



SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1UR on
Thursday, 20th June, 2024 at 10.30 am

(A pre-meeting will take place for all Members of the Board at 10.00 a.m.)

MEMBERSHIP

Cllr S Ali	- Beeston and Holbeck
Cllr B Anderson	- Adel and Wharfedale
Cllr L Cunningham	- Armley
Cllr L Farley	- Burmantofts and Richmond Hill
Cllr S Golton (Chair)	- Rothwell
Cllr K Haigh	- Farnley and Wortley
Cllr A Hannan	- Headingley and Hyde Park
Cllr N Harrington	- Wetherby
Cllr Z Hussain	- Roundhay
Cllr M Iqbal	- Hunslet and Riverside
Cllr A Maloney	- Beeston and Holbeck
Cllr A McCluskey	- Farnley and Wortley

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

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.

[Scrutiny Board \(Environment, Housing & Communities\) - 20 June 2024](#)

Principal Scrutiny Adviser:
Rebecca Atherton
Tel: (0113) 37 88642

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25* of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p> <p>(* In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, notice of an appeal must be received in writing by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting).</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report. 2. To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information. 3. If so, to formally pass the following resolution:- <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information 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 press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:</p> <p>No exempt items have been identified.</p>	

3

LATE ITEMS

To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.

(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)

4

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

5

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES

To receive any apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.

6

MINUTES - 21 MARCH 2024

5 - 12

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2024.

7

TERMS OF REFERENCE

13 - 30

To receive a report from the Head of Democratic Services presenting the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference.

8

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

31 - 34

To receive a report from the Head of Democratic Services on the appointment of co-opted members to the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities).

9

PERFORMANCE REPORT

35 - 94

To receive a report from the Director of Communities, Housing & Environment that provides an overview of progress relating to key performance indicators identified by members as priorities within the remit of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities).

10

RADON TESTING

95 -
104

To receive an update from the Head of Property Management on the outcome of phase 1 testing to date to assess the risk of radon gas to residents in Leeds.

11

SOURCES OF WORK & WORK SCHEDULE

105 -
128

To receive a report from the Head of Democratic Services on potential sources of work for the Scrutiny Board and the draft work programme for 2024/25.

12

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) will take place on **18 July 2024 at 10.30am**. There will be a pre meeting for all members of the Scrutiny Board at **10.00am**.

SCRUTINY BOARD (ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

THURSDAY, 21ST MARCH, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor S Golton in the Chair

Councillors P Stables, B Anderson,
J Akhtar, P Grahame, A Maloney,
A McCluskey, A Rontree, S Seary, A Khan,
N Harrington and M France-Mir

92 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection documents.

93 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

94 Late Items

There were no late items.

95 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

96 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies were received from Cllr A Hannan and Cllr J Tudor. Cllr M France-Mir attended as a substitute for Cllr A Hannan.

The Scrutiny Board also noted apologies from Liz Jarmin (Head of Locality Partnerships) and Cllr M Harland in respect of item 7, and Cllr M Rafique in respect of item 8.

97 Minutes - 22 February 2024

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting that took place on 22 February 2024 were approved.

98 Matters Arising

Referring to several requests detailed in minute 88 the Chair noted that information relating to void properties, damp and mould, and repairs had been circulated to members.

99 Community Committee Review

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on 20 June 2024

Those in attendance for this item were:

- **James Rogers** (Director Communities, Housing & Environment)
- **Paul Money** (Chief Officer Safer, Stronger Communities)
- **Rachel Marshall** (Localities Programme Manager)

Paul Money introduced this item, noting that Cllr Harland had asked him to thank members for their engagement with this review.

Paul provided an overview of the key themes of the review and the proposed timeline for progressing various aspects of the associated programme of work. He noted that progress would be informed by the outcome of work carried out by three task and finish groups, involving both officers and elected members.

The Scrutiny Board was updated about the outcome of three member workshops that took place during 2023/24. Those workshops focused on Community Committee Champions, Delegated Budgets and Community Engagement and Empowerment. Members were informed that a further recent workshop addressed delegated functions. The outcomes from that session are still being analysed.

The Board noted that the review is moving into a secondary phase focused on the implementation of initial recommendations. However, wider work will be ongoing through 2024 and 2025.

Members welcomed the debate about the role of community committee champions. It was recommended that consideration is given to introducing both a new induction programme for champions and an enhanced training offer. Paul Money and Rachel Marshall confirmed that these issues are being explored.

Members advocated the use of technological solutions to enable meetings to be live streamed from community settings. Paul confirmed this is being explored with colleagues from IDS.

Community engagement was identified as a priority and a challenge for some community committees. The Scrutiny Board considered how meetings are advertised and how residents can be encouraged to attend. It was noted that the perceived formality of meetings, and limited opportunities for the public to interact with Board members on matters of interest, can be a barrier to public attendance.

The Scrutiny Board recognised the diversity of communities represented by community committees and agreed that taking 'one size fits all' approach would not be appropriate. However, members proposed that the sharing of best practice could strengthen local arrangements. Paul confirmed that members will be consulted on what works well in their areas and what might therefore be transferable good practice.

Members queried whether formal matters such as the approval of grant funding could be streamlined to allow more time within meetings for the discussion of issues identified as priorities by residents. Rachel noted that some committees have 'pre meetings' to consider issues relating to financial approvals so as to be more efficient in public meetings.

Clarity was sought as to whether corporate communication resources could be used to support enhanced publicity around community committee meetings.

The engagement of elected members to date was welcomed. Officers were asked how the lived experience of residents could also be captured to ensure community committees are designed to effectively respond to local priorities.

Members were also assured that officers from the communities' team work with lots of people who are very active in their communities, despite them not necessarily attending community committee meetings.

The Scrutiny Board advocated more effective interaction between community committees and the third sector, particularly where community anchors are in place.

It was noted that an introduction to the community anchors network would be useful for new members. Rachell suggested that this could be considered at a future Community Committee Chairs Forum with a view to scheduling introductions for members.

Members explored the challenge of engaging with 'hard to reach' communities including those who are new to the city and/or have English as a second language.

Members sought clarity about the offer for council officers in relation to ABCD training. Rachel confirmed that she is exploring the current offer for services to identify where there may be gaps in the provision.

11.04 Cllr Akhtar left the meeting

RESOLVED:

Members noted the report and

- a) Supported the review of Community Committees and their constitutional role in helping to shape and influence place.
- b) Provided their endorsement of the recommendations and accompanying work programme, as set out in appendix 1.
- c) Requested that further updates are provided in 2024/25 in line with proposed timelines in appendix 2.

100 Parks & Green Spaces Strategy - Annual Update

Those in attendance for this item:

- **James Rogers** (Director Communities, Housing & Environment)
- **Polly Cook** (Chief Officer, Climate, Energy & Green Spaces)
- **Emma Trickett** (Parks Technical Manager)

Emma Trickett introduced the item, noting that the update is the second since the original publication of the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy, which was agreed by Executive Board in December 2021.

Emma advised members that the accompanying report covered progress towards the goals set out in Parks and Green Spaces Strategy during 2023. Emma highlighted significant investment in play equipment over the year and asked members to note the new actions detailed at 3.1 of the report.

Members were advised that new actions within the strategy include:

- delivering new habitats through Biodiversity Net Gain funding
- embedding new guidance about access to parks and greenspaces for women and girls
- switching to electric vehicles and machinery where practicable.
- developing and implementing a Green Spaces Play Strategy

The Scrutiny Board requested early engagement in the development of the Green Spaces Play Strategy and asked that this be reflected in the 2024/25 work programme.

It was noted that a masterplan is being created for Tropical World and as such previously agreed actions in relation to the site are not currently being progressed.

It was also confirmed that several completed actions – such as supporting Leeds 2023 – will be removed from future version of the strategy.

Members sought clarity about action being taken to address the challenges of the “shrinking and aging” workforce. In response Polly Cook informed members that the service is looking to reintroduce an apprenticeship programme and is considering opportunities to use tools such as flexible retirement to ease transitions and enable knowledge and skills to be shared.

Further to member queries, Polly informed the Scrutiny Board that five new officers have been recruited within forestry and some proactive tree management will be part of their role.

Concern was raised about the choice of accessible play equipment available to members looking to invest in new play equipment. Polly noted the benefits of purchasing equipment through a single supplier – e.g., availability of spare

parts – but confirmed that equipment can be sourced from other suppliers if specific options are limited.

Concern was raised about the environmental impact of artificial pitches. It was noted that many community pitches in Leeds are waterlogged during the winter and matches are often cancelled as a result. There is therefore a need to balance the means to enable people to engage with physical activity all year round with the potential adverse environmental impacts of such surfaces due to the microplastics contained within the rubber crumb.

The Scrutiny Board will be updated via Polly Cook about ongoing correspondence between the Council and Sports England with regards to this matter.

Polly confirmed the department would not install 3G pitches due to the cost. However, it is anticipated that several 3G pitches will be installed in the city through planning agreements.

Emma Trickett confirmed that regional recommendations regarding the safety of women and girls are informing the design and management of greenspaces. It was further confirmed that the Leeds Quality Parks standard takes into account enhanced national criteria in this area and staff are being trained accordingly.

Emma further confirmed that following previous recommendations from Scrutiny Members guidance regarding the safety of women and girls has been shared with parish councils.

The Scrutiny Board considered the way in which the service manages its relationship with volunteers such as the 'friends of' and 'in bloom' groups, and those keen to get involved in specific activities such as tree planting. The Board was informed that the Parks and Countryside service currently works with over 100 Friends groups, 30 in bloom groups and 600 sports clubs – this provides a vital additional resource for the service given increasing financial pressures.

The Scrutiny Board considered how more volunteers can be encouraged to help support their community greenspaces. Polly informed members that work is ongoing to assess whether there is a robust business case for extending the ranger team to attract more volunteer hours.

Concern was expressed about the financial sustainability of the service and the changing landscape for S106 and CIL payments.

Polly Cook acknowledged the significant financial challenge facing the service. She confirmed that the team continues to seek new opportunities for income generation such as secondary sales through shops and kiosks. The service continues to develop its commercial structures and to explore new funding streams such as Biodiversity Net Gain funding. The new playground

at the Arium was cited as an example of investment to improve the visitor experience with a view to increasing income.

It was also noted that damage caused through anti-social behaviour can not always be addressed due to the financial pressure on service.

Members sought and received reassurance that income raised through investment in destination attractions can support the development of community greenspaces across the city.

The Chair questioned whether there are further routes through which councillors, as convenors of community activity, can support the process of auditing parks. Emma Trickett noted that since the last Scrutiny Board meeting the audit process has been accelerated and a volunteer recruited to support that process. However, it was noted that the service would continue to welcome any introductions via elected members to other volunteers who could assist with progressing the accessibility audits.

A member welcomed the use of British Sign Language Boards in Meanwood Valley park to improve inclusivity. Officers confirmed that they are currently exploring the city's broader approach to BSL Boards in greenspaces.

A member of the Board queried whether the Council received any income from hosting the WOW Barn during Leeds 2023. This will be confirmed by Polly Cook outside of the meeting.

The varying status of leases for individual bowling clubs was noted.

Members considered whether infrastructure such as band stands could be reflected in a 'plan on a page' for a park with a view to enabling more events to take place in local greenspaces.

The Scrutiny Board discussed growing demand for allotment provision in some areas of the city. The Chair noted that he is also the vice president of the Leeds Allotment Federation. Responding to a colleague on the Board, he advised that where a parish council is in place, it is the responsibility of the parish council to deliver allotment provision, rather than the city council.

Polly confirmed that that support would be considered if local people wish to establish community food growing in parks.

RESOLVED:

- a) Members considered progress so far with delivering the goals and actions set out in the Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Strategy.
- b) Scrutiny endorsed the proposed changes to the actions set out in the Strategy as outlined in section 3.1 of the accompanying report.

- c) Members requested early engagement in the development of the Green Spaces Play Strategy and asked that this is reflected in the draft 2024/25 work programme.

101 End of Year Statement

The Chair noted that at the end of each municipal year, every Scrutiny Board publishes an end of year summary. The statements are published on the Council's website and feed into the Annual Report on Scrutiny, which is considered at July's Council meeting.

RESOLVED: Members noted the draft summary and approved its publication.

102 Work Schedule

RESOLVED: Members noted the draft 2024/25 work programme included at appendix 1 and agreed to advise the Principal Scrutiny Advisor of any further requests.

103 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next public meeting of the Scrutiny Board will take place on **20 June 2024 at 10.30am**. There will be a pre-meeting for all board members at **10.00am**.

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Scrutiny Boards - Terms of Reference

Date: 20 June 2023

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

Brief summary

- This report presents the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities)
- While general Terms of Reference are applied to all Scrutiny Boards, the variations in the Scrutiny Boards' remits, together with their special responsibilities, are captured within Article 6 of the constitution.
- Further information is presented within this report to show how each of the five individual Scrutiny Boards align to 2024/25 Officer Delegated Functions and Executive Portfolios.

Recommendations

- a) Members are requested to note the Terms of Reference as they relate to the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities).

What is this report about?

- 1 This report presents the Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities).
- 2 The general Terms of Reference applied to all Scrutiny Boards are set out in Appendix 1.
- 3 The variations in the Scrutiny Boards' remits, together with their special responsibilities, are captured within Article 6 of the constitution (Appendix 2). Article 6 also includes at Annex 1 the Council's 'Vision for Scrutiny,' which is based on the four nationally agreed principles of good scrutiny.
- 4 The version of Article 6 appended to this report was published in May 2024. However, members should be aware that several further amendments are anticipated imminently to ensure Article 6 is fully reflective of the changes agreed by Council at the Annual General Meeting on 23 May 2024. Once updated the revised Article 6 will be accessible here: [ARTICLE 6 – SCRUTINY BOARDS \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk)
- 5 Further detail has been provided to illustrate how each of the five Scrutiny Boards align to 2024/25 Officer Delegated Functions and Executive Portfolios (Appendix 3).

What impact will this proposal have?

- 6 This report seeks to clarify the Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities).

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

- Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 7 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards will continue to promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the Best City Ambition.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 8 The Terms of Reference were formally considered and approved by the Council at the Annual General Meeting on 23 May 2024.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 This report has no specific resource implications.

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

- 10 This report has no risk management implications.

What are the legal implications?

- 11 This report has no specific legal implications.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: General Terms of Reference applicable to all Scrutiny Boards
- Appendix 2: Article 6 of the constitution.
- Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board alignment with officer Delegated Functions and Executive portfolios 2024/25.

Background papers

- None

Scrutiny Board

The Scrutiny Board is authorised to discharge the following overview and scrutiny functions¹:

1. to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with any council or executive function or any matter which affects the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area;²
2. to receive and consider requests for Scrutiny from any source;
3. to review or scrutinise the performance of such Trust / Partnership Boards as fall within its remit;
4. to act as the appropriate Scrutiny Board in relation to the Executive's initial proposals for a relevant plan or strategy within the Budget and Policy Framework which falls within its remit;³
5. to review or scrutinise executive decisions that have been Called In;
6. to exercise such special functions as are allocated in Annex 3 to Article 6 – Scrutiny Boards; and
7. to make such reports and recommendations as it considers appropriate and to receive and monitor formal responses to any reports or recommendations made.

¹ In relation to functions set out in Annex 2 to Article 6 – Scrutiny Boards, whether or not those functions are concurrently delegated to any other committee or officer.

² Including matters pertaining to outside bodies and partnerships to which the authority has made appointments.

³ In accordance with Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

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ARTICLE 6 – SCRUTINY BOARDS**6.1 ROLE**

The Council will appoint Scrutiny Boards as set out in Annex 2 to this Article to exercise functions conferred by section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 and in accordance with the National Health Service Act 2006, in accordance with their terms of reference¹.

6.2 VISION FOR SCRUTINY

The Council has adopted a Vision for Scrutiny, which is attached at Annex 1.

6.3 ROLE OF SCRUTINY**Policy development and review**

Within their Terms of Reference all Scrutiny Boards may:

- assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the Budget and Policy Framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- question Members of the Executive and Directors about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area; and
- liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

Scrutiny

Within their terms of reference all Scrutiny Boards may:

- make recommendations to the Executive and/or appropriate committees and/or Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;
- review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the Scrutiny Board and local people about their activities and performance; and
- question and gather evidence.

¹ As set out at Part 3 Section 2A of the Constitution

Article 6 - Scrutiny Boards

6.4 SCRUTINY OFFICER

The Council has designated the post of Head of Democratic Services, as Scrutiny Officer².

The functions of the Scrutiny Officer are:

- (a) to promote the role of the Scrutiny Boards;
- (b) to provide support to the Scrutiny Boards and their members³;
- (c) to provide support and guidance to Members (including Executive Members), and officers⁴, in relation to the Scrutiny Boards' functions;
- (d) to report to Council⁵ annually about how the authority has carried out its overview and scrutiny functions.

6.5 PROCEEDINGS

Scrutiny Boards will conduct their proceedings in accordance with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

6.6 MEMBERSHIP

Members shall be appointed in accordance with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules.

Scrutiny Boards shall co-opt members in accordance with the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules.

6.7 SCRUTINY BOARD CHAIRS

The Chair of each of the Scrutiny Boards shall be appointed in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules.

Group spokespersons shall not be appointed to Chair a Scrutiny Board which corresponds to the same portfolio.⁶

² Under Section 9FB Local Government Act 2000.

³ The Scrutiny Officer shall exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to Scrutiny Boards.

⁴ The Scrutiny Officer shall exercise overall responsibility for the work programme of the officers employed to support the work of the Scrutiny Boards.

⁵ After consultation with the relevant Scrutiny Chairs

⁶ This does not apply to those groups who have less than 10% of the membership of the Council

Vision for Scrutiny at Leeds

“To promote democratic engagement through the provision of an influential scrutiny function held in high regard by its many stakeholders and adds value by achieving measurable service improvements for the people of Leeds through a member led process of examination and review”

To achieve this Scrutiny will follow the nationally agreed ‘Four Principles of Good Scrutiny’;

1. Provide ‘critical friend’ challenge to decision makers, through holding them to account for decisions made, engaging in policy review and policy development;
2. Promote Scrutiny as a means by which the voice and concerns of the public can be heard;
3. Ensure Scrutiny is carried out by ‘independent minded’ Board members;
4. Improve public services by ensuring reviews of policy and service performance are focused.

To succeed Council recognises that the following conditions need to be present;

- Parity of esteem between the Executive and Scrutiny
- Co-operation with statutory partners
- Member leadership and engagement
- Genuine non-partisan working
- Evidence based conclusions and recommendations
- Effective dedicated officer support
- Supportive Directors and senior officer culture

Council agrees that it is incumbent upon Scrutiny Boards to recognise that resources to support the Scrutiny function are, (like all other Council functions), under considerable pressure and that requests from Scrutiny Boards cannot always be met. Therefore Council agrees that constructive consultation should take place between the Executive and Scrutiny about the availability of resources prior to any work being undertaken.

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 (e.g. Plans Panel, Housing Advisory Board, established member working groups, other Scrutiny Boards)***
- ***Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.***

Scrutiny Board	External oversight	Officer oversight (by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme)	
		Council Functions	Executive Functions
Strategy and Resources		Chief Executive Director of Strategy & Resources Chief Officer (Financial Services) City Solicitor Director of Communities, Housing and Environment	Chief Executive (1-4) Director of Strategy & Resources (1-7) City Solicitor (1-3) Chief Officer (Financial Services)(1-5) Director of Communities, Housing and Environment (17-19)
Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth	Risk management authorities (defined by S6 Flood and Water Management Act 2010)	Director of City Development Chief Planning Officer	Director of City Development (1, 3, 4, 5(a-c), 6-11, 13, 14) Chief Planning Officer (1-4) Director of Children and Families (2(e)) Director of Strategy and Resources (8)
Environment, Housing and Communities	Responsible authorities (defined by S5 Crime and Disorder Act 1998)	None	Director of Communities, Housing and Environment (1-16, 20-22) Director of City Development (2)
Children and Families		Director of Children and Families	Director of Children and Families (1, 2(a-d & f), 3 & 4) Programme Director Strengthening Families, Protecting Children (1 – 3) Director of Children & Families 1 (Functions delegated as Lead Officer of One Adoption Agency for West Yorkshire)
Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles	Relevant NHS bodies or health service providers including:- NHS England NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board Local NHS Trusts and other NHS service providers Healthwatch Leeds	None	Director of Adults and Health (1 - 8) Director of Public Health (1-6) Director of City Development (12)

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCRUTINY BOARDS

1 – Flood risk Management

The Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth) is allocated special responsibility for flood risk management namely:-

- To review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities⁷ of flood risk management functions⁸ which may affect the Leeds City Council area⁹.

2 – Crime and Disorder

The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) is allocated special responsibility for crime and disorder namely:-

- To exercise the functions of a crime and disorder committee¹⁰, including the following:
 - a) To review or scrutinise the exercise of crime and disorder functions¹¹ by responsible authorities¹²; and
 - b) To review or scrutinise any local crime or disorder matter¹³ raised by a Member.

3 – Health

The Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles) is allocated special responsibility for health¹⁴ namely:-

- to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and to make reports and recommendations on any such matter it has reviewed or scrutinised;
- to comment on, make recommendations about, or report about such proposals as are referred to the authority by a relevant NHS body or a relevant health service provider;
- to respond to consultation by any relevant NHS body or health service provider; and

⁷ As defined by Section 6 Flood and Water Management Act 2010

⁸ As defined by Section 4 Flood and Water Management Act 2010

⁹ In accordance with Section 9FH Local Government Act 2000

¹⁰ In accordance with Section 19 Police and Justice Act 2006

¹¹ As defined by Section 6 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (formulating and implementing crime and disorder strategies)

¹² These are the authorities responsible for crime and disorder strategies set out in Section 5 Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

¹³ Any matter concerning –

- a) crime and disorder (including in particular forms of crime and disorder that involve anti-social behaviour or other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); or
- b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in that area

¹⁴ In accordance with regulations issued under Section 244 National Health Service Act 2006 (the regulations).

Article 6 - Scrutiny Boards

- to nominate Members to any joint overview and scrutiny committee appointed by the authority¹⁵

Matters which fall within the terms of reference of this Scrutiny Board include:

- arrangements made by local NHS bodies to secure hospital and community health services to the inhabitants of the authority's area and the quality and safety of such services;
- the provision of family health services, personal medical services, personal dental services, pharmacy and NHS ophthalmic services;
- arrangements made by the authority for public health, health promotion, health improvement and for addressing health inequalities;
- the planning of health services by NHS bodies, including plans made in co-operation with local authority's Health and Wellbeing Board for improving both the health of the local population and the provision of health care to that population;
- any matter referred by Healthwatch Leeds; and
- the arrangements made by relevant NHS bodies and health service providers for consulting and involving patients and the public.

The Scrutiny Board may make recommendations to the authority, relevant NHS bodies, or relevant health service providers arising from the scrutiny process.

4– Residual Responsibility

The Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) is allocated residual responsibility for any function not otherwise allocated to a Scrutiny Board.

¹⁵ such nominations to reflect the political balance of the Board.

