



## SCRUTINY BOARD (INFRASTRUCTURE, INVESTMENT & INCLUSIVE GROWTH)

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Meeting to be held remotely on  
Wednesday 18 November 2020 at 10.00 am

There will be a pre-meeting for all Board members at 9.45am.

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### MEMBERSHIP

N Buckley	- Alwoodley
L Cunningham	- Armley
N Dawson	- Morley South
K Dye	- Killingbeck & Seacroft
J Goddard	- Roundhay
R Grahame	- Burmantofts and Richmond Hill
K Maqsood	- Gipton and Harehills
M Shahzad	- Moortown
J Taylor	- Horsforth
P Truswell (Chair)	- Middleton Park
P Wadsworth	- Guiseley and Rawdon
Vacancy	

**Note to observers of the meeting:** To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Meeting Recording' 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.

<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1112&MId=10019>

# A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p><b>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)</p>	
2			<p><b>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b> 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>	
3			<p><b>LATE ITEMS</b></p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	

4

**DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE  
PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-16 of the Members' Code of Conduct.

5

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND  
NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES**

To receive any apologies for absence and notification of substitutes.

6

**MINUTES - 14 OCTOBER 2020**

5 - 10

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2020.

7

**FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT**

11 -  
28

To receive an update on the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy from the local Flood Risk Manager.

8

**HOUSING MIX INQUIRY - RECOMMENDATION  
TRACKING**

29 -  
48

To receive an update from the Director of City Development about the progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Board's inquiry into Housing Mix.

9

**WORK SCHEDULE**

49 -  
80

To consider the Scrutiny Board's work schedule for the 2020/21 municipal year.

10

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Board will be 20 January 2021 at 10.30am. There will be a pre meeting for all Board members at 10.15am.

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## SCRUTINY BOARD (INFRASTRUCTURE, INVESTMENT & INCLUSIVE GROWTH)

WEDNESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2020

**PRESENT:** Councillor P Truswell in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, L Cunningham,  
N Dawson, K Dye, K Maqsood,  
M Shahzad, J Taylor and P Wadsworth

### **33 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS**

There were no appeals.

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

There was no exempt information.

### **35 Late Items**

There were no late items.

### **36 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations.

### **37 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes**

### **38 Minutes - 23 September 2020**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

### **39 Matters arising from the minutes**

Responses to the following were sought:

#### Minute 28 – Matters arising from the Minutes

Member concern regarding school children and students trying to get to classes on time was noted and would be raised with WYCA.

#### Minute 30 – Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme

It is understood that improvements to Morley Train Station will be undertaken as part of the Trans-Pennine Upgrade. This to be confirmed and Members be updated.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Wednesday, 18th November, 2020

## 40 Advancing Bus Service Provision

The report of the Director of City Development and West Yorkshire Combined Authority set out the progress in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Inquiry into Advancing Bus Provision.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Cllr L Mulherin, Executive Member
- Cllr Kim Groves, Chair, WYCA Transport Committee
- Gary Bartlett, Chief Officer, Highways and Transportation
- Dave Pearson, Director, Transport and Properties Services - WYCA
- Andrew McGuinness, Regional Manager, North of England, CPT UK Chair ABOWY
- Dwayne Wells, Head of Commercial for Arriva
- Paul Matthews, MD of First WY
- Alex Hornby, CEO TransDev

Dave Pearson delivered a presentation to the Board. The following themes were highlighted:

- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on bus use – fewer journeys and restricted capacity due to social distancing. Impact on finances.
- Possible scenarios with or without emergency funding.
- Longer term implications – changing travel habits; environmental implications and vehicle investment.
- Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme – works ongoing in the City Centre and the Leeds/Bradford corridor.
- Development of a colour coded network map to ease understanding of the system of bus routes across the city.
- Links to the airport.
- Fare deals for younger people and flexible ticketing for part time workers.
- In response to questions, the following issues were discussed:
  - There had been a similar impact on passenger use on both commercial and supported routes. Bus usage has risen more than rail usage during the summer period.
  - There would be a report to Executive Board in November which would provide an update on schemes in the Leeds Public Transport Improvement Programme.

Councillor Groves addressed the Board with regards to the role of WYCA on bus provision. Issues highlighted included the priorities to protect existing networks; work with the Government to pursue options for the delivery of bus services and developing an enhanced partnership between WYCA and bus operators.

Representatives of the bus operators also addressed the Board. Issues highlighted included the following:

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Wednesday, 18th November, 2020

- Recovery following the original announcement for people to avoid the use of public transport.
- Staffing issues.
- Partnership working to meet current challenges.
- Provision of transport for key workers, school pupils and students.
- Future challenges.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- There are capacity issues at peak times due to social distancing.
- Ticketing - MCard payments have been deferred.
- Changing levels of demand and travel habits.
- Most recent guidance for travel was to avoid unnecessary journeys.
- Public concern regarding the use of public transport had lessened since the start of the pandemic.
- Colour coded bus routes would include the relevant signage on the vehicles themselves.
- Less than 3% of bus journeys were full to capacity. Monitoring work was being undertaken to identify where additional services may assist. Real time information and apps were being improved to indicate where journeys were full to capacity.
- Bus companies were working with the coach sector to provide additional services where needed.
- Delivery of the Bus Strategy and enhanced partnership working.
- WYCA would have powers to franchise services when it becomes a Mayoral Authority.
- Decision not to implement the Clean Air Zone - over 90% of buses were now compliant with the target for emissions. Work would continue to improve air quality.
- Simplifying fares for under 19s to make them more affordable and to encourage bus travel. Fares were ultimately set by the bus operators.
- The continuing problem of "phantom buses" appearing on real-time information displays was raised. The issue remained, though real-time information and apps were being improved, including indication of where journeys were full to capacity.

Members' attention was brought to the position status of the Board's recommendations as shown in Appendix 2 of the report. It was agreed that the monitoring status of each recommendation remained as follows:

- Recommendation 1 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 2 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 3 – Position Status 2 – Achieved. Issues with regards to congestion may be revisited at a later date.

- Recommendation 4 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 5 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 6 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 7 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 8 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)
- Recommendation 9 – Position Status 4 – Not fully implemented (Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring)

**RESOLVED** – That the monitoring status for each of the recommendations be agreed as discussed.

#### **41 Budget Consultation**

The report of the Head of Democratic Services provided Members with details of the latest revenue budget update for 2021/22 and budget savings proposals, as considered by Executive Board on 24 September 2020.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Councillor James Lewis, Executive Member
- Councillor Jonathon Pryor, Executive Member
- Martin Farrington, Director, City Development
- Jill Stuart, Principal Finance Manager
- Gary Bartlett, Chief Officer, Highways & Transportation
- Sue Wynne, Chief Officer, Employment and Skills
- Phil Evans, Chief Officer, Operations
- Dave Feeney, Chief Officer, Planning
- Martin Elliott, Head of Strategic Planning

Martin Farrington informed the Board of the budget and savings to be made across the service areas of City Development that fell within the remit of the Board. These included Markets, Planning & Sustainable Development; Highways & Transport, Employment & Skills and Economic Development. Areas of saving included deletion of vacant posts; savings through the Early Leavers Initiative and general expenditure reductions.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following was discussed:

- Concern regarding staffing reduction and the impact on the ability to respond to planning and highways issues:
  - With regard to Planning it was recognised there was a need to maintain continuity whilst making efficiencies. This was being achieved through service reviews and preparing for changes to be brought under

planning reform. There was also the need to continue the improved use of digital technology.

- Demand for services outstripped resources in Highways and certain work areas had to be prioritised. There was to be a review of structures to tackle this, a recognised need to improve communications and there would be discussion with the Executive Member in how to achieve this.
- Car parking charges.
- Reduction of the grant to the Credit Union,

**RESOLVED** – That the report and discussion be noted.

#### **42 Work Schedule**

The report of the Head of Democratic Services asked Members to consider the Board's Work Schedule for the remainder of the current municipal year.

The work schedule was appended to the report along with recent minutes of the Executive Board.

Members were reminded that there was to be a working group meeting to discuss the Government's proposals for Planning on 21 October 2020.

**RESOLVED** – That the report and Works Schedule be noted.

#### **43 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 18 November 2020 at 10.00 a.m. There will be a pre-meeting for all Board Members at 9.45 a.m.

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Report author: Jonathan Moxon  
Tel: 0113 3788529



**Report of Flood Risk Manager**

**Report to Scrutiny Board – City Development**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Subject: Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. Under the Flood & Water Management Act 2010, Leeds City Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority is required to have a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
2. The Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth) is allocated special responsibility for flood risk management as set out in Article 6 of Leeds City Council’s constitution. Members of the Board are therefore asked to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions which may affect the Leeds City Council area.
3. The Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) last refreshed the Strategy in December 2018.
4. This report examines the implementation of the Strategy over the last 12 months and provides a summary of the measures that are set out for the years ahead
5. *The 2020 review (This Report) has been delayed due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Although dates refer to 2019 data, the report has been updated to note schemes which have been completed.*

## Recommendations

1. That the Board review the implementation of the strategy and provide comments to help inform its further development and be considered at the next strategy refresh due to take place in late 2022.

### 1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 Allow scrutiny of the implementation of the Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

### 2 Background information

- 2.1 Following major floods during 2007, Government set up the Pitt Review to look into the way flood risk management agencies dealt with such a major event. This review came up with 93 recommendations, which Government accepted.
- 2.2 A number of these recommendations needed legislation to give local authorities and agencies the necessary powers or duties and hence the introduction of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 (F&WMA). One of these duties was for all Lead Local Flood Authorities (Leeds City Council for this area) to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS).
- 2.3 The Strategy was last refreshed and reviewed by Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) in December 2018 and adopted by Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- 2.4 *This 2020 update has been delayed due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Although dates refer to 2019 data, the report has been updated to note schemes which have been completed.*

### 3 Main issues

#### 3.1 Leeds Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

The Strategy outlines the approach the Council and other agencies will take with regard to flood risk management. The Strategy contains:

- a. The objectives for managing flood risk.
- b. The measures proposed to achieve those objectives.
- c. Timeframe for any measures.
- d. Costs and benefits of the measures and how they are to be funded.

The specific measures are contained in Appendix C of the Strategy, which is to be updated regularly to ensure it is reactive to latest priorities.

Updated Progress against priority measures identified in Appendix C of the Strategy is included in Appendix 1.

Other actions that have been taken and continue to be taken are

- Ongoing maintenance of watercourses and flood alleviation features
- Partnership working with other key agencies, notably the Environment Agency (EA) and Yorkshire Water Services (YWS)
- Close working with community flood groups – increase awareness of flood risk
- Develop and maintain a comprehensive register of flood risk features
- Manage flood risk generally
- Investigate flooding events – where necessary producing a Section 19 Report
- Promote sustainable development – particularly with regard to Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)
- Support planning with determining the impact of development on flood risk and securing contributions from developers to support the delivery of flood risk management measures.

## **3.2 Major Storm Events**

### **3.2.1 Storm Eva 26<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Significant infrastructure damage was sustained across Leeds as a result of Storm Eva leaving railway lines, roads and bridges closed for many days and even months in the case of Linton Bridge. Linton Bridge reopened on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 after an extensive rebuilding of the main structure within the existing historic structure had been completed, costing £5.1m. The construction of Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 1 (LFAS1) was also very badly affected and subsequently required repairs and additional works totaling £3.8m. Now completed the work on LFAS1 has greatly reduced flood risk in the City Centre.

### **3.2.2 Storm Ciara 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Our monitoring points recorded rainfall during the 24 hour period ranging between 37mm and 73 mm. Met Office records for West Yorkshire show this area to have been the worst hit and the rainfall in this 24 hour period exceeded the previously recorded average total monthly rainfall for February since 1981. Storm Ciara caused widespread flooding across the City. The recorded levels on the Aire and Wharfe were at their highest since Boxing Day 2015. The Leeds FAS was fully operated for the first time. Fire crews in Leeds dealt with 700 calls in a 6 hour period and attended over 100 emergencies. Bus and Train services were severely disrupted, highways were seriously affected and police had to close several roads.

### **3.2.3 Storm Dennis 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Storm Dennis had a variety of impacts across the north of England. 20-30 mm of rain fell widely, with over 40 mm on some higher parts of West Yorkshire and 50-80 mm recorded widely in the west of North Yorkshire (81.2 mm at Scar House Reservoir in upper Nidderdale). Reports of flooding from the Ciara event were still coming in after Storm Dennis arrived so the statistics for both of these events have had to be combined. A total of 388 flooding related reports have been received including 24 reports of internal flooding and 157 incidents where internal flooding was imminent.

### **3.3 Flood risk management in 2019**

2019 was a comparatively quiet year in terms of flooding incidents in the city, 522 flooding incidents were reported and investigated during 2019 which is close to the annual average across the last decade (1857 in 2015). Graphs showing incidents in 2020 and previous years are included in Appendix 2.

In the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 teams carried out 2337 trash screen grid clearances at flooding “hot spots” and 184 routine beck inspections. During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 we undertook 1926 grid clearances and 141 inspections. In response to flood incident reports and defects found from inspections we carried out works to repair and clear damaged culverts and drainage assets. Reactive and planned maintenance is essential to managing flood risk and protecting residents and businesses. Surface water flood risk remains a complicated source of flooding to residents and businesses in Leeds, with the responsibility for assets and infrastructure that affect this spread across a number of council departments and other organisations, as well as also being privately owned in many places.

The experiences of storms Ciara and Dennis have demonstrated that the city is still vulnerable to a wide range of flooding impacts. A number of properties, roads and businesses were badly affected. The council is working closely with partner organisations, in particular the EA and YWS, to deliver improvements to natural and engineered networks and to install new and improved flood alleviation measures. However more work is needed to address current and future flood risk and to mitigate the increasing impact of climate change.

### **3.4 Proposed and recently completed Capital Works**

Appendix C – The List of Measures in the Strategy (included as Appendix 1 in this report) has been refreshed and includes new priorities already identified following the flooding events and investigations in 2019/20.

### **3.5 Capital Works Completed in 2019/20**

In 2019/20, 2 major schemes were completed:

- Hawthorn Terrace near Garforth Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) Phase 2 and 3 £240k

Phase 1 was completed in 2016. Phases 2 and 3 are now completed to provide a higher level of protection for residential and business properties and Phase 3 provides a higher level of protection for the highway. This scheme has been funded from Leeds CC capital programme, Flood Defence Grant in Aid and a £158k grant from Highways England in recognition of the reduction in risk of highway flooding on the A63, this being their main planned and reactive diversion route for traffic using the M1 motorway and to reduce the risk of traffic backing up on exit slip roads.

- Wyke Beck Phase 1; Killingbeck Meadows Naturalised Flood Management Scheme £3.0m

This scheme is part of the £4.75m Wyke Beck Phase 1 project in which Arthurs Rein and Halton Moor schemes have already been completed in previous years. Construction of flood water storage at Killingbeck Meadows commenced in January 2019. The scheme provides natural flood water storage comprising a dam bund retaining a large raised reservoir, flood defence walls and attenuation ponds with associated weirs, connection pipework and outfalls. The dam bund is approximately 180m long with a maximum height of approximately 2.6m.

