of the Civic Hall on a given date the start times for public scrutiny meetings have been moved back to 10:00am. This is to allow additional time for deep cleaning between meetings. As Covid-19 health and safety guidance continues to be updated it is hoped these meetings can return to 10.30am\*\***

March	Items for follow up
<b>Agenda Thursday 31 March 10.30am</b>	
Fuel Poverty Update  Energy Efficiency in Council Housing Stock  Carbon reduction in the Private Rented Sector [PM]	Selective Licensing Police: PCSO resources Early Budget Consultation Best Council Plan (approach to be determined – Autumn 2021)
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>	
<b>Site Visits</b>	

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JUNE, 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors A Carter, D Coupar, S Golton,  
J Pryor, M Rafique, F Venner, S Arif,  
M Harland and H Hayden

Apologies Councillor

### 5 **Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** – That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt from publication on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

- (A) That appendix 3 to the report entitled, 'White Rose Railway Station', referred to in Minute No. 20 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 and considered in private on the grounds that the information contained within that appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council). It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the content of appendix 3 as exempt from publication outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, as doing so would prejudice the Council's commercial position and that of third parties should it be disclosed at this stage;
- (B) That appendices 3, 3b and 3c to the report entitled, 'Acquisition of Land for the A637 / A6120 Dawson's Corner Junction Improvement Scheme', referred to in Minute No. 22 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 and considered in private on the grounds that the information contained within those appendices contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular organisation and of the Council. This information is not publicly available from the statutory registers of information kept in respect of certain companies and charities. It is considered that since this information was obtained through one to one negotiations for the proposed land exchange then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. Also, it is considered that the release of such information would, or would be likely to prejudice the Council's commercial interests in relation to other similar transactions

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Wednesday, 21st July, 2021

in that prospective transacting parties for other similar sites would have access to information about the nature and level of consideration which may prove acceptable to the Council. It is considered that whilst there may be a public interest in disclosure, much of this information will be publicly available from the Land Registry following completion of this transaction and consequently the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information at this point in time;

- (C) That appendix 7 to the report entitled, 'Adults and Health Service Review 6: Care Delivery: Care Homes, Post Consultation Recommendations Report', referred to in Minute No. 25 be designated as being exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 and considered in private on the grounds that the information within that appendix contains details regarding the combined value of the two care home buildings, which has recently been estimated for residential use. The estimated amount in question has been identified as exempt from publication in accordance with Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3) because it is commercially sensitive, should an open market disposal process be approved. Keeping the information confidential avoids potentially prejudicing the Council's commercial position and that of third parties, should the estimated valuation amounts be disclosed at this stage. It is deemed that the public interest in maintaining the exemption regarding Appendix 7 outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

## **6 Late Items**

### Agenda Item 14 - Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan

With the agreement of the Chair, a late item of business was admitted to the agenda entitled, 'Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan'.

Given the scale and significance of this issue, it was deemed appropriate that a further update report be submitted to this remote meeting of the Board. However, due to the fast paced nature of developments on this issue, and in order to ensure that Board Members received the most up to date information as possible, the report was not included within the agenda as originally published on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021. (Minute No. 17 refers).

## **7 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

In relation to Agenda Item 5, 'arts@leeds' – Year 5 Extension', Cllr Pryor declared an interest in this item, due to the fact that his partner was an employee of Phoenix Dance Theatre, and as such, Councillor Pryor did not participate in the consideration of that item, and left the meeting room for the duration of that consideration. (Minute No. 9 refers).

With regard to Agenda Items 18, 'Disposal of Land at Dawson's Corner by the Calverley Charity' and 19, 'Acquisition of Land for the A647 / A6120 Dawson's Corner Junction Improvement Scheme', Councillor A Carter brought to the

Board's attention his position as a Trustee of the Calverly Charity, as appointed to by the Outer West Community Committee and as registered within the 'Other Registerable Interests' section of his Register of Interests, and as such, declared an 'Other Registerable Interest' in those items.

As required by the Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct', where a Member has declared an 'Other Registerable interest', in order to enable Councillor Carter to remain in the room and speak on those items, Councillor Carter had applied for and been granted a dispensation on the grounds that without the dispensation, representation from his political group on the Executive Board would not be possible and in granting the dispensation it enabled Councillor Carter to speak in the interests of persons living in the authority's area. In doing so, Councillor Carter confirmed that whilst remaining in the room and speaking on Agenda Items 18 and 19, he would not be voting upon them. (Minute Nos. 21 and 22 refer).