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

Scrutiny Board: Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles	
Functions by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme	Executive Board Portfolio
<p>Director of Adults & Health 8. Public Health</p> <p>Director of Public Health 1. Health Improvement Functions 2. Health Protection Functions 3. Functions relating to the commissioning of Public Health services 4. Provision of statutory and mandated functions 5. Functions of Responsible Authority 6. Publication of the annual report on the health of the local population.</p>	<p>Equality, Health and Wellbeing Cllr F Venner</p>
<p>Director of Adults & Health 1. Promotion of well-being 2. Information, advice and advocacy 3. Prevention and Recovery 4. Safeguarding 5. Assessment and eligibility 6. Diverse and high-quality services 7. Charging and financial assessment</p> <p>Director of City Development 12. Sport and Active Leeds</p>	<p>Adult Social Care, Active Lifestyles and Culture Cllr S Arif</p>

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

Scrutiny Board: Children and Families	
Functions by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme	Executive Board Portfolio
<p>Director of Children and Families</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children’s Social Work 2. Learning (excluding 2e) 3. Child Friendly City 4. Youth Services¹ <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption services (Function delegated to the Director of Children and Families as Lead Officer of one Adoption Agency for West Yorkshire) <p>Programme Director Strengthening Families, Protecting Children</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Act as an ambassador for Leeds City Council 2. Strengthening Families, Protecting Children Programme (SFPC) 3. Partners in Practice including Leeds Relational Practice Centre (LRPC) 	<p>Children and Families Cllr H Hayden</p>

¹ Save for Locality Youth Services

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

Scrutiny Board: Environment, Housing and Communities	
Functions by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme	Executive Board Portfolio
<p>Director of Communities, Housing & Environment</p> <p>1. Integrated locality working and its associated city-wide support and delivery functions including Locality Youth Services</p> <p>3 Customer services</p> <p>4. Central Library and Information Services</p> <p>5. Community Safety</p> <p>20. Welfare and Benefits services</p>	<p>Communities, Customer Services and Community Safety</p> <p>Cllr M Harland</p>
<p>Director of Communities, Housing & Environment</p> <p>6. Public Health Protection and Control of Statutory Nuisance</p> <p>7. Environmental Health and Consumer Protection</p> <p>8. Environmental management</p> <p>9. Car parking</p> <p>10. Waste</p> <p>11. Cemeteries, crematoria, burial grounds and mortuaries</p> <p>12. Greenspaces</p> <p>13. Countryside management</p> <p>14. Ecological sustainability</p> <p>15. Climate Change</p> <p>16. Clean Air</p>	<p>Climate, Energy, Environment and Green Space</p> <p>Cllr M Rafique</p>
<p>Director of Communities, Housing & Environment</p> <p>21. Council Housing Landlord Functions (funded by the Housing Revenue Account)</p> <p>22. Other Housing Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Condition and Occupation of Housing b. Housing advice c. Homelessness d. Gypsies & travellers e. Emergency & temporary accommodation 	<p>Housing</p> <p>Cllr J Lennox</p>

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

f. Energy efficiency & fuel poverty g. Adaptations	
Director of City Development: 2. Functions relating to the Council's Register of Assets of Community Value	Resources Cllr D Coupar
Director of Communities, Housing & Environment 2. Equalities	Equality, Health and Wellbeing Cllr F Venner

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

Scrutiny Board: Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth	
Functions by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme	Executive Board Portfolio
Director of City Development 1. Asset Management Director of Strategy and Resources 8. Community Infrastructure Levy	Resources Cllr D Coupar
Director of Children & Families 2e. 14 – 16 Skills Development	Children and Families Cllr H Hayden
Director of City Development 3. Inclusive Growth 4. Sustainable Development 6. Sustainable Economic Development 7. Employment and Skills 8. International and domestic inward economic investment 9. Highways and Transportation 10. Flood and water management 13 Active Travel 14. Planning Services Chief Planning Officer 1. Development Plan functions 2. Planning Policy and Guidance functions 3. Neighbourhood Planning functions 4a. Conservation Area functions	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Sustainable Development Cllr J Pryor
Director of City Development 5. Sustainable Housing Growth:- a) Private housing development b) Affordable housing c) Council Housing Growth	Housing Cllr J Lennox
Director of City Development 11. Culture	Adult Social Care, Active Lifestyles and Culture Cllr S Arif

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

Scrutiny Board: Strategy and Resources	
Functions by reference to the Officer Delegation Scheme	Executive Board Portfolio
<p>Chief Executive 1. Functions in relation to elections</p> <p>Director of Strategy and Resources 1. Setting, supporting and monitoring the council’s policies and procedures for:- a) human resources (including health and safety and equalities); b) access to information c) procurement, purchasing, contract management and commercial activity d) projects and programmes f) performance, organisational planning and service improvement h) customer relations</p> <p>2. Digital and Information Services 3. Corporate communications and marketing services 5. The Council’s city-wide resilience and emergency planning functions 6. Shared Services 7. Civic Enterprise Leeds services</p> <p>Chief Officer Financial Services 2. Ensuring effective financial management and controls 3. Setting, supporting and monitoring the Council’s policies and procedures for budgets 4. Administering effective financial management and controls 5. Corporate Governance</p> <p>City Solicitor 1. Legal Services 2. Democratic Services including support to elected members in their responsibilities 3. Standards and Conduct</p>	<p>RESOURCES Cllr D Coupar</p>

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Board Alignment to Executive Functions

<p>Director of Communities, Housing & Environment</p> <p>17. Registrars functions 18. Licensing functions 19. Land and property search functions</p>	<p>RESOURCES</p> <p>Cllr D Coupar</p>
<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>2. Civic and Ceremonial functions of the Council 3. Devolution and local freedoms 4. City Region Functions</p> <p>Director of Strategy and Resources</p> <p>1. Setting, supporting and monitoring the council’s strategy, policies and procedures for:- e) Joint Strategic Needs Analysis g) risk and business continuity</p> <p>4. The Council’s corporate planning and policy development services, including co-ordination of the Best City Ambition.</p> <p>Chief Officer Financial Services</p> <p>1. Setting, supporting and monitoring the Council’s financial strategy.</p>	<p>LEADER’S PORTFOLIO</p> <p>Cllr J Lewis</p>

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Co-Opted Members

Date: 20 June 2023

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

Brief summary

- The Council's Constitution includes 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 several 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.
- In previous years, members of this Scrutiny Board have determined that they would prefer to invite expert witnesses / stakeholders to attend the Board in relation to specific items of individual business, as opposed to appointing co-opted members to participate in all scrutiny items for the full municipal year.

Recommendations

- a) In line with the options available and information outlined in this report, members are asked to consider the appointment of co-opted members to the Scrutiny Board.

What is this report about?

- 1 In most cases the appointment of co-opted members is optional and is determined by the relevant Scrutiny Board.
- 2 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution outline the options available to Scrutiny Boards in relation to appointing co-opted members.
- 3 In general terms, Scrutiny Boards can appoint:
 - a) 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,
 - b) 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.
- 4 To assist the Scrutiny Board, this report sets out issues to consider when seeking to appoint a co-opted member.
- 5 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?

- 6 It is widely recognised that in some circumstances, co-opted members can significantly add value to the work of Scrutiny Boards and, where appropriate, facilitate co-operation between Scrutiny Boards.
- 7 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules make it clear that co-option would normally only be appropriate where the co-opted member has specialist skill or knowledge, which would be of assistance to the Scrutiny Board.
- 8 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. Co-opted members should not, however, be viewed as a replacement for professional advice from officers.
- 9 Co-opted members should be considered as representatives of a particular group of stakeholders. However, co-option is not the only way in which to achieve external contributions to the work of the Scrutiny Board. Members may also wish to consider approaches such as the role of expert witnesses or the use of external research studies to help achieve a balanced evidence base.
- 10 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 year in view of the Scrutiny Boards' wide-ranging terms of reference. To help overcome this, provision is available to appoint up to two non-voting co-opted members for a term of office that relates to the duration of a specific scrutiny inquiry.
- 11 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.

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

Health and Wellbeing

Inclusive Growth

Zero Carbon

12 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the priorities set out in the Best City Ambition. A decision to co-opt members would be taken with the intention of adding value to the work of the Scrutiny Boards.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:
Have ward members been consulted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

13 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?

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

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

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

What are the legal implications?

16 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.

Appendices

- None

Background papers

- None

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Performance Report

Date: 20 June 2024

Report of: Director of Communities, Housing & Environment

Report to: Environment, Housing and Communities 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 and council's ambitions

- The Best City Ambition was adopted by Full Council in February 2022. It sets out the outcomes we want to see for the city, recognising these cannot be achieved by the council alone and that everyone has a part to play – the council, city partners across sectors, citizens, communities, and Government too.
- As part of our Communities, Housing & Environment Directorate Vision, each Chief Officer has identified high level key performance indicators which highlight the vital roles that our services play in contributing towards the delivery of our best city ambitions.
- This report consists of the 2023/24 year-end position and associated commentary for these indicators. The information is broken down by each Best City Ambition pillar: Health & Wellbeing; Inclusive Growth and Zero Carbon.
- In previous, and future months, more in-depth updates are reported to this Scrutiny Board on breakthrough priorities, service/partnership activity etc. These reports provide more context on the work being done and planned across the city and how these activities contribute towards delivering our Best City Ambitions.
- After being requested during the last performance update in January 2024, separate updates have been/will be provided to this Board on each of the transformation projects highlighted in our directorate plan:
 - Housing Digital Improvement Programme, Lettings Policy Review & REEMA – Included in Housing Activity Update (February 2024)
 - Waste Strategy (July 2024)
 - Integrated Locality Working (September 2024)
 - Fleet Review – to be included in Climate Emergency Annual Update (September 2024)
 - Community Committee Review (March 2024 & October 2024)
 - Welfare & Benefits Review (April 2025)
- For other specific information requests made in January:
 - along with inclusion in this report and scheduled Community Safety reports, a 'Tackling Hate Crime' update has also been scheduled for December 2024.
 - Appendix 5 shows the hectares of woodland creation per council ward since 2020.

- As the service moved into the directorate earlier this year, this and future reports will include Customer Contact Centre performance updates.
- To better understand local government performance the Office for Local Government (OFLOG) have developed a basket of performance indicators. This report also provides information on the performance indicators (Waste Management) which fall under this board's remit.
- Included within our Directorate Vision (Appendix 6) is a list of all priority areas of work, along with information on how we maximise the potential of our people to effectively deliver efficient and responsive services and lead strategic programmes to help ensure that our city runs smoothly.

Recommendations

- a) Members are recommended to note the latest performance information contained in 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.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 That members can consider the latest performance information contained in Appendix 1 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.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 2 The performance information contained in this report and the issues which have been highlighted are provided for the Board's information.
- 3 This is an information report and not a decision, so it is not necessary to conduct an equality impact assessment. However, some of the data provided will link to wider issues of equality and diversity, and cohesion and integration, and there may be occasions when Scrutiny Board members will want to look more closely at these issues and may request further information to inform their investigations.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 4 This is an information report and as such does not need to be consulted on with the public. However, all performance information is published on the council's website and is available to the public.

What are the resource implications?

- 5 There are no specific resource implications from this report, although some performance indicators relate to financial and other value for money aspects.

What are the legal implications?

- 6 All performance information is publicly available and is published on the council website. This report is an information update providing Scrutiny with a summary of performance for areas within its remit and as such is not subject to call in.

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

- 7 There is a comprehensive risk management process in the council to monitor and manage key risks. The council's most significant risks are available and can be accessed via the council's website.

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

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Zero Carbon

- 8 This report supports the 3 pillars by demonstrating what action is being taken to affect performance (where relevant) and to allow the board to challenge the same and consider whether any further focus should be given to any particular area in supporting these pillars.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

9 N/A

b) How will success be measured?

10 N/A

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

11 N/A

Appendices

12 The following appendices are attached to this report:

- Appendix 1 - Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs
- Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information
- Appendix 3 - Housing Tenant Satisfaction Measures survey analysis
- Appendix 4 - Treatment of Household Waste Collected
- Appendix 5 - Hectares of woodland creation in each council ward (since 2020)
- Appendix 6 - Directorate Vision and Plan 2023-26

Background papers

13 Leeds Best City Ambition

14 Directorate Vision and Plan 2023-26

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Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

CONTENTS	
Best City Ambition Pillar	KPIs
Health & Wellbeing	Percentage of residents who say they feel safe in their local area
	Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents
	Domestic Violence Incidents
	Hate Crime
	Housing Tenant Satisfaction Measures
	Percentage of tenancy check-in visits made
	Percentage of void properties
	Waste collections made on scheduled date
	Percentage of our food businesses have hygiene ratings of satisfactory to very good
	Contact Centre Performance
Zero Carbon	Percentage reduction in citywide carbon emissions against 2005 baseline
	Percentage reduction in council's operational emissions against 2005 baseline
	Percentage of premises at EPC C or better, by tenure
	Independent rating of the city's climate action by the Carbon Disclosure Project
	Woodland Creation
	Percentage all household waste the council manages across Leeds re-used, recycled, composted, or used to create energy (electricity and heat)
	OFLOG KPIs
Inclusive Growth	Jobshop outcomes
	Managing Housing Benefit Caseload
	Council Tax Support Scheme
	Welfare Support

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Delivering a safe and welcoming city for people of all ages and from all communities in which residents feel more secure.

Achieving better community safety outcomes - Percentage of residents who say they feel safe in their local area	70.6% - 2023 Survey (71.8% - 2022 Survey)
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The 2024 survey result will be confirmed later this year.

Work continues across services to address the areas highlighted in the 2023 survey by West Yorkshire residents.

Anti-Social Behaviour	Apr 22 to Mar 23	Apr 23 to Mar 24	Change
ASB Incidents (West Yorkshire Police -WYP)	9,538	9,028	-5%

The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Board is accountable to the Safer Leeds Executive. This board coordinates the partnerships response to address the impact of anti-social behaviour in Leeds and focuses on early intervention, prevention, and where appropriate enforcement activity.

ASB reporting

There has been a national reduction in the volume of recorded ASB reporting by the police which is reflected in Leeds. This is due to the changes in the national crime recording standards. (NNCRS). An example of this would be where the Police used to record neighbour disputes as ASB, they are now required to consider if they should be recorded as a crime of “harassment” and investigate accordingly.

The streamlining of our customer contact process incorporating a 24-hour online reporting process has enabled us to not only listen to our communities and respond where we have a power or responsibility to act but also signposting them to the most appropriate service to resolve their issues.

Public Awareness

Leeds City Council has seen a slight increase in reports of ASB over the same period. We are constantly seeking new ways of raising awareness. The authorities have a passion to deal with ASB, and the ‘Safer Leeds’ Community Safety Partnership ran a successful ASB awareness week in July 2023.

We continue to scope new initiatives and funding opportunities to support the work we are doing within the partnership relating to problem solving.

ASB problem solving Team:

The Safer Stronger Communities Team successfully secured funds from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to develop an ASB Problem Solving Team. The funds have secured a new role of a Problem-Solving Team supervisor, along with the ability to deploy ten temporary CCTV cameras and a quantity of target hardening products.

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

The aim is to identify and consult with key networks, stakeholders (both individual and group based) to develop an intelligence-led, tactical picture of crime & ASB concerns and assist partnerships, primarily in high demand problematic areas, whilst having the scope to intervene in any area across the city.

Capable Guardian Service:

The Safer Stronger Communities Team has successfully secured funds from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and has developed a project which will provide capable guardianship to key areas in the city to reduce ASB through intelligence led, high visibility patrols.

The project will run until 31st March 2025 and will focus on the priority wards of Gipton & Harehills, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Beeston & Holbeck, Killingbeck & Seacroft, Armley, Riverside & Hunslet.

Problem solving:

Young people

Significant activity has been undertaken during the year to ensure we are collaborating effectively with partners and council colleagues to reduce the community harm resulting from young people causing ASB. A range of partnerships and forums collectively identify, intervene, educate, and put in place appropriate diversions at the earliest opportunity to try and change behaviours and reduce the need for enforcement. As a partnership, our aim is not to criminalise young people but to ensure they are aware and understand the impact of bad behaviour resulting in ASB and crime. We are seeking to strengthen our response to the issues following the 3Es:

- ✓ Engage - utilising every method available.
- ✓ Educate - with the relevant knowledge and skill set.
- ✓ Enforce – only when it is clear to the partnership that boundaries need to be set.

Team Leodis

Team Leodis is a specialist Police team created to address some of the more complex ASB issues which impact on LCC tenants either directly or indirectly. Team Leodis is a police-led element of the partnership team comprising of one Police Sergeant and three Police Officers with a specialist knowledge of the ASB Crime and Policing Act. The team is tasked based on intelligence-led priorities taking into consideration the threat, harm, and risks where urgent and impactful measures are required to offer a short to medium term response. The team coordinate the most appropriate partners to address the complex issues identified.

Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships (NIPs)

We have developed a localised partnership problem solving model to reduce the impact on the communities relating to nuisance and anti-social behaviour perpetrated within neighbourhoods. These are long term plans that are driven via a task and finish process and accountable to the ASB Board. This model is now being replicated in several other neighbourhoods such as Harehills and is assisting in the delivery on the 'Clear, Hold Build' model of neighbourhood problem solving initiatives/process. The Police have taken great steps in bringing offenders to justice regarding the distribution of drugs.

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

Problem-Solving Groups (PSG)

The PSGs are ideally suited for short term issues where the partnerships can have high impact over a short term. For example, on Dewsbury Road, two weeks of action were undertaken with warrants executed in relation to drug supply, premises closure orders and injunctions have been sought.

The PSG for Holbeck has been successful in problem solving the immediate ASB and criminality; the group has concentrated on environmental issues including the requirement of clearing waste ground, lighting and bin yards.

The use of Public Space Protection Orders.

These orders create a small list of prohibitions to moderate people's behaviour where the impact is high, but the offending is below a crime.

There are five active community safety related PSPOs within Leeds: Northwest Leeds, Leeds City Centre, a district wide Vehicle Nuisance, and Burmantofts; Harehills is pending approval to complement the work West Yorkshire Police is conducting under the 'Clear, Hold, Build' model.

Reflecting on the 'Your View' resident survey and concerns raised in relation to road safety and dangerous driving, a district wide PSPO associated with the anti-social use of motor vehicles was approved in April 2023. Over the last six months, colleagues within West Yorkshire Police have used this most effectively at three key locations regarding "Cruise Car meets." The PSPO also empowers the West Yorkshire Police Leeds Off Road Motorcycle Team to deal with quad and motorcycle misuse where the evidence to use existing Road Traffic Act powers are not met.

Dangerous Driving

Safer Leeds has representation on the Leeds Road Safety Partnership, Vision Zero. The partnership work is focused on five subgroups known to contribute disproportionately to fatal accidents: Safe Speeds, Safe Vehicles, Safe Roads, Safe Behaviours and People and Post Collision Learning.

Misuse of Motor Vehicle Strategy.

The development of the district-wide misuse of Motor Vehicle strategy is still ongoing and incorporates partners and colleagues from various agencies including West Yorkshire Police road traffic teams, Leeds Off Road Motorcycle Team, the Safer Roads partnership via Vision Zero, colleagues from neighbouring force areas, as well as a 'critical friend' community motorcycle group. The aim of the strategy is to:

- Respond to the communities' concerns relating to the misuse of motor vehicles.
- To reduce the misuse of motor vehicles and keep people and places safe.
- Reduce theft of motorcycles.
- Use legislation effectively.
- Engage, educate, and enforce where appropriate

This relates to all types of mechanically propelled vehicles (MPV): Cars, motorcycles, quads, e-bikes and scooters where they are deemed to be MPVs. The strategy is now to include a tactical deployment plan, this is being developed from learning we have taken from initiating our vehicle PSPO and advice from our neighbouring councils and Police areas.

The LASBT teams have conducted extensive work in their respective areas including engagement opportunities in local communities and ensuring they use the full range of powers available to

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

address ASB and crime. This includes closure orders relating to premises where drugs are being used and distributed, injunctions, Community Protection Orders etc.

Youth Justice & Early Help - we have improved our partnership links with the Youth Justice Service and Early Help Hubs to divert young people away from the Criminal Justice System at an earlier stage. We have funded programmes such as Parents and Children Together (PACT), which tackles the issue of adolescent on parent violence and the 'BeSmart' programme, an eight-week programme designed for children at risk of involvement in the justice system or subject to an Out of Court Disposal which assists children to explore new ways of thinking and make positive choices in their lives. This is now driven within the ASB board at a strategic level where the full process is being mapped so we can identify other opportunities for partnership intervention.

Arson and Nuisance Fires - the area based Anti-Social Behaviour Teams receive the daily calls for service log from West Yorkshire Police for arson and nuisance fires. The teams then engage with the Neighbourhood Policing Team to look at the best way of addressing the behaviour to ensure it is not repeated and offer learning.

Domestic Violence	Apr 22 to Mar 23	Apr 23 to Mar 24	Change
DV Incidents (WYP)	25,960	23,153	-11%

Demand for services remains high and there are increasing numbers of cases with greater risk and complexity. The introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 has placed a statutory duty on the Local Authority to provide support in safe accommodation for victims-survivors and their children. Leeds City Council is supported in delivering this duty by the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board (DALPB) - a multi-agency group who all have a role to play in tackling domestic abuse.

In the last 12 months, there has been a 11% reduction in incidents reported to WYP from April 2023 to March 2024. Despite this decrease, we continue to see an increase in complexity of cases and an impact on the work of the Front Door Safeguarding Hub (FDSH) and the need for support for victims/survivors who are in exceptionally high-risk circumstances. Over the past 12 months from April 2023 to March 2024 these arrangements have supported 4672 victims with safety plans.

Police forces are allowed to disclose information to a potential victim and have a duty to protect members of the public from domestic abuse under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme - also known as "Clare's Law". Council teams support this process by promoting it to victims and by chairing the multi-agency discussions where the decision to disclose is discussed. This information is shared as part of an overall safety planning approach. We have continued to see a significant increase in the number of cases being discussed through this process.

Key areas of work over the last year have been:

Safe Accommodation - funding from central government means that additional support is now available within safe accommodation. This includes more support in refuge settings, including extra workers to support children and young people and domestic abuse support workers based in supported housing projects so that those people can access support. The Sanctuary Support Scheme continues to provide support to those people who can remain in their homes. The scheme is also reaching people from marginalised communities who might otherwise not access support.

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

Age UK has now provided a worker for the scheme allowing for better engagement with older victim-survivors and recognising the specific challenges they face.

Engagement with victims-survivors - the 'Voices Project' continues to develop connections to those that have experienced DVA. The co-ordinator is employed by Leeds Women's Aid, with other staff working on engagement from Behind Closed Doors (male victims), MESMAC (LGBT+ Victims) and LWA Elevate for children and young people. There is regular engagement from the Women's group at the board. The Voices co-ordinator has been asked to present at regional and national events, with Leeds being seen as a model of good practice in survivor engagement. The Women's group has produced a podcast for agencies; "What I wish they knew" to provide workers with the perspective of victims-survivors to improve how they engage with them. We will be presenting an evaluation of this project at a future DALPB meeting.

The Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for 2023 -2025 - the strategy has now been published and has been developed using a co-production approach involving victim-survivors and partners. It is supported by arrangements to have a lead board member for each theme and a board forward plan to ensure all areas of the strategy are reviewed and progress updated throughout the year.

Supporting Children - strategic work continues with Children's Services and the Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) to review how the needs of the child are met both through the Front Door arrangements and through wider partnership structures. Partners successfully bid for Ministry of Justice funding to support a young person's Independent Domestic Violence Advocate at the Front Door, this funding has now been extended to 2025 and additional services for children and young people have been commissioned both in the refuge arrangements and through specialist housing providers who work with young people. The Domestic Abuse Commissioners (DAC) office have conducted a series of surveys and workshops to get a better understanding of agencies responses to children being victims as identified in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The Local Authority has been actively engaged in the workshops and will respond to any findings presented by the DAC office.

Engagement with Schools - Leeds successfully delivers 'Operation Encompass', a national notification scheme between police forces and schools to ensure that children and families experiencing domestic abuse receive timely support from school. We are working alongside West Yorkshire Police to develop a fully digitalised approach to notifying schools to improve responses for children and young people.

Enhance the Offer of Support to People Causing Harm/Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse - Leeds has developed its engagement with perpetrators of domestic abuse through the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) arrangements and a commissioned service, Change Grow Live, to ensure that there is closer communication and co-ordination of the measures that are put in place for individuals to reduce their offending and change their behaviour. This approach has now been mainstreamed through existing service delivery and the focus will be on reducing preparator risk and supporting behaviour change. We are working closely with West Yorkshire Combined Authority following an evaluation across West Yorkshire to look at other opportunities to engage with perpetrators where they are not subject to statutory supervision such as the Probation Service.