### **3.6 Capital Works under Construction and Proposed**

- Mickletown (Pit Lane) Flood Embankment £1.2m

This scheme is mainly funded by developer contributions to reduce flood risk in the Methley and Mickletown area. It consists of an earth embankment and concrete piped culvert. Planning permission has been granted and the works are expected to be completed in late 2020.

- Otley FAS £3.37m

This scheme will reduce flood risk from the river Wharfe in Otley. Planning permission has been approved and Defra has approved the business case for government funding. Outline design is complete and it is now in the detailed design stage. Works are expected to be completed in 2020/21.

- Leeds FAS Phase 2 £122m

This second phase will be delivered in two stages and uses natural flood management techniques to help slow the flow of the River Aire. Alongside engineering works such as flood walls and a flood storage area, this will reduce flood risk and provide better protection for 1,048 homes and 474 businesses. It will also help to increase employment and make tourist attractions more accessible. Works started in January 2020. The first stage of Phase 2 is fully funded, however the second stage of Phase 2 has a £22.5m shortfall.

### **3.7 Ongoing Studies and Potential Future Schemes**

- Wyke Beck Programme Phase 2

A continuation of a programme of works along the Wyke Beck Corridor which consists of two phases. Phase 1 included Arthurs Rein watercourse de culverting completed in 2018, Halton Moor environmental enhancements completed in 2019 and Killingbeck Meadows flood storage reservoir and environmental enhancement due for completion in 2020/21. Phase 2 of this project will include further ecological enhancements and natural flood management at Halton Moor.

- Potternewton Surface Water FAS

At feasibility stage, modelling is completed and a shortlist of options have been produced for assessment. The strategic outline case is proposed for 2020.

- Guiseley Surface Water FAS

An agreement has been signed with YWS and data received to prepare an integrated flood study. The strategic outline case is proposed for 2020.

- Wortley Beck FAS

Phase 2 of the modelling study is almost completed and a number of strategic options have been identified. The economic benefits are currently the subject of further evaluation. Stakeholder engagement was undertaken in 2019 and preparation of an outline design of the preferred options and an outline business case is now under consideration.

- Farnley Wood Beck FAS

Phase 2 of the modelling study is completed and a final version of the study report should be available by the summer 2020. A strategic option has been identified to de-culvert the watercourse near Old Close. The scheme is to be mostly funded from S106 deposits with a contribution from the LCC capital programme. The design and build phase is proposed for 2020/21 and 2021/22.

- Lyn Dyke Garforth FAS

The modelling is completed and strategic options have been identified. Further work is required to evaluate economic benefits before progressing to preparation and submission of outline business case in 2020. Further consultation is being undertaken with Yorkshire Water Services to consider possible collaboration and consideration is being given to property level protection.

- Lyn Dyke Kippax FAS

The modelling is completed and strategic options have been identified. Further work is required to evaluate economic benefits before progressing to preparation and submission of outline business case in 2020. Further consultation is being undertaken with Yorkshire Water Services to consider possible collaboration and consideration is being given to property level protection.

## **4 Sources of Funding**

### **4.1 Flood Risk Management Minor Works Capital Budget**

In 2015 Leeds CC included £1m in the Council's Capital Programme to deliver flood mitigation works that would not be eligible for other funding and to provide partnership funding as leverage to attract external contributions. This continues to prove an extremely useful way to maximise the council's ability to deliver schemes and has helped to attract over £4 million of external funding that would not otherwise have been available. Subsequent to this a further application has been approved as part of the recent capital funding review and this will provide a further £1 million over the next 4 years to keep the flood risk management programme progressing and provide the partnership funding contributions that are essential to help lever in external funds.

### **4.2 Flood Defence Granting Aid and Local Levy**

Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) is provided by DEFRA and allocated locally by the Environment Agency and is subject to submission of an acceptable business case. Local Levy (LL) is raised from annual contributions from councils within the region and allocated through the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC).

The most significant LL contribution in 2019/20 was £664,000 secured in June 2019 to help protect 53 residential properties and 3 commercial properties from flooding in Otley, this provided a quarter of the funding for the overall project in the town. This runs parallel with the government's commitment of £2 million towards a scheme to protect the properties flooded in December 2015, made up of any eligible FDGiA the project can attract and then additional government funding to bring the total to £2 million.

In 2019/20 LCC submitted requests to the EA to draw down £1,091,856 of the approved FDGiA and LL funding.

### **4.3 West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

The Combined Authority have set out updated plans for addressing the challenges following the end of the current six-year capital flood programme (up to 2020). This focuses on a request for £123 million of government investment which will unlock local contributions and private funding. This investment can accelerate delivery of 27 priority Flood Risk Management schemes with a total capital value of £245 million. The programme includes a dedicated £6 million Natural Flood Management Programme. The programme includes funding for 6 schemes within Leeds with a total funding request of £30 million. This will support delivery of the flood alleviation capital programme including phase 2 of the Leeds FAS. These schemes will protect properties and businesses within Leeds and safeguard existing jobs.

This programme will strengthen the region's response to the Climate Emergency by reducing carbon emissions and improve resilience to the effects of climate change. The work in the programme is being undertaken in a way that is minimising carbon emissions through changing construction practice, incorporating low carbon materials and using Natural Flood Management (NFM) alongside hard engineering. It will support delivery of our City Region strategies relating to energy and green and blue infrastructure. Delivery of this programme will allow the City Region to make further progress toward our objective of becoming a net contributor to the UK economy and achieving our ambition of becoming a net zero carbon economy by 2038.

#### **4.4 Section 106 agreements**

Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act includes enabling powers for legal agreements between the Local Planning Authority and developers to provide improvements to local services and infrastructure. In 2016 a Section 106 agreement was put in place with the developers of a new housing estate in Methley, including a sum of £1.1m for a flood alleviation scheme. These funds are now available and the scheme is expected to be completed in 2019/20. Further S106 deposits are available, e.g. £1.74m is being used to help fund the scheme at Killingbeck Meadows and £300k is available for a scheme in the Wortley Beck catchment.

#### **4.5 Highways England**

In 2019 Highways England provided £158k of funding towards the Hawthorn Terrace FAS project near Garforth, this provided the necessary funds to help alleviate flooding problems on the A64 Selby Road.

#### **4.6 European Regional Development Fund**

In 2020 a £4m bid has been submitted under the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy: Leeds City Region – Integrated Actions for Sustainable Development. This project focusses on the Wortley Beck Catchment, covering a range of activities designed to provide an enhanced and more resilient catchment for people and wildlife. The main impacts are new and enhanced habitat for people and wildlife, in a more flood resilient catchment.

## **5 Corporate Considerations**

### **5.1 Consultation and Engagement**

A wide consultation was carried out for the adoption of the Strategy. Further local consultation will be undertaken on individual schemes. The 2022 review and update of the LFRMS for Leeds will be provided for consideration by Area Committees.

### **5.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

It should be noted that by carrying out flood alleviation works the Council will be ensuring the safety of the local community and particularly those residents that have children and members of the families that have a disability, where these benefits will be greater – as currently these individuals may struggle to get to safety if flooding occurred. Included as Appendix 3

### **5.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

The approach to flood risk management is in keeping with Council Policies and City Priorities - to reduce the risk of flooding to various communities, commercial premises and the environment.

### **5.4 Resources and value for money**

The implementation of the LFRMS will potentially have an impact in the Council's budgets but the Strategy will ensure that any expenditure is prioritised. Furthermore it will allow stronger cases to be built for future grant applications.

### **5.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

The F&WM Act places a requirement on Leeds to prepare and manage the LFRMS. The Act requires Scrutiny of the Council's activities in this area.

### **5.6 Risk Management**

The Strategy allows the Council to prioritise its work on Flood Risk, leading to reduced overall risk of flooding.

### **5.7 Climate Emergency**

The Council declared a Climate Emergency in March 2019, with the stated ambition of working towards a net zero carbon city by 2030. The Council has accepted that very urgent action is required to make our contribution to containing global temperature rises within 1.5C. Beyond this limit, there is a strong scientific consensus that there will be catastrophic consequences for both humanity and the natural world. Since the declaration the Council has adopted a new way of working, changing its own structures and governance processes to incorporate the new climate emergency priority. Delivery of the LFRMS will help to reduce the impacts of flooding and therefore deliver managed adaptation to the future impacts of climate change. In delivering the capital programme for flood alleviation the carbon impact of these schemes will be considered to promote lower carbon solutions.

## **6 Conclusions**

- 6.1 Flood Risk is a key threat to the wellbeing of the residents across Leeds and in order to ensure action is taken it is important that Council continues a proactive approach to mitigating the impact of flooding.
- 6.2 There has been good progress in the delivery of projects identified in the Strategy in 2019/20.
- 6.3 The allocation of £1 million capital funding in 2015 helped to lever in over £4million of external funding and it is expected that the allocation of a further £1 million capital budget for the period 2020/21 to 2023/24 will continue to support the delivery of additional flood alleviation measures.

## **7 Background documents**

Leeds Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

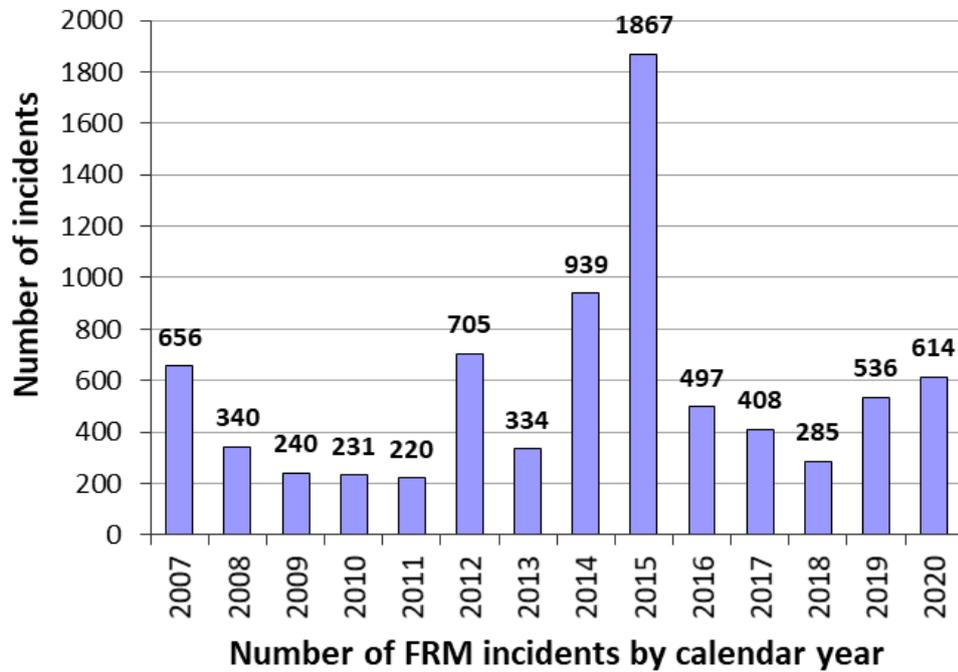
## **8 Appendices**

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Updated version LFRMS Appendix C (i) Measures (2019/20)
- 8.2 Appendix 2 – FRM Incidents up to 2020
- 8.3 Appendix 3 - Equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening form

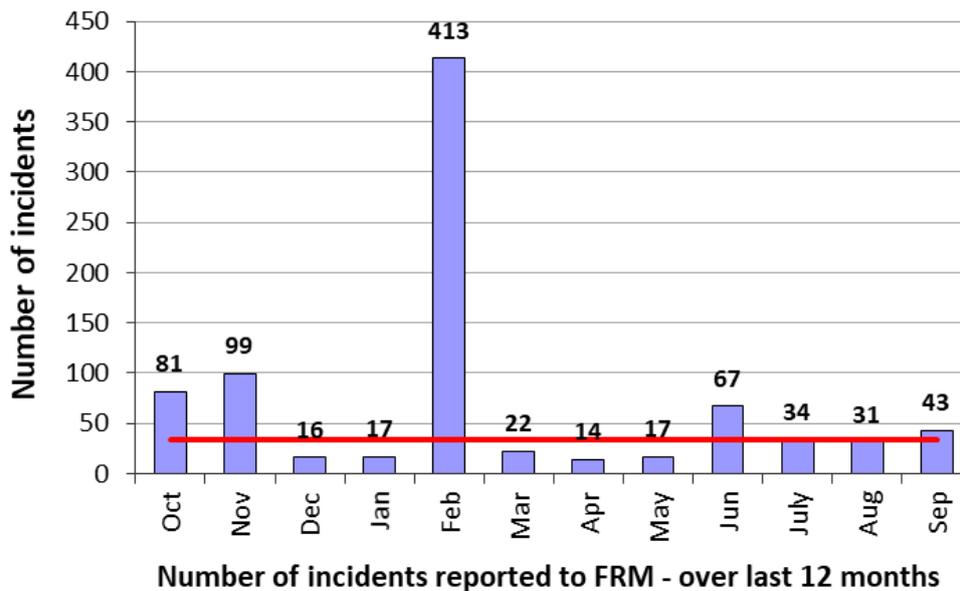
ID	Priority/ Current Phase	Scheduled phase Completion Date	Measure	Whole Scheme Estimated Cost	Location (if applicable)	Relevant Objective from LFRMS	Progress/Comments (reference other sources of information)	Costs
<b>SCHEMES &amp; FEASIBILITY STUDIES</b>								
S37	HIGH - Construction	2022	Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2, River Aire City Centre to Upper Catchment	£112m	River Aire - City Centre to Upper Catchment	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Phase 2 of the Leeds FAS, looking at solutions across the whole catchment upstream of Leeds that will reduce flood risk to the city along the river Aire. Modelling and feasibility work largely complete, Outline Business Case submitted to the EA and Treasury Jan 2018. Moving in to more detailed design in 2018 with construction starting late 2018 early 2019, advanced works have taken place on some 'quick win' items and works at Stourton about to start as is a programme of advanced maintenance and stewardship.	£112m
S31	HIGH - Feasibility	2020	Lin Dyke Catchment Assessment - Upper and Middle catchments	£500k	Garforth & Kippax	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Continuation of work included in Section 19 Report, regarding flooding of the SE Leeds area in August 2014 and 2015, studies are continuing to be progressed as schemes are identified	£500k
S30	HIGH - Design/ Construction	2020	Wyke Beck Catchment Assessment Phase 2	£50k (study)	Communities along Wyke Beck	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Continuation of work carried out by both LCC & EA within the Dunhills, this has now progressed in to a catchment wide approach bringing together the EA and many departments across LCC, resulting in an initial stage bid to the LEP for ESIF funding to complete various schemes including Killingbeck meadows.	£50k (study)
S6	HIGH - Design/ Construction	2020	Mickletown (Pit Lane) Flood Embankment	£900k	Mickletown	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Planning permission approved in 2017, detailed design ready and conditions discharged. Work commenced in August 2020 to install a flood embankment funded from developer Section 106 contribution with completion due in autumn 2020.	£1100k
S29	HIGH - Design/ Construction	2021	Queen Street Culvert	TBC	Allerton Bywater	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Outline design completed. Japanese knotweed treatment taking place this is a 3 year programme due to complete in 2020	
S17	HIGH - Feasibility	2021	Wortley Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme	£3m	Wortley Beck	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Flooding to residential area and outer ring road. Work in partnership with the EA and YWS to develop a detailed flood alleviation scheme that integrates with all sources of flooding. This measure is listed in the Aire Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan. Pending approval of outline application for ERDF funding.	£8m (TBC)
S38	HIGH - Design/ construction	2021	Otley Flood Alleviation Scheme	£2.5m	Otley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Detailed design completed, planning permission granted and conditions discharged. Funding has been confirmed and work is planned to start on site in March 2021. Linked to wider catchment partnership work and Wharfedale Flooded communities study	£4.0m
S39	HIGH - Feasibility	2021	Wharfedale Flooded Communities Study	£90k	Collingham, Linton, Wetherby, Thorp Arch	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Linked to wider catchment partnership work and Otley Flood Alleviation Study, initial modelling work currently being assessed	£90k
S12	MEDIUM - Feasibility	2020	Potternewton Surface Water Flood Alleviation Scheme	£400k	Potternewton	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Surface water flooding. Install attenuation. Local levy funding secured	£400k
S18	MEDIUM - Pre Outline Business Case	2021	Sheepscair Beck Asset Remediation Work	£2.6m	Sheepscair	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Evaluate condition of flood defences and repair works required to manage flood risk from Sheepscair Beck through the city centre	£2.6m
S22	MEDIUM - Pre Outline Business Case	2022	Meanwood Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme	£3.4m	Meanwood Beck	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Flood risk from Meanwood Beck to residential properties and businesses. Local levy funding secured to carry out investigation into options for a flood alleviation scheme here	£3.4m
S20	MEDIUM - Feasibility	2020	Farnley Wood Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme	£500k	Cottingley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Flood risk to residential areas, long term issue - scheme being scoped, developer contribution secured, this scheme is now been progressed as part of the wider Wortley Beck study	£500k
S10	LOW - Pre Outline Business Case	2022	Thorner Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme	£150k	Thorner	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Restricted capacity of existing culverts causing overland flooding. Improve Culvert capacity. Local levy funding secured	£150k
S11	LOW - Pre Outline Business Case	2020	Guiselley Surface Water Flood Alleviation Scheme	£250k	Guiselley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Surface water flooding to properties at Victoria Road from culverted watercourse. Levy funding secured to support ongoing study into flood risk and options to address this	£250k
S21	Ongoing	-	LCC Significant Maintenance		Across the District	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Continuation of regular maintenance of Watercourses and Hot-Spots	