## **8 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 respectively, be approved as correct records.

### **ECONOMY, CULTURE AND EDUCATION**

## **9 arts@leeds - Year 5 Extension**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which sought approval to extend the arts@leeds funding programme for a fifth year, with it being noted that a fifth year would extend the current round of funding to 31 March 2023.

In considering the report, the Board received information regarding the reasons for the proposal from the Chief Officer Culture and Economy.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board noted that the decision to extend the funding programme did not have any implications for the Council's budget setting process.

With regard to an enquiry regarding this proposal and the separate proposals relating to the provision of resource for 'Leeds 2023', a Member sought assurance that there would be no 'double counting' across these two areas in terms of grant funding provision. In response, it was undertaken that clarification would be provided to the Member in question.

**RESOLVED** – That an 'in principle' extension of the arts@leeds programme for a fifth year, to 31 March 2023, be approved.

(Further to the declaration of interest as detailed at Minute No. 7, Councillor Pryor took no part in the consideration of this matter and left the meeting room for the duration of this item)

## **10 Outcome of consultation to permanently increase learning places at Allerton High School from September 2022**

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report presenting the outcome of a consultation exercise undertaken regarding a proposal to expand secondary school provision at Allerton High School and which sought approval to the publication of a statutory notice on that proposal.

In supporting the proposal, emphasis was placed upon the importance of ensuring that the traffic regulation orders for the area were implemented.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the publication of a statutory notice on a proposal to permanently expand secondary provision at Allerton High School from a capacity of 1100 to 1400 pupils by increasing the admission number in Year 7 from 220 to 280, with effect from September 2022, be approved;
- (b) That it be noted that the implementation of the proposal detailed would be subject to the response of the proposed statutory notice and on the outcome of further detailed design work and planning applications, as indicated at section 4.4 of the submitted report;
- (c) That it be noted that the proposal has been brought forward in time for places to be delivered for 2022;
- (d) That it be noted that the responsible officer for implementation of such matters is the Head of Learning Systems.

**11 Outcome of consultation to permanently increase learning places at St Edward's Catholic Primary School from September 2022**

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report presenting the outcomes from a consultation exercise undertaken regarding a proposal to permanently increase learning places at St Edward's Catholic Primary School from September 2022, and which sought approval to the publication of a Statutory Notice on that proposal.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, assurance was provided that a full traffic assessment and transport statement would be produced, and that as far as possible, recommendations from that would be implemented.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the publication of a Statutory Notice on a proposal to permanently expand primary provision at St Edward's Catholic Primary School and increase the number of places offered at the school in Reception from 20 to 30, with effect from September 2022, be approved;
- (b) That it be noted that the implementation of the proposal would be subject to the outcome of the proposed statutory notice and on the outcome of further detailed design work and planning applications, as indicated at section 4.4 of the submitted report;
- (c) That it be noted that the proposal has been brought forward in time for places to be delivered for 2022;
- (d) That it be noted that the responsible officer for the implementation of such matters is the Head of Learning Systems.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES**

**12 Covid-19 Memorial Woodland within New 48 Hectare Parkland at former South Leeds Golf Course**

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report that presented a proposal to create a new 48 hectare park incorporating a Covid-19 memorial woodland on the site of the former South Leeds golf course.

In welcoming the report, a Member suggested that other appropriate proposals could potentially be considered in other areas of the city, with a view to accessing external funding streams where appropriate.

A Member highlighted the significant resource implication being proposed in an area with already considerable parkland facilities, and noted the proportion of the memorial woodland when considering overall size of the proposed new parkland.

Responding to an enquiry regarding public consultation, it was noted that the local and wider community would be appropriately consulted in relation to the proposals within this report.

The Board then discussed the current position with regard to the provision of grass cutting along highways in the city.

**RESOLVED** – That the following be approved:-

- (a) The establishment of a formal partnership agreement between the Council and Leeds Hospitals Charity to create a Covid-19 memorial woodland;
- (b) The commencement of consultation on establishing up to 48 hectares of new parkland incorporating a Covid-19 memorial woodland and other recreational features, which will then form part of Middleton Park;
- (c) The injection of £700k into the Capital Programme in order to enable works to commence on establishing the Covid-19 memorial woodland, with authority to spend approval for the full scheme being delegated to the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment, and that the £30k annual revenue budget provision required to maintain the new parkland, be noted;
- (d) That it be noted that the Chief Officer for Parks and Countryside will be responsible for the implementation of the resolutions above, in line with the timetable, as set out in paragraph 31 of the submitted report.