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

Hate Crime	Apr 22 to Mar 23	Apr 23 to Mar 24	Change
Hate Crime (WYP)	4,073	3,419	-16%

The Hate Crime Strategic Board (HCSB) is responsible to the SLE for the strategic management of the 'Leeds Hate Crime Strategy' and supports the operational delivery of services to effectively respond to and tackle all hate motivated incidents in Leeds.

Third Party Reporting - During the past 12 months, different opportunities for reporting have been developed, including improved third-party reporting in schools and strengthened hate crime reporting centres in a range of community-based settings, educational establishments, and businesses; these are settings that were proven to be high-risk environments for hate crime.

Community-based Third-Party Reporting Centres provide people with an alternative way to report a hate crime or incident other than going to the Police. They give confidential advice, help people report hate crime, and support people. Between September 2023 – March 2024 all existing reporting centres and some new centres have received up to date training delivered by Stop Hate UK with inputs from the Leeds City Council Anti-Social Behaviour team and West Yorkshire Police. Reporting centres include Citizens Advice Leeds, Unity Housing Association, Leeds City Council Community Hubs, Mesmac for LGBT+ related hate and United Response for disability related hate. New centres include Trans Leeds and Together Women. A third-party reporting network has been established, as well as a mechanism for reporting centres to track the number of reports they are taking.

Third Party Hate Signposting Centres have also been launched in addition to the reporting centres. The role of third-party signposting centres is to signpost members of the public who use their services to the third-party reporting centres or to West Yorkshire Police should they require it. A dedicated page on leeds.gov for hate crime has been updated with all the information on reporting and signposting centres and can be found [here](#).

Schools/Educational Establishments - In November 2022, the HCSB implemented a new hate incident and hate crime reporting system in schools. Our work with Stop Hate UK allows schools and learning settings to report hate incident/crimes and is reported to the HCSB on a regular basis. From April 2023 – March 2024, 279 reports were made in total by schools. The majority of these were for race-based hate followed by LGBT+ related hate. Colleagues in Children and Families have produced further analysis on the data.

Performance Reporting - a new model of performance reporting was put in place with colleagues in the Performance and Intelligence team with a focus on outcomes and the opportunity to highlight data on particular groups throughout the year as requested by HCSB who receive reports quarterly. In 2023, LGBT+ hate crime was the focus for Hate Crime Awareness Week (HCAW). Trans People Awareness training was delivered by West Yorkshire Police and public engagements were carried out jointly with the Angels of Freedom community group. Increasing the focus on this strand has been highlighted as a priority for the HCSB and Elected Members over the last year.

Prevention

Preventing hate crime by tackling the beliefs and attitudes that can lead to hate is a key priority. We undertake city-wide targeted campaigns in line with #LeedsNoPlaceForHate, including messages around 'Upstanders not Bystanders', urging people to stand with those who have

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experienced hate crime, as well as providing practical tips on reporting, sense of reassurance, solidarity, and unity.

The HCSB coordinates Leeds's response to HCAW and delivers a programme of activity across the partnership; 2024 will focus on the response to race hate.

The HCSB has continued to progress actions based on findings and recommendations from the Islamophobia survey carried out by Leeds City Council in 2020. HCSB is developing this area of work through an Anti-Muslim Prejudice Working Group, bringing our partners together to work on this agenda. This group work alongside a Community Reference group which was established in July 2023 which gives a voice to the community as well as check and challenge any work that is being progressed. Progress over the last year on the Anti-Muslim Prejudice action plan includes raising awareness through a fasting in solidarity campaign during Ramadan in March 2024 and the organisation of a series of events and training sessions during Islamophobia Awareness Month in November 2023.

A conference on Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim Prejudices was organised in December 2023 to focus work on both forms of hatred with a range of speakers and workshop activity; 120 people attended the conference. Although it was organised before the latest outburst of the conflict in the Middle East, the recent rise in Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim prejudice in Leeds as result of what is taking place meant the event was an important way to bring together Muslim and Jewish communities at what is a sensitive time. Feedback from the attendees has been circulated including suggestions for how both forms of hatred are addressed.

Important conversations have taken place in HCSB and Hate Crime Operational Group meetings about the rise in both Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim prejudice and how the city can best respond. Tell Mama and CST regularly attend the meetings and give an accurate picture of the hatred and discrimination that both communities are currently experiencing. Work taken place to date by the Safer Stronger Communities team includes: supporting/managing a large number of vigils and demonstrations; meeting with Jewish and Muslim community leaders and organisations; working through a wide range of controversial issues such as the flying of flags and lighting buildings; messages to staff and communities from the council; providing support and guidance to schools; responding to issues with issues with graffiti.

Initial conversations have taken place about including antisemitism in the existing Anti-Muslim Prejudice Working Group so the group can look at both issues jointly. In addition, an Anti-Semitism Community Reference Group will be established similar to the existing Anti-Muslim Prejudice CRG later in 2024.

We have delivered a range of sessions through our Youth Services (Localities) Team to educate young people whilst challenging and tackling discrimination. There has been a targeted focus on 'Differences are celebrated in Leeds, so children and young people feel accepted for who they are. They do not experience bullying and discrimination', and sessions have been held as part of Refugee Week, and for young people that are within the resettlement support scheme.

Following recruitment, West Yorkshire Police now has seven Hate Crime Co-ordinators. A new Hate crime officer will also be recruited by the Safer Stronger Communities team later in 2024.

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Working to improve housing and deliver a safe and welcoming city.			
<p>Housing Leeds Tenant Satisfaction Measures – Since April 2023, social housing landlords have been required to collect information against the Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM), which are a suite of twenty-two measures designed to give an accurate picture of a landlord’s performance.</p> <p>Twelve of the measures are collected via tenant surveys. The remaining ten are collected with reference to our internal data on several areas such as, for example, the number of gas safety inspections that have been conducted.</p> <p>The table below shows how this information is aligned and 2023/24 year end performance.</p> <p>Please see appendices 2 & 3 for background information on the 2023/24 year-end figures.</p>			
Management information - 2023/24		Measured via quarterly tenant surveys - 2023/24 (2022/23 result)	
		Overall satisfaction	66% (60%)
Keeping properties in good repair			
Emergency Repairs completed within target timescale	93.7%	Satisfaction with overall repairs service received in the last 12 months	70% (66%)
Non-Emergency Repairs completed within target timescale	82.3%	Satisfaction with time taken to complete most recent repair	67% (61%)
Homes that do not meet the Decent Homes Standard	3.3%	Satisfaction that the home is well maintained	68% (61%)
Maintaining building safety			
Gas safety checks	99.4%	Satisfaction that the home is safe to live in	74% (61%)
Fire safety checks	100%		
Asbestos safety checks	100%	Satisfaction that the landlord keeps communal areas clean, safe, and well maintained	65% (56%)
Water safety checks	100%		
Lift safety checks	100%		
Respectful and helpful engagement			
		Satisfaction that the landlord listens to tenant views and acts upon them	55% (44%)
		Satisfaction that the landlord keeps tenants informed about things that matter to them	67% (53%)
		Agreement that the landlord treats tenants fairly and with respect.	74% (62%)
Effective handling of complaints			
Stage 1 Complaints relative to the size of the landlord	41.4 complaints per 1,000 homes	Satisfaction with the landlord’s approach to handling of complaints	29% (24%)
Stage 2 Complaints relative to the size of the landlord	10.4 complaints per 1,000 homes		

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Complaints responded to within target and agreed extended timescales	Stage 1 = 88.2% Stage 2 = 87.9%	Satisfaction that your landlord is easy to deal with	66% (56%)
Responsible neighbourhood management			
Anti-social behaviour cases relative to the size of the landlord	15.8 cases opened per 1,000 homes - Provisional	Satisfaction that the landlord makes a positive contribution to neighbourhoods	60% (44%)
Anti-social behaviour cases that involve hate incidents	0.9 cases opened per 1,000 homes - Provisional	Satisfaction with the landlord's approach to handling of anti-social behaviour	53% (42%)

How the data is being used to drive performance improvements

Once the Regulator of Social Housing publishes TSM data for 2023/24 this will enable us to undertake robust benchmarking against validated data with other landlords to identify how our performance on each of the TSMs compares with other landlords.

During 2023/24 we have undertaken some benchmarking of TSM performance via Housemark, but on the understanding that the benchmarked data was not yet validated. From benchmarking that we have undertaken we have identified that for most TSMs our performance exceeds the average for other similar landlords (based on Quarter 2/3 Housemark data).

However, for some TSMs our performance was similar to or below the average for other similar landlords and so targeted action is underway to strengthen our performance on these particular indicators, as outlined below:

Satisfaction that the landlord keeps tenants informed about things that matter to them - performance was only slightly higher than other similar landlords at 65%.

Our self-assessment against the Transparency, Influence and Accountability Standard also identifies that our communications and information sharing arrangements could be strengthened.

We are currently looking to develop a consistent service wide Communication Strategy during summer 2024 setting the expectation of how services will communicate with customers. Individual services will then self-assess their approach against the strategy and implement actions to strengthen the quality of our communications by the end of 2024/25.

ASB cases relative to size of landlord / TP12 Satisfaction with the landlord's approach to handling ASB – From Housemark benchmarking undertaken during 2023/24, the number of ASB cases is very low when compared to other similar landlords and customer satisfaction is also low.

Our methodology for reporting this KPI in 2023/24 has been to capture all the cases opened for ASB reported by, or by a representative on behalf of a council tenant. For this return we are not capturing all ASB cases reported - where a report resulted in advice and signposting only this was not formally opened as a case.

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There is a review underway of the ASB policy and procedures and as part of the review there will be customer engagement to ensure that the updated policy and procedures take into account customer feedback.

Repairs completed within target timescales – Average repairs performance is in line similar landlords at around 88% across both emergency and non-emergency repairs, however it is acknowledged that performance against non-emergency repairs requires improvement. During 2023 and early 2024 the service has focused on reducing the level of work in progress (WIP) generated during the previous two years. This backlog reduction has now concluded, with WIP levels now at or below target levels. As such, the focus of the service has shifted to achieving completion within target across all repair categories. This has already delivered improvements in performance and this positive trend is anticipated to continue.

Working with our tenants - Tenancy check-ins

Percentage of tenancy check-in visits made	49% (34.8%)
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The 2023/24 Annual Tenancy check-in (ATCI) programme has continued on the basis that we plan to visit all residents a minimum of once every 3 years, but with some tenants identified as a priority to be visited annually due to poor property condition or tenant vulnerability.

Good progress was made with completing ATCIs during 23/24 with 49% of all Council tenants receiving an ATCI during the year. The visits continue to be important in helping us to identify tenancy and support issues – with 248 visits identifying issues of safeguarding, 418 tenants where hoarding was evident, 1,222 tenants where additional support was needed to manage their tenancy, 567 tenancies with an unacceptable internal property condition and 801 tenancies with an unacceptable external property condition. The outcomes follow similar trends to last year.

2024/25 is the final year of the 3-year visit programme and so it is a priority for us to visit all tenants who have not been visited in the last 3 years, or to have commenced enforcement action against tenants. This will be monitored closely throughout the year.

Providing Quality Housing - Reducing the number of void properties

Percentage of void properties	1.1% (1.4%)
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At the end of March 2024, the number of empty homes across Housing Leeds was 686.

This represented a net reduction in empty homes of 230 from the same period in 2023. The current position brings performance to within 0.1% of the 1% target. As such, the focus for the coming year remains achieving this target and retaining this position. Cross service collaboration remains pivotal to the continued positive trend.

Delivering a clean & welcoming city - Waste collections

Cumulative collections made on scheduled date	99.87% (99.88%)
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The cumulative end of year 2023/24 (13 periods) position of bins collected was 99.87%. This is 0.01% points lower than last year's result of 99.88%.

The cumulative position YTD of bins collected on their scheduled date is 99.81%. This is the slightly lower than last year's equivalent cumulative YTD position of 99.89%. This variance is

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mainly related to a small increase in missed collection reports for brown bins in April, attributable to the later start of garden waste collections in 2024 and some bins being too heavy to empty.

Delivering a safe city - Food business hygiene ratings

95% of our food businesses have hygiene ratings of satisfactory to very good

98.3% as of 8 May 2024

As of 08.05.24, 98.3% of inspected food premises are rated 3 to 5 and broadly compliant with legal requirements that protect public health.

Although the broadly compliant rate remains static, it indicates there have been no overall reductions in standards and compliance.

Contact Centre Performance

During 2023/24, the contact centre received 110,000 fewer calls into the service than in 2022/23. This was due to several factors:

- Digital improvements in registrars whereby customers can register births, marriages, civil partnerships, and deaths, or request copy certificates online.
- Digital improvements in council tax that allow customers to set up direct debits, change their address and apply for some discounts and exemptions online.
- Changes in the award criteria for the local welfare scheme resulting in a reduction in demand on this service.
- The introduction of an online form for professionals to make referrals into Adult Social Care.

There have been significant improvements in call handling performance in the service this year, with wait times almost halving from 11 minutes in 2022/23, to 6 minutes in 2023/24. The reduction in calls is a factor in relation to the improved performance, but it is worth noting the contact centre workforce has also reduced by 12 FTE customer service officers in this financial year support savings initiatives. The service has continued to focus on performance improvements and undertake regular coaching and training to reduce handling times and improve call handling efficiency. There has also been a significant focus on staff wellbeing, which was reflected in the positive staff satisfaction survey results, where the contact centre scored consistently higher than the council average across the majority of indicators.

The contact centre, in consultation with affected service areas, has reduced opening times on telephone lines that are transactional in nature and have a strong digital offer. This includes pest control, blue badges, unwanted items collection and planning. Reducing the operating times of these transactional lines has helped use reducing resources more effectively and control demand for services whilst continuing to improve wait times.

Customer satisfaction has remained consistently high, with 84% of customers being 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the service received by the contact centre in 2023/24. This is an increase of 2% compared to last year and is based on 20,368 respondents with an average wait time of nine minutes.

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A detailed breakdown of performance across all services is provided below for the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024:

Service	Gross calls	Abandoned calls	Answered calls	Answer rate	Average answering time (seconds)	Average handling time (seconds)
Council Tax Reminders	24,788	7,842	16,708	67%	852	720
Council Tax General	185,041	34,450	100,278	81%	695	755
Benefits	33,191	5,951	19,487	82%	686	826
Blue Badge	17,737	985	12,267	94%	337	525
Housing Leeds Repair	135,840	12,126	113,317	91%	336	514
CBL	38,598	5,298	32,164	86%	325	463
Housing Leeds	347,272	5,878	31,311	98%	318	400
Adult Social Care	48,943	5,629	43,291	88%	225	947
Large Collections	5,783	394	3,432	93%	223	292
Registrars	45,828	3,222	24,535	93%	216	527
Planning	14,492	940	9,020	94%	182	575
Refuse	28,999	2,198	19,668	92%	182	350
LWSS Triage Team	12,764	979	11,770	92%	170	349
Pest Control	9,647	312	3,938	94%	170	339
Schools Admissions	29,840	1,372	14,814	95%	168	533
OOH Housing Leeds	38,071	3,276	34,777	91%	168	278
OOH Public	3,866	306	3,550	92%	147	278
Highways	23,643	1,503	13,437	93%	133	439
Child Social Care	16,225	1,602	14,622	90%	109	905
Registrars Priority	5,215	203	5,009	96%	77	614
OOH Emergency	2,704	143	2,559	95%	74	221
OOH Priority	4,523	301	4,218	93%	71	196
Elections	21,787	314	8,988	99%	60	311
ASBU	8,530	276	8,193	96%	53	662
Gold Number	66,233	3,236	62,402	94%	46	115
SC Emergency	96	7	88	92%	45	930

It is encouraging that the year-end position shows that all but three lines within the contact centre are being answered in less than six minutes. The council tax general and council tax reminder lines have been merged into one number following the introduction of the new contact centre telephony system, Genesys, on 1st April 2024, and we expect this to help improve performance in this service area.

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ZERO CARBON

In 2030 Leeds will have made rapid progress towards carbon neutrality, reducing our impact on the planet, and doing so in a fair way which improves standards of living in all the city's communities.

Percentage reduction in citywide carbon emissions against 2005 baseline	38% (As at Dec 21) - Next update in Summer 2024
Percentage reduction in council's operational emissions against 2005 baseline	62.9% (As at April 2023) - Next update in Summer 2024
Percentage of premises at EPC C or better, by tenure	Social rent – 54.83% Owner-occupied – 26.45% Private rent – 35.45% ALL – 38.81% (As at March 2022) - Next update in Summer 2024
Independent rating of the city's climate action by the Carbon Disclosure Project	A grade (November 2023) The city is among the likes of New York, Paris, Melbourne, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, and Cape Town on the organisation's annual A List for the second consecutive year. Of more than 900 global cities that received a rating in 2023, only 13% received an 'A' grade.

The Climate, Energy and Green Spaces team produce the Climate Emergency Annual Report to update on the progress towards the net-zero ambition.

The latest report will be published and discussed at Executive Board in September 2024 and every 12 months from this point thereafter. It will include updated emissions statistics, the 2024 Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) submission and an updated narrative covering progression throughout 2023/2024 in achieving net-zero. [For information, please see the 2023 report.](#)

The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) was introduced following the declaration of the Climate Emergency in March 2019. It is a cross party advisory committee authorised to consider and make recommendations regarding climate change and sustainability. The Committee has an integral role to check, challenge, and support the relevant work of different council departments as appropriate to help ensure that the council is leading by example and making progress as fast as practical towards its net-zero ambition, with reasonable community and stakeholder engagement and support.

A report is produced annually to update on the work of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and its working groups. [Please see the last report published in January 2024.](#)

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This report does not provide an update on all climate work undertaken by the council – this will be covered in the annual report that is taken to Executive Board in September 2024, as previously mentioned.

Since 2021, Leeds has submitted a public disclosure to the Carbon Disclosure Project detailing the city's annual emissions, as well as the projects, programmes, and policies relating to climate change. This provides a useful, independent, robust check on the city's climate action. In 2022, Leeds was one of 121 cities that received an 'A grade' for the first time. The grading used by CDP is updated every year to require more stringent action. On 14th November 2023, it was confirmed that Leeds was one of 119 cities that received an 'A grade' in 2023. [Please see details of the submission.](#)

Officers from Climate, Energy and Green Spaces met with representatives from Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) in January 2024 to receive feedback on the 2023 submission. This feedback was brought to the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) meeting on 22nd January 2024 for discussion as to how this would frame the 2024/25 forward plan for the committee. It will inform the 2024 submission as well as the forward plan for the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee. Feedback from Carbon Disclosure Project identified the following:

- To explain explicitly about the positive impact the Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) has had on the city and its progress.
- Provide further detail on the strength of public engagement on climate adaptation policies—especially for those with more vulnerable needs.
- Highlight the progression of Connecting Leeds and the improvements to the city as a result.
- Increase the quality of data for public travel methods at a local and district level, provide more detailed tree planting metrics, provide area wide targets for renewable energy generation, and disclose Leeds's carbon credit requirements to achieve net zero.

Supporting the net zero ambition is the work being done through Woodland Creation – Hectares of trees planted

2023/2024 Planting season and tree planting is complete, and the focus has been to deliver some new woodland creation sites and focus on previous years sites to ensure the establishment management is in place and previously planted woodlands are thriving.

In 2023/24 planting season the Green Spaces service have delivered:

- 15ha of new woodland planted across 20 sites and 12 wards with 34,000 whips.
- 53 new sites with a total of 665 standard trees across 24 wards in the city, totalling over 5ha.
- 20 Sites planted with volunteers and Woodland Creation Rangers. This involved over 500 volunteers both public volunteers and corporate volunteers.
- The focus of 2023/24 planting season included a review and replant of woodlands planted between 2020 to 2022 as part of the establishment management.
 - 54 sites were replanted (20ha)
 - 20 sites were prepared for replanting next season (11ha)
- In total 147 sites have been planted, replanted, and prepared for next season during 2023/24 planting season.
- A trial site using mulch mats as an alternative to chemical spraying was delivered. This included planting 1275 trees with mulch mats at the base and tree guards. We will continue to study the site over the next three years to compare maintenance requirements of mulch mats compared to sprayed sites.

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Work has underway to identify, check suitability, consult and prepare sites for winter 2024/2025 (planting season).

Appendix 5 shows the hectares of woodland creation in each council ward. This is split to show standard trees (larger specimen individual trees) and one showing whips (sapling trees). There are generally 4,444 whips per hectare if ward members wished to know the number of trees in their ward.

Applications for trees for streets are not included in these figures as these are in the development/approval stage for the next planting season.

Percentage all household waste the council manages across Leeds re-used, recycled, composted, or used to create energy (electricity and heat)

Household waste collected: Jan 2023 – Dec 2023

Waste stream	Tonnes Collected	Kg/Household/Week	Kg/Household/Year
Kerbside Dry Mixed Recycling	33,156	1.82	94.84
Kerbside Garden	33,391	2.94	152.80
Kerbside Residual	171,853	9.08	472.11
HWRCs	42,340	2.24	116.31
Banks	11,209	0.59	30.79
City-wide services*	14,364	0.76	39.46
Overall Household waste	306,313.63	16.18	841.49
Residual Household waste	237,222.811	12.53	651.69

* Street sweepings, litter picking and bins, and bulky collections

Additional note: the weight per household is calculated based on the number of properties that particular service/waste stream is available to/collected from. The city's overall average per household is based on the total tonnes collected across all waste streams divided into the total number of Leeds properties.

Leeds is one of the best performing councils in terms of ensuring as little waste as possible ends up in landfill.

Only 0.09% of all household waste collected in the black, green and brown bins and at the 8 household waste and recycling sites (including contents of litter bins and bulky collections) ends up in landfill. 99.91% of all household waste the Council manages across Leeds is either re-used, recycled, composted, has some other beneficial use, or is used to create energy (electricity and heat). Please see **Appendix 4** for a full breakdown.

Office for Local Government (OFLOG): Understanding and supporting local government performance

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To better understand local government performance OFLOG have developed a basket of performance indicators across the following themes:

- Waste Management
- Corporate & Finance
- Adult social care
- Planning
- Roads

Currently, for the Communities, Housing & Environment directorate the Waste Management indicators are:

- **Household Waste Recycling Rate (%) – Latest figure shown in Appendix 4 = 35.59%**
- **Residual Household Waste (kg per household) = 651.69kg**

The final key performance indicator is ‘**Recycling Contamination Rate (%)**’. This measures the overall amount of non-recyclable materials put in all the council’s recycling bins (green and brown), HWRCs skips and various recycling brink banks, and therefore excludes any general waste collections (black bins or at HWRCs), including any recycling extracted from these collections.

- **The latest Leeds position for this measure is 9.02% (Jan 23 – Dec23)** - Concerns have been raised by councils regarding the validity of using this data as a comparator due to the varying methodologies of councils in calculating this metric.

On the OFLOG website, the most recent national and ‘similar council’ comparisons are from 2021/22. Colleagues are actively pursuing more up to date benchmarking figures, once these are available an update will be provided to this Board together with supporting commentary to explain where and how we compare.

There is also an ongoing consultation regarding the addition of more performance indicators. This includes the consideration of Fly-tipping performance indicators.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Helping to provide job opportunities

From 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024 (quarter 4 of the 2023/24 year)- the Jobshops registered a total of 1,637 new starts to the service and supported 198 customers into employment.

In 2023/24 the Jobshops registered a total of 5,278 new customers and supported 986 customers into employment. The table below shows the figures for the full 2023/24 year.

The Jobshop Employability Support Programme (JESP) programme delivery ended on 31st December 2023 with no new starts being signed up from the end of June. The figures below are for the 2023 JESP starts up to the end of June.