COMPLETED SCHEMES AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES - SINCE 2011								
Reference	Status	Year	Measure Name	Cost	Location	Measure Description	Notes	Cost
S15	Completed	2020	Killingbeck Meadows Flood Alleviation Scheme	£3m	Halton Moor	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Flooding to residential and commercial areas from Wyke Beck. Accelerated scheme due to combining the benefits of releasing development sites (11 housing sites and land within the Enterprise Zone and providing green infrastructure improvements to a Local Nature reserve as well as providing flood risk reduction, the completed scheme will become a registered flood storage area under the Reservoirs Act. This forms part of a joint Wyke Beck Programme delivering housing growth from Brownfield land and Local Nature reserve and green space improvements.	£3m
S32	Completed	2020	Hawthorn Terrace Flood Alleviation Scheme	£100k	West Garforth	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Initial scheme completed, but further defects with existing assets and connected infrastructure identified so further works needed and being designed	£100k
S20	Superseded	2020	Investigate the interaction between the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and the River Aire.	£10k	River Aire and Liverpool Canal	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	This study should identify the potential for managing this interaction to ensure that flood risk is managed effectively. This measure is listed in the Aire Aire Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan for the Leeds Policy Unit - to be progressed by 2030. - this has now been included in the scope of Phase 2 of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme	£10k
S31	Completed	2019	Lin Dyke Catchment Assessment - Upper and Middle catchments	£1.25m	Garforth & Kippax	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Continuation of work included in Section 19 Report, regarding flooding of the SE Leeds area in August 2014 and 2015, design works are continuing to be progressed as schemes are identified	£1.25m
S14	Completed	2017	Carry out flood warning feasibility studies for Wortley Beck and Meanwood Beck and implement findings.	£10k	Wortley Beck and Meanwood Beck	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	This measure is listed in the Aire Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan	£10k
S3	Completed	2017	Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 1, River Aire City Centre	£50.6m	River Aire - City Centre	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£50.6m
S8	Completed	2017	Cotton Mill Beck Culvert, Valley Road	N/A	Morley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme passed to network rail	N/A
S35	Completed	2018	Westfields, Allerton Bywater	£502K	Allerton Bywater	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£502K
S34	Completed	2017	Glebelands Recreation Ground	£100k	Garforth	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£100k
S36	Completed	2017	Barley Hill Recreation Ground (Phase 2)	£100k	West Garforth	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£100k
S2	Completed	2017	Ramsden Street, Kippax, Flood Alleviation Scheme - (Local Levy & FDGiA)	£305k	Kippax	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£305k
S1	Completed	2014	Lowther Road, Garforth - Culvert Improvements	£220k	Garforth	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£220k
S4	Completed	2014	Wellhouse Drive Flood Alleviation Scheme	£50k	Gledhow	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£50k
S22	Completed	2014	Culvert Headwall Repair Scheme - (Local Levy)	£50k	Otley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£50k
S27	Completed	2013	Oakdene, Watercourse Improvements	£20k	Swillington	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£20k
S27	Completed	2012	Barley Hill Recreation Ground - (Local Levy)	£75k	West Garforth	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£75k
S22	Completed	2011	Flood Alleviation Scheme - Leeds Road (Allerton Bywater) pumping station (local levy)	£30k	Allerton Bywater	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Completed	£30k
S23	Completed	2011	Newton Road property protection and resilience scheme	£20k	Newton Road, Potternewton	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Installed	£20k
S24	Completed	2011	Lower Wortley - property protection and resilience scheme	£20k	Lower Wortley	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Installed	£20k
S25	Completed	2011	Church Lane, Bardsey - property protection and resilience scheme	£20k	Bardsey	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Installed	£20k
S26	Completed	2011	Dean Park Drive, Drighlington - property protection and resilience scheme	£20k	Drighlington	6. Improve understanding of local flood risk and seek to decrease local flood risk through implementation of affordable, high quality measures to alleviate flooding where practicable.	Scheme Installed	£20k

## Appendix 2 – FRM Incidents 2007 – 2020



For the year 2020:



— an average year (2017) = 34 incidents per month

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# Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being or has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

<b>Directorate: City Development</b>	<b>Service area: Flood Risk Management</b>
<b>Lead person: Jonathan Moxon</b>	<b>Contact number: 0113 37 85529</b>

## 1. Title: Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Scrutiny Review

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

## 2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

**The Annual City Development Scrutiny Panel review of progress against the councils Local Flood Risk management Strategy.**

### 3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies and policies, service and functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater or lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		X
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li><li>• Advancing equality of opportunity</li><li>• Fostering good relations</li></ul>		X

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

#### 4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?** (think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)

- **Key findings** (think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)

- **Actions** (think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

**5. If you are **not** already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you **will need to carry out an impact assessment.****

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

<b>6. Governance, ownership and approval</b>		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Date screening completed</b>		

<b>7. Publishing</b>	
Though <b>all</b> key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council <b>only</b> publishes those related to <b>Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions or a Significant Operational Decision.</b>	
A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.</li> <li>• The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.</li> <li>• A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a> for record.</li> </ul>	
Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:	
For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent:

**Report of the Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support & Director of City Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Subject: Housing Mix – Update and Tracking of scrutiny recommendations/desired outcomes**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report sets out the progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny inquiry into Housing Mix.
2. Scrutiny Boards are encouraged to clearly identify desired outcomes linked to their recommendations to show the added value Scrutiny brings. As such, it is important for the Scrutiny Board to also consider whether its recommendations are still relevant in terms of achieving the associated desired outcomes.
3. The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Scrutiny Board to consider the position status of its recommendations in terms of their on-going relevance and the progress made in implementing the recommendations based on a standard set of criteria. The Board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

4. Members are asked to:
  - Note the update provided on The Planning White Paper:-
  - Note progress made on recommendations
  - Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring
  - Identify any recommendations where further progress is required and to determine the action the Board wishes to take as a result.

## 1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny inquiry into Housing Mix.

## 2 Background information

- 2.1 In response to a request for scrutiny, at the July 2015 meeting of the former Scrutiny Board (City Development), members agreed to undertake a joint Inquiry with Scrutiny Board (Environment and Housing) into 'Housing Mix'.
- 2.2 It was agreed that the focus of the 2015/16 Inquiry would be the delivery of Policy H4<sup>1</sup>, that is delivery, as expressed in the Core Strategy, of the right property type and tenure within criteria of affordability.
- 2.3 The review concluded in March 2016 and a report setting out the Scrutiny Board's findings and recommendations was published in the same month. In July 2016, the Scrutiny Board received a formal response to the recommendations arising from this review.
- 2.4 At the Scrutiny Board (City Development) meeting 26 April 2017, the Board conducted its first review of progress against the recommendations made in the inquiry report. The Board resolved that recommendation 6 and recommendation 7 were achieved.
- 2.5 At the Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and Investment) meeting 21 March 2018 the Board resolved that recommendation 1 and recommendation 2 were also achieved. However, the Board requested to be kept informed of developments on the Core Strategy (CS) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 2.6 The recommendations achieved are listed below.

***Recommendation 1*** – *That the Director of City Development maintains the commitment to a selective review of the Core Strategy, which should commence following the release of the 2014, based household projections.*

***Recommendation 2*** – *That the Chief Planning Officer writes to the Secretary of State and the department of Communities and Local Government urging the Government to standardise the methodology for assessing viability taking into account the experiences of local planning authorities, and the full range of policy requirements for delivering sustainable development.*

***Recommendation 6*** – *That the Chief Planning Officer writes to the Secretary of State and the Department of Communities and Local Government making the following points;*

- *That as the current Strategic Market Assessment Practice Guidance 2007 was out of date that government revises Strategic Market Housing Assessments Practice Guidance (including approaches on how to calculate and monitor an Objectively Assessed Need) as a matter of urgency.*
- *The Council would expect that revised Practice Guidance takes full account of the desirability of engaging Neighbourhood Planning forums in the preparation of the*

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<sup>1</sup> Policy H4 aims to ensure that the new housing developed in Leeds is of a range of type and size to meet the mix of households expected over the Plan period.

*evidence base underpinning SHMAs and thus the objectively assessed housing need for the City, and requests clarification on how this might best be achieved.*

**Recommendation 7** – *That the Chief Planning Officer implements proposals to include a heading on Housing Mix on each panel report and to report back to the appropriate Scrutiny Board the subsequent outcomes of the initiative.*

### 3 Main issues

#### Planning White Paper – consultation.

- 3.1 The Planning White Paper ('Planning for the Future') was published on 6th August 2020 for consultation until 29th October. It has been heralded as the biggest overhaul of the planning system since it was first introduced in 1947.
- 3.2 The White Paper has wide ranging implications not only for the main planning functions of plan making and dealing with planning applications, but also for related services of transport and community infrastructure provision, design, landscape, conservation, contaminated land, regeneration, housing services, asset management and public health. To that end, consultation on the White Paper's proposals has been undertaken across a number of Council services (including Asset Management and Regeneration) recognising the role that the planning system performs in delivering, the City Council's strategic priorities and wider public sector outcomes (where specific groups are affected). Regard has also been given to emerging responses of the Core Cities and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. [DPP meeting webpage 13/10/20](#)
- 3.3 A Paper was submitted to Development Plans Panel on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 with a draft response responding to the consultation questions and then once again submitted to DPP on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with an updated response following points raised at this meeting and also following comments at the DPP working group meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.
- 3.4 On 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 a Scrutiny Board working party group was held. Key points discussed were:-
  - Housing supply
  - Climate change
  - Duty to Cooperate
  - Engagement
  - Digitalisation
  - Neighbourhood Planning
  - Sustainable Development
  - Consolidated Infrastructure Levy
  - Democratic representation
  - Affordable Housing
- 3.5 Scrutiny Board Working Group concluded that not all the extensive implications of the proposals set out in the Planning White Paper could be fully explored in the time available to the working group.
- 3.6 However, of those prioritised for discussion the consensus was that the draft consultation response was "robust and detailed" and that issues of particular concern for the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Board were highlighted within the narrative.

3.7 A final response was sent to MHCLG in October.

### Recommendation Tracking

- 3.8 Scrutiny Boards are encouraged to clearly identify desired outcomes linked to their recommendations to show the added value Scrutiny brings. As such, it is important for the Scrutiny Board to also consider whether its recommendations are still relevant in terms of achieving the associated desired outcomes.
- 3.9 The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Scrutiny Board to consider the position status of its recommendations in terms of their on-going relevance and the progress made in implementing the recommendations based on a standard set of criteria. The Board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.
- 3.10 This standard set of criteria is presented in the form of a flow chart at **Appendix 1**. The questions in the flow chart should help to decide whether a recommendation has been completed, and if not whether further action is required.
- 3.11 The Board is asked to determine a position status for each recommendation. Details of progress against each recommendation are set out within the table at **Appendix 2**.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1 Where internal or external consultation processes have been undertaken with regard to responding to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations, details of any such consultation will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at **Appendix 2**.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

4.2.1 Where consideration has been given to the impact on equality areas, as defined in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme, this will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at **Appendix 2**.

### **4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1 The adopted Core Strategy takes forward the spatial objectives of the Vision for Leeds and the priorities set out in the best Council Plan, particularly in relation to promoting sustainable, inclusive economic growth, health and well-being and Leeds declared Climate Emergency. This is supported through identified land in the adopted Site Allocations Plan (adopted 2019) and Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan. Appropriate housing mix is a key element of this process.

#### Climate Change

- 4.3.2 The Council has acknowledged that the city's approach to housing will form an important part of its wider response to the declared climate emergency. With this in mind, Leeds City Council's own planning policy encourages high levels of energy efficiency and broader sustainability.
- 4.3.3 Member training has been planned to draw out the links between viability and climate change but has been postponed in light of the coronavirus response.

4.3.4 With regards to the recommendations of the Housing Mix inquiry, as noted below, the Council is currently working with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Planning Aid England and others on a neighbourhood planning and climate change event. The event was postponed from March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic but it is hoped this will be able to go ahead in spring 2021.

#### **4.4 Resources and Value for Money**

4.4.1 Details of any significant resource and financial implications linked to the Scrutiny recommendations will be referenced against the relevant recommendation within the table at **Appendix 2**.

#### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 The Scrutiny recommendation tracking system allows the Scrutiny Board to consider the position status of its recommendations in terms of their on-going relevance and the progress made in implementing the recommendations based on a standard set of criteria. This report sets out the progress made in responding to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny inquiry in Housing Mix.

### **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Members are asked to:

- Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring;
- Identify any recommendations where progress is unsatisfactory and determine the action the Board wishes to take as a result.