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLIMATE**

**13 Transforming Cities Fund: Leeds City Centre Cycling Improvements**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which sought approval for the design and delivery of a package of 6 schemes to provide safe, segregated facilities for cycling and walking around the city centre, with it being noted that these projects would link existing cycle routes together to

form a coherent network, facilitating active travel choices and reducing dependency on the private car for short and medium length journeys.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the successful delivery of cycle infrastructure across Leeds as part of Leeds City Council's ambition to encourage active sustainable transport and address the Climate Emergency, be noted;
- (b) That the principle and general layout of the six Transforming Cities Fund - Leeds City Centre Cycling projects, as detailed within the submitted report, be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that the costs of £7.06M to design and deliver the 6 projects detailed in the submitted report will be entirely funded from the Transforming Cities Fund;
- (d) That it be noted that the construction of the detailed projects is expected to begin in early summer 2021 for completion in spring 2023;
- (e) That it be noted that the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) will be responsible for the implementation of such matters, and will receive further reports as necessary to facilitate these proposals and will give authority to spend for the individual projects.

**14 Leeds Local Plan Update – Public Consultation on the Scope of the Plan**

The Director of City Development submitted a report that presented details regarding the proposed scope for the Local Plan Update, namely a focus upon new or revised planning policy to help further address the Climate Emergency. On this basis, the report sought approval to commence consultation on the proposed scope of the Local Plan Update, as detailed.

In considering the report, a Member highlighted the importance of ensuring that the comments which would be received as part of the proposed consultation process were taken into consideration, as appropriate.

Emphasis was also placed upon the importance of ensuring that the methods used to conduct the consultation made the process as accessible as possible. In response, the Board was provided with details of the actions being taken with the aim of maximising accessibility.

Reference was also specifically made to the continued importance of flood prevention, and the need for due consideration to be given to this issue as part of this process.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the proposed initial scope of the Local Plan Update, be agreed as follows:-
  - Update and create new policies; make consequential changes, within the Adopted Leeds Core Strategy (amended 2019), the Natural Resources and Waste Local Plan (2013) and Unitary Development Plan (2006) which focus on: carbon reduction, flood risk, green



infrastructure, place-making and sustainable infrastructure in order to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure the delivery of sustainable development within the Leeds Metropolitan District for a period of at least 16 years from Adoption;

- (b) That the commencement of consultation on this scope for a period of eight weeks using supporting topic papers (Appendices 1 and 2 within the submitted report), be agreed;
- (c) That the consultation documentation (Appendices 1 and 2 within the submitted report) be referred to the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board for the purposes of consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework;
- (d) That the necessary authority be provided to the Chief Planning Officer, to enable the Chief Planning Officer, in liaison with the Executive Member for Infrastructure and Climate, to approve any amendments to the consultation material in advance of public consultation;
- (e) That it be noted that the Chief Planning Officer is responsible for the implementation of the resolutions, as detailed above.

(The matters referred to within this minute, given that they were decisions being made in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, were not eligible for Call In, as Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1.2 states that the power to Call In decisions does not extend to those decisions being made in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules)

#### **15 Redevelopment of City Square - Outcome of the Design Competition and Appointment of the Preferred Designer**

The Director of City Development submitted a report that presented the outcome of the design competition for the redevelopment of City Square, and which sought approval to the appointment of the preferred designer, who in being appointed would work proactively with the Council and stakeholders to redevelop City Square from the design concept submitted as part of the design competition into an approved design.

In introducing the report and in providing assurance to Members, the Executive Member highlighted that the design which had been submitted as part of the associated competition was an indicative design and that the preferred designer would work proactively with the Council and partners in developing a final design.

Responding to a Member's enquiry regarding the extent to which the design competition format provided value for money, it was noted that the level of cost was in line with what would be expected at this stage of design development for a scheme of this scale.

A Member's suggestion regarding the potential for an appropriate Covid-19 memorial to form part of the design for City Square was noted, with an undertaking that it would be taken into consideration.