Centre Name	Jobshop registers	Job outcomes	JESP starts	JESP job Outcome
West				

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Armley	473	108	109	70
Hawthornthwaite	38	5	9	4
Headingley	137	13	31	11
Holt Park	36	8	7	2
Horsforth	3	3	5	1
Bramley	25	4	7	2
Otley	3	5	4	4
Pudsey	31	8	15	8
Yeadon	0	3	3	1
South				
Dewsbury Road	713	161	164	86
Morley	21	2	4	3
Hunslet	244	146	54	37
St Georges	105	14	13	5
East				
Compton	1,003	134	265	70
Reginald	362	45	37	19
Moor Allerton	48	1	8	0
Seacroft	187	69	45	26
Burmantofts	132	4	18	2
City Centre				
Merrion	1,685	247	282	147
Mobile	32	6	33	25
TOTAL	5,278	986	1,113	523

Tackling poverty – Managing Housing Benefit Caseload

Benefits - Average time to process a new application	14.27 days (14.64 days)
Benefits - Average time to process a reported change in circumstances	5.84 days (6.13 days)

Benefits - Average time to process a reported change in circumstances	5.84 days (6.13 days)
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Housing Benefit (HB) is a means tested benefit to help low-income households pay their rent. HB is administered by the Council on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). HB can be applied for online via the Council's website.

The DWP measure the Council's HB performance in terms of how long it takes to process a new application or a reported change in circumstances. Leeds is among the top performers in the country, on average processing new claims in 14.27 days and changes in 5.84 days.

Universal Credit (UC) is gradually replacing HB for working-age residents. Most working age residents making a fresh claim for support with Housing Costs will now claim UC via the DWP's website.

Residents can only make a claim for HB if they:

- live in supported/exempt accommodation such as a homelessness hostel, a refuge, sheltered housing, or accommodation which includes care, support or supervision.
- are a pensioner, or
- live in temporary accommodation provided by the council.

The migration from HB to UC has led to a reduction in the HB caseload. The caseload is expected to decrease at a faster rate now that the DWP have started managed migration to Universal Credit (known as Move to UC). The DWP estimate that the Working Age HB caseload in Leeds will reduce

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by approximately 45% between April 2024 and December 2024. This represents a reduction of approximately 7,000 HB claims and around 22% of the overall HB caseload.

At the point that a resident claims UC, HB is cancelled and a two week Transition to UC Housing Benefit Payment is awarded. This creates additional administrative work for the W&B service during 2024/25 and the DWP have provided New Burdens funding to help meet additional costs.

Tackling poverty – Council Tax Support Scheme

Council Tax Support (CTS) is a council tax discount available to low-income households.

Since April 2013, Local Authorities have been responsible for designing their own working-age CTS schemes, with less funding from central Government. Pensioners are not subject to the local CTS scheme, but instead have a national scheme prescribed by the Government. Pensioners receive up to 100% support.

During March 2024, the Council was providing CTS to 43,021 working-age households and 19,694 pensioner households. CTS is provided to claimants through two localised schemes. Under the two schemes, 30,670 households must pay a minimum of 25% towards their council tax, whilst 12,351 General Scheme CTS recipients are protected from the 25% reduction in their support until they claim Universal Credit. Protected groups are those who receive 100% of their Council Tax Support award rather than having it capped at 75%.

The current scheme of protections has been part of the local Council Tax Support scheme since it came into effect in 2013. The DWP's intention to migrate all remaining working-age legacy benefit claimants to Universal Credit by April 2025 will lead to a sharp rise in the number of households losing their protected group status.

An applicant can apply online and if CTS is awarded, the discount is credited direct to the customers Council Tax account. The total value of CTS discount awarded for 2023/24 was £57,312,144. The CTS budget for 2023/24 was £58,767,000.

Tackling poverty – Welfare Support

The Welfare Rights Team continues to assist the citizens of Leeds to receive all relevant benefits to alleviate their financial difficulties.

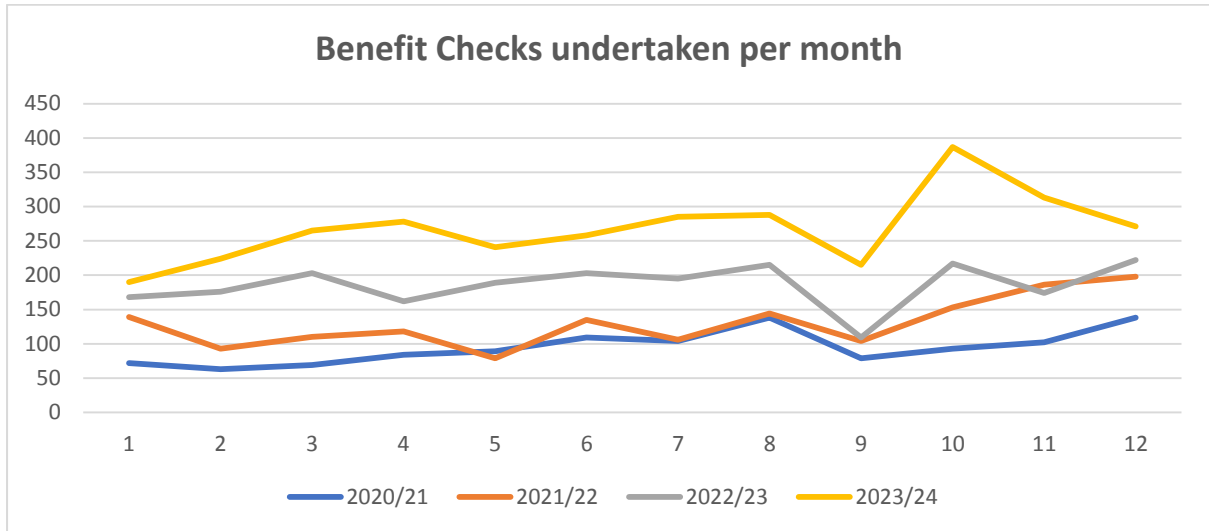
The table below shows a comparison of the clients assisted over the last three financial years as at the end of each financial year. The figures show a considerable increase in the expected financial gain following a client contacting the service for assistance and guidance. This increase continues to be linked to the increased number of people contacting the service to see if they are entitled to any additional help as they are financially unable to cope due to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

Indicator	21/22	22/23	23/24
Customers assisted	30,362	29,108	28,424

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs

Total value of benefit gains	£ 21,423,887.41	£24,944,181.70	£28,289,132.56
Disability benefit related advice	5,657	7,229	7,246
<p>Within the contact received from clients we continue to receive a high number of disability / sickness related benefit enquiries as evidenced above.</p> <p>As we receive a high number of disability related claims, particularly Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for working age claimants and Attendance Allowance for pensioners we have been under pressure to meet client’s deadlines for returning their applications. Due to this we are working in partnership with Housing for Housing Officer Income staff to take on board form filling for Council Tenants. This partnership is in place to ensure clients receive prompt assistance to complete their forms, so they do not lose out on an award.</p> <p>It is currently taking around 6 months for a PIP claim to be processed on a new claim. The government has acknowledged there has been a significant rise in claims for PIP claims. This is caused by two main factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a significant rise in claims amongst older age groups due to physical conditions, and • amongst younger age groups due to mental health conditions. <p>According to the Office for Budget Responsibility <i>‘It is possible that these trends among both age groups could be linked to the rising waiting lists for NHS elective treatments and for mental health treatments’.</i></p> <p>The anticipated benefit gains have considerably increased over the period of the economic downturn. Clients who would not normally feel they needed help are contacting us to check their circumstances to see if there is support available to them as they struggle to meet their outgoings. This has resulted in an increase in disability related claims particularly from older persons, as they look to maximise their income. The following information shows how the numbers continue to increase.</p>			

Appendix 1: Delivering our Best City Ambition – Our Directorate KPIs



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Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information – 2023/24 KPI year-end return

CH01 – Complaints relative to the size of the landlord		
Number of: 1. stage one complaints and 2. stage two complaints received per 1,000 homes:		
Number of stage one complaints	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned of the relevant stock type at year end.	Multiplied by 1,000
2,192	52,925 (LCRA dwelling units)	41.4 per 1,000 homes
Number of stage two complaints		Multiplied by 1,000
552		10.4 per 1,000 homes

CH02 – Complaints responded to within Complaint Handling Code timescales.		
Proportion of: 1. stage one complaints responded to and 2. stage two complaints responded to within the Housing Ombudsman’s Complaint Handling Code timescales.		
Stage one complaints response time		
Number of stage one complaints made by tenants during the reporting year for the relevant stock type that were responded to within the Housing Ombudsman’s Complaint Handling Code timescale.	Divided by: Number of stage one complaints made by tenants in the relevant stock type during the reporting year.	Multiplied by 100
1,933	2,192	88.2%
Stage two complaints response time		
Number of stage two complaints made by tenants during the reporting year for the relevant stock type that were responded to within the Housing Ombudsman’s Complaint Handling Code timescale.	Divided by: Number of stage two complaints made by tenants in the relevant stock type during the reporting year.	Multiplied by 100
485	552	87.9%

Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information – 2023/24 KPI year-end return

NM01 – Anti-social behaviour cases relative to the size of the landlord		
Number of:		
1. anti-social behaviour cases, of which		
2. anti-social behaviour cases that involve hate incidents opened per 1,000 homes.		
1. Anti-social behaviour cases		
A. Total number of anti-social behaviour cases opened by or on behalf of the provider during the reporting year (including any ASB cases that involve hate incidents).	Divided by B. Number of dwelling units owned of the relevant social housing stock at year end.	Multiplied by 1,000
838	52,932 (LCRA & LCHO dwelling units)	15.8
2. Anti-social behaviour cases that involve hate incidents		
Number of anti-social behaviour cases (as reported in part 1) that involve hate incidents opened by or on behalf of the provider during the reporting year.	Divided by Number of dwelling units owned of the relevant social housing stock at year end.	Multiplied by 1,000
47	52,932 (LCRA & LCHO dwelling units)	0.9

RP01 – Homes that do not meet the Decent Homes Standard		
Proportion of homes that do not meet the Decent Homes Standard		
Number of dwelling units owned to which the Decent Homes Standard applied which failed the Decent Homes Standard at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned of the relevant stock type at year end.	Multiplied by 100
1,745	52,925 (LCRA dwelling units)	3.3%

Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information – 2023/24 KPI year-end return

RP02 – Repairs completed within target timescale		
Proportion of:		
1. non-emergency and		
2. emergency responsive repairs completed within the landlord’s target timescale.		
Number of non-emergency responsive repairs completed within the provider’s target timescale during the reporting year.	Divided by: Number of non-emergency responsive repairs completed during the reporting year.	Multiplied by 100
95,462	115,955	82.3%
Number of emergency responsive repairs completed within the provider’s target timescale during the reporting year.	Divided by: Number of emergency responsive repairs completed during the reporting year.	Multiplied by 100
82,632	88,209	93.7%

BS01 – Gas safety checks		
Proportion of homes for which all required gas safety checks have been carried out		
Number of dwelling units owned for which all required gas safety checks were carried out and recorded as at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned for which gas safety checks were required to have been carried out as at year end.	Multiplied by 100
45,692	45,989	99.4%*

* For each of the properties overdue a minimum of three appointed visits have been attempted prior to expiry of the Landlord’s Gas Safety Record, in-line with our gas access procedure. In all cases, our well-established legal process is underway to ensure that access is achieved, and the gas safety check is completed.

Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information – 2023/24 KPI year-end return

BS02 – Fire safety checks		
Proportion of homes for which all required fire risk assessments have been carried out.		
Number of dwelling units owned within properties that required an FRA for which all required FRAs were carried out and recorded as at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned within properties for which an FRA was required to have been carried out as at year end.	Multiplied by 100
13,633	13,633	100%

BS03 – Asbestos safety checks		
Proportion of homes for which all required asbestos management surveys or re-inspections have been carried out.		
Number of dwelling units owned within properties that required an asbestos management survey or re-inspection for which all required asbestos management surveys or re-inspections were carried out and recorded as at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned within properties for which an asbestos management survey or re-inspection was required to have been carried out as at year end.	Multiplied by 100
12,312	12,312	100%

BS04 – Water safety checks		
Proportion of homes for which all required legionella risk assessments have been carried out.		
Number of dwelling units owned for which all required legionella risk assessments (LRAs) were carried out and recorded as at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned for which an LRA was required to have been carried out as at year end.	Multiplied by 100
7,644	7,644	100%

Appendix 2 - TSMs generated from management information – 2023/24 KPI year-end return

BS05 – Lift safety checks		
Proportion of homes for which all required communal passenger lift safety checks have been carried out.		
Number of dwelling units owned within properties with communal passenger lifts for which all Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) inspection reports were carried out and recorded as at year end.	Divided by: Number of dwelling units owned within properties with communal passenger lifts as at year end.	Multiplied by 100
7,993	7,993	100%

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Appendix 3 - TSM Survey 2023/24 – Full year Report

Background:

- Since April 2023 the survey has become a compulsory requirement and we are now working towards collecting enough surveys to meet our targets and report to the regulator after March 2024.
- Taking the learning from our detailed survey pilot we agreed for the upcoming period to carry out a combination of telephone surveys (80%) and email invitations to online surveys (20%) with text message reminder. Only the TSM questions, an open text comment and the further question ‘landlord is easy to deal with’ were included in the phone survey, with further questions included in the online survey only.
- We have included BITMO results and partial responses here in the reporting, as these are the figures that will be sent to the regulator. Figures are weighted to take account of the BITMO over-sample.
- Following an exercise to check VFM with three quotes, we have confirmed a further two-year arrangement with Acuity to continue to collect the TSM perception measures.

Results for 2023/24:

Results for the TSM questions (and ease of dealing with) are included below:

TSM Survey Results	2022/ 23	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2023/2 4	Trend	Diff to 22/23
Count of total completed responses	2652	644	672	632	623	2571		
Statistical accuracy - confidence interval	1.9%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%	1.9%		
Overall								
Overall satisfaction with services provided	60%	62%	63%	68%	70%	66%		6%
The home								
Percentage of tenants who had a repair in the last 12 months	66%	67%	70%	70%	70%	69%		3%
Satisfaction with overall repairs service received in the last 12 months	66%	68%	71%	71%	71%	70%		4%
Satisfaction with time taken to complete most recent repair	61%	63%	67%	67%	71%	67%		6%
Satisfaction that landlord provides a home that is well maintained	61%	67%	65%	69%	69%	68%		7%
Satisfaction that landlord provides a home that is safe	61%	73%	73%	76%	73%	74%		13%
Contact and communication								
Satisfaction that your landlord listens to your views and acts upon them	44%	54%	54%	57%	56%	55%		11%
Satisfaction that you are kept informed about things that matter to you	53%	66%	65%	69%	69%	67%		14%
Percentage of tenants agreeing 'my landlord treats me fairly and with respect'	62%	75%	73%	75%	73%	74%		12%
Percentage who made a complaint in the last 12 months	32%	29%	26%	27%	27%	28%		-4%
Satisfaction with your landlord's approach to complaints handling	24%	29%	25%	34%	27%	29%		5%
Satisfaction that your landlord is easy to deal with*	56%	67%	65%	66%	65%	66%		10%
Neighbourhood and community								
Satisfaction that communal areas are kept clean and well maintained	56%	66%	62%	68%	64%	65%		9%
Satisfaction that landlord makes a positive contribution to your neighbourhood	44%	64%	59%	61%	58%	60%		16%
Satisfaction with your landlord's approach to handling anti-social behaviour	42%	50%	52%	55%	55%	53%		11%

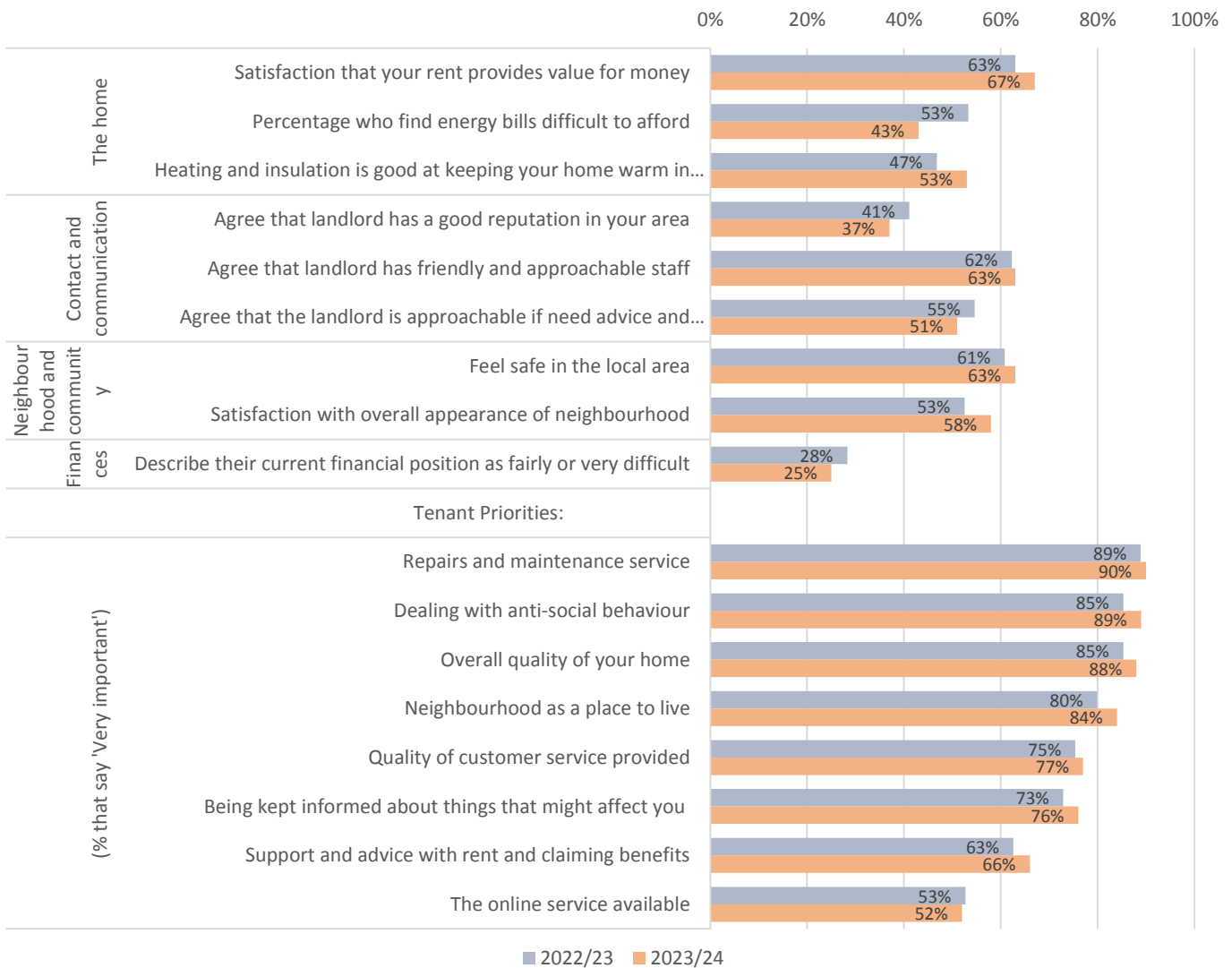
*Included in telephone survey as key customer services indicator

- During 2023/24, 2571 surveys were completed, 2017 by telephone and 554 through an online survey.
- Results across quarters remained consistent on the whole and show an improving trend in many areas, though this was generally within the margin for error of around +/- 4% so wasn't necessarily significant. Notable improvements during the year that were greater than the quarterly margin for error, include:
 - Overall satisfaction was 70% for Q4, an improvement of 8% compared to Q1.
 - Satisfaction with time taken to complete the most recent repair was 71% for Q4, an improvement of 8% compared to Q1.
- Cumulative results for 2023/24 for all the TSM questions compare favourably with 2022/23. With the larger sample size the margin for error is +/- 1.9%, so the results can be considered significant.

- Particularly notable improvements compared to 2022/23 include:
 - Overall satisfaction with services (+6%)
 - Landlord makes a positive contribution to the neighbourhood (+16%)
 - Being kept informed about things that matter (+14%)
 - Landlord provides a home that is safe (+13%)
 - Landlord treats me fairly and with respect (+12%)
 - Landlord listens to views and acts upon them (+11%)
 - Landlord’s approach to handling ASB (+11%)

Further survey results from the online element only are listed below, compared to the online results from 2022/23. Quarterly results have not been included due to the low sample sizes and large margins for error.

Further survey results (online survey only)



- A number of the cumulative results show an improvement compared to 2022/23 greater than the margin for error (+/- 4.1%), including:
 - Satisfaction with the overall appearance of the neighbourhood (+5%)
 - Heating and insulation is good at keeping your home warm in winter (+6%)
 - Percentage who find energy bills difficult to afford (-10%)
- Tenant priorities - The survey asked tenants to rate the importance of key aspects of the service. Overall, tenants rated 'Repairs and maintenance service' and 'Dealing with anti-social behaviour' as the top priorities. 'Online services available' was rated as the lowest priority.

Results by Community Committee area:

Results for the TSM questions were analysed by Community Committee area and BITMO:

- The highest rated area was Outer West, where satisfaction around repair times and being treated fairly and with respect performed particularly well.
- The worst performing area was seen to be Inner North East, where results highlight particular concerns around repair times and views being listened to and acted on.
- Several areas have seen a notable improvement in overall satisfaction compared to 2022/23, including: Outer North West (+11%), Outer East (+10%), Inner South (+9%), Outer South East (+9%).

Other notable improvements include:

- Inner North East – Landlord provides a home that is safe (+25%), Approach to handling ASB (+23%),
- Outer East– Kept informed about things that matter to you (+22%), Provides a house that is safe (+21),
- Outer South East - Landlord treats me fairly and with respect (+20%),
- Inner East - Kept informed about things that matter to you (+20%).