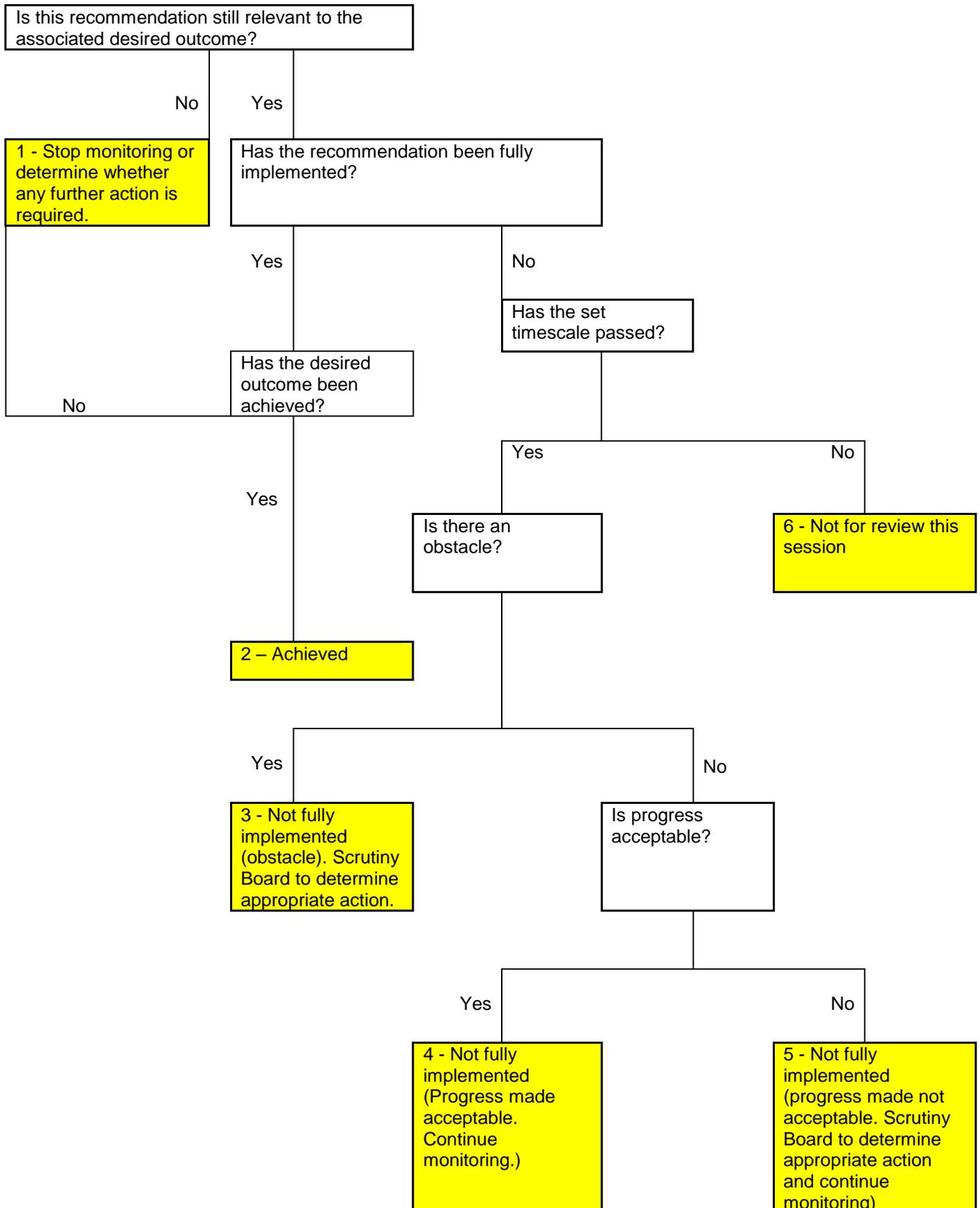
### **7 Background documents<sup>2</sup>**

None

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<sup>2</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

**Recommendation tracking flowchart and classifications:**  
**Questions to be considered by Scrutiny Boards**



## Appendix 2

### Position Status Categories

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

<p><b>Desired Outcome</b> - The continuous improvement of elected members skills and knowledge</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b> – That the Chief Planning officer arranges for Plans Panel Members to receive further information and training on best practice in dealing with scheme viability appraisals, in collaboration with other West Yorkshire authorities and the Planning Advisory Service.</p> <p>Formal response to the original enquiry: A training session on viability for elected members is taking place on 13th July 2016. All members of the Plans Panel have been invited to attend. The session is being led by ATLAS (Advisory Team for Large Applications), with contributions from the District Valuer (DV) and representatives from the volume house builders.</p> <p><b>February 2020:</b> Member training on viability forms a regular part of the Department’s approach to ensuring that decision taking is supported by regular training for Members. Training took place on 30 January 2019 and further training is planned for this calendar year, including drawing out links between viability and the climate emergency.</p> <p>Planning Practice Guidance – ‘Viability’ related to NPPF para 57 states that, any viability assessment should be prepared on the basis that it will be made publicly available other than in exceptional circumstances. Even in those circumstances an executive summary should be made publicly available.</p> <p><b>Current Position November 2020</b> – During the initial period of the covid-19 pandemic training and development activity reduced with all Council services focusing on the delivery of core services and/or services associated with the immediate pandemic response. Member training generally during this period focused on ensuring members could perform their Council roles, including participating in public committee meetings, on a remote rather than physical basis – ensuring, for example, familiarity with key platforms such as Zoom, Skype, Public-I and MS Teams. While specific training on viability has not taken place in this period, more general engagement with members has now started to take place in relation to national planning policy. In September and October training and consultation took place with Development Plans Panel and Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board Members in relation to the proposals set out in the Government’s planning White Paper, for example.</p>
<p><b>Position Status</b> - <i>This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board</i></p>

<p><b>Desired Outcome</b> - Raising the awareness of Housing Assessments and their importance in the planning process</p>
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**Recommendation 4** – That the Chief Planning Officer reports back to the relevant Scrutiny Board the implementation and success of the proposed assessment guidance and other proposed actions around Housing Needs Assessments (HNAs).

**Formal response to the original enquiry:**

The development of assessment guidance for carrying out Housing Needs Assessments remains a priority. The commissioning of local Housing Market Assessments (HMAs) on a neighbourhood basis is overseen by the Housing Growth Team and this work will be extended to include the preparation of a template which could provide guidance to assist others, including Neighbourhood Forums and developers, in carrying out local assessments. The current contract for this work is due for renewal in September and it will form part of the work programme of the new contractor once appointed.

A report back to Scrutiny Board will follow at that time. It will be important to reflect this workstream in any revised SHMA and be clear as to the roles of Ward Members and Community Committees in this area.

**February 2019:**

The HMA & Strategic Housing Research Commission was awarded to Arc4 in March 2017. Since 2011 the Council has commissioned Housing Market Assessments across the city (for a variety of purposes including neighbourhood planning approaches and new strategic developments) and these continue to be used as a basis for discussions with developers and Registered Providers to inform the development of schemes or respond to proposals. In 2018 Kirkstall, City Centre and Inner North West were completed along with a refresh of other areas. The Council has utilised the HMAs when identifying the need and type of Affordable Housing required as part of s106 Affordable Housing obligations. This enables the council, neighbourhood groups, developers to directly address local housing need and demand in different areas.

Developers are also required to submit their own HNAs on larger developments which are scrutinised by officers and compared against the council's own data. As well as relying on the local HMAs developers and plan users may also use a suite of 11 Housing Market Characteristic Area (HMCA) reports which accompany the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) undertaken for the CSSR. These are not prepared to support the CSSR strategic policies but do offer further detail on implementation.

A draft version of a report was included in the previous report to set out for Members the breadth of local HMCA evidence that is on offer. These reports are not designed to replace the broad needs for housing mix as set out in Policy H4 but help illustrate locally distinctive circumstances. For example, this report for the Outer West area highlights that the gap between housing requirements and the existing stock is most apparent in 1/2-bed and 4-bed homes and flats.

**February 2020:**

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2017 is supported by a set of sub-area reports – Vital Statistics. A draft example is attached in Appendix 3.

As part of ongoing housing work being carried out by Arc4 consultants a training/workshop sessions for officers who assess HNAs will be delivered during 2020. This will help officers to consistently assess HNAs in securing a better mix. Some of the headlines which had been shared since the last tracking update include:

- Clarification over need i.e. clear advice that estate agents consideration of what

- house types are selling in an area is not an indication of what needs to be built
- Updated support for the housing mix targets (reported to Development Plans Panel (DPP) 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019)
- As part of management of the policy clarification that the minimum and maximum figures within the supporting text of the housing mix policy are less material on the basis that developers are consistently aiming for the maximum level of larger dwellings and minimum level for smaller (especially 2 bed) dwellings

A draft template for an HNA which sets out what should be provided within the assessment will be made available to the Development sector for consistency.

Tracking of Housing Mix and Affordable Housing indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

**Current Position November 2020:**

Consultants Arc4 have carried out commissioned work on HMAs for Holbeck, Lincoln Green and Morley; the first two HNAs supporting work on priority neighbourhood areas and the latter regarding the bid for Morley Town Centre Initiative.

In addition to the above Arc4 have carried out work on build to rent, affordability of market housing an older terraces around the city centre.

The HMAs are still at draft stage and will be provided to Members when finalised.

In light of the present situation the HNA training has not being progressed as planned and is under review.

**Position Status** - *This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board*

**Desired Outcome** - Improvement in the quality of Neighbourhood Plans

**Recommendation 5** – That the Chief Planning Officer ensures that appropriate assistance is offered to Neighbourhood Forums to assist in the drawing up of Neighbourhood Plans.

**Formal response to the original enquiry:**

The Council currently supports 35 neighbourhood groups. 1 plan has got to referendum and about 8 plans have either reached pre-submission stage or are about to. Therefore the collaborative arrangements put in place by the Council; working alongside neighbourhood groups is now bearing fruit. The recent restructure of the planning service has allowed for greater flexibility in the deployment of staff within Policy and Plans to advise forums. However, at present the overwhelming priority for staff is the progression of the Site Allocations Plan (SAP) and Aire Valley Area Action Plan (AVAAP).

However, there are parts of the District where there are particular challenges. Officers are aware of specific issues in particular parts of the District and the Directorate has put arrangements in place to address those issues e.g. through regular ward member contact and attendance at Neighbourhood Forum meetings.

**February 2019:**

The Council currently supports 35 neighbourhood groups. As at January 2019 10 plans have now been made.

The Council now has 10 “made” Neighbourhood Plans:

- Alwoodley
- Bardsey-cum-Rigton
- Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes
- Boston Spa
- Clifford
- Collingham
- Holbeck
- Linton
- Thorp Arch
- Walton

3 referendums are scheduled with 2 plans currently at Examination and a further 3 plans are expected to be submitted within the next 6 months. If these are all successful that could bring the total number to 18 Plans for Leeds.

The Council held an event in October which sought to stimulate participation from non-parished areas with over 100 people attending. This sought to help address concerns that neighbourhood planning activity was out of reach of many inner area communities.

The Holbeck Plan (an inner area plan) received a commendation from the Royal Town Planning Institute in 2018 and the Council has submitted both the Holbeck and Walton Plans to the "Planning" Magazine awards for 2019. The Walton Plan is the first in Leeds to allocate land for housing.

Tracking of Neighbourhood Plans occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

#### **February 2020:**

There are over 36 designated neighbourhood areas in Leeds, covering villages, market towns and a wide variety of neighbourhoods within the main urban area.

As at January 2020 14 plans have been made and, as such, are part of the development plan for Leeds and will be used to help determine planning applications in the following neighbourhood areas:

- Aberford
- Alwoodley
- Bardsey-cum-Rigton
- Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes
- Boston Spa
- Bramham
- Clifford
- Collingham
- Holbeck
- Kippax
- Linton
- Scarcroft
- Thorp Arch
- Walton

There are over 15 other neighbourhoods preparing neighbourhood plans, some at the early stages and others approaching examination/referendum. This includes a number of new areas (Micklefield – designation pending; Chapeltown – designation pending; Lincoln Green and Burmantofts - designation pending).

The Council, Holbeck Neighbourhood Forum and Walton Parish Council were awarded the national neighbourhood planning award at a ceremony in London in June 2019. This award was made for the quality of the plans and for the collaboration between the Council and the neighbourhood planning groups. This award has inspired a number of other groups in the area and set the standard for others to follow.

The Council is currently working with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Planning Aid England and others on a neighbourhood planning and climate change event, scheduled for late spring 2020. The aim of this event will be to inspire and to provide practical suggestions for neighbourhood plan policies and projects and to ultimately have a number of exemplar neighbourhood plans which will provide the lead on neighbourhood planning and climate change, locally and nationally.

Tracking of Neighbourhood Plans occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report and the Local Development Scheme.

### **Current Position November 2020**

There are now 37 designated neighbourhood area in Leeds, covering villages, market towns and a wide variety of neighbourhoods within the main urban area.

This is an addition of one area since the last update.

As at November 2020, 17 plans have been made and, as such, are part of the development plan for Leeds and will be used to help determine planning applications in the following neighbourhood areas:

- Aberford
- Alwoodley
- Bardsey-cum-Rigton
- Barwick-in-Elmet and Scholes
- Boston Spa
- Bramham
- Clifford
- Collingham
- Horsforth - new
- Holbeck
- Kippax
- Linton
- Otley - new
- Scarcroft
- Thorp Arch
- Wetherby - new
- Walton

Shadwell Neighbourhood Plan has also recently passed in the independent examination stage (October 2020). Due to Covid-19 restrictions, all neighbourhood planning referendums have been postponed until 6 May 2021, in line with Local Government Elections. There are over 15 other neighbourhoods preparing neighbourhood plans, some at the early stages and others approaching examination/referendum. This includes a number of new areas, such as Micklefield (designated in February 2020), Chapel Allerton (designation pending), Chapeltown (designation pending), and Mabgate, Lincoln Green and Burmantofts (designated in January 2021).

Although the Covid-19 situation has been a challenge for many neighbourhood planning

groups, particularly those seeking to conduct public consultation during 2020, there has been a lot of progress for a number of groups in Leeds, particularly in Beeston, Garforth, Headingley, Hyde Park and Kirkstall. Groups have adapted their ways of working and have made good use of this year to re-focus on their neighbourhood planning priorities. Officers have continued to provide direct support to groups through using online meeting platforms to enable and support groups to continue making good progress.

Work on a neighbourhood planning and climate change event has been postponed due to Covid-19 however it is hoped that this event could take place in 2021. The aim of this event will be to inspire and to provide practical suggestions for neighbourhood plan policies and projects and to ultimately have a number of exemplar neighbourhood plans which will provide the lead on neighbourhood planning and climate change, locally and nationally.

Tracking of Neighbourhood Plans occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report and the Local Development Scheme.

**Position Status** – *This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board*

**Desired Outcome 4** - That Housing Mix is discussed with developers at the earliest opportunity.

**Recommendation 8** – That the Chief Planning Officer reports back to the appropriate Scrutiny Board the improvements to housing mix achieved through the practice of discussing mix at pre application stage.

**Formal response to the original enquiry:**

Updated in the Current 2020 position below:

**February 2019:**

Securing housing mix in line with Policy H4 continues to be a challenge for the Council in some areas with volume housebuilders sometimes initially reluctant to submit schemes in line with the Policy requiring specific negotiation.

For example, the redevelopment of the former Stocks Blocks site in Garforth (proposed by Redrow Homes) started off significantly weighted in favour of 3 and 4 bed houses but following discussion and negotiation was amended to include an improved mix.