In conclusion, the Board received further details regarding the competition process, and the Executive Member emphasised the key importance of the new design, given that City Square was a gateway to the city centre.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the appointment of the preferred designer, Re-form Landscape Architecture, to develop the conceptual design proposals to the end of the RIBA Concept Design Stage, be approved;
- (b) That the Authority to Spend up to a maximum of £250k in order to develop the conceptual design to the end of the RIBA Concept Design Stage, be approved;
- (c) That the entering into a Professional Service Short Subcontract with Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering (BB) for the post-competition design fees up to the end of the RIBA Concept Design Stage, be approved.

**16 Parklife - Fullerton Park and Matthew Murray Update**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which provided an update regarding the Council's Fullerton Park 'Parklife' scheme, together with the outcome of recent discussions with Leeds United Football Club (LUFC) around their preference to preserve the potential for a disposal of the former Matthew Murray High School site to LUFC, as part of the club's ambition to relocate their training ground facilities closer to Elland Road and also as part of proposals regarding the expansion of the Elland Road stadium.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board received an update regarding the timeframe for this proposal, with it being acknowledged that this was in response to a request made by LUFC, as a result of the club's updated aspirations regarding stadium expansion.

With regard to an enquiry regarding the Woodhall Playing Fields site as part of the Parklife submission process, Members received an update regarding the current position, with it being undertaken that a further report regarding the Parklife scheme would be submitted to the Board at the appropriate time.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the progress which has been made to date with regard to the Fullerton Parklife scheme, be noted;
- (b) That the principle of the relocation of the Fullerton Parklife scheme to the former Matthew Murray High School site, in order to preserve the ambitions of Leeds United Football Club to achieve a 55,000 seater capacity stadium at Elland Road, be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that the principle approval above is subject to LUFC meeting Leeds City Council's additional design costs that it will incur as

a consequence of this change, as outlined in paragraph 23 of the Resources section of the submitted report;

- (d) That it be noted that the relocation proposals will provide the opportunity for an increased facility offer at Matthew Murray, including 4 full sized all-weather pitches and an increase space take up by the NHS;
- (e) That it be noted that the Football Foundation (the main grant funder for Parklife) and the NHS are fully supportive of the relocation and the positive impact that this will have on the Parklife business case;
- (f) That it be noted that the impact of the relocation of the Fullerton Parklife to Matthew Murray will result in a loss of the potential capital receipt to be realised from LUFC, however, it be noted that this will in part be offset from the realisation of a new capital receipt from Fullerton Park for land required as part of the Stadium expansion;
- (g) That it be agreed for Council officers to work in partnership with Leeds United Football Club on a revised masterplan for the Elland Road Stadium and Fullerton Park area, and that agreement be given for those draft proposals to be submitted to a future Executive Board in readiness for public consultation;
- (h) That it be noted that the officer responsible for this project and the key matters associated with it is the Head of Projects and Programmes in Asset Management and Regeneration.

### **LEADER'S PORTFOLIO**

#### **17 Update on Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan**

Further to Minute No. 157, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021, the Chief Executive submitted a report providing an update on the work being undertaken as part of a multi-agency partnership approach in response to, and as part of the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The Response and Recovery Plan, as the main reporting tool for ongoing work across the seven service areas, was appended to the submitted report at Annex A. The report and annexes set out the broad range of activities being undertaken, including a summary plan on a page for the rest of 2021, delivery via vital partnership arrangements, and details of the continued proactive work to try and control the numbers of cases across the city and increase testing, tracing, isolating and vaccination uptake.

The Leader, together with the Executive Member for Public Health and Active Lifestyles introduced the report, providing an update on the current position in Leeds, with specific reference to the approach being taken towards addressing the recent increase in infection rates.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the latest version of the Response & Recovery Plan, as presented at Annex A to the submitted report, including a summary plan on page and risks, be noted;
- (b) That Annex B to the submitted report, which presented a summary of national developments since the last meeting of Executive Board, be noted, together with Annex C, which provided the monthly Coronavirus Dashboard.

## **RESOURCES**

### **18 Financial Performance - Outturn financial year ended 31st March 2021**

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report presenting the Council's final outturn position for the 2020/21 financial year in respect of both the General Fund revenue budget and the Housing Revenue Account. The report also sought approval regarding the creation of earmarked reserves, as detailed.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with further detail on the overall amount of funding which had been received from Government in the form of Covid-19 financial support during the pandemic.