Key Driver Analysis:

Analysis was carried out using ordinal regression to find the questions that were key drivers for how participants responded to overall satisfaction. Those that had most influence on how participants are listed below:

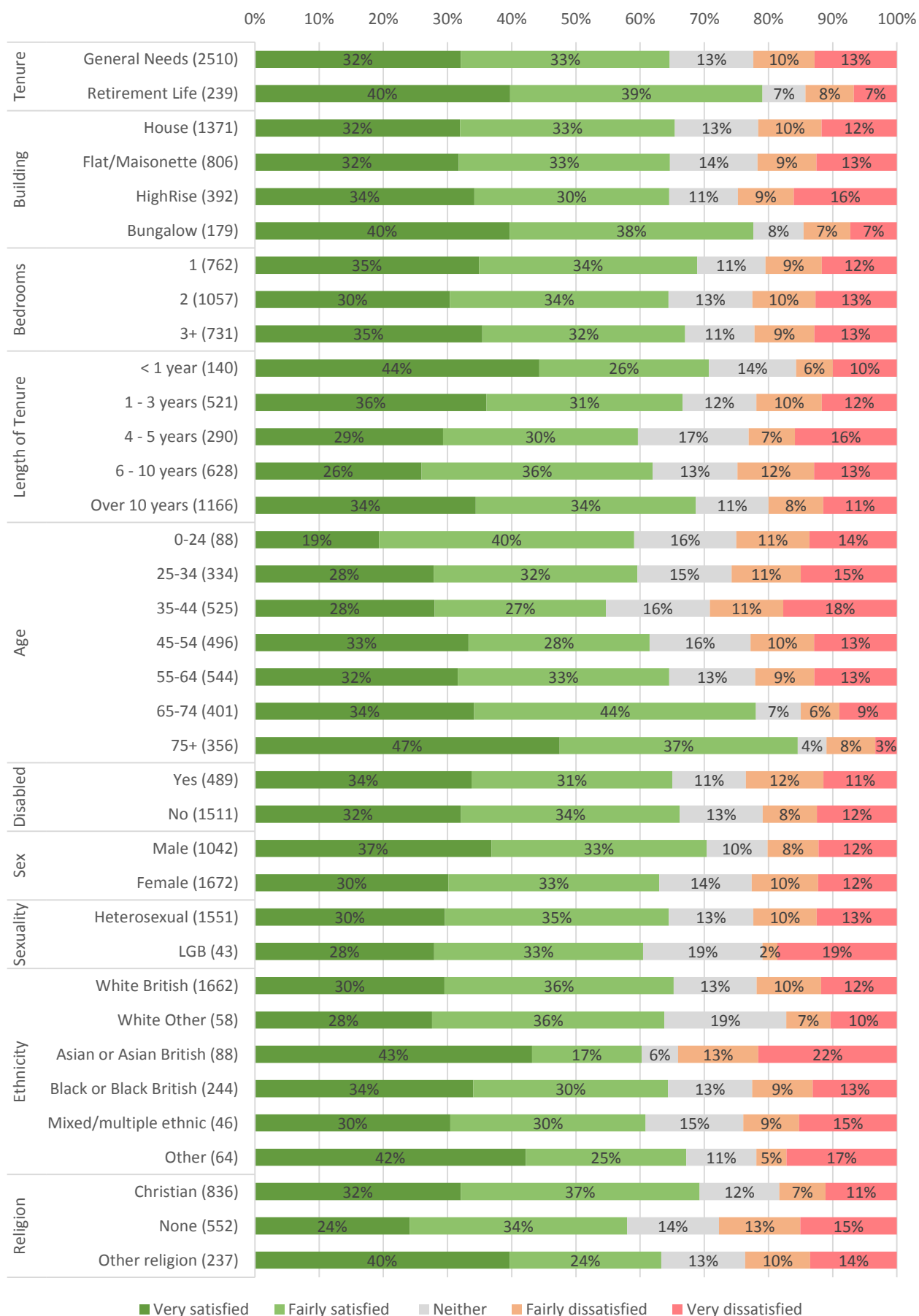
- The key drivers were: **Well maintained home, Easy to deal with, Listens to views and acts on them.**
- To a lesser extent: **Repairs service in last 12 months, Home is safe, Treated fairly and with respect.**
- And to a much lesser extent: **Time taken to carry out repairs.**

Demographic Analysis:

Survey results and comments have been analysed against a range of tenant demographic and property characteristics to understand areas of high and low satisfaction by different groups. Key findings included:

- **Tenure** - Retirement life tenants were generally much more satisfied than general needs, with figures similar to those of older tenants and were much more likely to say their financial position is okay and that energy bills are affordable. They were more likely to say that 'Being kept informed' is a high priority and were much more likely to leave a negative comment about customer service. General needs tenants however were much more likely to comment about moving home, bidding and allocations.
- **Length of tenure** - those that had either been a tenant for fewer years or for longer were more likely to be satisfied. However, this is linked closely to tenant age, for example the large increase in satisfaction with those over 10 years tenure being due to higher satisfaction with older tenants.
- **Age** - Younger tenants were generally less positive than older tenants throughout, satisfaction levels remained fairly consistent up to age 55, with satisfaction often dipping lowest at 35-44. Those least likely to describe their financial situation positively were also in this middle age group. Younger tenants were much more likely to have had a repair in the last 12 months and were more likely to make a comment about the repairs service and timescales, and moving home / allocations. Older tenants were more likely to make negative comments about the appearance of the neighbourhood and customer service.
- **Sex/Gender** - Female tenants were much less positive throughout; in particular around the neighbourhood and their financial position, and they were more likely to have had a repair in the last 12 months. They were more likely to report most services as a highly important; in particular the neighbourhood, and more likely to comment about disrepair / outstanding repairs.
- **Ethnicity** - For many areas ethnic diverse tenants showed similar levels of satisfaction to White:British, though most groups were much more likely to be satisfied around the neighbourhood, ASB and communication and they were much more likely to say they could afford energy bills. They were generally much less likely to report a service as highly important, in particular the neighbourhood, ASB, the quality of the home, and support and advice. Ethnic diverse tenants were more likely to leave a negative comment about neighbour/ASB issues however, and around communal areas and moving home / allocations.

Taking everthing into account, overall satisfaction



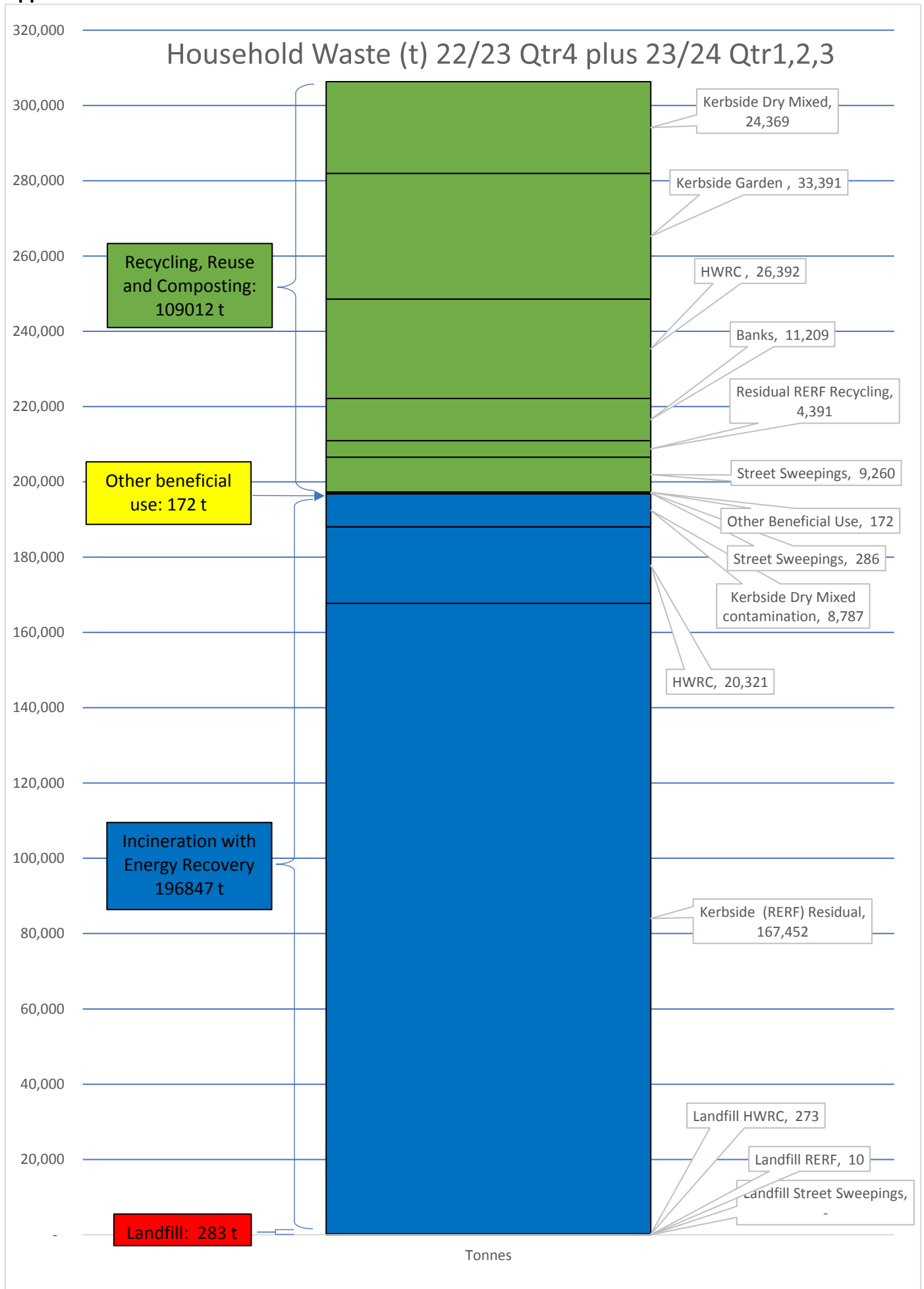
Open Text Comments:

Tenants were asked to provide comments following the overall satisfaction question. Overall, 2341 respondents left a comment, which were analysed and categorised into themes.

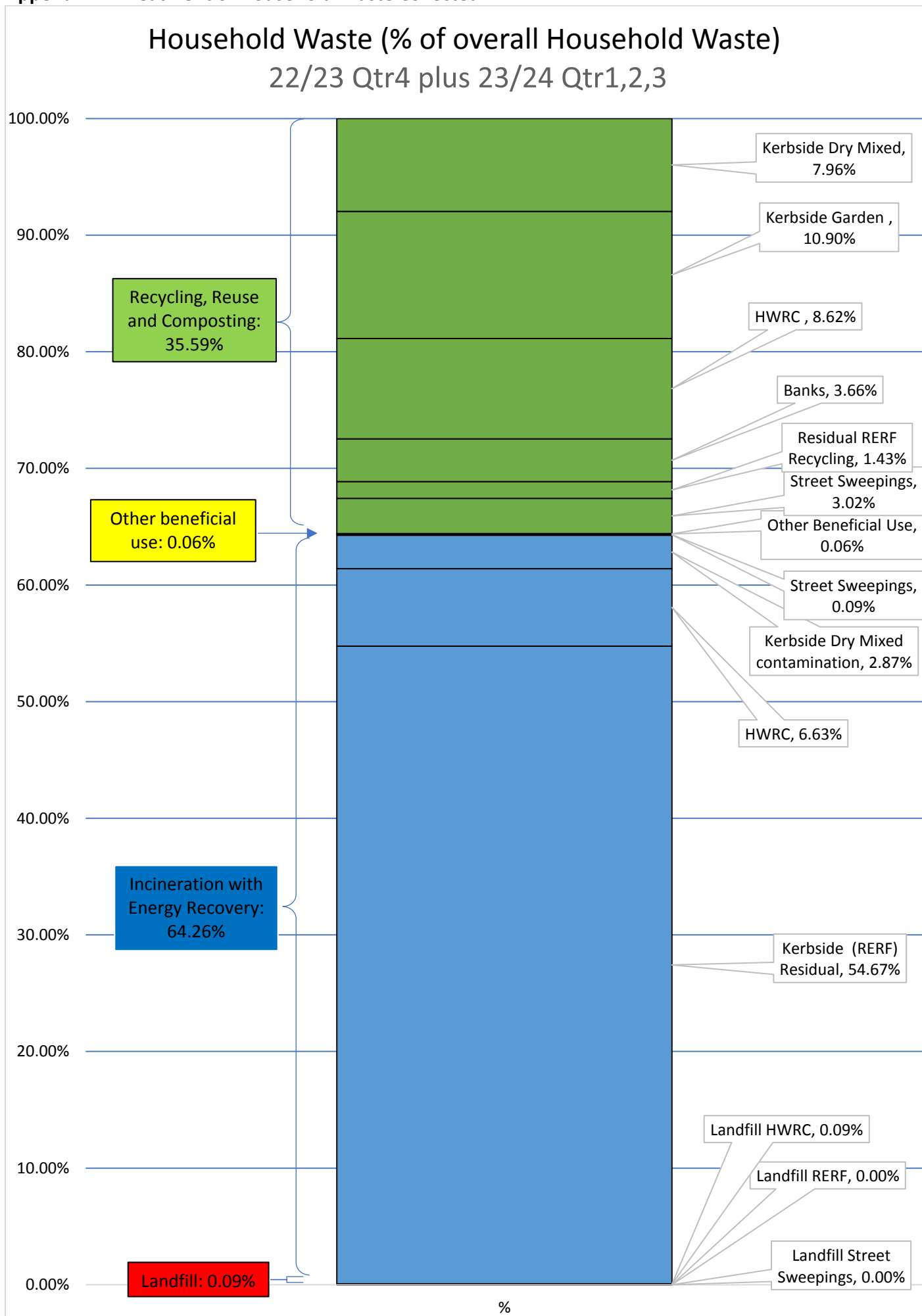
Theme	Count	As %	Summary of theme	Example comment
Disrepair or repairs needed/ outstanding	391	17%	The common themes are outstanding repairs, long waiting times for reported repairs, poor quality of the property, lack of communication and responsiveness from the housing service. Some of comments refer to the state of the property when they moved in.	I moved in here 4 years ago. When I moved in the window was leaking and they still have not repaired it. the wood outside the balcony is rotting and the house is in disrepair.
Good/ fast service	303	13%	Tenants praise the housing service for their responsiveness, efficiency, and helpfulness in addressing issues and making repairs. Residents appreciate the quick and professional manner their problems are resolved and the good communication.	They are brilliant, we never have any issues and they are always prompt in dealing with any problems we do have, to our satisfaction.
No complaints/ issues	274	12%	The overall sentiment is positive, with most comments expressing satisfaction with the service. Common themes include tenants having no problems or issues to raise.	I haven't had any issues with it so far so it must be ok.
Repairs completed on time/ well	271	12%	These comments are positive, with tenants reporting that repairs are done quickly and efficiently. The overall theme is that the repair service is generally good and responsive.	Every time I have needed repairs they have been prompt and have done a good job with the repairs.
Poor/ improve customer service	245	10%	Common themes are difficulty contacting the housing service, long telephone wait times, unhelpful or rude service, and lack of communication and responsiveness from the housing service. Many individuals expressed frustration with the housing service's inability to effectively address their concerns and needs.	Answer the phone when you ring, reply to messages when you leave any. Believe what people have to say. I have kitchen cupboard filled with black mould at the moment.
Repair timescales are too long	220	9%	Comments refer to long wait times for repairs to be completed, with some tenants reporting waiting for months or years. Overall, the comments are calling for quicker and more efficient repair services.	It takes a length of time to get a repair booked in and then it takes a long time for the repair to actually get done.
Poor quality repairs/ contractors	159	7%	Comments express dissatisfaction with the quality and timeliness of repairs and maintenance. Many individuals report poor workmanship, incomplete or incorrect repairs, and repeated visits.	The need to regulate the companies they do repairs with better as they dont turn up to jobs, jobs are not finished and quality isn't good.
Helpful/ respectful service	139	6%	Tenants express satisfaction with the service and helpfulness of the staff. Many people mention that the housing service has helped them in various ways, including offering timely and courteous support, and being easy to communicate with.	I've been treated with respect and informed of all what is happening and the people and managers have been great
Damp/ mould issues	110	5%	Individuals have reported these issues to the relevant authorities, but the issues have not been resolved satisfactorily. The damp and mould have caused health issues and damage to property, and individuals are frustrated with the lack of action taken to resolve the problem.	I have damp and I have to remove it myself they have told me, and I have asthma, when you report things they are not being put through properly. I find it shocking asking me to clean and get rid of the mould when I suffer from asthma.
Neighbour/ ASB issues	92	4%	Concerns range from anti-social behaviour, noise, safety concerns, and a lack of response from the authorities. The residents express frustration with a lack of action taken to address their concerns and improve their living conditions.	We have trouble with drug users and people sleeping rough in the building. This has been reported several times and no action has been taken.
Moving/ bidding/ allocations issues	88	4%	Tenants report difficulties with the bidding system, long waiting times to be rehoused, overcrowding, and unsuitable housing conditions. Many report a lack of support from the council in addressing their concerns and resolving their issues.	I have been on the waiting list for a move for 6 years now and they haven't done anything to help me, I have 4 boys sleeping in one room which isn't ideal.

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Appendix 4 - Treatment of Household Waste Collected



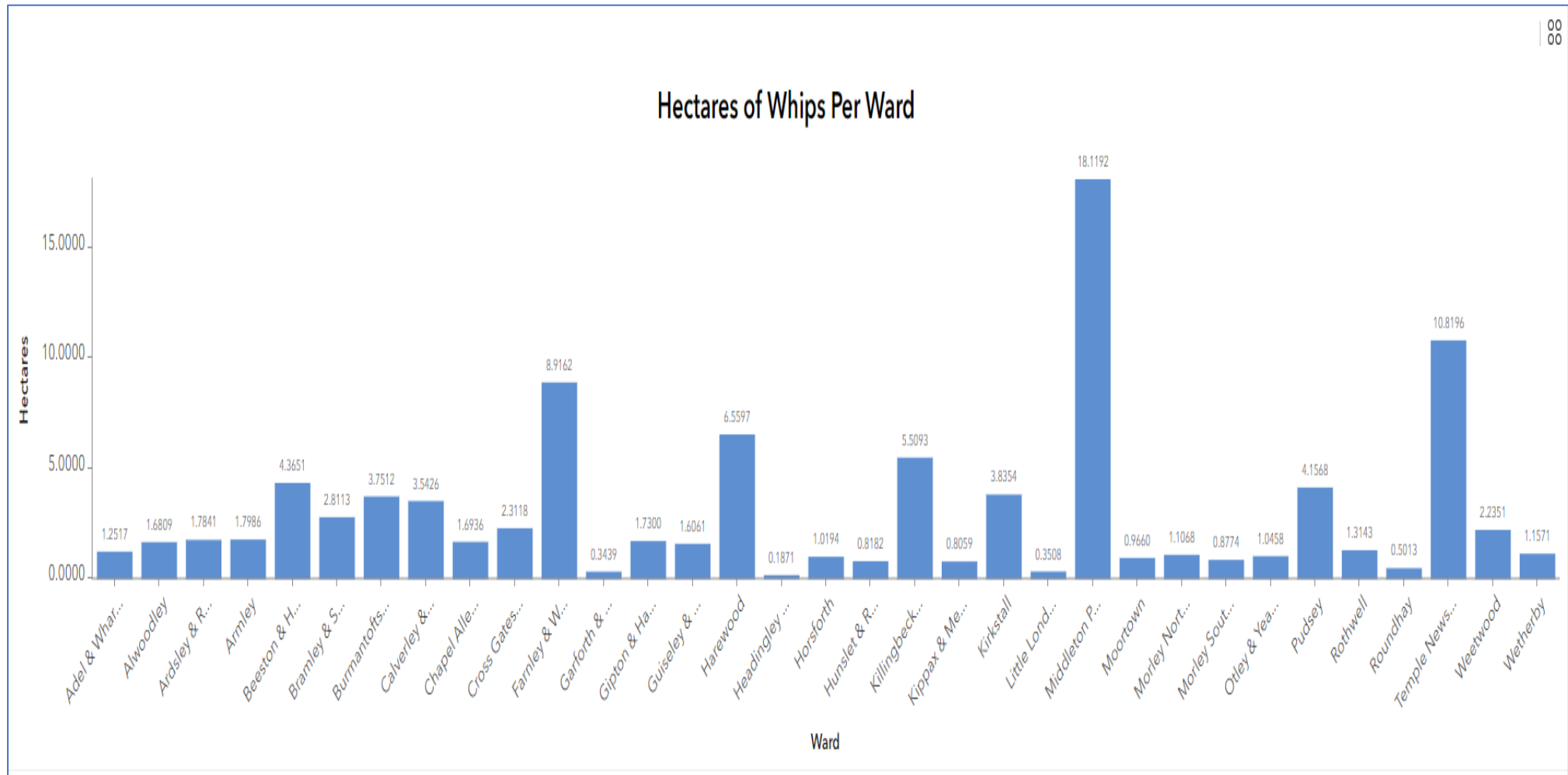
Appendix 4 - Treatment of Household Waste Collected



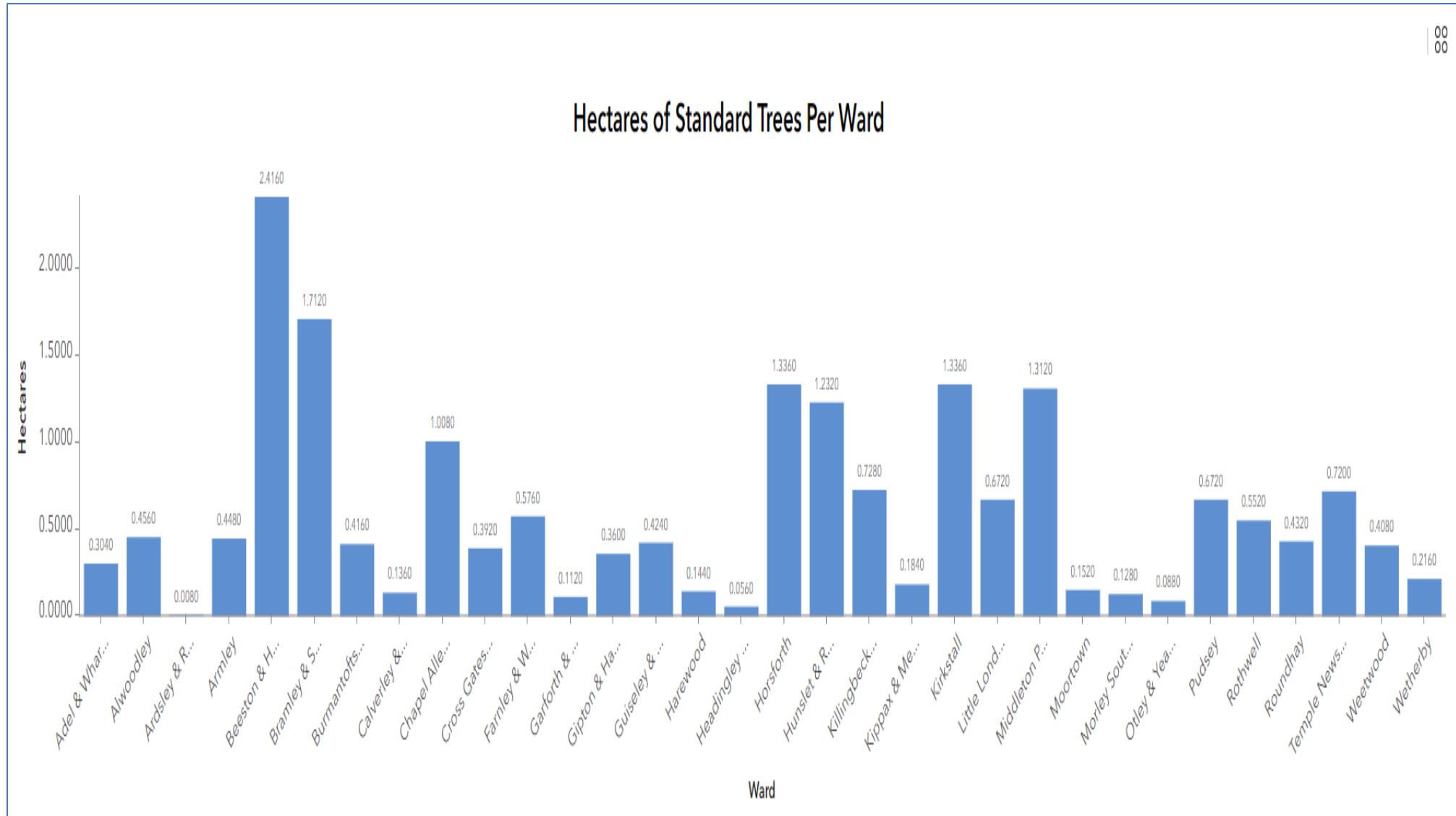
Appendix 5 – Woodland creation per ward (since 2020)

Here are the statistics for all wards from 2020 (the start of the woodland creation scheme).

There are two graphs that show standard trees (larger specimen individual trees) and one showing whips (sapling trees). There are generally 4,444 whips per hectare.