Similarly a reserved Matters application for 292 dwellings on land south of railway line at Thorpe Park (proposed by Redrow Homes) was negotiated to improve the housing mix

There has been improvement in the schemes submitted in the City Centre on large sites such as Tetley Site and former Evans Halshaw site – both providing 20% of homes as 3-bed. Smaller city centre sites are finding the policy more problematic with average of 6%.

The continued prevalence of properties at the lower and upper end of bedroom sizes reflects the recent market for residential development and construction activity since 2012. This period has seen the trend of a recovering housebuilding sector based upon the resurgence of the city centre providing large numbers of 1 bedroom properties including a new market for purpose-built student accommodation in studio apartments and, at the other end of the market, a high proportion of larger properties including 4+ bedroomed

dwellings provided in the outer areas in high market areas popular with the volume housebuilders. Whilst the number of 2 and 3 bedroom properties remains below the overall targets for the district this will be addressed through the adoption of the Site Allocations Plan. The SAP will allocate sites on both brownfield and greenfield land across all markets that will see the development of schemes in suitable locations of appropriate scale as part of a planned and managed approach. Accordingly, an implementation note for Policy H4 on Housing Mix is in preparation to assist the proper implementation of the policy through SAP. This will continued to be monitored through the Authority Monitoring Report.

Tracking of Housing Mix and Affordable Housing indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

### February 2020:

As highlighted before there continues to be a challenge for the Council with an over provision of 1 bedroom units and 4+ bedroom units and an under provision of 2 and 3 bedroom with regards to the targets found within Policy H4. The 1 bed over provision is mainly a result of a high proportion of development within the City Centre where 1 and 2 bed apartments are predominantly delivered.

The SAP, which is now adopted, allocated sites on both brownfield and greenfield land across all markets that will see the development of schemes in suitable locations of appropriate scale as part of a managed approach. The adoption of the SAP provides in excess of a 5 year land supply.

Through the pre-application process and planning applications, Housing Mix and Policy H4 is raised at an early stage of the process to ensure that developers are aware of this key policy, its requirements and how it should be implemented.

As part of the continuous implementation and briefing sessions with relevant officers regarding H4 an implementation note is being updated with up-to-date evidence.

The Authority Monitoring Report figures for 2018/19 are shown below for the comparable tables in the formal response.

**Table 1: Monitoring of 2018/19 – proportion of all new housing per room**

Year	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4+
2012/13	22%	27%	25%	27%
2013/14	21%	22%	28%	29%
2014/15	21%	15%	37%	28%
2015/16	26%	29%	28%	17%
2016/17	29%	25%	30%	16%
2017/18	29%	25%	22%	24%
2018/19	34%	28%	21%	18%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

**Table 3: Recent housing approvals per room**

Period	Number of bedrooms approved			
	1	2	3	4+
April to September 2019	36%	34%	20%	10%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

Range 0% - 50% 30% - 80% 20% - 70% 0% - 50%

**Table 3: Affordable Housing completions**

Period	Section 106	Grant assisted	Non assisted	Total
2012/13	72	119	14	205
2013/14	109	175	45	329
2014/15	79	288	88	455
2015/16	129	78	249	456
2016/17	112	302	143	557
2017/18	88	130	20	238
2018/19	169	117	147	433

In terms of affordable housing delivery and the delivery of 433 homes in 2018/19 this is below the target that is set in the Core Strategy for over 1,200 homes to be affordable.

Whilst this delivery is below target there are some important contextual headlines:

- It is important to note that the 1,200 homes Affordable Homes includes backlog of delivery so that the actual “in-year” net target is closer to 434 per annum
- The relatively poor contribution of S106 affordable units is mainly as a result of the proportion of student housing schemes within the completions which do not require affordable housing. It is forecast that once more market housing is delivered, now supported by an Adopted Site Allocations Plan – this proportion will increase.
- There are increasingly examples of sites being delivered by partners with 100% affordable housing.

**Table 4: Housing mix of outstanding stock approved since April 2012**

Type	Number of bedrooms (unimplemented approvals)			
	1	2	3	4+
Total	34%	27%	21%	17%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

Tracking of Housing Mix and Affordable Housing indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

**Current Position November 2020:**

The challenge continues for the Council with an over provision of 1 bedroom units and 4+ bedroom units and an under provision of 2 and 3 bedroom with regards to the targets found within Policy H4 as shown in Table 1 below. The 1 bed over provision is mainly a result of a high proportion of development within the City Centre where 1 and 2 bed apartments are predominantly delivered.

New tables, 1A and 1B have been introduced below showing the housing delivery across the district not including the city centre and one for the city centre delivery only.

Through the pre-application process and planning applications, Housing Mix and Policy H4 is raised at an early stage of the process to ensure that developers are aware of this key policy and its importance, taking account of the delivery statistics in the AMR.

**Table 1: Monitoring of 2019/20 – proportion of all new housing per room – across the district.**

Year	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4+
2012/13	22%	27%	25%	27%
2013/14	21%	22%	28%	29%
2014/15	21%	15%	37%	28%
2015/16	26%	29%	28%	17%
2016/17	29%	25%	30%	16%
2017/18	29%	25%	22%	24%
2018/19	34%	28%	21%	18%
<b>2019/20</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

**Additional Table 1A: Monitoring of 2019/20 - proportion of all new housing per room minus the city centre HMCA.**

It has been discussed that it would be of assistance to remove the city centre from Table 1 and create a separate table for this as its delivery statistics are skewed by the city centre delivery of 1 & 2 bedrooms.

Table 1A shows the imbalance of approvals outside the city centre of delivery deficits of 2 bedroom units and a surplus of 4+ bedroom units.

Year	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4+
2012/13	19%	35%	25%	21%
2013/14	8%	24%	40%	29%
2014/15	17%	27%	30%	26%
2015/16	16%	28%	27%	29%
2016/17	13%	25%	31%	31%
2017/18	13%	25%	27%	35%
2018/19	13%	25%	27%	35%
2019/20	19%	27%	27%	26%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

**Additional Table 1B: Monitoring of 2019/20 - proportion of all new housing per room City Centre only**

Table 1B shows the high delivery in the city centre of 1 bedroom units and the under delivery of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom units.

Year	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4+
2012/13	78%	4%	18%	0%
2013/14	75%	24%	2%	0%
2014/15	71%	20%	9%	0%

2015/16	59%	40%	1%	0%
2016/17	48%	41%	10%	2%
2017/18	73%	24%	2%	0%
2018/19	61%	27%	11%	0%
2019/20	72%	25%	3%	0%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

**Table 2: Recent housing approvals per room**

Period	Number of bedrooms approved			
	1	2	3	4+
April to June 2020	62%	22%	12%	5%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>
Range	0% - 50%	30% - 80%	20% - 70%	0% - 50%

This table only shows 3 months of approvals which is limited in quantity and therefore does not necessarily give a true representation regarding targets generally and taking account of the present pandemic situation.

**Table 3: Affordable Housing completions**

Period	Section 106	Grant assisted	Non assisted	Total
2012/13	72	119	14	205
2013/14	109	175	45	329
2014/15	79	288	88	455
2015/16	129	78	249	456
2016/17	112	302	143	557
2017/18	88	130	20	238
2018/19	169	117	147	433
<b>2019/20</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>439</b>

In terms of affordable housing delivery and the delivery of 439 homes in 2019/20 (an increase of 6 units), more AHs have been delivered through grant assisted schemes, S106 AHs remains about the same and non-assisted AHs have reduced significantly. This is below the target that is set in the Core Strategy for over 1,200 homes to be affordable, whilst this delivery is below target there are some important contextual headlines:

- It is important to note that the 1,230 homes affordable homes includes backlog of delivery so that the actual “in-year” net target is closer to 434 per annum which has been met. The need to deliver AHs and the target will not change and it is expected that grant assisted AHs will increase significantly over the next few years (through combination of funding streams).
- The relatively poor contribution of S106 affordable units is mainly as a result of the proportion of student housing schemes within the completions which do not require affordable housing. It is forecast that once more market housing is delivered, now supported by an Adopted Site Allocations Plan (SAP) – this proportion will increase. However, the SAP High Court Judgement on Relief may impact upon the delivery of affordable homes. The green belt sites affected by the judgement generally fall within

the higher % requirement zones of 35%, therefore these sites are at risk and may not deliver affordable housing if the sites remain in the Green Belt.

- There are increasingly examples of sites being delivered by partners with 100% affordable housing.
- Sites are coming forward with increased provision for example the Guinness site in the City Centre is providing 35% AH on site instead of the policy requirement of 7%.

**Table 4: Housing mix of outstanding stock approved since April 2012**

Type	Number of bedrooms (approvals yet to be completed)			
	1	2	3	4+
Total	38%	26%	21%	15%
<b>Policy H4 target</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>

Tracking of Housing Mix and Affordable Housing indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

**Position Status** – *This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board*

**Desired Outcome** - Raising the knowledge of Elected Members on the implementation of Policy H4

**Recommendation 9** – That the Chief Planning Officer advises Joint Plans Panel of actions to be taken regarding the Implementation of Policy H4 and proposed actions to ensure improved delivery.

**Formal response to the original enquiry:** This will be reported to the first Joint Plans Panel (JPP) following the date of this Scrutiny response.

**February 2019:**

This was reported to the Joint Plans Panel in November 2017 who noted the initiatives being taken as detailed in recommendations above. The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) was considered by Development Plan Panel (DPP) in May 2018 for the year 2016/17 and there is a scheduled meeting of DPP to discuss the 2017/18 AMR in March 2019.

**February 2020:**

The Core Strategy (as amended 2019) Policy H4 states:

*‘Developments should include an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes to address needs measured over the long term taking into account the nature of the development and character of the location. This should include the need to make provision for Independent Living (see Policy H8)*

*For developments over 250 units, in or adjoining the Main Urban Area and Major Settlements or for developments over 50 units in or adjoining Smaller Settlements, developers should submit a Housing Needs Assessment addressing all tenures so that the needs of the locality can be taken into account at the time of development.’*

The supporting text of Policy H4 contains a “Preferred Housing Mix Table” which details the

SHMA 2011. It contains targets for both type and size of housing.

Table H4: Preferred Housing Mix (2012 – 2028)

Type*	Max %	Min %	Target %
Houses	90	50	75
Flats	50	10	25
Size*	Max %	Min %	Target %
1 bed	50	0	10
2 bed	80	30	50
3 bed	70	20	30
4 bed+	50	0	10

\*Type is applicable outside of City Centre and town centres; Size is applicable in all parts of Leeds

A report was presented to Development Plan Panel on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The report included an overview of the effectiveness of the policy and its current implementation. Details of the proposed implementation note and updated housing mix evidence was also discussed.

It is considered that the current interpretation of the policy by developers has relied upon Table H4 (which is not itself part of the Policy) and the maximum and minimum percentages range therein rather than the targets themselves. Developers have contended that proposals, which provide up to 50% 4+bed houses satisfy the policy. Conversely they also contend that it is in line with the policy to deliver at the minimum level for 2-bed and 3-bed homes. Where this situation occurs consistently it is inevitable that the targets will not be met.

The supporting text of the policy provides a 'Preferred Mix Table', whilst the maximum and minimum ranges and the target are set out to reflect a diversity across sites in Leeds, depending on the nature of the development and character of the area there is clearly a resulting skew towards 4+bed homes which is not in line with the objectives of the policy,

Consultants Arc4 have provided an up-to-date housing mix addendum to the SHMA which provides continued justification of the supporting policy text H4 Preferred mix targets. This evidence will be publically shortly. The implementation note will assist all users in understanding and applying the policy for applications and pre-applications which should aim to broadly align with the targets supported by the up-to-date evidence. It is accepted that the Council is not looking for a prescribed mix on all sites, but deviation from the target mix would have to be justified by the applicant.

Tracking of Housing Mix and indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

**Current Position November 2020:**

The tables in Recommendation 8 highlights the continued challenge of the successful delivery of housing mix across the District. However, the period of 2019/20 saw an increase in delivery of 1 & 2 bed units outside the city centre.

The Implementation Note has now been drafted following discussions with officers within Planning and Sustainable Development and Legal Services and once a final draft version is agreed, Members will be updated when this is finalised.

Tracking of Housing Mix and indicators occurs through the annual Authority Monitoring Report.

**Position Status** – *This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board*

**Desired Outcome** - The development of a policy identifying and meeting specialist housing need

**Recommendation 10** – That the Director of Environment and Housing and the Chief Planning Officer explore a more coherent and detailed approach to identifying the need for specialist accommodation and how this can be met, and report back to the relevant Scrutiny Board.

**Formal response:**

Housing Market Assessments for specific schemes as required by Policy H4 and referred to above at Recommendation 4 and can utilise data provided by services including Adult Social Care to inform housing mix requirements within market areas and relevant to schemes. The SHMA commission will seek strategic analysis of the Leeds market to help support local studies. A further report will be provided as part of the update referred to in recommendation 4.

**February 2019:**

In July 2017 Executive Board approved a commitment to facilitate the delivery of up to 200 new units of Extra Care housing using £30m of housing growth funding. The Council will deliver three schemes which will be owned and managed by the Council expected to provide up to 200 extra care affordable rented homes. A programme update report was submitted to Executive Board in December 2018. In addition, a consortium were awarded a contract to deliver around 240 new extra care homes across 4 schemes subject to planning approval. Alongside the Council led programme, four sites are being progressed which will facilitate the delivery of new supply housing with care: Ashfield Works in Otley, Bramham House, Cookridge Hospital and former Primrose HOP (Housing for Older Persons) in Boston Spa; additionally Queensway is to be considered for provision for adults with learning disabilities.

The CSSR introduces new policy in relation to accessible housing standards, see Appendix 4 for Policy H10: Accessible Housing Standards. The policy requires new residential development to provide two types of accessible accommodation defined in Building Regulations Part M Volume 1: M4(2) a general level of accessibility roughly equivalent to the old “lifetime homes” standard and M4(3) wheelchair accessible dwellings (that can be “accessible” or “adaptable”). Different percentages of accessible accommodation were viability tested with the conclusion that developments should make 30% of all dwellings accessible to M4(2) standards and 2% of dwellings accessible to M4(3) adaptable standards.

The Council has also committed to preparing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Student Housing and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) and internal space standards to complement the national standards contained in the CSSR.

An update will be provided after the Adoption of the CSSR.

**February 2020:**

The updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Households need survey evidences the housing needs for the District.

The Core Strategy (as amended 2019) was adopted in September 2019 introduces new policies:-

Policy H10: Accessible Housing Standards, supported through the review process with the Background Paper of need for Accessible Housing.

Policy H9: Minimum space standards was introduced reflecting national policy and an SPD on space standards is in the process of being prepared.

The Age Friendly Leeds team (and Board) have, working with planning, established an indicator on the percentage of new developments built to category M4 (2) standard of accessibility, as set out in the Core Strategy. This is to be included as a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for the Age Friendly priority of the Best Council Plan.

An existing Core Strategy policy unaltered through the review, Policy H8: Independent Living supporting development through mixed use schemes and standalone development including sheltered and other housing schemes aimed at the elderly or disabled people.