Responding to Members' enquiries regarding whether, in light of the outturn position, consideration would be given to reviewing staffing levels in some front line services, or reconsidering some of the decisions taken as part of the 21/22 budget setting process, the Council's continuing financial challenges were highlighted, with it also being undertaken that comprehensive reviews would also be undertaken as part of the budget setting process for next financial year.

In conclusion, the Executive Member for Resources extended her thanks to all employees for their continued efforts throughout this difficult time, including those who had left the Authority through the Early Leaver's Initiative.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the Council's outturn position for the 2020/21 financial year, as presented in the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That the creation of earmarked reserves, as detailed in paragraph 6.7 of the submitted report, be agreed, and that the necessary authority be delegated to the Chief Officer Financial Services, to enable the Chief Officer Financial Services to approve their release;
- (c) That it be noted that the Chief Officer Financial Services will be responsible for the implementation of the above resolutions following the 'call in' period.

### **19 Treasury Management Outturn Report 2020/21**

The Chief Officer (Financial Services) submitted a report presenting the Council's Treasury Management Outturn position for the 2020/21 financial year.

In considering the report, Members discussed current costs with regard to Minimum Revenue Provision, and in response to a specific enquiry, the Board was provided with information on the actions being taken towards safeguarding against potential interest rate rises, when considering the Council's borrowing costs.

In conclusion, the officers responsible for this area were thanked for the work they continued to do to ensure that treasury activity remained within the Treasury Management Strategy.

**RESOLVED** – That the Treasury Management outturn position for the 2020/21 financial year, 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.

**20 White Rose Railway Station**

The Director of City Development submitted a report outlining a proposal for the Council to provide a loan facility to Munroe K, in compliance with subsidiary control, to finance Munroe K's maximum contribution towards the scheme as presented, with the report also seeking the related necessary approvals to help facilitate this proposal.

Following consideration of Appendix 3 to the submitted report designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the public part of the meeting, it was

**RESOLVED** –

- (a) That approval be given for the Director of City Development, in consultation with the Chief Officer Financial Services and the Executive Member for Resources, to develop and enter into a Loan facility Agreement of up to £4.5m with Munroe K, as per the Heads of Terms and principles detailed within exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report;
- (b) That approval be given to inject £4.5m into Capital Scheme Number 32774/WHI/000 in order to finance the loan facility; and that approval be given for the necessary authority to be delegated to the Director of City Development and the Chief Officer Financial Services to enable the Director and Chief Officer to provide 'authority to spend' up to that amount in order to provide the loan, subject to the completion of legal agreements with Munroe K;
- (c) That a future paper on the delivery of the economic masterplan and emerging spatial masterplan at the White Rose Park be submitted to the Board in due course.

**21 Disposal of Land at Dawson's Corner by The Calverley Charity**

The Chief Officer of Asset Management and Regeneration submitted a report which sought approval of the terms of the sale of approximately seven acres of land at Dawson's Corner, Pudsey. The report noted that this land was

privately owned by The Calverley Charity and as such, the submitted report was specifically for the purpose of Executive Board, on behalf of the Council and in the Council's capacity as sole trustee of the charity, to give appropriate consideration to the proposal.

In considering the report, a Member highlighted the importance of the landscaping mitigation works which would need to be undertaken as part of the proposals detailed within Agenda Item 18 to ensure that safe pedestrian access was provided (Minute No. 22 refers), a matter on which the Member had directly contacted the Highways department about.

In referencing the fact that in line with the Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct' Councillor Carter was required to seek a dispensation to enable him to speak on this matter, due to his 'Other Registerable Interest' he requested that consideration be given to reviewing the Code in light of this issue. In response, the Chair advised that if the Code is causing practical issues, then he was agreeable for it to be reviewed on a cross party basis.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That Executive Board, on behalf of the Council acting as sole trustee of the Calverley Charity, approve the terms of the disposal of the Charity's land at Dawson's Corner, and that approval be given to delegate the approval of any variation to the final terms to the Chief Officer of Asset Management and Regeneration in consultation with the Executive Member for Resources, in so far as there is no conflict with regard to the delegation and the respective interests of the parties;
- (b) That it be noted that the officers responsible for this matter are the relevant Senior Land & Property Officer, City Development directorate, and Principal Legal Officer, Resources directorate, and upon approval of the sale terms by Executive Board (in resolution (a)), the sale will be progressed and completed in timescales to suit the Charity and the purchasing Highway Authority (with the aim of completion by end of 2021).