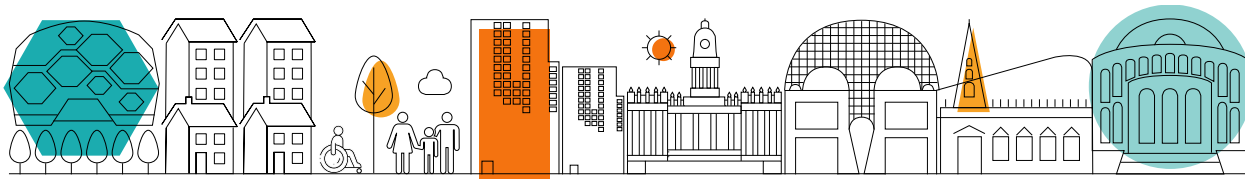


Appendix 5 – Woodland creation per ward (since 2020)



Directorate of Communities, Housing and Environment

Strategic Vision 2023-26



Directorate Structure

James Rogers - Director Communities, Housing & Environment

Polly Cook - Climate, Energy & Greenspaces	Lee Hemsworth - Community Hubs, Welfare & Business Support	John Mulcahy - Elections & Regulatory	John Woolmer - Environmental Services	Gerard Tinsdale - Housing	Paul Money - Safer Stronger Communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parks Operations ▪ Commercial & Estates ▪ Climate Emergency ▪ Energy ▪ Air Quality ▪ Bereavement Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits • Business Development & Housing Projects • Face to Face Contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electoral Services • Entertainment Licensing • Environmental Health • Land & Property Search • Registrars • Parking Services • Taxi & Private Hire Licensing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refuse Service • Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team • City Centre Cleansing Team • Serious Environmental Crime Team • Household Waste & Recycling Centres (inc neighbourhood recycling facilities) • Waste contracts and performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Housing • Homelessness • Housing & Neighbourhood Services • Housing Management • Private Sector Housing • Property Management • Strategy & Investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Neighbourhoods & ASB Services • Communities – Equality • Community – Safer Services • Locality Partnerships • Migration Yorkshire • Safeguarding & Domestic Violence • Service Development

Key Directorate Metrics

36 Service Areas

3,505 Staff

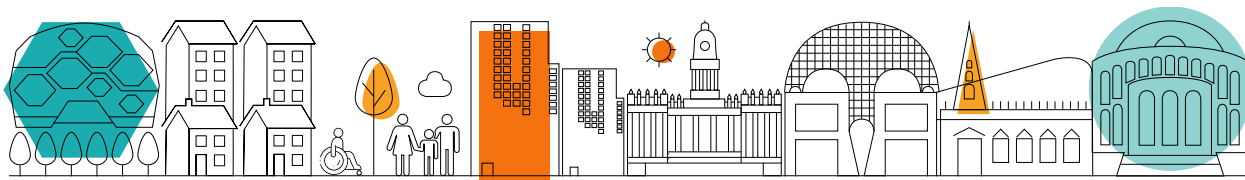
82 Assets (Buildings)

2022/23 Gross Spend = £678m

2022/23 Gross Income = £594m

Directorate Strategic Vision

Our Vision is to provide an inclusive, safe, welcoming and climate friendly city, where all our citizens and visitors can live and work in safe, clean and empowered communities with access to high quality affordable housing, local green spaces and attractions and easy to access help, particularly those who are vulnerable.



Best City Ambition

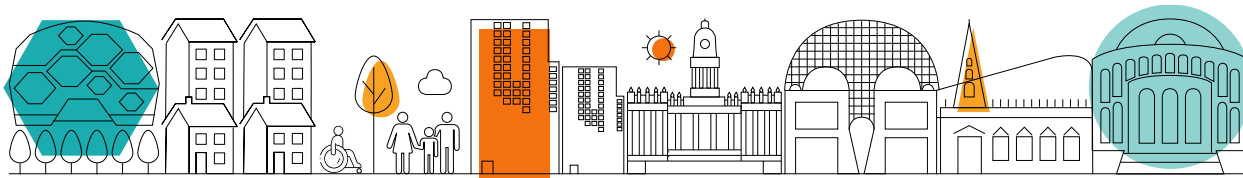
The Best City Ambition is our overall vision for the future of Leeds.

At its heart is our mission to tackle poverty and inequality and improve quality of life for everyone who calls Leeds home. We will achieve our mission by focusing on improving outcomes across the 3 Pillars of the Best City Ambition (Health & wellbeing, Inclusive growth & Zero carbon).

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To help us tackle some of our biggest challenges key resources from across the city have been brought together to work on:

- Better homes for health & wellbeing
- Promoting mental health in the community
- Inclusive green jobs
- Learning outcomes for social mobility
- Responding to the cost of living crisis





Health and Wellbeing



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Tackling Poverty

Improving Air Quality

Good Quality Homes

Health & Housing

Reducing Homelessness

Keeping Our Communities Safe

High quality parks & green spaces

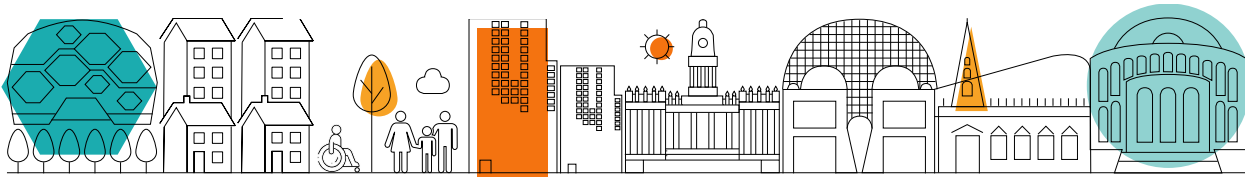
Accessible services & support

Ensuring Equality

Managing Household Waste

Preventative Support

Cleaner Streets



Delivering our vision – Our Priorities



**Inclusive
Growth**

**Priority
Neighbourhoods**

**Tackling Climate
Change**

**Good Quality
Homes**

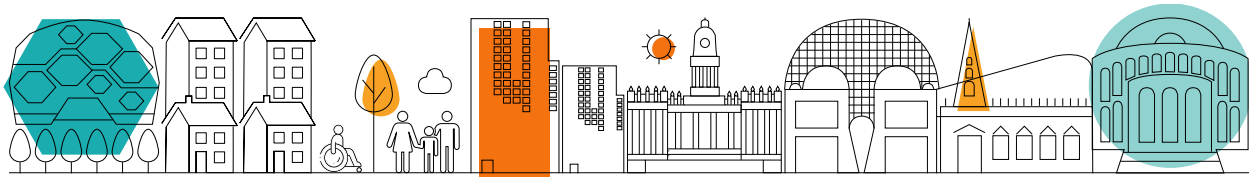
**Keeping Our
Communities
Safe**

**High quality parks &
green spaces**

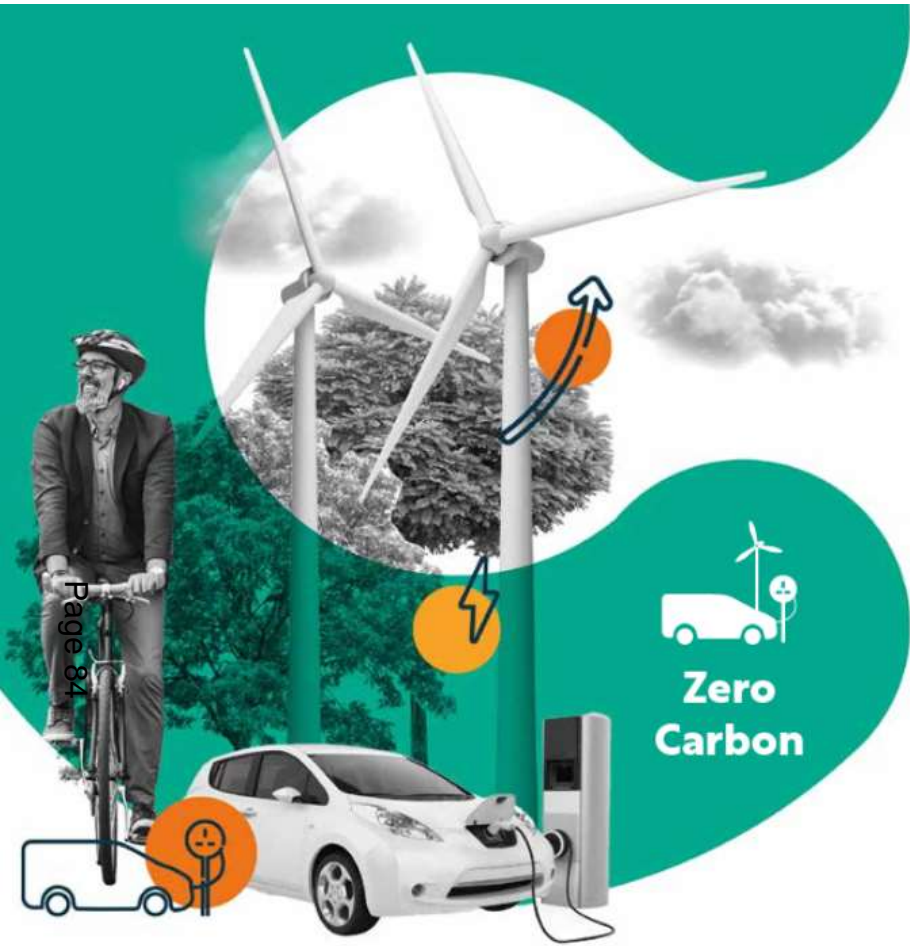
**Accessible
services &
support**

**Helping People
into Work**

Ensuring Equality



**Delivering our vision –
Our Priorities**



Page 84

Access to affordable and sustainable food

Energy efficient housing

Council Buildings retrofit

Adapting services to climate changes

Managing Household Waste

District Heating (Leeds PIPES)

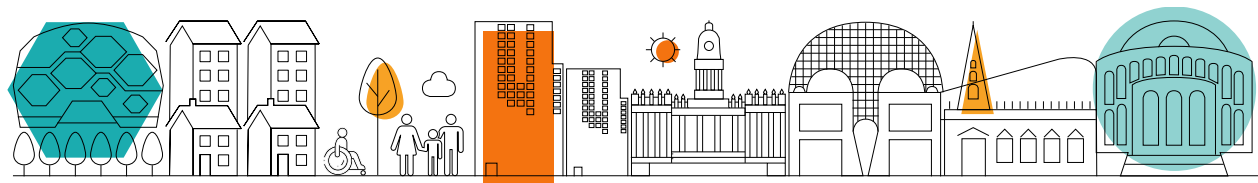
Providing Good Quality Homes

Keeping Our Communities Safe

Accessible and high quality parks & green spaces

Working with communities to adapt to climate change

Charging Network – Electric Infrastructure



Delivering our vision – Our Priorities

Our key directorates strategies & policies

Page 85

Air Quality Strategy 2021-30

Customer Strategy

CONTEST

Discretionary Housing Payments Policy

Equality improvement priorities 2021-25

Leeds Food Strategy 2022-30

Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-28

Housing Strategy 2022-27

Lettings Policy

Library Strategy

Parks & Green Spaces Strategy 2022-32

Private sector housing assistance policy

Safer Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021-24

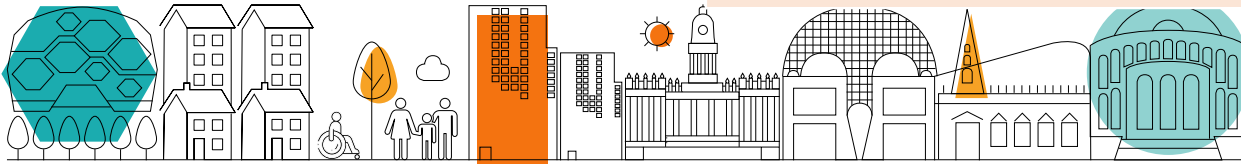
Statement of Licensing Policy for the Gambling Act 2022-24

Statement of Licensing Policy for the Licensing Act 2023-27

Taxi & Private Hire Licensing Policy

Waste Strategy

Zero Carbon Strategy



Our key directorates transformation projects

Community Committee Review

Fleet Review

Housing Digital Improvement Programme

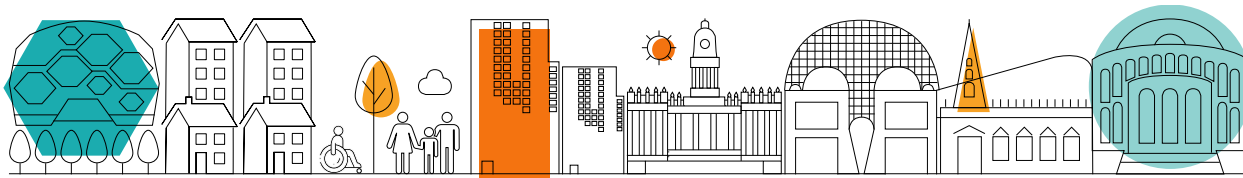
Integrated Locality Working

REEMA

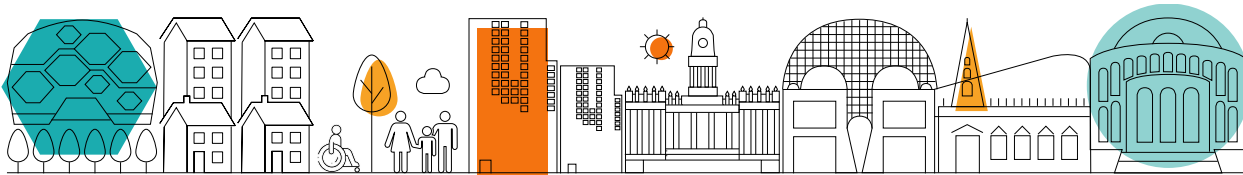
Review of Housing Allocations policy

Waste Strategy (including Route Review)

Welfare & Benefits Review



Being Our Best



Our Values & Behaviours

Our values & behaviours are at the heart of everything we do. They inform the way we design and deliver our services and the way we all work and behave.

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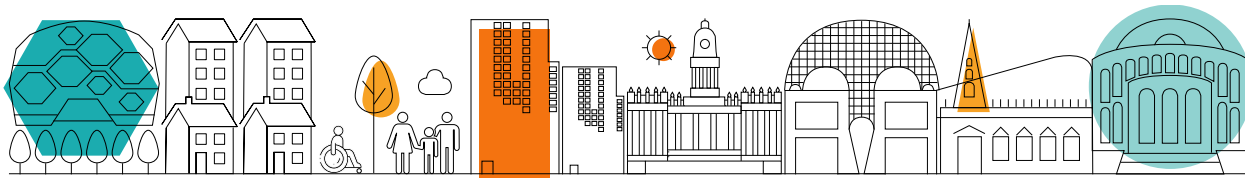
- **Working with all communities** – Make a difference
- **Spending money wisely** – Make every pound go further
- **Being open, honest and trusted** – Be my best
- **Treating people fairly** – Feel valued for who I am
- **Working as a team for Leeds** – Be part of a 'can do' team



Our way of working

Through strong leadership & communications we maximise the potential of our people to effectively:

- deliver efficient and responsive services to every community, household and business in the city
- lead strategic programmes in priority neighbourhoods and target wards through adopting a place-based approach
- focus on early intervention and prevention measures to reduce future demand on services
- play a lead role in creating places that are welcoming, safe, nice to live in and that attract investment, and
- ensure the city runs smoothly, is well managed and is working to meet our wider strategic aims.



Our People
Plan focus –
maximising
the potential
of our people

Leadership pledges

To actively lead and promote health, safety and wellbeing

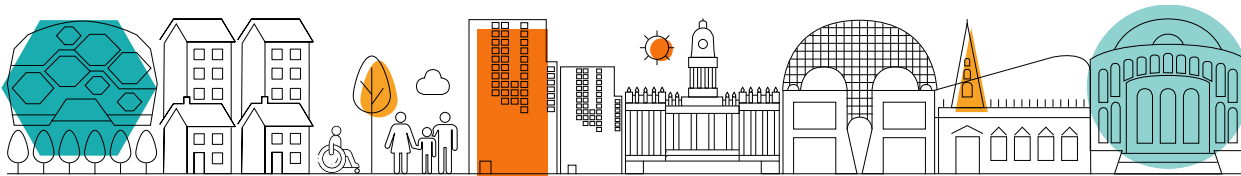
To be visible leaders who provide time and space for conversations

To ensure that all managers attend and act upon the leadership and management training & support offer

To enable all employees to be their best, making them feel like they count and valued through providing and ensuring support at all levels

Delivered through our People Plan covering:

- Rewards & Recognition
- Health & Safety
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Cohesion
- Etc..



Our IDS priorities

Customer Access

E-Forms

- CATS Partner Account (incl Free School Meals)
- Entertainment Licensing
- TPHL
- Housing Forms (incl HMO & Retirement Life)
- Community Fund applications

IAG

- HR Residential Golden Thread Money Information, Leeds Housing Options, Leeds Libraries, Leodis website refinements

Operational Support

Automation

- PRS Dashboards
- LHO, Repairs, Licensing ideas raised
- Community Centres online booking

Mobile Working / Tasking

- Licensing Enforcement
- PACE Mobile recording
- Mobile in-Cab Units / ICU Options
- Solution for LeedsWatch

System Functionality

New Systems

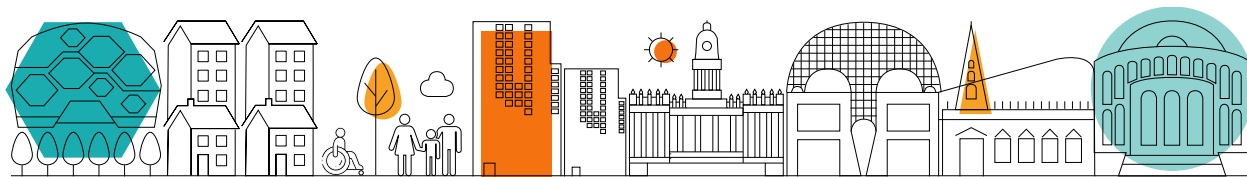
- ASB Case Management System
- CAS (Bereavement) System
- Car Parking System
- Resettlement Team Case Management
- URSULA System operational

System Enhancements

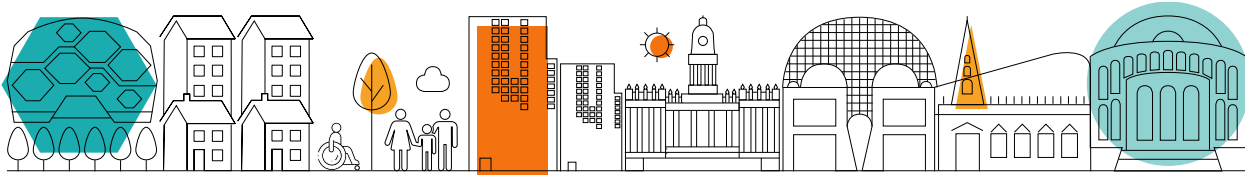
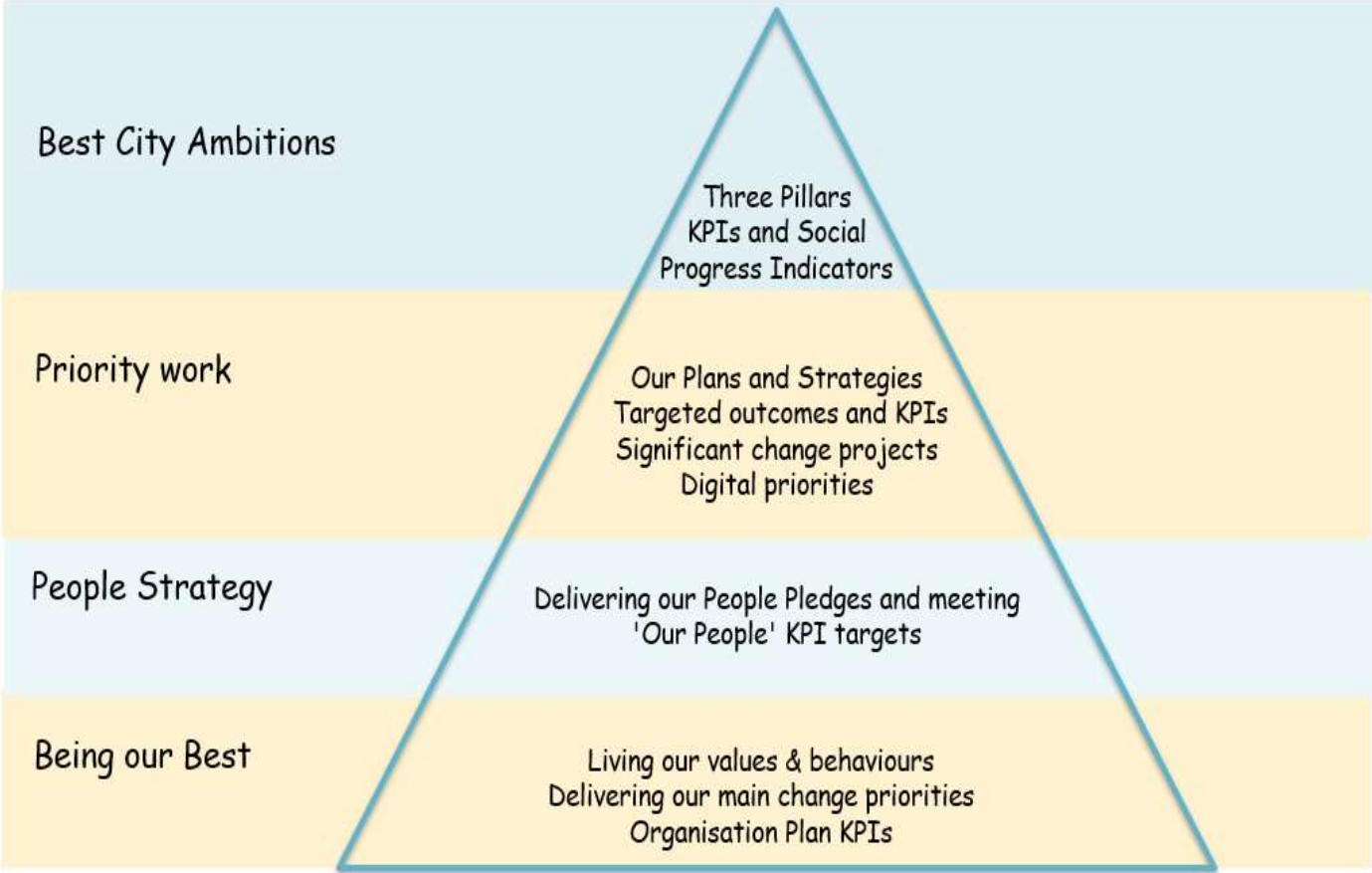
- Housing ICT Solutions Ph 1
- Traffic Enforcement Cameras
- Registrars work – Document storage, Forms & Ceremony Planner

Contract Management

- EPOS situation needs resolving
- Parking/Bus Lane, MY MIS, Waste systems,
- Agree future approach for Confirm & Tranman systems



We will deliver our vision through developing a CHE Performance Management Framework



Our Directorate KPIs

Health & Wellbeing

- Increase % of residents who say they feel safe in their local area
 - ASB incidents
 - Hate Crime incidents
 - DVA incidents
- Housing TSM KPIs
- % Tenancy check-ins
- % of void properties
- Waste collections
- Food business hygiene ratinga

Zero carbon

- % reduction in citywide carbon emissions against baseline
- % reduction in council's operational emissions against baseline
- % premises at EPC C or better, by tenure
- Independent rating of the city's climate action by CDP
- Hectares of trees planted
- % of all household waste the council manages across Leeds re-used, recycled, composted or used to create energy (electricity and heat)

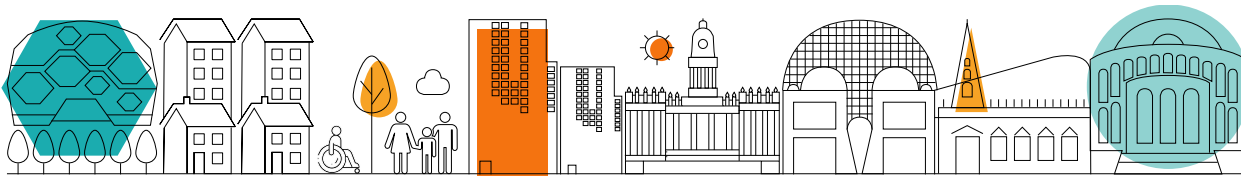
Inclusive Growth

- Jobshops - New registrations & outcomes
- Housing benefit caseload – speed of processing
- Council Tax support scheme
- Welfare Rights – Benefit gains & advice

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Leeds Social Progress Index Indicators

All of the above are underpinned by our Equality Improvement Priorities and Organisational KPIs



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Impact of Radon Gas on Social Housing Tenants

Date: 20 June 2024

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

Brief summary

In July 2023 the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) received a referral to scrutiny from Cllr Wayne Dixon. Cllr Dixon requested that members consider carrying out detailed scrutiny of issues relating to the impact of radon gas on the health of Leeds residents.