Site Allocations Plan (SAP) adopted July 2019 Housing Policy HG4: states that the SAP identifies site allocations in the plan which are particularly suitable for older persons housing/ independent living.

**Current Position November 2020:**

Policies H9 and H10 are recently adopted policies with regard to monitoring and therefore methods of monitoring will be looked at where appropriate. With regard to Policy H10 going forward, Accessibility Standards will form part of the Best Council Plan 2020/21 as a Key Performance Indicator on the completion of accessible standards housing developments.

**Position Status** - *This is to be formally agreed by the Scrutiny Board*

**Report of Head of Democratic Services**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)**

**Date: 18 November 2020**

**Subject: Work Schedule**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**1. Purpose of this report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider the Scrutiny Board’s work schedule for the remainder of the current municipal year.

**2. Background information**

2.1 All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. In doing so, the work schedule should not be considered a fixed and rigid schedule, it should be recognised as a document that can be adapted and changed to reflect any new and emerging issues throughout the year; and also reflect any timetable issues that might occur from time to time.

**3. Main issues**

3.1 The latest iteration of the Board’s work schedule is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration and agreement of the Scrutiny Board – subject to any identified and agreed amendments.

3.2 Executive Board minutes from the meeting held on 21 October 2020 are attached as Appendix 2. The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider and note the Executive Board minutes, insofar as they relate to the remit of the Scrutiny Board; and identify any matter where specific scrutiny activity may be warranted, and therefore subsequently incorporated into the work schedule.

- 3.3 The Board recently held a working group to explore proposals set out in the Government's planning White Paper, which was published on 6 August 2020. Board members were particularly keen to understand the potential implications of those proposals in the context of ongoing recommendation tracking associated with Housing Mix and Sustainable Development. A summary of the Board's discussions can be found at Appendix 3.
- 3.4 The Board will continue to maintain an agile approach to engagement in early budget consultation following initial discussions in September and October 2020.

#### Developing the work schedule

- 3.5 When considering any developments and/or modifications to the work schedule, effort should be undertaken to:
- Avoid unnecessary duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue.
  - Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.
  - Avoid pure "information items" except where that information is being received as part of a policy/scrutiny review.
  - Seek advice about available resources and relevant timings, taking into consideration the workload across the Scrutiny Boards and the type of Scrutiny taking place.
  - Build in sufficient flexibility to enable the consideration of urgent matters that may arise during the year.
- 3.6 In addition, in order to deliver the work schedule, the Board may need to take a flexible approach and undertake activities outside the formal schedule of meetings – such as working groups and site visits, where necessary and appropriate. This flexible approach may also require additional formal meetings of the Scrutiny Board.

#### Covid-19 and Scrutiny Board meetings

- 3.7 The On 16 March 2020, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, Leeds City Council took the necessary step to cancel a number of planned meetings of various Committees, Boards and Panels. This included all Scrutiny Board meetings and any joint scrutiny arrangements where the Council acts as the lead authority.
- 3.8 In cancelling Scrutiny Board meetings it was acknowledged that, after the urgency of the initial stages of the pandemic response, there would be opportunity to reflect and identify any lessons learned across different service areas and statutory local authority scrutiny functions would have an important role to play in this process.
- 3.9 With Council services focused on the urgent pandemic response and subsequent city recovery plan, the usual collaborative process of annual work programming for Scrutiny Boards was also suspended. However, in May 2020 all Scrutiny Boards were briefed on decision making relating to the areas of the pandemic response that fell within their respective remits and this may influence members' priorities for the 2020/21 work programme.
- 3.10 In June 2020 remote public sessions of all Scrutiny Boards were introduced. There is a degree of continuing uncertainty about how future meetings will be hosted – they

may be hosted remotely, be buildings-based or involve a hybrid approach. However, all meetings have been scheduled in such a way as to ensure they can continue to be resourced remotely if that is the required approach.

#### **4. Consultation and engagement**

4.1.1 The Vision for Scrutiny states that Scrutiny Boards should seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director(s) and Executive Member(s) about available resources prior to agreeing items of work.

#### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

4.2.1 The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules state that, where appropriate, all terms of reference for work undertaken by Scrutiny Boards will include 'to review how and to what effect consideration has been given to the impact of a service or policy on all equality areas, as set out in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme'.

#### **4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan**

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

##### Climate Emergency

4.3.2 When considering areas of work, the Board is reminded that influencing climate change and sustainability should be a key area of focus.

#### **4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money**

4.4.1 Experience has shown that the Scrutiny process is more effective and adds greater value if the Board seeks to minimise the number of substantial inquiries running at one time and focus its resources on one key issue at a time.

4.4.2 The Vision for Scrutiny, agreed by full Council also recognises that like all other Council functions, resources to support the Scrutiny function are under considerable pressure and that requests from Scrutiny Boards cannot always be met.

Consequently, when establishing their work programmes Scrutiny Boards should:

- Seek the advice of the Scrutiny officer, the relevant Director and Executive Member about available resources;
- Avoid duplication by having a full appreciation of any existing forums already having oversight of, or monitoring a particular issue;
- Ensure any Scrutiny undertaken has clarity and focus of purpose and will add value and can be delivered within an agreed time frame.

#### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

4.5.1 This report has no specific legal implications.

## **4.6 Risk management**

4.6.1 This report has no specific risk management implications.

## **5. Conclusions**

5.1 All Scrutiny Boards are required to determine and manage their own work schedule for the municipal year. The latest iteration of the Board's work schedule is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration and agreement of the Scrutiny Board – subject to any identified and agreed amendments.

## **6. Recommendations**

6.1 Members are asked to consider the matters outlined in this report and agree (or amend) the overall work schedule (as presented at Appendix 1) as the basis for the Board's work for the remainder of 2020/21.

## **7. Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.



## Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)

### Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

June	July	August
<b>Meeting Agenda for 25 June at 10.30 am.</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda for 16 July at 10.30 am.</b>	<b>No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.</b>
<p>*REMOTE SESSION*</p> <p>Update on decision making during the emergency pandemic response and recovery plan as it pertains to the remit of the Board – verbal update from the Director of City Development.</p> <p>Transport Update from Chief Officer (Highways &amp; Transportation)</p> <p>Sustainable Development – Recommendation Tracking</p>	<p>*REMOTE SESSION*</p> <p>Inclusive Growth Update</p> <p>Digital Inclusion Update</p>	
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
<b>Site Visits</b>		

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**Scrutiny Work Items Key:**

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

**Inclusive Growth Strategy**

**PEOPLE**, **PLACE** and **PRODUCTIVITY** - Relevant **BIG** Ideas **3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10**



## Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)

### Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

September	October	November
<b>Meeting Agenda for 23 September at 10.30 am.</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda for 14 October at 10.30 am.</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda for 18 November at 10am</b>
<p>*REMOTE SESSION*</p> <p>Director's Update</p> <p>Leeds Public transport Investment Programme - Update</p> <p><i>*updates also requested on proposals for Lawnswood Roundabout and a response to previous recommendations relating to the Powered Two Wheeler Access To With Flow Bus Lanes*</i></p>	<p>Advancing Bus Service Provision</p> <p>Budget consultation – review of EB proposals</p>	<p>Flood Risk Management</p> <p>Housing Mix Update</p>
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
	<p><b>1 October 1-3pm – Budget</b></p> <p><b>21 October – Planning Proposals</b></p>	<b>Budget Consultation</b>
<b>Site Visits</b>		

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#### Scrutiny Work Items Key:

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

#### Inclusive Growth Strategy

**PEOPLE**, **PLACE** and **PRODUCTIVITY** - Relevant **BIG** Ideas **3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10**



## Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)

### Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

December	January	February
<b>No meetings Scheduled</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda for 20 January at 10.30 am.</b>	<b>Meeting Agenda 17 February at 10am</b>
	Performance Monitoring Financial Health Monitoring Initial Budget Proposals	Inclusive Growth update following pandemic response July 2020  Smart Cities Update (provisional)  Digital Inclusion (provisional)
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
<b>Site Visits</b>		

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**Scrutiny Work Items Key:**

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

**Inclusive Growth Strategy**

**PEOPLE**, **PLACE** and **PRODUCTIVITY** - Relevant **BIG** Ideas **3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10**



## Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)

### Work Schedule for 2020/2021 Municipal Year

March	April	Notes
No meetings scheduled	Meeting Agenda for 7 April at 10.30am	Best Council Plan – deferred until Sept 2021 EB
	Number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads – focused on those campaigning for improvements in road safety.	
<b>Working Group Meetings</b>		
<b>Site Visits</b>		

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**Scrutiny Work Items Key:**

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

**Inclusive Growth Strategy**

**PEOPLE**, **PLACE** and **PRODUCTIVITY** - Relevant **BIG** Ideas **3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 21ST OCTOBER, 2020

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

Councillors R Charlwood, D Coupar,  
S Golton, J Lewis, L Mulherin, J Pryor,  
M Rafique and F Venner

**SUBSTITUTE MEMBER:** Councillor A Lamb

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor A Carter

**48 Substitute Member**

Under the provisions of Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 3.2.6, Councillor Lamb was invited to attend the meeting on behalf of Councillor A Carter, who had submitted his apologies for absence from the meeting.

**49 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no information designated as being exempt from publication or confidential considered at the meeting.

**50 Late Items**

Agenda Item 17 - Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic – Response and Recovery Plan

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

Given the scale and significance of this issue, it was deemed appropriate that a further update report be submitted to this remote meeting of the Board. However, due to the fast paced nature of developments on this issue, and in order to ensure that Board Members received the most up to date information as possible, the report was not included within the agenda as originally published on 13th October 2020. (Minute No. 64 refers).

Agenda Item 19 - Improving Air Quality in the City (Clean Air Charging Zone (CAZ) Update)

Although not a formal late item of business, in advance of the meeting Board Members had received copies of correspondence received from Government regarding the outcomes of the joint review which had been undertaken with Government into Leeds' compliance with the legal requirements for air quality levels and the future of the CAZ. (Minute No. 66 refers).

**51 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**  
There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared at the meeting.

**52 Minutes**  
**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be approved as a correct record.

### **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**53 Fostering Service Annual Report**  
The Director of Children and Families submitted a report providing an update on the work undertaken by the fostering service between the period April 2019 and March 2020. Whilst the report provided information on developments across the service during the relevant period, more specifically it also presented details regarding the activity in relation to the recruitment and retention of foster carers in Leeds.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member highlighted a number of key points including: the significant increase in the number of expressions of interest received regarding fostering; the aim of increasing the number of current foster care placements available to children and young people cared for by Leeds and to reduce the use of external residential and Independent Fostering Agency placements; developments in respect of Special Guardianship Orders; the aim of Leeds to become a foster friendly employer; and the priority of increasing the number of foster carers available to support unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

Responding to a Member's enquiries, the Board received further information and discussed a number of issues, including: the actions being taken in Leeds towards decreasing external residential placements, increasing the number of foster carers in Leeds, reducing the number of children coming into care, the current position regarding the residential estate and the benefits of Special Guardianship Orders and Kinship Care.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report, be received, and that the Board's continued support for the work of the Fostering Service and the aim of promoting the best outcomes for children, be confirmed;
- (b) That support for the following specific recommendations be agreed:-
  - (i) To increase the number of current foster care placements available to children and young people cared for by Leeds and to reduce the use of external residential and Independent Fostering Agency placements for children cared for by Leeds;
  - (ii) To develop the offer, in partnership with Child Friendly Leeds, of additional activities and enrichment for fostering families;
  - (iii) To increase the diversity of our foster carers so that it matches that of the communities we serve and the children we care for;

- (iv) To increase our ability to meet a wide range of children’s complex needs by developing a broader service offer underpinned by an enhanced training programme;
  - (v) To continue with our work with colleagues in West Yorkshire to improve and enhance the offer for Foster Carers taking on Special Guardianship Orders;
  - (vi) For Leeds City Council to achieve ‘Foster Friendly Employer’ status.
- (c) That it be noted that the officer responsible for the implementation of such matters is the Deputy Head of Service, Corporate Parenting.

## **HEALTH, WELLBEING AND ADULTS**

### **54 Re-commissioning of the Learning Disability and Autism Care and Support Services**

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report which noted that existing block contract arrangements with Aspire were due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021, and as such, outlined proposals for the re-commissioning of the services currently provided through the block contracting arrangements and proposed the commencement of associated consultation, as appropriate.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member highlighted how in considering the different commissioning arrangements, there was an opportunity to ensure that the re-provisioned services had a focus on personalised and strengths based approaches.

Responding to a Member’s enquiry, the Board was provided with further information on the actions being taken by Aspire to develop their base outside of the Council.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (a) That agreement be given for different approaches to be followed for the different areas of service, based upon existing commissioning arrangements for similar services, current expertise and the capacity in the market, and also based upon the financial implications of the different scenarios, with the following being progressed further, including through formal consultation:
  - (i) **Supported Living** – commission the services from Aspire through individual spot purchasing arrangements, as per Scenario 4.1 (b) as detailed within Appendix 3 to the submitted report;
  - (ii) **Respite and Emergency Respite services** – undertake market sounding and procure the services through a competitive tender process, as per Scenario 4.2 (b) as detailed within Appendix 3 to the submitted report;
  - (iii) **Day Opportunities** – commission the services from Aspire through individual spot purchase arrangements, as per Scenario 4.3 (b) as detailed within Appendix 3 to the submitted report.

- (b) That it be noted that the Deputy Director of Integrated Commissioning will lead and progress this work.

**55 Living with Dementia in Leeds – our strategy 2020-25**

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report which provided an overview of the progress which had been made in this area since the previous strategy “Living Well With Dementia In Leeds” was produced in 2013 and also in respect of the development of a refreshed strategy for the period 2020-25.

Members welcomed the update and the information provided within the submitted report.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the strategy document “Living With Dementia In Leeds - Our Strategy 2020-25”, as appended to the submitted report, be agreed;
- (b) That the establishment of the Leeds Dementia Oversight Board and its role to oversee the Leeds Dementia Action Plan and ensure that the strategy is implemented, be noted;
- (c) That it be noted that the design of the ‘Plan on a Page’ and strategy document, as appended to the submitted report, will be reviewed in order to align with the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy branding and format;
- (d) That the role of the Commissioning Programme Lead - Dementia, in the co-ordination of work to progress the strategy, be noted, with it also being noted that this work will be supported by the partnership and governance arrangements as described within the submitted report. With the Board also noting that this is a joint role working for both the Council and NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group;
- (e) That the role of Elected Members in supporting and monitoring the progress being made in respect of the strategy, be acknowledged.

**56 The Leeds Carers Partnership Strategy**

The Director of Adults and Health submitted a report presenting the new Leeds Carers’ Partnership Strategy entitled: ‘Putting carers at the heart of everything we do’. The report highlighted how the strategy set out 6 priorities that the Leeds Carers’ Partnership proposed were the key areas that needed to be focussed upon in order to promote the health and wellbeing of carers in Leeds, and to reduce the health and financial inequalities that carers experience due to caring.