(As detailed within Minute No. 7, Councillor Carter, having declared an 'Other Registerable Interest' in this item, had applied for, and been granted a dispensation on the grounds that without the dispensation, representation from his political group on the Executive Board would not be possible and in granting the dispensation it enabled Councillor Carter to speak in the interests of persons living in the authority's area. In doing so, Councillor Carter confirmed that whilst remaining in the room and speaking on this item, he would not be voting upon it).

#### **22 Acquisition of Land for the A647 / A6120 Dawson's Corner Junction Improvement Scheme**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which sought approval to acquire land from a third party to enable the A647 / A6120 Dawson's Corner junction improvements to take place.

Following consideration of Appendices 3, 3b and 3c to the submitted report designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the public part of the meeting, it was

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the principle of acquiring third party land to enable the A647 / A6120 Dawson's Corner junction improvements, be approved;
- (b) That the terms agreed for parcel A, as detailed in appendix 2 to the submitted report, and the terms for parcels B and C, as detailed in exempt appendix 3 to the submitted report, be approved;
- (c) That it be noted that should there be any changes to the agreed terms for parcels A, B and C, then these are to be approved by the Director of City Development under delegated powers;
- (d) That the necessary authority be delegated to officers to negotiate acquisition terms for parcel D, with agreement being given for those terms to be approved by the Director of City Development under delegated powers;
- (e) That with regard to the associated implementation timescales, it be noted that the intention is for third party land to be acquired by the end of 2021 and, subject to funding, junction improvement works beginning in either spring 2022 or spring 2023, with the construction period due to last around 12-18 months.

(As detailed within Minute No. 7, Councillor Carter, having declared an 'Other Registerable Interest' in this item, had applied for, and been granted a dispensation on the grounds that without the dispensation, representation from his political group on the Executive Board would not be possible and in granting the dispensation it enabled Councillor Carter to speak in the interests of persons living in the authority's area. In doing so, Councillor Carter confirmed that whilst remaining in the room and speaking on this item, he would not be voting upon it).

**23 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Performance and Assurance Report**

The Director of Resources submitted a report which provided an overview of the Council's performance regarding health, safety and wellbeing for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. The report highlighted the improvements which have been made and detailed the challenges ahead.

In presenting the report the Executive Member for Resources provided an overview of the key information as presented, and extended her thanks to those officers responsible for this area of work for their continued efforts during a very challenging year.

**RESOLVED –** That the contents of the submitted report, be noted, with the Board recognising that a robust, yet proportionate approach towards risk management within the Council continues to be applied.

**24 To consider Future Developments with regards to Addressing and Reducing On-Street Sex Work in the City**

The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment submitted a report presenting a proposal to cease with the 'Managed Approach' and replace it with a revised approach, as outlined within the submitted report, in order to tackle and reduce on-street sex work in the city. The report noted that this proposal was seeking Executive Board's endorsement, given that the proposal was subject to agreement by the Safer Leeds Community Safety Partnership.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Resources highlighted that she had written to all Members notifying them about the submission of this report to Executive Board.

Members considered the proposals detailed within the report. In response to some Members' comments and concerns, specifically with regard to the time taken to arrive at the current proposals, the Board was provided with further information regarding the following: the initial aims of the Managed Approach and how those initial aims and the overall Approach had continued to be reviewed and evolved; the consideration of the outcomes arising from processes such as the independent review which was presented to the Board in July 2020 and the 'Listening Well' campaign; and the combination of factors which had led to the current proposals being submitted to Executive Board for endorsement and to the Safer Leeds Community Safety Partnership for agreement.

In discussing the report, Members highlighted that, further to the information provided at the meeting, they looked forward to receiving more detail on the proposals moving forward and the package of multi-agency support which would continue to be put in place for those affected.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the proposal to now cease with the Managed Approach and replace it with the revised approach outlined within the submitted report to tackle and reduce on-street sex work in the city, be endorsed, with it being noted that such proposals are subject to agreement by the Safer Leeds Community Safety Partnership (LSP);
- (b) That the significance of the operational developments leading to the proposed revised approach, be acknowledged and noted;
- (c) That it be noted that the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment, and where appropriate, partner organisations and representatives, will be responsible for the delivery of the revised approach;
- (d) That it be agreed that members of the Executive Board be kept informed and updated on any key changes arising from the implementation of the new approach.