All referrals are subject to a member-led process of examination and review, in line with the principles set out in the Vision for Scrutiny within [Article 6 of the Council's Constitution](#) and the procedures outlined in sections G&H of the [Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules](#).

At the meeting on 20 July 2023 further information was requested from officers and the Executive Member. Members of the Scrutiny Board subsequently received a further written briefing on the measures being taken to assess the level of risk from radon gas in Leeds.

On the basis of the advice received the Scrutiny Board agreed it was satisfied with the proposal that the Council should conduct physical testing and members recommended that an update on the progress of phase 1 testing should be provided to the successor Scrutiny Board early in 2024/25.

Members are asked to consider the appended update from the Head of Property Management, which details the outcome of testing to take and to determine whether any further scrutiny is required.

Recommendations

- a) The Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) is asked to determine what - if any - further scrutiny activity is required in relation to the update on the testing programme.
- b) If further scrutiny is requested by the Board the work programme will be amended accordingly.

What is this report about?

- 1 In [July 2023](#) a referral was received from Cllr Wayne Dixon, which was considered in accordance with sections G and H of the [Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules](#).

- 2 Cllr Dixon asked that the Scrutiny Board consider the potential risk of radon case to residents in Leeds, particularly those living in social housing in Middleton Park, Belle Isle, Morley and Rothwell.
- 3 Officers from Housing, Property Management and Public Health attended the Scrutiny Board meeting on 20 July 2023, along with Cllr Lennox in her capacity as Executive Member.
- 4 An initial response to the concerns raised by Cllr Dixon was provided. This included detail relating to the Advanced Postcode List Radon Gas Risk Assessment.
- 5 Members were advised that the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) had stated that the risk from radon gas is low in Leeds. However, the Council had decided that further physical testing should take place to provide assurance about the local level of risk and to determine any actions required to manage that risk. At the time of the update the methodology proposed by the Council for the testing programme had been endorsed by UKHSA.
- 6 Members requested a further detailed written briefing on the work being undertaken to establish the extent of the risk in Leeds and subsequently recommended that the successor board should receive an update on the outcome of the initial phase of testing.
- 7 The appended briefing from the Head of Property Management provides an update (within section 2) on the outcome of the initial phase of testing. Given health concerns raised in the original referral to Scrutiny, the report also provides an update from Public Health about the variance to cancer mortality rates in potentially radon affected areas in the last twelve months.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 8 If members determine that further scrutiny of this matter is required the work programme will be amended accordingly.

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

- Health and Wellbeing
 Inclusive Growth
 Zero Carbon

- 9 Issues associated with all three pillars will be discussed as is appropriate within the context of the Board’s deliberations.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 10 The Vision for Scrutiny states that the relevant scrutiny board should seek the advice of the Scrutiny Officer, relevant Director(s) and Executive Board member(s) about available resources before agreeing to items of work.
- 11 An invitation has been extended to the relevant officers and Executive Board Member to contribute to the Board’s discussion.

What are the resource implications?

- 12 Should there be a request for further scrutiny the Scrutiny Board is advised to consider any potential impact on its current work programme, including the level of resources required to support additional work items.

What are the legal implications?

- 13 This report has no specific legal implications.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

14 In line with the requirements of the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules, members of the Board are asked to determine whether further scrutiny is required in relation to the issues outlined in the appended briefing.

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

15 Should there be requests for further scrutiny the Board's work programme will be amended accordingly.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Briefing from the Head of Property Management

Background papers

- None

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Briefing Note Title:	Radon Gas – Testing Programme Update
Briefing Note of:	Housing Leeds Public Health (Adults & Health)
Date:	June 2024
Report of:	Housing Leeds
Report to:	EHC Scrutiny Board

Does this briefing note contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0 Background Information:

- 1.1 In the home, the safe level of radon gas specified in the Ionising Radiation Regulations (IRR) is 200 Bq/m³ (Becquerels per cubic metre of air) as an annual average. This is referred to as the *Action Level*.
- 1.2 If radon levels exceed the Action Level, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) advises that measures are put in place to reduce this level. This could include measures such as increased passive ventilation or the introduction of active, mechanical ventilation into the home.
- 1.3 The likelihood of a property being affected by high levels of radon is partially determined by the underlying geology in the region, as well as other contributing factors such as the way in which the property is designed and built e.g. heating & ventilation.
- 1.4 Following an assessment of the data available from the UKHSA and UKRadon.org, it was identified that a number of areas in Leeds were *potentially* at risk of exceeding the Action Level. As such, in October 2022, Housing Leeds commissioned UKHSA to undertake an Advanced Postcode List Radon Gas Risk Assessment of homes under its management.
- 1.5 The purpose of this commission was to gather a more detailed assessment of the potential risk posed by radon gas to the residents of Housing Leeds homes.
- 1.6 In July 2023 Housing Leeds and Public Health (Adults & Health) presented a paper to EHC Scrutiny Board detailing the outcome of the Advanced Postcode List Radon Gas Risk Assessment. The assessment covered 54,272 homes managed by Housing Leeds and BITMO.
- 1.7 The July 2023 report also provided EHC Scrutiny Board with the proposed physical testing programme to be undertaken in order to provide assurance that the level of risk is known and managed appropriately. This proposal was accepted by EHC Scrutiny Board.
- 1.8 A summary of the testing programme can be found in Section 2 of this report, which serves as an update to EHC Scrutiny Board on progress against this programme and provides detail of the results obtained to date.
- 1.9 The report also provides an update from LCC Public Health on any variance to cancer mortality rates in potential radon affected areas during the last 12 months.

2.0 Advanced Postcode List Radon Gas Risk Assessment

2.1 There are 6 risk classifications identified by UKHSA for homes in the UK:

Radon Class	%	Radon Class	%
1	0-1%	4	5-10%
2	1-3%	5	10-30%
3	3-5%	6	>30%

2.2 The % ratings represent the probability of properties in this class having a level of radon above the Action Level, e.g. a property in Class 2 has a 1-3% chance of having average radon levels above 200 Bq/m³.

2.3 The October 2022 advanced assessment identified 9,136 Housing Leeds homes with the **potential** to be Radon Affected, with 5,386 in the '1-3%' probability rating and 3,750 in the '3-5%' probability rating.

2.4 The remaining homes were classified as probability rating 'less than 1%'.

Radon Class	Probability Rating	Homes
1	0-1%	45,135
2	1-3%	5,386
3	3-5%	3,750
4-6	5% and above	0

3.0 Testing Programme Methodology:

3.1 Given the volume of properties identified in the postcode assessment, risk-based sample testing was approved in order manage the risk. The testing methodology is:

Phase	Details	Target Volume	Year
Phase 1	5% sample of 3-5% properties.	188 homes	Year 1-2
Phase 2	3% sample of 1-3% properties.	162 homes	Year 2-3
Phase 3	Subject to findings in Phases 1 & 2, further sampling requirements identified and implemented.	TBC	TBC

3.2 Testing is fully managed by Housing Leeds utilising UKHSA sourced equipment and methodologies. Two small radon monitors are installed in each property, one for the main living room and another for the main bedroom.

3.3 They stay in place for three months and are then returned for analysis. Radon levels are influenced by a number of variables including weather conditions and therefore levels vary from day to day. As such, the monitors remain in place for three months with average levels assessed in order to mitigate short term fluctuations.

3.4 From first point of contact with a customer to receipt of the results of testing, this period typically takes around 5 months.

3.5 If high levels of radon gas are found (>200 Bq/m³), action will be taken to reduce the levels. This may include measures such as additional ventilation.

4.0 Findings to Date

- 4.1 Following presentation of the testing methodology to EHC Scrutiny Board in July 2023, the initial actions required prior to physically testing properties included:
- Working with colleagues across Housing and Communications teams to develop letters, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and web page content associated with the testing programme. A link to the web page can be found [here](#).
 - Develop a communications strategy.
 - Develop a 'script' for contacting customers to ensure consistency of messaging and to ensure all key information is provided to the resident.
 - Develop processes for the testing programme.
 - Produce address lists and customer contact details for the Phase 1 testing programme.
- 4.2 The majority of initial customer contact has been via telephone. This allows for a 2-way conversation rather than contacting customers 'cold' via letter.
- 4.3 To date 335 homes have been contacted in order to seek participation in this non-compulsory testing programme. Residents receive a minimum of 3 contact attempts followed by a letter.
- 4.4 As at May 2024 (10 months into testing programme) a total of 109 homes have either been tested or are in the testing phase. Of these, 35 have completed the 3 month testing phase, analysis has been completed and results returned. 23 have had testing completed and results are pending (analysis underway with UKHSA) and 40 are in the testing period. 11 tests have been abandoned due to either residents changing their minds or monitors being lost or broken.

Status	N=
Testing & Analysis Complete	35
Testing Completed – Results Pending	23
Testing Ongoing	40
Testing Abandoned	11
Total	109

- 4.5 The 58 homes with testing completed represents 31% of the Phase 1 testing target (years 1 & 2). Upon receipt of the 40 additional tests currently in testing this increases to 52% of the Phase 1 target.
- 4.6 Of the 35 test results returned to date, results are summarised as follows:

Radon Level	N=
< 100 Bq/m ³	33
100 - 199 Bq/m ³	2
> 200 Bq/m ³	0
Total	35

- 4.7 As above, to date, **no** tests have returned levels above the Action Level of 200 Bq/m³.
- 4.8 Two tests have returned results above the Target Level of 100 Bq/m³ and are being retested for accuracy. It must be emphasised that this remains **below** the 200 Bq/m³ Action Level. Following retesting, further consideration will be given as to whether any intervention is required in these homes.

4.9 Results of the 35 completed tests to date can be found at Appendix 1 of this report.

5.0 Lessons Learnt

5.1 To date, only around 30% of residents contacted have permitted radon testing to take place. c.70% of residents contacted have refused the opportunity for testing to be completed in their home or have not returned contact following 3 contact attempts.

5.2 As a result, our communications, frequently asked questions and resident support approach continues to be refined in order to increase the sample size.

5.3 A range of methods have been utilised to try and enhance engagement, including Housing Leeds officers physically visiting homes and talking residents through the process, to increasing the volume of residents contacted by utilising telephone communication and posting monitors to residents.

5.4 Of the c.30% of residents where monitors are installed, a failure rate of around 10% has been experienced due to factors such as lost / damaged monitors or residents changing their minds about participation.

5.5 Housing Leeds continues to work with UKHSA and other Local Authorities to share best practice in order to continue to drive participation and we remain committed to achieving the volumes previously outlined.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 EHC Scrutiny Board is asked to note the progress made in the Phase 1 testing programme.

6.2 Board is asked to support the continuation of the Phase 1 testing programme.

6.3 On completion of Phase 1 testing it is recommended that a further report is presented to EHC Scrutiny Board with full Phase 1 results, interpretation of these results and further recommendations for Board to consider.

[End of Paper]

Appendix 1 – Test Results to May 2024 (Anonymised)

UKHSA_id	Area	UKHSA Batch	Radon Result	Liv_Area	Bedroom
1590399	Middleton	COLeeds2	25	17	28
1590415	Middleton	COLeeds2	18	18	17
1590416	Middleton	COLeeds2	16	19	12
1590423	Middleton	COLeeds2	16	21	11
1590407	Middleton	COLeeds2	46	51	39
1590408	Middleton	COLeeds2	55	78	33
1590414	Middleton	COLeeds2	53	49	50
1590424	Middleton	COLeeds2	<10	<10	<10
1590430	Horsforth	COLeeds2	21	21	19
1590418	Middleton	COLeeds2	<10	<10	15
1590401	Middleton	COLeeds2	44	55	32
1590402	Middleton	COLeeds2	80	110	47
1590411	Middleton	COLeeds2	14	18	<10
1590419	Middleton	COLeeds2	<10	<10	<10
1590421	Middleton	COLeeds2	<10	<10	<10
1590426	Middleton	COLeeds2	11	15	<10
1591596	Middleton	COLeeds2a	<10	<10	<10
1590428	Morley	COLeeds2	53	59	43
1590400	Middleton	COLeeds2	40	45	33
1590406	Middleton	COLeeds2	<10	13	<10
1590403	Middleton	COLeeds2	150	120	150
1590427	Middleton	COLeeds2	20	20	19
1588320	Morley	COLeeds1	<10	<10	<10
1588322	Morley	COLeeds1	23	12	17
1588307	Morley	COLeeds1	130	82	83
1588310	Morley	COLeeds1	<10	<10	<10
1588311	Morley	COLeeds1	12	<10	11
1588317	Morley	COLeeds1	28	18	19
1588318	Morley	COLeeds1	15	10	10
1588319	Morley	COLeeds1	12	<10	<10
1588324	Morley	COLeeds1	46	26	33
1588326	Morley	COLeeds1	20	<10	16
1588305	Morley	COLeeds1	22	16	14
1588312	Morley	COLeeds1	<10	<10	<10
1588314	Morley	COLeeds1	33	26	18

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Sources of work

Date: 20 June 2024

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

Brief summary

This report provides information and guidance about potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference.

In consultation with the relevant Directors and Executive Board Members, the Scrutiny Board is requested to consider and discuss potential areas of work for the Board for the forthcoming municipal year.

The Council's scrutiny function seeks to add value to the work of the authority by carrying out a range of different categories of work including policy and service review, performance monitoring and pre-decision scrutiny.

The Board may determine that there are matters that it would like to consider through a formal scrutiny inquiry. In addition, and to remain agile to decision making requirements, the Board could decide to make recommendations through the use of scrutiny statements. Statements provide a mechanism to deal with forthcoming issues quickly whilst still enabling scrutiny boards to exert influence on policy development and decision making within the authority.

Recommendations

- a) Members are requested to reflect on the information and guidance provided within this report when considering potential areas for scrutiny for the forthcoming municipal year.

What is this report about?

- 1 Scrutiny Boards are responsible for ensuring that their work programme prioritises issues where the Board can add strategic value, challenge service performance and/or respond to issues of significant public interest.
- 2 Scrutiny can also provide a valuable mechanism to consult members about new policy initiatives and as noted above, pre-decision scrutiny continues to be encouraged as an approach through which scrutiny can add insight and value to promote the achievement of the Council's ambitions.
- 3 To assist the Scrutiny Board in effectively managing its workload for the forthcoming municipal year, this report provides information and guidance on potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Board's terms of reference.

Key sources of information

Best City Ambition

- 4 The Best City Ambition was adopted in February 2022 and was updated in 2024. It sets out the long-term vision for the city with a strong emphasis on the importance of partnership working.
- 5 The Best City Ambition focuses on tackling poverty and inequality, through activity that prioritises the three 'pillars' of health and wellbeing, inclusive growth and zero carbon. It also identifies 'breakthrough priorities,' which will be the focus of cross-cutting, collaborative project teams.
- 6 The Council's approach to performance management is being reviewed following the adoption of the Best City Ambition and the implications of the Office for Local Government (OFLOG) which was established in 2023. Revised performance monitoring will therefore be a matter for consideration by the five Scrutiny Boards over the course of 2024/25 and beyond.
- 7 The Best City Ambition, following the 2024 refresh, is attached as Appendix 1 for information.

Performance Data

- 8 Performance monitoring remains a key element of the Scrutiny Boards' work and is also a valuable source of information to help identify issues that may warrant further scrutiny. The most recent performance data is included as a separate agenda item at today's meeting. This provides the Scrutiny Board with a summary of performance against the strategic priorities that are relevant to the Board's remit – although as noted above this is subject to ongoing review.

Financial Information

- 9 All Scrutiny Boards are consulted annually on the Council's initial budget proposals in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework. This is undertaken in conjunction with a review of the in-year financial health of the authority.

Executive Board

- 10 Elements of the Executive Board's work programme which relate to policy development are typically subject to long term planning. As key issues and policies arise the Scrutiny Board could consider undertaking pre-decision scrutiny work to support and enhance policy development within its remit.

Working with External Partners

- 11 In recent months, the scrutiny function has sought to develop stronger links with the University of Leeds to explore potential collaboration on policy development and making use of the significant expertise the University has in that area. Whilst this is not fully developed there is potential for the Scrutiny Board to make use of this expertise when developing its work programme and more generally to hear evidence from academics in areas that fall under the Board's remit.

Other sources of Scrutiny work

- 12 Other common sources of work include referrals to scrutiny, Call In requests and other corporate requests. The Scrutiny Board is required to be formally consulted during the development of key policies which form part of the council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Methods of working

- 13 Each Scrutiny Board has planned to hold eight formal or 'consultative'¹ meetings throughout this municipal year.
- 14 Whilst the decision to hold any additional meetings is left to the discretion of each Scrutiny Board, historically Scrutiny Boards have also adopted other methods of evidence gathering outside of the public meeting setting, such as site visits and working group meetings.
- 15 Working groups comprise of Members of a particular Scrutiny Board who are appointed to carry out specific tasks on behalf of the formal Scrutiny Board. Suitable tasks for a working group may involve Members meeting on their own (for example for the purposes of developing reports and recommendations in connection with an ongoing inquiry or terms of reference for a future Inquiry). Alternatively, they may entail activities which cannot realistically be undertaken within the confines of a formally convened Scrutiny Board meeting.
- 16 In all cases, the primary purpose of a working group is to obtain and/or develop information and to report back to a formally convened meeting of the Scrutiny Board. A working group cannot discharge the primary purpose of a Scrutiny Board i.e. it cannot undertake inquiries independently from its parent Scrutiny Board, issue reports/recommendations (other than to its parent Scrutiny Board) or in any way present itself to a third party as representing the views of the parent Scrutiny Board.
- 17 As set out within the Vision for Scrutiny, the Board must also remain mindful of the resource implications associated with the use of site visits and working group meetings when determining its work programme.

Draft work schedule for the 2024/25 municipal year

- 18 A draft work schedule for the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) is presented at Appendix 2 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 other identified areas of work recommended by the former Scrutiny Board members to pursue in this new municipal year.

¹ Consultative meetings are held remotely and webcasted live to enable public access. However, they are not a public meeting held in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

What impact will this proposal have?

19 The information and guidance presented within this report focuses on potential sources of work and areas of priority within the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference. This aims to assist Members when considering potential areas of scrutiny work for the forthcoming municipal year.

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

Health and Wellbeing

Inclusive Growth

Zero Carbon

20 The terms of reference of the Scrutiny Boards promote a strategic and outward looking Scrutiny function that focuses on the priorities of the Best City Ambition. The Scrutiny Boards are asked to consider proposed items of business within this context.

21 National guidance from both the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) advocates pre-decision scrutiny as a means through which scrutiny can improve and influence decision making. In particular it can offer an impartial perspective, challenge assumptions and strengthens evidence to support decision making, enhanced engagement with the public and understanding of local views and widening ownership of decisions as more elected members are consulted on their expectations linked to decisions.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

22 To enable Scrutiny to focus on strategic priorities, it is recognised that each Board needs to establish an early dialogue with those Directors and Executive Board Members whose remits are aligned to that of the Scrutiny Board. 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.

23 Relevant Directors and Executive Board Members have therefore been invited to today's meeting to share their views and contribute to the Board's discussion.

24 Members may wish to note that the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing & Communities) is allocated special responsibility for crime and disorder.

What are the resource implications?

25 The Vision for Scrutiny², agreed by full Council, recognises that like all other Council services, resources to support the Scrutiny function are under considerable pressure and that requests from Scrutiny Boards cannot always be met. Consequently, when establishing their work programmes Scrutiny Boards should:

a) Seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources;

b) Avoid duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue;

c) Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.

² This forms part of Article 6 within the Council Constitution

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

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

What are the legal implications?

27 This report has no specific legal implications.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Best City Ambition (2024 update)
- Appendix 2: Draft Scrutiny Board Work Schedule for 2024/25

Background papers

- None

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Leeds

Best City Ambition

Tackling Poverty and Inequality

Health and Wellbeing • Inclusive Growth • Zero Carbon

2024 UPDATE - FINAL VERSION
TEXT VERSION – DESIGN WORK TO FOLLOW

Foreword

Our ambition is for Leeds to be the Best City in the UK – where we work together in partnership to achieve our goals, proud of our strengths and track record of success, but focused fiercely on tackling poverty and reducing inequalities wherever we can.

Times are hard. Over a decade of austerity, paired with rampant inflation and a cost-of-living crisis have inevitably had an impact on the public services which people rely on, and created new challenges for businesses, organisations and families in every part of our great city. Leeds has proven itself time and again to be a resilient place and while the coming months and years will be challenging, I have no doubt we will remain an ambitious, vibrant and compassionate place to live, work, study or visit.

In spite of the challenges that we face across Leeds, we continue to deliver beyond expectations and contribute over and above to the wider UK economy, being one of only two cities outside of London that are net contributors to the Treasury. We continue to make our mark regionally, nationally, and globally, celebrating the broad range of talent and assets that we have across all areas of the city.

The Best City Ambition sets out a positive vision for the future of Leeds – one which recognises the amazing strengths and opportunities we still have. Our economy is growing and continues to attract investment making Leeds a better place to do business and a great place to live. The partnerships which drive our efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of our population are as good as you will find anywhere in the country. And Leeds is once again leading the way in demonstrating how we can meaningfully tackle climate change, recently being one of only 119 global cities to receive the highest 'A grade' by the Carbon Disclosure Project.

To be the best city Leeds must be a place where everyone can reach their potential, and I'm proud of our continued focus on supporting the most vulnerable in our society. As budgets get tighter – for the council and its partners – maximising the impact of investment into prevention and early intervention will take on even more importance.

We won't be able to do everything we would like to, that is clear, but by embracing the Team Leeds spirit that has been seen so often we have the best possible chance to continue to improve people's lives locally and promote everything Leeds has to offer nationally and internationally. When resources are stretched thin, it is more important than ever that we come together and support each other to pursue the shared goals we set out here.

We can all play a part in making Leeds the best city, one that is inclusive, compassionate, welcoming and ambitious in the face of challenge. To everyone who is part of Team Leeds and will be in the future – thank you.

Councillor James Lewis

Introduction

The Best City Ambition is our overall vision for the future of Leeds.

At its heart is **our mission to tackle poverty and inequality** and improve quality of life for everyone who calls Leeds home.

Our 3 Pillars are at the centre of the Best City Ambition. They capture the things that will make the biggest difference to improving people's lives in Leeds up to 2030 and beyond – and many of the big challenges we face and the best opportunities we have relate to all three.

The Best City Ambition aims to help partner organisations and local communities in every part of Leeds to understand and support the valuable contribution everyone can offer – no matter how big or small – to making Leeds the Best City in the UK.

Since we set out our Ambition...

There has been lots of feedback about the priorities which it sets out and the contributions people and organisations across Leeds are making, but we also know making progress is challenging and the cost-of-living crisis has made life a lot tougher for more people. Our drive to tackle poverty and inequality has therefore never been more important.

Over the last two years partners across the city have continued to demonstrate an extraordinary level of commitment to supporting our communities as we emerged from the pandemic and into the cost of living crisis. Together and alongside all of this work, we have refreshed our strategies to improve people's health and wellbeing and promote inclusive growth, while continuing to demonstrate national and global leadership in tackling climate change. Alongside this we have shown our commitment to reducing health inequalities through becoming a Marmot City.

As a city we have developed new tools like the Social Progress Index which can help us make better use of data and research to know if we are making a difference, as well as continuing to invest time and resources in engaging with communities directly to learn from their lived experiences.

Most importantly we have continued to strengthen our partnerships to pursue opportunities and support each other in tougher times. This update of the Best City Ambition has been informed by conversations based on honesty and openness; and continues to set out a vision that we will work together towards in the years ahead.