Members welcomed the information provided within the submitted report, with a request that, as appropriate, further update reports were provided to the Board regarding the provision of support for carers, with Members highlighting the need to continue to monitor the situation during such challenging times.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the work of the Leeds Carers' Partnership in developing its strategy, be noted;
- (b) That the vision and priorities, as set out within the Leeds Carers' Partnership Strategy, as appended to the submitted report, be supported;
- (c) That it be noted that the design of the 'Plan on a Page', as appended to the submitted report, will be reviewed in order to align with the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy branding and format;
- (d) That it be noted that the Head of Commissioning (Integration) and the Commissioning Programme Lead (Carers) will support and co-ordinate the implementation of the Leeds Carers' Partnership Strategy along with the Head of Primary Care (Proactive Care), NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group.

**ENVIRONMENT AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES**

**57 Merger of Groundwork Leeds with Groundwork Wakefield and North Yorkshire and Leeds City Council's Future Role in Groundwork Yorkshire**

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report which sought the Executive Board's support for the decision of the Groundwork Leeds Board to merge with Groundwork Wakefield and North Yorkshire in order to form a new organisation entitled, 'Groundwork Yorkshire' that would operate on a regional level.

Responding to a Member's enquiry, the Board was provided with clarification and reassurance regarding the status of a property on the balance sheet of Groundwork Leeds which was located in Morley, with it being noted that the property would transfer to Groundwork Yorkshire as part of the merger.

Further to this, responding to another enquiry regarding an existing liability in the form of a loan between Groundwork Wakefield and Wakefield Council, it was also noted that a legal agreement was in place confirming that the loan was specifically secured against a site in Wakefield, and as such would have no effect upon the building in Morley. In conclusion, officers undertook to provide the Member in question with a further briefing note on such matters.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the decision of the Groundwork Leeds Board to merge with Groundwork Wakefield and Groundwork North Yorkshire, be supported;
- (b) That in endorsing the decision of the Groundwork Leeds Board (above), approval be given for Leeds City Council to dissolve its company membership of Groundwork Leeds and become a company member of Groundwork Yorkshire;

- (c) That the establishment of a Leeds Local Groundwork Partnership Board be approved, in order to provide local input into schemes and programmes that are to be developed in Leeds in partnership with Groundwork Yorkshire post-merger;
- (d) That the necessary authority be delegated to the Director for Communities and Environment, the Chief Officer Financial Services and the City Solicitor in order to enable those officers to conclude the final agreement of the deed of transfer and any other agreement needed to formalise and complete the transfer process.

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

## **COMMUNITIES**

### **58 Annual update on the strategic approach to migration in Leeds**

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report which presented an overview on migration activity that had been delivered across the city over the past year, taking into account contributions in response to the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable migrant communities by the Council during the pandemic. The report also looked to provide information on key migration population trends; national policy changes including the approach in place to support EU citizens living in Leeds; the new national asylum contract; and activities across the Council in relation to supporting new and emerging communities.

Members welcomed the update and the information contained within the submitted report, and extended their thanks to all officers and partner organisations involved in the provision of services for the migrant community in Leeds.

### **RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted update report on migration and on the related activity taking place, be noted, and that the approach being adopted within the migration strategy for Leeds, be endorsed;
- (b) That it be noted that the responsibility of the Director of Communities and Environment and the Executive Member for Communities for leading this work through the Council's 'Stronger Communities' Programme, be noted;
- (c) That the responsibility of the Chief Officer for Communities in leading the work of the Leeds Strategic Migration Board, and the Migration Team for providing strategic and operational direction for the city, be noted;

- (d) That the significant contributions made by services and partners towards supporting vulnerable households and migrant communities which have been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19, be acknowledged;
- (e) That a further annual update report be submitted in 2021.

**59 Understanding and progressing the city's learning of the experience of people living a street-based life in Leeds**

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report which presented the findings of the independent review of people living street-based lives in Leeds, which was appended to the submitted report.

By way of introduction to the report, the Chief Officer, Safer Leeds presented the key findings and recommendations of the independent review which had been undertaken into the experience of people living a street-based life in Leeds and provided details of the ongoing work in this area, under the three pillars of 'prevention', 'intervention' and 'recovery' which moving forward would look to progress such recommendations.

Responding to a Member's enquiries regarding the pillar of 'prevention', particularly in relation to the criminal justice system, the Board was provided with further detail on the work being progressed in this area, together with further detail in respect of the 'recovery' pillar, and the adopted approach which was now being taken towards the provision of support and accommodation for individuals, with an undertaking that further information on such matters could be provided to the Member in question, if required.

Also, Members discussed and received further information regarding the nature of the independent review which had been undertaken and the learning which was being taken from it. Members also received information on the liaison which continued to take place with Government on this issue and the further development of related services for the medium to long term, with a suggestion that a further report on such matters be submitted to the Board in due course.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair extended her thanks to Richard Jones, Independent Chair of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board together with all partners who had been involved in the production of the independent review report.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the outcomes from the independent review of people living a street-based life in Leeds, as outlined in the Executive and Oversight Report, as appended to the submitted report, be received, with the key findings and recommendations of the independent review being noted;
- (b) That it be noted that the Director of Communities and Environment will take lead responsibility for considering the recommendations and progressing any changes proposed in accordance with Council

governance arrangements, working closely with other Directors and partners as required, through agreed governance arrangements;

- (c) That the excellent work of officers and partners across a range of services and sectors connected to the Street Support Partnership and the wider homeless network, during this difficult time for many, be acknowledged;
- (d) That the Council's Leadership Team be requested to receive an annual update report on the progress made in this area.

**60 Locality working in our most disadvantaged communities: tackling poverty and inequality and Covid-19 recovery**

The Director of Communities and Environment submitted a report that provided an update on the role of Community Committees and Elected Members in locality working, provided details of how the application of the principles for locality working were being progressed, highlighted the emerging impact of Covid-19 in Leeds' most disadvantaged communities and the social and economic interventions which were being made to address this and detailed the Neighbourhood Improvement Board's role in such matters.

Members highlighted the key partnership role which had been played by the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities), alongside cross-Scrutiny Board working in helping to develop the locality working approach which had been adopted.

In discussing the report, Members emphasised the vital role played by Neighbourhood Networks in communities, noted the effectiveness of locality working, with the response to the pandemic being given as an example, and highlighted the value of locality based decision making.

Responding to a Member's comments regarding the importance of ensuring a universal offer of provision across all communities in the city, the Board received further detail on the work ongoing in this area, with the response to the pandemic again being used as an illustration of the progress being made. Members also emphasised the need to continue to focus upon the needs of the priority neighbourhoods, and emphasised how the development of the locality working approach needed to continue at pace, given the impact that the pandemic was having on communities across the city.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the contents of the submitted report be noted;
- (b) That the positive comments of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board on the strong progress made to date, be noted;
- (c) That the Executive Member for Communities be requested to work with the Chair of the Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny

Board in order to consider the engagement of other Scrutiny Boards in such work;

- (d) That the Director of Communities and Environment and the Director of Resources and Housing be requested to consider the implications of the work to date in terms of organisational development and design work in the Council;
- (e) That the Directors of Communities and Environment, Resources and Housing, and City Development be requested to consider the implications of the progress made to date for further improving the connectivity of the city's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in terms of economic opportunities and aligning capital investment programmes.

**61 Investing in our Neighbourhoods - Approval for Phase 2 of Group Repair in Holbeck**

The Director of Resources and Housing submitted a report which sought the Board's authorisation to inject £3.9m into the Capital Programme for the purposes of Phase 2 of the Holbeck Group Repair scheme, which included £2.65m from the Government's Get Building Fund, and £1.25m from private sector contributions, Energy Company Obligation funding and the Housing Revenue Account. In addition, the report requested that the management of the project and subsequent approvals be designated to the Director of Resources and Housing.

Members welcomed the proposals in the submitted report, highlighting the range of benefits that the delivery of phase 2 of the scheme would bring to the community in terms of energy efficiency, improved street scene and general improvements to residents' quality of life. The impact that the proposals would bring in terms of carbon reduction were also highlighted.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the injection of £3.9m into the Capital Programme be authorised, of which £2.65m is secured funding from the Leeds City Region via Government's Get Building Fund, and £1.25m from the Housing Revenue Account, Energy Company contributions and private sector owners' contributions;
- (b) That the management of the project and subsequent approvals be designated to the Director of Resources and Housing.

**INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND CULTURE**

**62 Update on Leeds City Council's preparations for the UK's exit from the European Union**

Further to Minute No. 57, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update on the current stage of Brexit negotiations during the Transition Period, and the preparations that Leeds City Council continued to make for the UK's exit from the European Union.

By way of introduction to the report, the Chief Executive provided the Board with an update on the current position nationally, and also in respect of the preparation work which continued in Leeds specifically regarding the EU Settlement Scheme, and also in respect of the liaison taking place with the business community around its preparedness.

Members highlighted the need to ensure that any opportunities arising from the UK's exit from the EU were maximised. However, as the end of the transition period approached, emphasis was placed upon the importance of clarity being provided around the UK's position upon exiting the EU in order to assist with related preparations.

It was also highlighted that the city's long term relationship with partners across Europe and beyond would continue.

**RESOLVED** – That the current national position and the Council's next steps to prepare the Council and the city for the UK's exit from the EU, as outlined within the submitted report, be noted.

**63 A review of statues in Leeds in response to Black Lives Matter**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which presented and invited the Board's consideration of the findings and recommendations from the review undertaken into statues in Leeds by Honorary Alderwoman Alison Lowe.

The Chair welcomed Honorary Alderwoman Lowe to the meeting, who extended her thanks to all in the reference group who had contributed towards the independent review and presented to the Board the key findings and recommendations arising from it.

Members discussed the value of the review which had been undertaken, the importance of learning from and interpreting the past, highlighted the importance of celebrating the contributions which had been made to the city by a range of communities, and emphasised the potential for further cultural outcomes to be delivered as a result of the review being undertaken.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That Honorary Alderwoman Alison Lowe and the reference group be thanked for their important contribution to this work;
- (b) That it be noted that the review did not include proposals to remove any existing statues in Leeds, but that it recommends a number of initiatives to improve understanding of history, and to better recognise the role of diverse communities and individuals in the city;
- (c) That the Chief Officer Culture and Sport and the Chief Officer Parks and Countryside be requested to bring forward proposals to refresh public information boards in relation to statues on Woodhouse Moor in line with the recommendations in the review;

- (d) That the Council's support for the development of a commemorative artwork in City Park honouring David Oluwale, and for the installation of Pippa Hale's artwork 'Ribbons', as described in section 3 of the submitted report, be agreed;
- (e) That all the other recommendations of Honorary Alderwoman Lowe's review, as listed in section 2.10 of the submitted report, be accepted, and that the Chief Officer Culture and Sport be requested to work with others in order to take these matters forward;
- (f) That the other initiatives, as described within section 3 of the submitted report, which are also being developed in response to the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement, be noted.

#### **64 Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic - Response and Recovery Plan**

Further to Minute No. 40, 24th September 2020, the Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update on the continued Coronavirus (COVID-19) work being undertaken across the city including the recovery approach, outbreak management, and current issues and risks. The report also noted that the city's multi-agency command and control arrangements continued to be used alongside the Response and Recovery plan with the aim of mitigating the effects of the outbreak on those in the city, especially the most vulnerable, and to help prepare for the longer term stages of recovery planning.

With the agreement of the Chair, the submitted report had been circulated to Board Members as a late item of business prior to the meeting for the reasons as set out in section 9 of the submitted report, and as detailed in Minute No. 50.

Members were provided with an update on the latest developments from both a local and national perspective. This included the current position regarding discussions with Government in respect to Leeds and the discussions taking place with other Local Authorities; Leeds' Tier 2 (High Risk Alert) status; the latest infection and positivity rates in the city; the liaison taking place with partner organisations and the range of sectors across Leeds; with it being noted that Members and relevant parties would continue to be kept informed of any related developments.

Members then discussed a range of issues including:

- the extent to which localised Government restrictions were helping to reduce infection rates in communities;
- the representations which were being made to Government regarding the relevant knowledge and expertise within communities and the need for a more localised approach towards initiatives such as test and trace;
- the need for a unified approach when making representations to Government, and the importance of continuing to work with partners across all sectors;

- the initiatives that the Council could potentially consider to help support the business sector, with a suggestion being made regarding city centre car parking charges;
- the need for further clarity to be sought around the thresholds which triggered localised restrictions in a locality or region, the overall need for clear messaging and the support which needed to be provided to members of the community in order to keep them informed and help them abide by any restrictions;
- clarification was provided regarding the process by which formal discussions on such matters took place between the Local Authority and Government, and Members received further detail on the latest position regarding such discussions with Government and also with other Local Authorities.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the updated context, progress and issues, as detailed within the submitted report, as we move into a period of increased national Government restrictions to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, which is anticipated to last for at least six months, combined with the outcome of discussions about the new Covid-19 Alert system which could bring further government restrictions, be noted;
- (b) That the emerging issues for consideration during the next phase of response and recovery, as detailed in the submitted report, including winter pressures on the health and care system, flood risk and extreme weather, local government finance and capacity concerns and EU Exit, be noted;
- (c) That the need for a city-wide approach towards controlling transmission, given high rates of prevalence across all the city's Wards, be recognised, alongside the need for enhanced actions and engagement in those areas with the highest rates;
- (d) That the new responsibilities of Local Authorities to implement self-isolation support payments and new powers of the Police to enforce Covid-19 regulations, be noted;
- (e) That in respect of the financial implications for the Council arising from the Coronavirus pandemic, the contents of the submitted report be used as context when the Board considers the more detailed financial health monitoring report, as detailed at Minute No. 67, and the Leeds Economic Recovery Framework report, as detailed at Minute No. 65.

#### **65 Leeds Economic Recovery Framework**

The Director of City Development submitted a report presenting the Council's proposed approach towards economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, which set out background information on the pandemic and the city's response, together with what was happening at a local level which aimed to continue to ensure economic recovery from the crisis whilst also continuing to deliver Inclusive Growth.

It was noted that an approach rather than a fixed plan was being proposed, with the aim of ensuring that this would enable the Council and the city to adapt quickly during this uncertain period, whilst striving to build more resilience into Leeds' economy. The 3 pillars underpinning the approach, namely, 'Respond', 'Reset and Renew' and 'Build Resilience' were highlighted together with an outline of the actions to be taken within those pillars.

Responding to a Member's comments, the Board was provided with further detail regarding the actions which were being taken in order to help deliver support and economic recovery in the immediate and short term, whilst also looking towards the medium to longer term.

In addition, a Member highlighted the importance of providing support not only in terms of the city centre economy but also in terms of more localised district centre economies.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the proposed Leeds Economic Recovery Framework, as appended to the submitted report, which complements the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy and which sets out the Council's approach towards recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic for the city of Leeds, be approved;
- (b) That it be noted that the Framework will be used as the foundation to begin a conversation with partners and stakeholders on how to recover and build resilience into the Leeds economy moving forwards;
- (c) That it be noted that the officer responsible for leading on this economic recovery approach is the Director of City Development.

#### **RESOURCES**

##### **66 Improving Air Quality in the City (Clean Air Charging Zone (CAZ) update)**

The Director of Resources and Housing and the Director of City Development submitted a joint report presenting a summary of the findings from the review into the Leeds Clean Air Zone (CAZ) and which detailed the strategy to ensure that compliance would be maintained, with information also being provided on the other air quality measures which were being progressed in the city. In addition, the report also provided information regarding the distribution of financial support to affected sectors and details the current budget position of the CAZ.

By way of introduction to the report, the Executive Member confirmed that following a joint review with Government, the Council and the Government had jointly agreed that Leeds had achieved compliance with the Government's EU compliance (PCM) model and would maintain compliant into the future, and consequently, the CAZ was no longer required.

The Executive Member also made reference to the correspondence confirming this which had recently been received from Rebecca Pow MP and had been circulated to Board Members for their information in advance of the meeting.

Also, it was highlighted that in moving forward, although the legal requirement had been met, the Council wanted to build upon the momentum achieved and continue to improve the city's air quality, which would require an update of the city's air quality strategy and the involvement of Scrutiny in such matters. The Executive Member also provided an update and clarification regarding the current position in respect of clean air funding.

Responding to a Member's enquiries, it was undertaken that officers would provide the Member in question with further detail regarding the range of targets which were in place on a national, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Leeds level to become carbon neutral.

Also, the Board received further information regarding the CAZ infrastructure which had been installed, and in response to a specific enquiry, it was confirmed that at present, there were no plans to introduce a congestion charge in Leeds.

Responding to a Member's concerns, the actions which were intended to be taken towards the continued improvement of air quality in the city were reiterated.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the outcome of the review into Leeds air quality compliance achieving legal compliance requiring the cancellation of the proposed Leeds Clean Air Charging Zone ("Leeds CAZ"), be noted;
- (b) That the necessary authority to take any formal steps under the Transport Act 2000 to revoke the Leeds Clean Air Zone Charging Order (No. 01) that was made on the 19th December 2018, be delegated to the Director of City Development in conjunction with the City Solicitor;
- (c) That the funding repurposing package which has been requested from Central Government, be noted;
- (d) That the high level approach towards the development of the "Air Quality Strategy 2021 – 2030", be approved.

**67 Financial Health Monitoring 2020/21 – Month 5**

The Chief Officer Financial Services submitted a report presenting the projected financial health position of the Authority for 2020/21, as at month 5 of the financial year.

As part of the introduction to the report, the Board received an update on the ongoing discussions which continued with Government regarding the

provision of further support for the current financial year, with it being noted that the Government's response was expected in late November, and that the intention was to provide the Board with further updates at the November and December meetings. Once the outcome from Government was provided, it would be at this point when it would be known whether or not the Council would need to consider emergency provisions to balance the budget.

Responding to a Member's enquiries, the Board was provided with an update on the work being undertaken with regard to emergency provisions which may potentially be required to balance the Council's budget, dependent on the outcome of the Government's response regarding the provision of further support.

Also, Members discussed the approach which had been taken by the Council with regard to the Minimum Revenue Provision, and in response to a specific enquiry regarding the potential cost to the Council should any further national lockdown restrictions be introduced, it was undertaken that officers would respond to the Member in question directly on this.

In response to a Member's enquiry, the Board was provided with further detail regarding the estimated increase in Children Looked After residential costs due to the pandemic during 2020/21.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the projected financial position of the Authority, as at Month 5 of the financial year, together with the projected impact of COVID-19 on that position, as detailed within the submitted report, be noted;
- (b) That it be noted that the position reported does not reflect the potential effects of any further local or national lockdown arrangements not yet introduced, which could impact upon these financial projections;
- (c) That it be noted that the remaining financial gap will still require significant savings and further support from Central Government;
- (d) That it be noted that the Authority is awaiting a response to a request for further Government financial support this year, and this will inform any further action that the Council may need to take in order to deliver a balanced budget position in this financial year.

#### **68 Revenue Budget Update 2021/22 and Budget Savings Proposals**

Further to Minute No. 43, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the Chief Officer Financial Services submitted a report detailing the actions which were underway and proposed to address the financial gap for 2021/22, currently estimated at £118.8m. The report also presented a series of savings proposals to contribute towards the Council achieving a balanced budget for 2021/22 and, where appropriate, sought agreement to begin meaningful consultation with staff, trade unions, service users and the public, as required.

Members welcomed the early sight of the proposals detailed within the submitted report.

Responding to Members' enquiries about a number of proposals and the directorate based information within the report, it was noted that, further to the report submitted to the Board in September, the proposals detailed in the submitted report were not final, and that given the scale of the financial challenge being faced, these proposals were being considered at this time as part of the wider process which would see the initial budget proposals submitted to the Board later in the year.

In response to a specific enquiry, the Board received an update regarding the Government's latest announcement regarding its Comprehensive Spending Review.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the financial position for 2021/22, as outlined within the submitted report be noted, with it also being noted that further savings are required to deliver a balanced budget position;
- (b) That it be noted that the 'Business as Usual' savings and the decisions to give effect to them shall be taken by the relevant Director or Chief Officer in accordance with the Officer delegation scheme (Executive functions);
- (c) That the recommendations within the 'Service Review' proposals as detailed at Appendix 2b of the submitted report be agreed, and that agreement be given for consultation to commence; and that it be noted that decisions to give effect to them shall be taken by the relevant Director or Chief Officer following the consultation period, in accordance with the Officer delegation scheme (Executive functions), save where the Leader or Director considers that the matter should be referred to Executive Board for consideration;
- (d) That it be noted that the next Best Council Plan update will be brought to Executive Board in September 2021.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor Golton required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute. Also, it was noted that whilst Councillor Lamb was attending the Board meeting in a non-voting capacity, were he able to, he would have abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

**69 Accelerated Capital Receipts and Estate Rationalisation**

Further to Minute No. 46, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the Director of City Development submitted a report regarding the approach to Estate Realisation and the generation of Capital Receipts. Specifically, the report provided more detail of the proposed next tranche of accelerated disposal properties which were targeting December 2020 auction dates.

Responding to a Member's concern, the Board discussed and was provided with further information on the proposal regarding East Lodge, Temple Newsam Estate, with specific reference to the consultation process which had been undertaken in respect of this.

A Member's comments regarding Leeds Sailing and Activities Centre were noted.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the accelerated disposal of those properties as set out in Table 3.1 of the submitted report, which have already been agreed as part of the Capital Receipt Programme, be supported;
- (b) That the injection of those additional properties to be introduced into the Capital Receipt Programme, as set out in Table 3.2 of the submitted report, be agreed, with agreement also being given for those properties to be accelerated for disposal;
- (c) That it be noted that further reports will be presented to Executive Board providing updates on progress, and seeking approval to sell where properties do not form part of the current approved Capital Receipts Programme;
- (d) That it be noted that the disposal of properties and the identification of a strategic approach towards the Council's estate is the responsibility of the Director for City Development.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillor Golton required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute. Also, it was noted that whilst Councillor Lamb was attending the Board meeting in a non-voting capacity, were he able to, he would have abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

**DATE OF PUBLICATION:** FRIDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2020

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN  
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS:** 5.00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
2020

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**Report of Head of Democratic Services**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)**

**Date: 21 October 2020**

**Subject: Planning White Paper – Working Group Summary**

**Working Group Attendees**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Officers</b>	
Cllr Cunningham	Cllr Buckley	Martin Elliot	Head of Strategic Planning
Cllr Dawson	Cllr Goddard	Sarah Hellewell	Principal Planner
Cllr Dye	Cllr Maqsood	Nasreen Yunis	Principal Planner
Cllr Grahame		Rebecca Atherton	Principal Scrutiny Advisor
Cllr Shahzad			
Cllr Taylor			
Cllr Truswell (Ch)			
Cllr Wadsworth			

**1. Purpose of this summary**

1.1 To reflect the comments of members of the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board at a working group on 21 October 2020, at which members considered the draft Leeds City Council response to the consultation on proposals set out within the Government’s Planning White Paper.

**2. Background information**

2.1 The Government published its Planning White Paper on 6 August 2020, which purported to set out a radical ‘root and branch’ redesign of the planning system.

2.2 The draft Leeds City Council response to the national consultation on the White Paper proposals encompasses feedback from a wide range of stakeholder services including regeneration and asset management. Officers have received further input from Plans Panel members and the draft consultation response was discussed at meetings of Development Plans Panel and Council in September 2020.

2.3 The Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Scrutiny Board has a long-standing interest in the way in which the planning system contributes to the delivery of sustainable development and successful place-making in the city. The Board’s priorities in this area are reflected in the concluding recommendations of its Housing Mix and Sustainable Development inquires and the ongoing tracking of those recommendations.

2.4 The Board therefore requested a working group be held to consider the Planning White Paper proposals within the context of its own remit and the ongoing prioritisation of the conclusions of the aforementioned inquiries.

### **3. Main issues**

3.1 Martin Elliot outlined the key proposals set out in the Planning White Paper and the draft position set out in the Council's consultation response. He noted the aim of making the planning system quicker and more efficient for investors and local communities could be broadly welcomed in principle, as could the proposal to make the planning system more easily accessible through increasing digitalisation.

3.2 Sarah Hellewell and Nasreen Yunis provided further commentary on the anticipated impact of the proposals on housing mix and sustainable development, and updated members on proposals for a consolidated Infrastructure Levy.

3.3 Officers were keen to reiterate that much of the White Paper is currently 'headline proposals' and substantially more detail will be required in order to determine how those proposals could then be implemented locally.

3.4 Martin noted the considerable emphasis on boosting housing supply. He went on to outline proposals for authorities to designate growth, renewal and protection areas within their boundaries, which would each bring with them different presumptive permissions supported, in the early stages of the planning process, by masterplans and design codes. It was suggested that design codes would need to be developed through engagement with a range of local stakeholders.

3.5 Members agreed that a presumption in favour of development in growth areas would speed up the planning process but stressed the importance of retaining local influence over final decisions and noted that areas at risk of flooding, for example, should be excluded from such designation automatically. Members also questioned whether communities may become disillusioned with the planning process where the front-loaded system pre-empted their ability to challenge future applications.

3.6 Members were keen to understand how the White Paper proposals would impact upon the broader social, environmental and economic ambitions of the city.

3.7 They underlined the importance of the planning system in place making. Concern was expressed that a simplified planning system could struggle to reflect the complexities of an authority like Leeds, which incorporates a range of different rural and urban communities.

3.8 Members welcomed the fact that the consultation response recognises the importance of a new planning system promoting greater equity within the housing market and addressing bias towards greenbelt development by volume house builders.

#### Feedback on key themes

3.9 **Housing supply:** Members supported the consultation response in its assertion that any standardised national approach to establishing housing requirements must also retain sufficient flexibility to respond to specific local issues relating to land constraints and economic growth strategies.

- 3.10 **Climate change:** Members expressed regret that national proposals had not put climate change ‘front and centre.’ They advocated a robust response to Government which reiterates that any new system should not adversely impact on an authority’s ability to meet its own zero carbon ambitions. Members noted the importance of planning as a tool to manage decarbonisation. They highlighted that many local authorities have already declared a ‘climate emergency’ and that in Leeds there is an ambition to achieve zero carbon targets by 2030.
- 3.11 **Duty to co-operate:** Members discussed the important function of the current ‘Duty to Cooperate,’ particularly in cases where communities are situated on the boundary of another authority. While acknowledging that the current system is not perfect, it was argued that it does recognise that individual authorities are part of a much wider economic geography and that the experience of local residents does not necessarily directly correlate with administrative boundaries. It was agreed that if the Duty to Cooperate is abolished, there should be another such mechanism in place to ensure meaningful dialogue continues around issues including transport, flooding, carbon reduction and access to public services.
- 3.12 **Engagement:** There was consensus that early engagement in the planning process would be beneficial for local people and a ‘front loaded’ system may encourage that to take place. However, members discussed the need for enough detail to be available in those early stages to enable people to visualise what a planning application may mean for their area.
- 3.13 Members reiterated the need to ensure those who are digitally excluded are not excluded from participating in the planning process as digitalisation increases.
- 3.14 Members considered whether a system with a greater presumption of permission in growth areas risks achieving least engagement in those areas with the greatest growth. Members recommended safeguards be introduced to avoid such a scenario.
- 3.15 **Digitalisation:** A move towards greater digitalisation is reflective of the current approach within the city’s own planning system and therefore increasing ease of access in this way was broadly welcomed. The benefits of creating a more standardised approach at a local and national level through further digitalisation were also understood. However, as noted above, concern was expressed about engaging those who are digitally excluded.
- 3.16 **Neighbourhood Planning:** The consultation response highlights the need for greater clarity about the role of neighbourhood planning – this was supported by Board members, who noted that involvement in neighbourhood planning often resulted in greater general engagement with, and understanding of, the planning process. There was support for the position outlined in the consultation response regarding the need for neighbourhood planning policies to retain functions such as the designation of green spaces.
- 3.17 **Sustainable development:** Members supported the response within the draft consultation which called for greater clarity about the meaning of “sustainable development.” Members discussed the importance of ‘high sustainable quality’ being the key to securing sustainable development rather than a focus on aesthetic ‘beauty’. They further supported the proposal contained within the draft response that

Government should consider incorporating the UN's Sustainable Development goals within the White Paper as has been the case in other countries.

- 3.18 **Consolidated Infrastructure Levy:** There was consensus that there needs to be more clarity about how a consolidated mechanism would work in order to understand how it would operate in practice.
- 3.19 The importance of securing financial contributions towards community infrastructure was a particular concern for members and those present endorsed the view set out in the draft consultation response that states the rate of a future consolidated infrastructure levy IL must be set locally. It was regarded as essential that local authorities are able to generate the funding necessary to tackle infrastructure gaps in their communities, which are created by new development. Members further supported the position set out in the consultation response that it should remain the case that IL funding is ring fenced in order to tackle infrastructure challenges brought about by new development rather than there being a general freedom to bring IL into mainstream funding.
- 3.20 Members suggested the current system enables local communities to understand what a particular development in their area will bring in terms of new infrastructure and there was a concern a new system could reduce that sense of connection. A number of members raised concern that the new Infrastructure Levy might create barriers to securing local improvements, such as road safety measures.
- 3.21 There was a preference to retain flexibility in the system in order to ensure brownfield development was incentivised.
- 3.22 **Democratic representation:** Members noted the lack of clarity in the proposals about the future democratic role of locally elected representatives within the planning process. It was agreed that the role of elected members is a valuable part of the current system and should be retained in some form.
- 3.23 **Affordable housing:** The group highlighted the importance of securing accessible affordable housing within new developments and noted the significant regional variations in market strength and viability. Members endorsed the principle outlined in the draft consultation response that levels of accessible housing should be set locally in order to ensure development responds appropriately to local need.

#### 4. Conclusions

- 4.1 The Board acknowledged that not all the extensive implications of the proposals set out in the Planning White Paper could be fully explored in the time available to the working group.
- 4.2 However, of those prioritised for discussion the consensus was that the draft consultation response was “robust and detailed” and that issues of particular concern for the Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth Board were highlighted within the narrative.
- 4.3 The Chair sought and received support from colleagues to endorse the consultation response in so far as the matters set out in the note above were discussed.

## **5. Recommendations**

5.1 Members are asked to note:

- the summary of the discussion on 21 October 2020
- the endorsement by those present at the working group on 21 October 2020 of the position set out in the draft consultation response, in relation to the specific themes discussed at the working group and summarised above.

5.2 It is recommended that the conclusions of the Board are shared with the Executive Member for Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development and senior officers, ahead of the submission deadline for the consultation response.

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