(At the conclusion of this item, the meeting was adjourned at 2.30pm for a period of 30 minutes, prior to reconvening at 3.00pm)

## **ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS**

### **25 Adults & Health Service Review 6 - Care Delivery: Care Homes, Post Consultation Recommendations Report**

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report that presented the findings of the consultation exercise undertaken regarding the proposals to close Home Lea House Long Stay Residential Care Home in Rothwell, and Richmond House Short Stay Residential Care Home in Farsley. In considering the information within the submitted report, the Board were requested to determine the future of both care homes, with the recommended option being to decommission those care homes for the reasons as set out.

In presenting the submitted report, the Executive Member for Adult and Children's Social Care and Health Partnerships acknowledged the anxiety caused by the proposals and highlighted that such a recommendation to close the two homes had not been made lightly. However, the Executive Member went on to undertake that, should the recommendations be approved, then every effort would be made to support residents and their families, together with affected staff throughout the proposed process.

In addition, details of the range of factors which had been taken into consideration when coming to the conclusions within the report were highlighted. These included: the decline in demand for care home provision; the alternative provision which was available; the financial context and the increased budgetary challenges faced across social care; the increased demand levels in other areas of social care provision; the investment which was being made in other areas of social care, including the future use of the two sites in question.

In discussing the report, concerns regarding the following were raised and responded to:

- The two homes' occupancy levels referenced within the report and in discussion;
- The levels of demand for care home provision generally, and the level of the two homes' use by those in the local community;
- The consultation process undertaken and the recommendations arising from it;
- The discussions which had taken place with the NHS regarding the proposal to close Richmond House;
- The timing of the proposals;
- The budgetary challenges which continued to be faced by the Council and specifically with regard to social care provision, together with the proportion of resource provided in terms of both adult and children's social care provision;
- The proposals for the 2 sites moving forward, with it being undertaken that further detail would be provided to the Members in question regarding the advice which had been received that the respective

footprints of the two sites were not large enough to provide extra care housing.

Following consideration of Appendix 7 to the submitted report designated as being exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the public part of the meeting, it was

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the outcome of the full consultation reports with stakeholders, (Appendix 3 to the submitted report), and the information contained within exempt Appendix 7 to the submitted report (Estimated Land Valuation), be noted;
- (b) That the recommendation to decommission services at Home Lea House Residential Long Stay Care Home, in Rothwell, be approved;
- (c) That the recommendation to decommission services at Richmond House Short Stay Residential Care Home, in Farsley, be approved;
- (d) That the timescales for ceasing the services based on the timeline attached in Appendix 9 to the submitted report, be agreed;
- (e) That it be noted that there is a commitment in principle for the sites to be used for the development of supported housing; general needs housing at the Home Lea House site in Rothwell, and supported housing for older people at the Richmond House site in Farsley;
- (f) That it be noted that the lead officer responsible for such matters is the Director Adults and Health.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillors A Carter and S Golton both required it to be recorded that they respectively voted against the decisions referred to within this minute)

**26 Update on Thriving: The Child Poverty Strategy for Leeds**

The Director of Children and Families submitted a report which provided an overview of 'Thriving: The Child Poverty Strategy for Leeds', together with the work being undertaken as part of the strategy, including details of the response in this area during the pandemic.

The Executive Member presented the report highlighting the range of reasons why children and young people were living in poverty, with details also being provided on the impact of the pandemic upon such poverty levels.

Responding to a Member's enquiry in respect of enabling educational achievement and the impact of home schooling during the pandemic on such matters, the Board was provided with details of the actions being taken to progress specific priorities which had been identified in light of the pandemic, and also further information specifically regarding the support provided to

parents and carers in helping their children progress in the area of educational attainment.

The Board also discussed the nature of the update report provided and the range of measurable outcomes within it, with a suggestion that as part of the submission of the next scheduled update report, further detail could be included regarding the progress being made with regard to supporting children and their families in respect of educational attainment.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the strategic framework in place to mitigate the impact of child poverty, and the work being undertaken by the Council and other partners in the key areas of activity, as detailed within the submitted report, be endorsed;
- (b) That the need to promote the work of the ‘Thriving’ strategy across the city and in particular in each respective Members’ portfolio in order to highlight the impact of poverty on children and their families, be acknowledged;
- (c) That it be noted that the officer responsible for the strategy is the Deputy Director Children and Families; working in partnership across the Council directorates.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION:** FRIDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN  
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00 P.M., FRIDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2021

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