“The evolution... to the Best City Ambition has been a powerful way of galvanizing partners across the city at a time of less resource.”

Leeds City Council LGA Corporate Peer Challenge, November 2022

Our Team Leeds Approach

Team Leeds is about supporting one another to **make Leeds the best it can be**.

It is about sharing ideas and learning, working in genuine partnership, being ambitious about our collective social, economic and environmental impact, and using our buildings, assets and other resources more collectively and creatively to deliver on shared goals.

We want to build **Team Leeds** – made up of the people who live or work here, and those who champion all of the distinct and diverse parts of the whole city nationally and internationally. Everyone in Leeds coming together to play their part is how we will achieve our ambitions, and be in a strong position to adapt to whatever the future may hold.

When coming together in this way we have proved it is possible to overcome some of the trickiest issues we face – and that **breakthrough spirit** is at the core of what makes Team Leeds so valuable. This is even more important when the economic environment is so challenging, with rising costs affecting us all and demand for many services increasing.

We will promote and adopt the following ways of working to drive a Team Leeds approach:

1. **GOOD NEIGHBOURS** Building mutual respect and understanding between one another by working together, leading with kindness, and valuing everyone's input and experiences.
2. **COMMUNITY POWER** Empowering people to generate the positive changes they want to see, enabling communities to thrive and tackle systemic inequalities.
3. **INNOVATION IMPACT** Being evidence-led, ambitious and optimistic for the future of Leeds, sparking innovation, creativity and an entrepreneurial spirit so we can succeed in a digital world.
4. **HEALTHY SOCIETY** Recognising the impact of society, environment and our economy on the health of people in Leeds, pursuing equity for people at every stage of their life.
5. **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY** Promoting the opportunity and responsibility for every business and organisation to create social value and engage with their local community.
6. **STRENGTH BASED** Developing community capacity and strengthening prevention, focusing on what people can do not what they can't.

We are all Team Leeds

Leeds is made up of 812,000 people - from a diverse range of backgrounds, speaking over 175 different languages. Leeds has a unique geography with a vibrant urban centre surrounded by towns, villages and more rural areas, each with their own distinct history and character. We are proud to be a welcoming city, where our rich culture and diversity is celebrated and accessible for all. Every person in Leeds counts and should have the opportunity to contribute their strengths to Team Leeds.

Leeds doesn't have a 'top table' – we don't believe in that. The breadth and diversity of our city partnerships is a big strength – one that enables more people from a wider range of backgrounds to contribute. We are stronger and more successful as a city when we learn from the life experiences and voices of everyone.

Our Best City Ambition is by and for us all – and everyone will be involved to make it happen.

Leeds's networks of Anchors provide an important platform to come together as Team Leeds to agree and focus on collective goals, progressing our mission to tackle poverty and inequality and make Leeds the best it can be. The Anchors can provide a focal point for discussion and action while remaining more inclusive than traditional city partnership structures.

DIAGRAM explaining the anchors groups.

Leeds Inclusive Anchors

Leeds Inclusive Anchors Network is a group of 13 of the city's largest (mainly) public sector employers. They come together and focus on areas where they can make a difference for people as an employer, through procurement, through service delivery or as a civic partner.

[Leeds Inclusive Anchors Network](#)

Leeds Business Anchors

The Leeds Business Anchors Network encourages businesses to work together, alongside other partners in the city, to maximise their positive contribution to benefit the people of Leeds.

[Leeds Business Anchors](#)

In the Third Sector, Community Anchors form part of a much wider and hugely vibrant ecosystem of local organisations and groups working closely with communities. These organisations are making a huge contribution to the priorities in the Best City Ambition, but can also act as a critical friend of statutory organisations as we strive together to achieve the best for Leeds communities.

Third Sector Partnership

Cross-cutting city partnership group

Third Sector Leeds

Leeds's not-for-profit policy & advocacy body

Local community-based forums and city-wide thematic networks

Supporting over 3,200 local organisations and groups which make up the Leeds Third Sector

Leeds Community Anchor Network

Leeds Community Anchor Network is a movement of independent local organisations promoting citizen-led activity and partnerships. In addition to their own activities, Community Anchors show generous leadership to help and support other groups and communities, as well as acting as advocates at a city level.

[Leeds Community Anchor Network](#)

AMBITION ENABLER

Child Friendly Leeds – 12 Wishes

We want to be the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in. Over 750 businesses, organisations and individuals have joined our campaign to make Leeds a Child Friendly City and have signed up to be a Child Friendly Leeds ambassador.

The voices and views of children and young people are at the heart of making Leeds a Child Friendly city and are crucial to achieving our Best City Ambition. Child Friendly Leeds has captured the views of over 80,000 children and young people in the city to identify top issues and priorities. Through a Team Leeds approach, the Child Friendly 12 Wishes have been created in partnership with children and young people from Leeds, as well as key stakeholders. Each year the council will publish an update on their progress, which will also be overseen by the Children and Young People Partnership, alongside the Children and Young People's Plan.

The 12 Wishes are focussed on making Leeds a better city for children and young people to play, live and grow up in, where their voices are heard.

AMBITION ENABLER

Age Friendly Leeds

Leeds has a longstanding ambition to be the best city to grow old in and a place where people age well. The Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan sets out this vision, focussing on the key factors that support healthy ageing, aligned to the World Health Organisation's Age Friendly domains:

- Housing
- Public and Civic Spaces
- Travel and road safety
- Active, included and respected.
- Healthy and independent ageing
- Employment and learning

The strategy and plan represent the insights and experiences of older people in Leeds, forming a key driver of our Best City Ambition. This work is co-produced and co-delivered in a Team Leeds way by the Age Friendly Leeds Board in collaboration with statutory organisations, voluntary and community sector and private partners.

There are many other key partnerships across the city that contribute to delivering our ambitions. These are often rooted in places across Leeds or working with groups of people who share similar circumstances.

Whether it is Community Committees involving more people in local democracy, Local Care Partnerships supporting community health and wellbeing, schools and clusters ensuring every child has the best start in life, or partners like the Chamber of Commerce advocating for businesses and industry in the city – everyone is making a huge contribution which is recognised and appreciated.

Many of those working most closely with people affected by poverty and inequality are in our **vibrant Third Sector** – made up of over 3,200 organisations and groups which reach into every community across the city. Leeds needs a diverse and resilient Third Sector to be the Best City, and there are things we can all do to better understand, support and work in partnership with the sector so it can continue to make its vital contribution. The relationship between the sector and the Best City Ambition is highlighted in the [Leeds Third Sector Strategy](#).

Together, working towards the Best City Ambition, we will continue to act and speak up for Leeds and the people who live, work or study here.

AMBITION ENABLER

Locality Working and Community Investment

Working at a community and neighbourhood level is how partners across Leeds are able to listen to and work with local people to deliver the most meaningful change, especially in areas where people are facing the most disadvantage. Locality working in Leeds is organised through a range of governance arrangements – including community committees, local care partnerships, priority neighbourhoods and clusters. As part of our collective efforts to achieve the Best City Ambition these different forums will strive to work effectively together, multiplying the positive difference they can make alongside a wider group of partners, especially those in the Third Sector.

Through locality working and priority setting – including by using local area plans where they exist – we will pursue opportunities to achieve additional investment at a community level. Great progress is already being made with the £24m Morley Town Deal ongoing, £15.9m secured for community investments in Holbeck, and West Yorkshire being home to the country's third Investment Zone.

The 3 Pillars of our Best City Ambition

The 3 Pillars bring together the key priorities set out in the main strategies we are working together towards. They provide a clear and coherent vision for the future of Leeds – a city where we work collectively to tackle poverty and inequality in everything we do.

The pillars are not independent of each other – in fact many of the biggest opportunities and challenges we see in Leeds sit at the centre of the three. They include a range of cross-cutting priorities which recognise that everyone has something to offer.

We take a long-term view here, an ambitious vision for the future. More detailed projects, programmes and delivery plans are outlined in supporting strategies, which have been developed in partnership and aligned to the Ambition.

Health and Wellbeing

Leeds will be a healthy and caring city for everyone: where those who are most likely to experience poverty improve their mental and physical health the fastest, with health and care inequalities reducing, and people being supported to thrive from early years to later life.

To realise this ambition, Team Leeds will focus on:

- Ensuring children have the best start in life and enjoy a healthy, happy childhood, where their right to play and have fun is protected and they are free to express their views and feel heard.
- Promoting a mentally healthy city for all, where people are treated with compassion and are well-supported by their families, workplaces and communities.
- Creating a well-connected and welcoming city where every community has access to local green spaces, and people of all ages can enjoy activity that supports their mental and physical health.
- Working with housing providers, landlords, tenants and communities to provide more affordable and better quality housing, so everyone can have a home which supports good health, wellbeing and educational outcomes.
- Providing high quality care as part of an integrated system, with equitable access to essential services which support people to age well and are focused on prevention and early intervention.

Inclusive Growth

Leeds will be a place where we create growth in our economy that works for everyone, where people and businesses can thrive, and we work together to tackle poverty and inequality.

To realise this ambition, Team Leeds will focus on:

- Ensuring people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy access to education, skills development, and employment opportunities to meet their needs and the needs of a growing

economy, where businesses and educators are encouraged to invest in upskilling people and supporting them to reach their full potential.

- Supporting our businesses, organisations and social enterprises to be productive, innovative, creative, ambitious and connected to their local community, with access to the talent they need to boost productivity in a rapidly changing labour market.
- Maximising the potential of our city centre and local high streets to sustainably grow our economy, create jobs and deliver for people by investing in quality infrastructure, a transport system that will benefit our future and a vibrant public realm.
- Stimulating innovation which drives a healthier, greener and more inclusive future, growing cross-city research capacity and making Leeds a test bed for new ideas and technologies.
- Championing Leeds on the global stage by showcasing the talent and opportunity we have in the city, welcoming inward investors that want to create good jobs locally and attract top international talent.

Zero Carbon

Leeds aims to become the first net zero city in the UK, rapidly reducing carbon emissions and reversing the decline in biodiversity, while supporting people to make more sustainable choices which can improve their standard of living.

To realise this ambition, Team Leeds will focus on:

- Improving transport to give people in Leeds a good alternative to car use, creating a safer and more walkable city to reduce unnecessary travel and support people to be physically active, while enabling drivers to switch to zero emission vehicles.
- Promoting a vibrant and resilient food economy for Leeds so everyone can access and enjoy a healthy diet, where more produce is grown locally, and less food is wasted.
- Making the homes we live in and the buildings we use healthier, more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run, helping to tackle fuel poverty and supporting the switch to renewable sources of energy across Leeds.
- Working together with local communities, landowners and partners to protect nature and reverse the loss of biodiversity, adopting innovative and sustainable practices which enable everyone to enjoy the benefits of abundant and thriving wildlife.
- Investing in our public spaces and infrastructure to prepare Leeds for future climate impacts, helping us adapt to climate change in a way which also improves quality of life for everyone.

Achieving our Ambition

Tackling poverty and inequality is at the heart of our Best City Ambition. We know that across Leeds, many issues disproportionately impact some groups of people and communities, and this can make stubborn long-term challenges even more difficult to overcome.

Working with our partners we have developed a set of tools to help us regularly check in on the overall socio-economic health of our city. These overarching measures bring together longitudinal metrics which we can monitor on an ongoing basis to ensure we continue to make progress and adjust our strategies accordingly.

The data and learning from monitoring progress towards achieving the Best City Ambition will be made available publicly on the [Leeds Observatory](#) where everyone can use these tools for themselves. It will be reported annually as a point-in-time snapshot through a new Best City Ambition Scorecard and unpacked in more detail every three years through the Leeds Joint Strategic Assessment.

PROGRESS MONITORING FRAMEWORK:

Best City Ambition Scorecard

We will develop a balanced scorecard of specific indicators (maximum of 20) which will enable us to effectively report headline progress on the Best City Ambition in a clear and understandable way.

The scorecard will draw from the two component parts of the progress monitoring framework – the Leeds Social Progress Index and the range of community engagement activity undertaken in the city – such as the Big Leeds Chat, Leeds Citizens Panel and community conversations led by anchor organisations. It will be incorporated into the council's Annual Performance Report.

Indicators will be linked to the priorities set out under the 3 Pillars – including for example issues like healthy life expectancy, educational attainment and housing sustainability.

Social Progress Index

Leeds is pioneering the use of the Social Progress Index, a tool which can help us monitor our progress towards the Best City Ambition. The SPI looks at the quality of life in different communities, showing whether it is improving each year in allowing for people's basic human needs, supporting their wellbeing, and providing opportunity.

The SPI will help us to understand how well Leeds is doing and where our strengths and weaknesses lie. It enables policymakers, businesses, organisations and citizens to understand wellbeing at a local level, helping us to make better decisions and maximise the use of our resources towards the priorities set out in the Best City Ambition. The SPI will also contribute to the new cross-cutting Marmot City Indicators currently being developed.

Community Voice

Using the data and analysis available to us through the Social Progress Index will be invaluable in measuring our progress – but alone this is not enough. Being the 'Best City' means different things to all of us, so having the commitment and space to reflect on people's individual experiences is crucial in monitoring our progress in the future. We need to understand people's perspectives, to hear real voices and reflections which can illuminate what life in Leeds is like more powerfully than is possible through using only data.

Partners across Leeds are already connecting with communities to do this work, and it will be strengthened further by reforming community committees to make them easier for the public to engage with, and by investing in innovative approaches like the Leeds Community Anchors Network listening exercise model.

AMBITION ENABLER

Fairer, healthier – Leeds becoming a Marmot City

Being a Marmot City means Leeds has made a commitment to building a fairer city and reducing inequalities in health and wellbeing. It is about ensuring everyone has access to the right 'building blocks' to good health, including high-quality and secure housing, better education, reliable and well-paid jobs, and a clean environment. A fairer, healthier city is essential if we are to meet our ambition to be the best city and is connected to all 3 pillars of the Best City Ambition.

We will work in partnership with the Institute of Health Equity, which is led by the world-renowned expert in this field Professor Sir Michael Marmot. Together, we will develop approaches which focus on supporting people at every stage of life and help meet the needs of different communities.

Strategies and Plans

The Best City Ambition sets out our overall vision for the future of Leeds – it is something which people can come together and collaborate around, with a shared sense of direction.

The Ambition is not a delivery plan, but it is underpinned by a range of important strategies and plans for the city, and is increasingly embedded into the business plans of key organisations in Leeds too.

DIAGRAM *setting our key strategies and their associated governance/delivery partnership.*

Health and Wellbeing Strategy	Health and Wellbeing Board
Inclusive Growth Strategy	Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership
Third Sector Strategy	Third Sector Partnership
Children and Young People's Plan	Leeds Children and Young People Partnership
Age Friendly Strategy	Age Friendly Leeds Board

Further key city strategies and plans can be found here: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/plans-and-strategies>

AMBITION ENABLER

City Research

Socio-economic, cultural and environmental factors drive the success of our city and the health and wellbeing of our people. Building on the Team Leeds approach taken to the Leeds JSA, we will develop a shared research strategy for the council and city, embedding this within the Best City Ambition and providing a platform for partnership-based conversations about research and evaluation which can improve the positive impact we make.

Leeds has the knowledge across our partnerships to help shape and inform realistic priorities which can be delivered, the expertise to attract significant additional funding into the city, and the relationships to develop a strong strategy rooted in engagement with communities. Embracing research and enabling more people to participate and contribute to it has huge potential to help us maximise resources and ultimately achieve more of the goals set out in the Best City Ambition.

Team Leeds in Action

In this section, we are keen to showcase unique spotlights that demonstrate Leeds leading by example, partnership working across sectors, and not all council-led initiatives.

These will be presented in a visually interesting way, with graphic design support required.

The section will include two parts:

1. An infographic sharing facts and figures about poverty and inequality in Leeds.
2. Examples of partnership working in response.

Being part of Team Leeds is something which can happen at all levels, whether it be local people checking in on their neighbours or key anchor institutions investing in the local economy so everyone can benefit.

The scale of inequality and poverty across the city is challenging, and we must work together to improve lives for people here. There are breakthrough examples of Team Leeds in action right across the city that are making a difference to communities, contributing to Leeds being the best city in the UK. These partnership approaches demonstrate Leeds leading by example, showcasing collaborative and unique initiatives. We can learn from these as we aim to tackle poverty and inequality and find solutions to the challenges that the city faces.

DESIGN WORK TO FOLLOW: Team Leeds Spotlights

- **Healthy Holidays:** Leading community activities, events and providing healthy meals for young people.
In 2023, 26% of Leeds children are eligible for free school meals compared to 22.3% nationally.
In 2021 27,000 children received provisions through the healthy holiday scheme.
- **Child Friendly Leeds:** Empowering young people in Leeds to shape their own future.
1 in 3 children in Leeds live in the UK's most deprived communities.
Over 80,000 children helped to develop the child friendly wishes.
- **Leeds Food Aid Network:** Connecting people and communities to food providers and resources to overcome food insecurity.
Reliance on food aid increased by 42% between 2021-23, to a total of 59,117 food bank accesses.
In 2021, over 64,000 food parcels were distributed via food aid provides (Source: [Food security and economy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/food-security-and-economy))
- **Synergi-Leeds:** Trailblazing creative approaches to tackling ethnic inequalities in mental health provision.
People from an ethnic minority background are up to 2.5 times more likely to be sectioned under the mental health act.
Over 800 people directly benefitted, with a further 5,000 being engaged with projects.
- Leeds emits 4m tonnes of carbon each year.
- 200,000 trees are planted annually contributing to the White Rose Forest.

- **Leeds Pipes:** Delivering a low-carbon approach to affordable heat and hot water to homes and businesses.
15.8% of Leeds households in fuel poverty in 2021.
3,975 tonnes of carbon saved in 2022.
- **Leeds Green Activity Provider Network (LGAP):** Empowering communities to address climate action and improve health and wellbeing through nature-based activities.
- 1 in 4 adults in Leeds live in the UK's most deprived areas.
- **Asset Based Community Development:** Shifting power to local communities and enabling people to make meaningful change.
Social value return on investment up to £14 for each £1 invested.
- **Walk Safe:** Driving a citywide and connected approach to community safety.
84% of women experienced harassment or assault in Leeds
There are over 600 'Ask for Angela' venues driving community safety.
- **Leeds Digital Festival:** Celebrating digital culture and collaboration underpinned by innovators in business, academia, and technology.
A growing festival with over 240 events in 2023.
- **Tackling Homelessness:** Minimising homelessness and rough sleeping through strategic partnerships and investment in prevention and support.
84% of people seeking support received a positive outcome compared to 56% nationally.
- Up to 12 year (men) and 14 year (women) life expectancy gap across the city.
- **Digital Inclusion Networks:** Joins people and services in Leeds to build digital inclusion.
44 organisations across the city are empowering older people to get online through the digital inclusion network.
- **Leeds Carers Partnership:** Building representation for carers in Leeds to strengthen support and promote health and wellbeing.
Of the 74,000 unpaid carers in Leeds, 73% experience negative mental health impacts.

Indicative design for “Team Leeds in Action” section – final design work to follow but included here for illustrative purposes.

#TEAMLEEDS

Being part of Team Leeds is about pulling together to address some of the biggest citywide challenges, whether it be local people checking in on their neighbours or key anchor institutions investing in the local economy. We are actively tackling poverty and inequality, creating a stronger, more resilient city through our Team Leeds approach.

This page showcases some of the best examples of Teams Leeds leading solutions to big city challenges.

Starting Well



Leading community activities, events and providing healthy meals for young people.



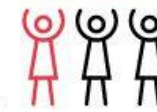
In 2021 **27,000** children received provisions through the healthy holiday scheme.

In 2023, **26%** of Leeds children are eligible for free school meals compared to **22.3%** nationally.



Empowering young people in Leeds to shape their own future.

1 in 3 children in Leeds live in the UK's most deprived communities.



Over **80,000** children helped to develop the child friendly wishes.



Living Well Health & Wellbeing



Leeds Food Aid Network
Connecting people and communities to food providers and resources to overcome food insecurity.

Reliance on food aid increased by **42%** between 2021-23, to a total of **59,117** food bank accesses.



Trailblazing creative approaches to tackling ethnic inequalities in mental health provision.



People from an ethnic minority background are up to **2.5** times more likely to be sectioned under the mental health act.

Living Well: Climate Change

Leeds emits **4m** tonnes of carbon each year.



200,000 trees are planted annually contributing to the White Rose Forest.



Delivering a low-carbon approach to affordable heat and hot water to homes and businesses.

15.8% of Leeds households in fuel poverty in 2021.

3,975 tonnes of carbon saved in 2022.

LGAP

Empowering communities to address climate action and improve health and wellbeing through nature-based activities.



Living Well Thriving Communities



1 in 4 adults in Leeds live in the UK's most deprived areas.

Asset Based Community Development: Shifting power to local communities and enabling people to make meaningful change.



Social value return on investment up to **£14** for each **£1** invested.

WALKSAFE

Driving a citywide and connected approach to community safety. **84%** of women experienced harassment or assault in Leeds. There are over **600** 'Ask for Angela' venues driving community safety.



Celebrating digital culture and collaboration underpinned by innovators in business, academia, and technology.

A growing festival with over **240** events in 2023.

Minimising homelessness and rough sleeping through strategic partnerships and investment in prevention and support.



84% of people seeking support received a positive outcome compared to **56%** nationally.

Ageing Well

Up to **12 year** (men) and **14 year** (women) life expectancy gap across the city.



100% Digital Leeds

Joins people and services in Leeds to build digital inclusion.



44 organisations across the city are empowering older people to get online through the digital inclusion network.



Building representation for carers in Leeds to strengthen support and promote health and wellbeing.

Of the **74,000** unpaid carers in Leeds, **73%** experience negative mental health impacts.



Provided over **13,000** contacts to support carers across group sessions, in-person appointments and telephone calls.





Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2024/25 Municipal Year

Scrutiny June	July	August
<u>Thursday 20 June 2024 at 10.30am</u>	<u>Thursday 18 July 2024 at 10.30am</u>	No Scrutiny Board meeting
Annual administrative reports: Co-opted Members (DB) Scrutiny Board Terms of Reference (DB) Sources of Work (DB) Performance Update (PM) Radon Gas – Phase 1 Testing Update	WY Police and Crime Plan (PDS) Community Safety Strategy Refresh (PSR) Community Safety Annual Update (PDS)	
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

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Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring



Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2024/25 Municipal Year

September	October	November
<u>Thursday 19 September 2024 at 10.30am</u>	<u>Wednesday 23 October 2024 at 10.30am</u>	No meetings
Climate Emergency – Annual Update Future Waste Strategy for Leeds (incl. Glass recycling) Statement of Licensing Policy for the Gambling Act 2005 [tbc]	Community Committee Review: Update on Task and Finish groups Locality Working Update Green Spaces Play Strategy	
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring



Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2024/25 Municipal Year

December	January	February
<u>Friday 6 December 2024 at 10.30am</u>	<u>Thursday 23 January 2025 at 10.30am</u>	<u>Thursday 20 February 2025 at 10.30am</u>
Tackling Hate Crime Leeds Poverty Truth – Resourcing the City Household Waste and Recycling Centres	Performance report (PM) 2024/25 Initial Budget Proposals (PDS) Housing Performance – Repairs and Maintenance	Third Sector Role & Resilience in Leeds Welfare Review
Working Group Meetings		
2025/26 Initial Budget Proposals (PDS) – XX December 2024 (remote)		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring



Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) Work Schedule for 2024/25 Municipal Year

March	April	Notes
No meetings	<u>Wednesday 2 April 2025</u>	To be scheduled
	Annual Update - Parks and Greenspaces Strategy Community Committee Review: Update on task and finish groups End of year statement	Clean Neighbourhood Teams Housing Allocation Policy (post consultation) Selective Licensing Adaptions & access to adapted homes Consumer Standards (2025/26)
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

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Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring